



Celebrate Remember Fight Back!

Relay eNews

February 2009 Edition 4

PUBLISHED BY THE GEELONG VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE

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Important dates

The final **Team Information Meeting** before the event.

11th March, 7pm at Deakin University, Geelong Campus at **Waurm Ponds**
Peter Thwaites Lecture Theatre - LT1 (room number ia1.006)

For specific details please refer to

www.deakin.edu.au/campuses/waurmponds-map.php

Dancing For Donations

With just 6 weeks of fundraising left to go, it is great to see teams starting to bank their money. So far we have received \$75,000 in donations and the numbers are slowing climbing. The committee asks that you please bank as much money as you can before the 11th of March. This will give us a good indication at the event as to how much money we have raised.

Congratulations to team "Bennett and Wolfe Gang" on their successful Relay For Life dance held recently. Thank you for allowing us to share your story with the Geelong News. The committee would also like to thank Beckley Park in association with Geelong Greyhound Racing and Harness Racing Club for the Relay For Life cup they held recently. They took over \$600 in gold coin donations at the gate and have donated the money to the Geelong Relay For Life.

Meanwhile, down at Deakin, the grounds are being measured and prepared for this years event. Please be aware that the ground is quite hard and it is recommended that you wear appropriate footwear at the event. For example, sports shoes, walking boots, etc. Tent sites will be 6m wide and 6 to 8m deep depending on location. Tent site selection will begin next week. Your team will be advised via e-mail to team captain when you will be able to select your site from the Geelong Relay For Life website. Teams will have access to site at different times. Those who registered first will get first preference. If you have any special requests please let us know ASAP.

Turn up the radio

The 2009 event will officially be broadcast over the radio instead of speakers. It is important that all teams bring a battery-powered radio to the event and tune into 104.7FM. The radio will be broadcasting important announcements, interviews and ceremonies throughout the event. No more crackling speakers to keep us awake at night!

Less than 14 days to go!



Geelong Committee contacts:

w: www.geelongrelayforlife.com

e: geelongrelay@gmail.com

p: 0432 493 555

Survivors and Carers

If you are a cancer survivor or carer remember to register for the Relay For Life opening ceremony. Every participant receives a sash and the honour of taking the first lap on the track at 12pm. You don't need to be a team member to register. As a registered survivor or carer you will also be invited to join us for a special morning tea to be held at 10.30am on the morning of the event. Don't be shy your visible presence encourages others. **Important: This morning tea will replace the luncheon held in the past. You can register as a survivor or carer from 10am at the event.**

Relay Idol

Once again we will be holding our Relay Idol competition. If your team can sing, dance, act or make us laugh we would love to see you perform. There are prizes for the best acts. Anyone can have a go. Please register your act on the Geelong Relay website - www.geelongrelayforlife.com/event/relay-idol.php

Relay For Life Awards

Best dressed team – award for the most creatively sun smart outfits

Best dressed site – awarded to the site that most creatively conveys the message of HOPE

Best Baton – that symbolically represents our fight against cancer

Most Team Laps – for the team whose baton circles the track the most

Most Individual laps – most laps walked/run by an individual

Highest fundraising team – awarded to the team who banks the most money prior to the event

Spirit of Relay Award – awarded to a group or individual who has shown a great dedication to the Geelong event over a number of years. Last years winner – Dale Jennings. You can nominate somebody for this award by sending us an email (geelongrelay@gmail.com) explaining why you think your nominee should win.

Vendors and activities

2009 will welcome back many of our usual food vendors. If you can't bring your own food to the event then try what we have on offer. There will be the Baked Potatoes, Thai cuisine, mini pancakes, yoghurt, coffee and the Lions Club van with their variety of hot food.

For the kids their will be jumping castles and face painting, temporary tattoos and movies for the older kids through the night. Children and adults can try a bit of boxing on Saturday afternoon and on Sunday morning we will hold an ecumenical dawn service. Throughout the event there will be live entertainment featured on the Relay stage including, bands, singing, dancing and of course our very own Relay Idol, featuring Geelong Relay teams.

Fundraising at the event

The Geelong Relay For Life Committee do not encourage fundraising at the event. You have worked hard all year, now is your time to celebrate. If your team wishes to sell anything at the event, please contact the committee.

Volunteers required

The committee are seeking volunteers to help at the event. If you or any team members can spare some time we would really appreciate the help. We need people to help set up marquees, tables and assistance with conducting our ceremonies. Come and talk to us at a team info evening (Wednesday 11th March, 7pm) or send us an email.

Donations needed - but not cash this time!

We are seeking donations of any **goods** or **vouchers** that can be used as prizes or showbag items. If your organisation or team can provide any dinner vouchers, store vouchers, etc for prizes or merchandise of any kind for showbags (130 showbags) we would greatly appreciate the donations. Send us an email or bring them along to any team information evening.

Milk cartons or bottles

For the candle light ceremony we like to supply milk carton or bottle bottoms to ensure that the paper bags are held open for the tea light candles to flourish. We do have stocks, but can always use more. So, if you could save up your milk cartons or bottles (the 2 litre sizes are best), cut the tops off, between now and the event that would help out. Don't forget to bring them along of course.

In the News and on TV

The Geelong News want to run feature stories about Geelong Relay every week between now and the event: but we need stories. If you think you have a great Relay story then let us know. What is your motivation to Relay?

Geelong's Own TV channel (GOTV) is a local TV production company that airs on the Internet. They will be coming along to this years event to record the action. So keeps your eyes open for them. If you want to check out the story, it will be located at www.gotv.net.au after the event.

Promoting your fundraising events

To help you create successful fundraisers, the committee have available posters, brochures and bunting available for you to have and pull-up screens for you to borrow. Of course your best form of advertising is in your kit. Your t-shirts will connect your team and people will be able to identify that you are fundraising for the Cancer Council. They look great when your team are all wearing their t-shirts at any event your team may hold, and also individually when seeking donations. People will respond to you better and with this years colour being red, you will stand out in a crowd. The committee also has the newsletter and website available for you to advertise any of your individual fundraising events. Send us an email to get your event promoted in this way.

Online donations and Banking

Relay For Life teams that are registered with the Cancer Council of Victoria are able to receive donations online for their specific team. Follow these steps:

1. Go to www.relayforlife.org.au,
2. Select Victoria.

Bottom right hand corner is a "donate online" link within the "Donation to a team" box.

Donate to a team

Can't make it to a Relay event, or simply want to make a donation? Support your family, support your friends or co-workers, find their team and [donate online](#).

Relay For Life Logos

A reminder that use of the Relay For Life logo must be approved by the Cancer Council. Please email Natalie at geelong@relayforlife.org.au when preparing your promotional material. The new Relay For Life logo and associated branding has just been approved and will slowly be introduced to any new printed material.

Public Liability Insurance

If you are required to have public liability insurance to hold an event, eg: Public BBQ, etc, the Cancer Council can provide this for you as a registered fundraiser. Please call the Cancer Council on 1300 65 65 85 to apply and allow a couple of weeks to receive your approval. Also remember that you may need Council approval to hold events. These applications take time to process so don't leave it to the last minute. Places like 'Bunnings' require these forms at least one month in advance.

That's all for now

Thanks everyone for your hard work throughout the year and we will see you on the 11th of March.