

heart to heart

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF **CHILDHOOD CANCER SUPPORT** ♥ FOR FAMILIES, BY FAMILIES

BRIDGE TO BRISBANE

Join us this August!

peta & hayley

A Family Story

TALK LIKE A
PIRATE DAY

Registrations now open





heart to heart

NEWSLETTER | CHILDHOOD CANCER SUPPORT

PATRON

His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC,
Governor of Queensland

AMBASSADOR

Laura Geitz
Former Captain – Australian Netball Team 2016
Former Captain – Queensland Firebirds Netball Team

CORPORATE AMBASSADOR

Josie Thomson

FAMILY AMBASSADORS

Trevor & Tracey Rethamel	Townsville
Bert Pulman	Mackay
Casey Lindsay	Mackay
Tracey Single	Mackay
Anthony & Tamsyn Kiely	Rockhampton
Alan and Reniet Sanders	Stanthorpe
Nathan Hodge	Northern NSW
Sam Handley	Northern NSW

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Grant Hewitt	Treasurer
Leigh Eagle	Interim Secretary
Ryan Brough	Committee Member
Nick Dubravcic	Committee Member
Casey Lindsay	Committee Member
Bert Pulman	Committee Member
Michael Tizard	Committee Member
Amelia Wallwork	Committee Member

STAFF

Helen Crew	General Manager
Gina Garza	Administration Manager
Tamsyn Kiely	Family Support Officer
Jo Spencer	Finance Officer
Lucy-Kate Campbell	Marketing and Communications Coordinator
Matt Clacher	Maintenance Officer and Interim Transport Officer

CHILDHOOD CANCER SUPPORT

87 Annerley Road Woolloongabba QLD 4102
Phone: (07) 3844 5000
Fax: (07) 3846 2595
Email: admin@ccs.org.au
Web www.ccs.org.au

Follow us:
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ABN: 45 914 790 985
Registered Charity Number: CH0767
Incorporated Association: IA08153
DGR: 900367082

CHILDHOOD CANCER SUPPORT INC RESPONSE TO CHANNEL 7 STORY ON SUNDAY NIGHT PROGRAM 18 JUNE 2017

"Childhood Cancer Support advises that all donations and fundraising income goes directly to Childhood Cancer Support Inc to provide crucial support services to children living with cancer and their families. We do not utilise the services of a third party fundraising organisation to solicit donations."

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A MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

The dictionary defines the word family as a “basic social unit consisting of parents and their children, considered as a group, whether dwelling together or not”. At Childhood Cancer Support our focus is on the meaning of family and keeping the family unit together as much as possible when families need to come to Brisbane for treatment for their children. That’s what defines Childhood Cancer Support and makes us so unique in our model of accommodation, support and care.

We celebrate the diversity of all of our families who come from all different regions of Queensland, northern NSW and even from the Pacific Islands. Our accommodation facilities are YOUR home away from home - a safe haven for you as you navigate the difficult journey of childhood cancer.

All of our Childhood Cancer Support children and families are special to us and in this June edition of our Heart to Heart newsletter we celebrate a beautiful family from Townsville. Hayley came to stay with us with her Mum Peta, Dad John and brother Andrew in mid-2016 and have been residing in one of our newly acquired accommodation units in South Brisbane for the past year. Peta has beautifully and generously shared their story with our Childhood Cancer Support family and community which you can read on Page 5. I am sure you will agree that the pictures of Hayley (also on the front page of this newsletter) and her Mum Peta are stunning and we thank the generosity of Andy Graves for donating these photographic memories to this lovely family.

Talk Like a Pirate Day – REGISTER TODAY

Registrations are starting to come in for Talk Like a Pirate Day 2017. Have you registered your school, child-care centre or workplace for Talk Like a Pirate Day? Registrations are now OPEN. You can register your school, child care centre or your workplace via our Childhood Cancer Support website. Just visit www.ccs.org.au to register. Our annual Talk Like a Pirate Day event aims to raise awareness of childhood cancer and also to raise much needed funds for Childhood Cancer Support so we can continue to provide family-centred accommodation facilities for our families.

Bridge to Brisbane

The team at Childhood Cancer Support have registered for the 2017 Bridge to Brisbane day on 27 August. We are putting on our runners, are in training for either the 5km or 10km run or walk (most of us will be walking) to raise funding for Childhood Cancer Support. We have set an ambitious target of raising \$20,000 with all monies going directly into providing accommodation, transport and support for regional and rural families.

Our Ambassador Laura Geitz has confirmed she is joining TEAM CHILDHOOD CANCER SUPPORT and will be participating in the Bridge to Brisbane as part of our team. How fantastic is that? She is also asking some of her Firebirds team members to join us on the day as well. Will you join us for a fun day out and also make a difference to the lives of people requiring our services?

To register just visit <https://b2b2017.everydayhero.com/au/childhood-cancer-support-2017>

You can make up your own team under the Childhood Cancer Support banner or simply join Team Childhood Cancer Support (see page 8-9). If you are not able to join us on the day please consider donating to our team. Every little bit helps us to provide accommodation and support to our families.

Until next time,

Helen Crew

Family
Forever, For Always
& No Matter What!



A MESSAGE FROM THE FAMILY SUPPORT OFFICER

Hello everyone and Happy June.

June has been another busy month again and has made the time just fly by.

At the end of May we were invited to attend the opening of Canteen's new office. The new space that Canteen has moved into is incredible and it was a privilege to be present for the official opening. Canteen offer wonderful support for young people affected by cancer and it was great to connect with not only the staff and volunteers at Canteen but other providers that were invited as well.

At the beginning of June, Childhood Cancer Support were lucky enough to be gifted beautiful knitted blankets for our families. These beautiful blankets have been knitted by the lovely ladies at the Taringa Aveo Retirement Village and donated by the Western Suburbs Branch of the Red Cross. A big thank you to Susan and the lovely ladies for these amazing and colourful blankets, they are loved by the families and the kids were very excited to choose their favourite colours.

We have had some little helpers around Herston and they have done an amazing job!! Firstly we had Lucy take on the task of brightening up the O & X's game in the Herston Office. This game was pure white until Lucy took on the project and now the board is filled with amazing and colourful pictures! Thank you Lucy for brightening up our game.

We also had little Beau as a painting assistant for a few hours who helped Matt repaint our speed bump and they did a fantastic job together. Thanks to Beau our speed bump is now back to its bright self.

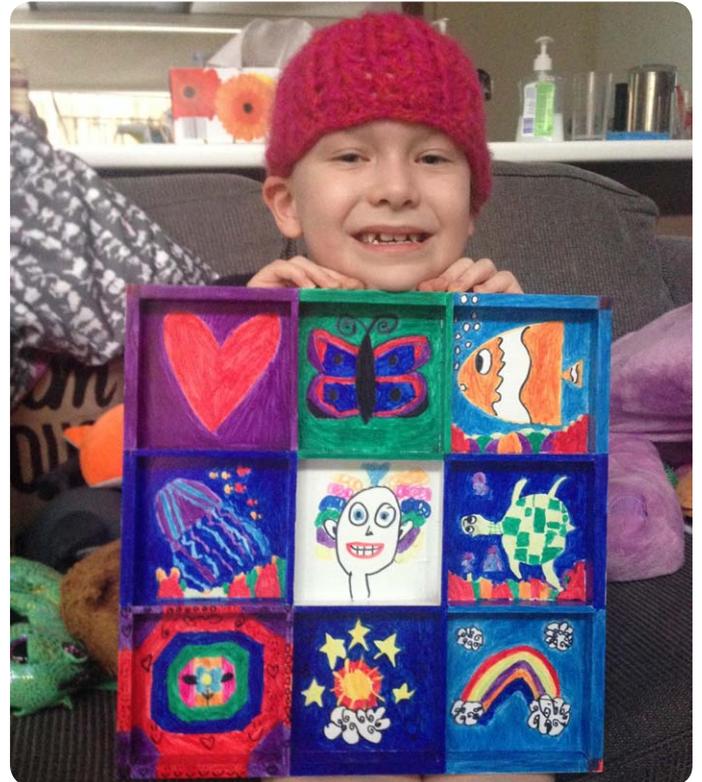
We'll keep running Coffee, Cake & Chat on a Tuesday and Friday afternoon for the month of July and would love to see more faces attend these. Coffee, Cake & Chat and the monthly family BBQs are open to all paediatric oncology families so please share around. For more information or to RSVP, simply contact the office on 3844 5000 or email fso@ccs.org.au.

Have a fantastic month everyone.

Until next month...

Tamsyn Kiely

Family Support Officer



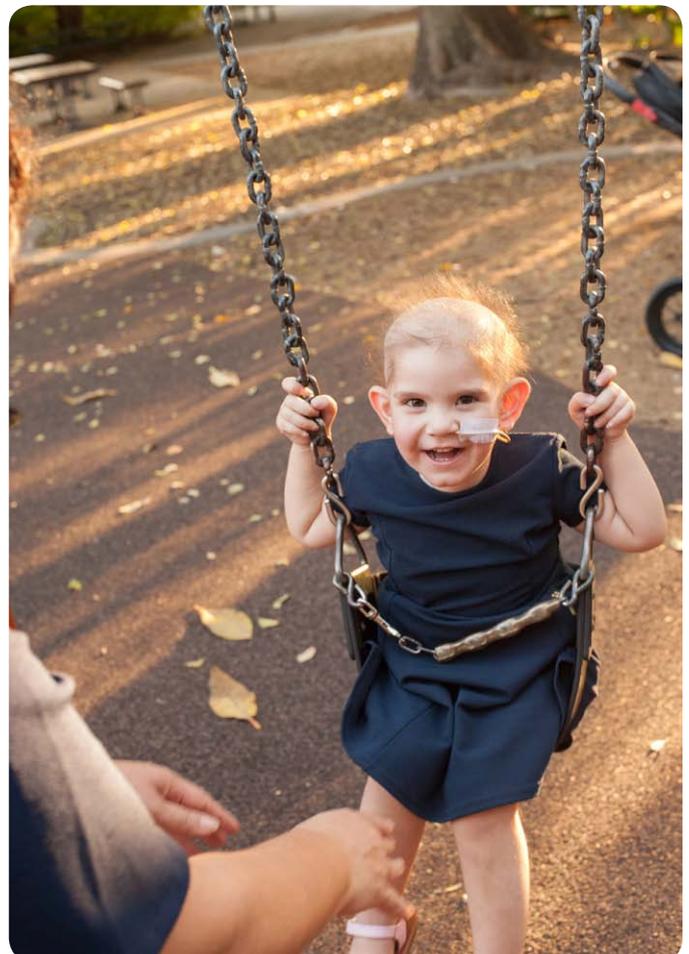
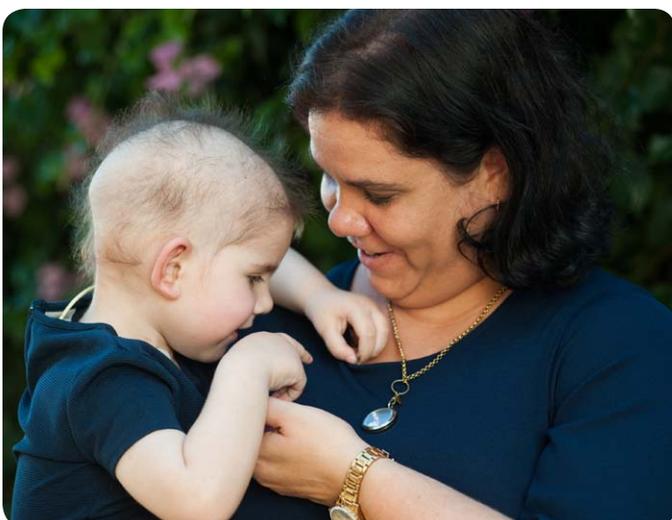
Every cancer family will say the same thing; you never think it will happen to you or anybody you know. June 16, 2016 is when our lives changed. Before this, life was filled with laughter, fun and all the regular routines and worries that come with raising a little toddler. Having my beautiful girl Hayley diagnosed at 19 months old with Stage 4 Hepatoblastoma (Liver Cancer) is quite honestly the most scariest thing you could ever hear. You feel numb, and yet you have to be strong. Strong for your child, strong for your family and try your hardest to be strong for yourself. You have a million things running through your mind, but at the same time you just cannot think, everything at that moment is surreal, a blur, trying to absorb all this new information about cancer, the treatments, and medications.

Having to be away from our home in Townsville so Hayley can receive this treatment in Brisbane at the Lady Cilento Children's Hospital, for these last twelve months, has been hard. It is hard to be away from family and our old normal life. This new normal life we have while going through hospital stays, chemotherapy, radiation and surgeries has been made so much easier with the help from Childhood Cancer Support. It is not only the home that they provided us but the support they have also provided every step of the way which has been invaluable.

With so much going on with appointments and treatment, just knowing that Childhood Cancer Support is there for you and your family through the ups and downs of coping with a child with cancer, takes a huge burden from us not having to worry about where we could stay. We greatly appreciate that we can come 'home' everyday from the hospital and just be comfortable and try to live as much a normal life as we can. Now that Hayley is nearing the end of her treatment here in Brisbane a million thank yous will never be enough to express my gratitude to not only this wonderful organisation but to most importantly the gorgeous people that dedicate their time to helping to support families just like mine. To have people like Tamsyn, Helen, Gina and Matt support you and provide an ear when you need it most is uplifting and comforting, to know they are only a phone call away is always reassuring and it can help in more ways than one.

After twelve months of treatment you believe and hope that there couldn't be anything worse than to be told that your child has cancer but to now be told that there is nothing more the doctors can do is absolutely soul crushing. I still, like any other mother, have hope that my loud, funny, beautiful, little miss Hayley will somehow get through all of this, I know she will.

- Peta



MACKAY NEWS

Family Ambassador Bert Pulman

On Saturday the 3rd of June Family Ambassador Bert was joined by Mackay families and hosted their very own Coffee, Cake & Chat. The Prince, Cotton and Duncan families gathered at John Bren Park and had a wonderful time. Be sure to keep your eyes on our upcoming events section of the newsletter for any upcoming events in your area.



BUCKLEY BAKE SALE

Each year the Buckley House boys at St. Joseph's College, Gregory Tce, hold a week long bake sale where they raise money, as a group, for their nominated charity. Childhood Cancer Support has been very fortunate to have been the nominated charity, and a part of the Buckley House boy's friendship group for a number of years and we are constantly blown away, though not surprised, at how hard the boys and their families work.

A huge shout out and thank you to everyone involved in the bake sale. We will have more details in next month's newsletter where we can update you on how the boy's went. We have been invited to an assembly next month and we cannot wait to share the news with you. Be sure to watch this space.



thank you

JOHN DEERE GROUP VOLUNTEERING

Thank you to the Accounting and Finance team from John Deere Group for coming out two days in a row this month to volunteer. The team helped clean up our stock and storage in our garage as well as assist with marketing materials for our upcoming event Talk Like a Pirate Day.

We would also like to thank all of our volunteers who came out this month. Without you we would not be able to focus on the main reason we show up to work everyday, and that is our families, so thank you.



This July Childhood Cancer Support is bringing a little festive cheer to families and children who are doing it tough. We will be celebrating 'Christmas in July' with our Childhood Cancer Support families and we need your help. When your child has cancer, it effects the whole family. We are putting the call out for christmas presents for our 17 families, who are currently staying with us, in the hope that we can bring some smiles, joy and laughter to them at a time when they need it most.

For more information please contact our Family Support Officer Tamsyn by email at fso@ccs.org.au.

christmas
in *july*

8 weeks and counting until Childhood Cancer Support participates in this year's Bridge to Brisbane!! If you would like to join our team please visit: <https://b2b.racotorun.com/enternow.aspx> and select join a team - search Childhood Cancer Support - and enter pin code 1485. (*Please note there is a fee to participate.)

OUR GOAL - To raise a significant amount of \$10,000. Yes that's right! If you would like to support our team simply visit: <https://b2b2017.everydayhero.com/au/support-childhood-cancer-support> - click 'Give Now' and select 'Team Childhood Cancer Support' or anyone of our team members to donate today!

Childhood Cancer Support is also excited to share that our Ambassador Laura Geitz will be joining our team and participating in Bridge to Brisbane. If you would like to join us, it is surely going to be a lot of fun. So don't miss out, register today!



WWW.TALKLIKEPIRATEDAY.COM.AU

Join us on 19 September at the **Queensland Maritime Museum** for some good old fashioned Pirate Fun!

Each year on the 19 September, people across Australia loosen their ties, lose the school and work uniform and Talk Like a Pirate.

The day is all about dressing up and having fun, while raising vital funds and awareness for Childhood Cancer Support.

WHAT'S ON?

Pirate Pantomime | Food & merchandise stalls
Prizes for the best-dressed pirates!
Sausage Sizzle Lunch | Pirate themed activities
Face painting | Arts and Crafts | Jumping Castle
REAL PIRATES and **much** much more!

Where: Queensland Maritime Museum
When: 10am-2pm Tuesday 19 September
Cost: Free entry to Museum grounds



Be part of the Story

3 bridges, 2 courses, 1 fun day!

SUNDAY AUGUST 27, 2017



To donate simply visit: b2b2017.everydayhero.com/au/childhood-cancer-support-2017

Enter into either the **5 KM** or **10 KM** course.

To see the course maps visit

bridgetobrisbaneday.com.au

Join our team!

Team Name:

Childhood Cancer Support

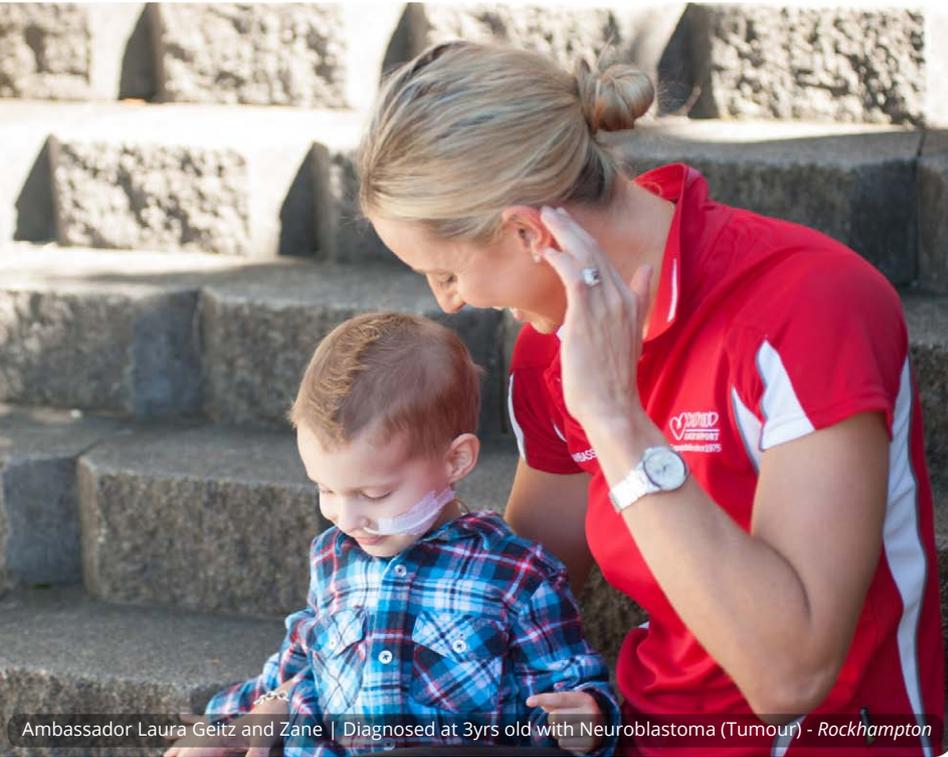
Team PIN:

1485

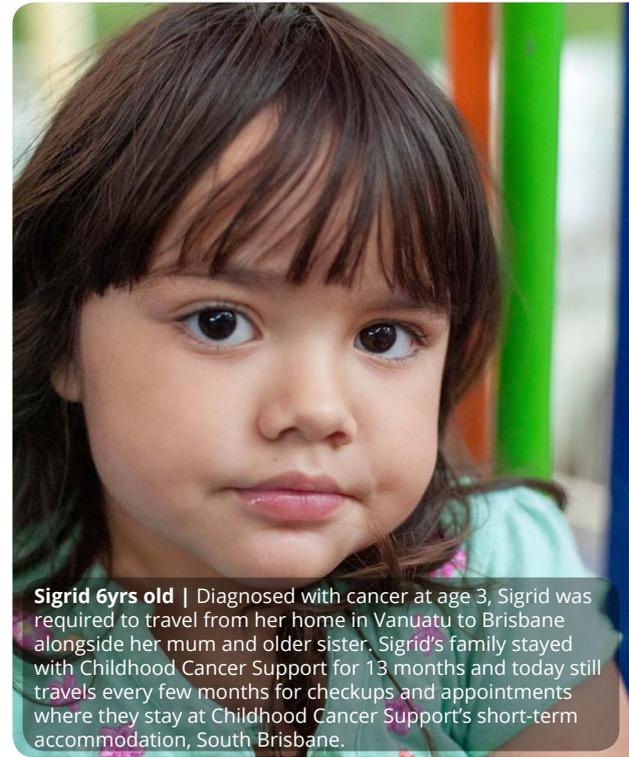


Arrr me hearties! Ye **registrations are now open** for schools, childcare centres, businesses and individuals to take part in Childhood Cancer Support's biggest and best fundraiser of the year. So polish ya hooks and grab your eye patches and head over to www.ccs.org.au to register today!





Ambassador Laura Geitz and Zane | Diagnosed at 3yrs old with Neuroblastoma (Tumour) - Rockhampton



Sigrid 6yrs old | Diagnosed with cancer at age 3, Sigrid was required to travel from her home in Vanuatu to Brisbane alongside her mum and older sister. Sigrid's family stayed with Childhood Cancer Support for 13 months and today still travels every few months for checkups and appointments where they stay at Childhood Cancer Support's short-term accommodation, South Brisbane.

HELP FROM THE HEART WORKPLACE GIVING PROGRAM

It feels good knowing that you have been a part of something bigger.
Contact your employer today to participate in the 'Help from the Heart Workplace Giving Program'

\$5 Can you spare the cost of a coffee per week to help regional children with cancer have a place to call home whilst in Brisbane? Sign up today.

WHAT IS WORKPLACE GIVING?

The process of making regular automatic donations to Childhood Cancer Support through your payroll system pre-tax. Workplace Giving is one of the most cost effective ways to donate and is also a highly visible way of showing your support.

WHAT MAKES CHILDHOOD CANCER SUPPORT SO UNIQUE?

Childhood Cancer Support is the only accommodation provider in Queensland that specialises in accommodation specifically supporting paediatric oncology children (0-18yrs) and their families. The organisation provides families with a community that cares, because it is recognised that this is a battle that cannot be fought alone.

WHY SUPPORT?

By sticking to a no-cost policy, Childhood Cancer Support seeks to remove the emotional and financial stress of living away from home. The main focus is to provide stability to the lives of children and their families through the provision of not only accommodation but also transport and other social activities for the whole family. Most families are flown in from various regional locations therefore are in a totally new environment without a home, any mode of transport and no family support network. The **average** stay for our families is approximately a demanding and challenging 6-10 months.



CHILDHOOD
CANCER SUPPORT

'Words can't describe the help and support the Childhood Cancer Support team have given to us and our family. They have been with us through it all. We are forever thankful for such an organisation. We thank them with all of our hearts.'

- Yanam | Townsville

Yanam's son Daniel was diagnosed with Ewings Sarcoma (bone cancer) in 2015. Daniel and Yanam stayed with Childhood Cancer Support for 12 months.

COFFEE CAKE & CHAT

*RSVP's are required for catering (further dates TBC)

When: Tuesday 27th June 3.30pm-4.30pm
Tuesday 4th July 3.30pm-4.30pm
Friday 7th July 3.30pm-4.30pm
Tuesday 11th July 3.30pm-4.30pm
Friday 14th July 3.30pm-4.30pm
Tuesday 18th July 3.30pm-4.30pm
Friday 21st July 3.30pm-4.30pm
Tuesday 25th July 3.30pm-4.30pm

Where: 11 Bramston Tce, Herston
Tuesday's - Community Room
Friday's - Playground
(if weather permits)

SRAA SCENIC RIM ASTRONOMY ASSOCIATION

When: Saturday 22nd July 3pm-10pm
Where: 77 Christmas Creek Rd, Laravale QLD
*For more information please visit:
facebook.com/ScenicRimAstronomyAssociation

PATRICIA FECHNER MEMORIAL GOLF DAY

When: Sunday 13th August
Where: Rosewood
*More details to come

RIDE FOR CANCER - 'Gold Coast Harley Owners Group & the Emma Love Childhood Cancer Charity

When: Saturday 19th August
Where: Gold Coast to Brisbane
*More details to come

FAMILY MONTHLY BBQs from 5.30pm

*RSVP's are required for catering

When: 30th June
28th July
25th August
29th September
27th October (Halloween)

TALK LIKE A PIRATE DAY

*Registrations now open!
Visit www.ccs.org.au

When: Month of September
Where: Nationwide - Schools, Childcare Centres, Corporate, Businesses and individuals

TALK LIKE A PIRATE DAY EVENT

When: 19th September
*School holidays
Where: Queensland Maritime Museum
*Open to all paediatric oncology families

*For more details on these events please contact the office on (07) 3844 5000 or email lucy@ccs.org.au

WHAT'S ON IN YOUR AREA

BRIDGE TO BRISBANE

When: Sunday 27th August
Where: Brisbane Show Grounds

Gold Coast:

GOLD COAST AIRPORT MARATHON

When: Saturday 1st July
Where: Coolangatta, Gold Coast

Sunshine Coast:

SUNSHINE COAST MARATHON

When: 18th - 20th August
Where: Sunshine Coast

NOOSA TRIATHLON

When: 1st - 5th November
Where: Noosa

Simply jump online to register to participate in any of the above events. If you would like to raise funds through your participation, you can register as a fundraising individual or team by visiting www.everydayhero.com/au/ and head to the events page.

Childhood Cancer Support is a registered charity with Everyday Hero and it's so simple and easy to set up! For assistance, please contact lucy@ccs.org.au.

FREE PHOTOSHOOTS

Living in an unfamiliar city for an uncertain period of time, when your child has recently been diagnosed with cancer, is not an ideal situation for anyone. It can be hard to find a "home away from home", and building close support networks within your immediate vicinity can take time.

That's why Childhood Cancer Support has teamed up with generous supporter Andy Graves from Essence of Time Photography, who has put together a photography program for both Childhood Cancer Support (CCS) families and non CCS families who have children with cancer.

Professional photography can be beneficial in numerous ways, from allowing families to decorate their temporary lodgings with some beautiful family shots, to enjoying the therapeutic process of photography itself.



If you're interested in utilising Andy's services, please contact the Childhood Cancer Support office. Phone 07 3844 5000 or email admin@ccs.org.au.

To see more work by the Essence of Time Photography, go to www.essenceoftime.com.au

Want to make a real difference?

There are many other ways you can be a part of making a difference at Childhood Cancer Support.

Become a Heartfelt Supporter:

Heartfelt Supporters play a huge role in allowing Childhood Cancer Support to continue providing the facilities and services that families need. Our Heartfelt Supporters help us immensely in providing accommodation, maintenance and improvements, transport services and assisting campaign initiatives.

Separate to workplace giving, a Heartfelt Supporter of Childhood Cancer Support agrees to make an ongoing monthly donation, starting at a minimum amount of \$10. Your monthly donation will commence on the 1st each month and continue until further notice from you.

All donations are tax deductible.

Sign up today at:
www.ccs.org.au/howcanyouhelp/heartfelt-supporter/

Become a Fundraiser:

Fundraising can be as simple or as little or big as you'd like. From a simple sausage sizzle, right through to a golf day, fundraising is a fun way to get family and friends together, all whilst raising funds for a good cause.

Other ideas can include:

- Free dress day
- Host a breakfast, lunch or dinner
- 'Talk Like a Pirate Day' BBQ (everyone can dress up for a donation)
- Coffee Challenge (give up a coffee a specified time period - set the challenge)

There are many ideas, none short of creativity! If you would like more information we can help.

Simply contact the office and chat to one of our friendly staff, or simply visit:
www.ccs.org.au/howcanyouhelp/fundraise-for-ccs