

Major Community Project Funding Underway

As hinted at in our last newsletter, The DMF is very proud to announce that we will be providing financial assistance to both Laurel House (Maroochydore) and Laurel Place (Gympie) as part of our foundation's aims and objectives. Both of these facilities provide counselling and support to sexual assault victims. They are largely funded by Queensland Health but the DMF will be in a position to make some vital initial support which will complement the great work they already undertake.

One of the DMF's aims is to support victims of crime particularly children. This criteria fits the proposed target group at both the Sunshine Coast and Cooloola Regions. Apart from some initial equipment purchases the DMF will fund an activities showbag, toys and games and assist with travel expenses

where required to make the healing process as easy as possible for the victim and other family members.

Another aim of the DMF is to educate children about personal safety including abduction. Again, we are very pleased to join forces with the management and staff of Laurel House and be the major sponsor of an educational puppet show about protective behaviours to be shown in Queensland Schools. We see this as a major and exciting step in our Foundation's work to be active in this area. This project will take a number of months to test, trial and evaluate but we firmly believe that this will tour schools from first term 2008. The target audience are children in the 5 to 8 year old bracket. We hope to have a puppet show preview available as part of Children's Week during mid October 2007.

The DMF cannot attempt to provide support to such worthy projects as these without the very generous financial backing from the community. Whenever you purchase a raffle ticket, buy a wristband, make a cash donation or buy a piece of sporting memorabilia, that is where the money ends up. We thank you as do the kids who receive these benefits.



Karen, Jan, Karen and Marg at Laurel Place, Gympie meet with Denise and Bruce.

DAY FOR DANIEL



Circle the 31st of October now as a date of significance. This is our Day for Daniel. Recently, we posted a letter of introduction and our DVD to every school in Queensland in an attempt to maximise their participation. The day is significant as it is our annual focus on Child Safety Awareness. We particularly ask schools to be involved and this can be as simple as spending 15 minutes watching the messages contained on our DVD. Other suggestions are to write in a RED pen for the day or wear a clothing item coloured RED. This initiative, we hope, will make the subject matter more relevant because

RED is our adopted colour which reflects on Daniel's abduction. Children can then associate the day's events with something that is real and largely preventable.

This year we are also seeking the community's help in organising a local 'Walk for Daniel' in their area. We encourage families, including school age children, to walk in unison, this show of strength has a common message "That it is safe to walk the streets in our neighbourhood". The communities of Woombye and Palmwoods will again be putting their best foot forward with a walk from 7am starting at Suncoast Christian College and concluding at Kolora Park Palmwoods. For further Day for Daniel details please visit our website, menu item "Events".

Rock for Daniel

The Bracken Ridge Tavern will be pumping on Saturday evening the 13th of October. All profits go the Daniel Morcombe Foundation. Live music, food and drinks available plus raffles and auction items. Sure to be a huge success and a night to remember; get on board by purchasing your tickets now. Ring 3269 7011 or 33636000 for further details.



Website Update



Please take the time to visit www.danielmorcombe.com.au and see what you think of our revamped format. We hope that you find it far easier to read and the improved layout makes finding information quicker. We are soon to unveil further work which includes a "Kids Club". Stand-by for that one. And very soon we will have facilities available for consumers to purchase a range of merchandise exclusive to the Daniel Morcombe Foundation. All profits from purchased items will directly go back into the community. You will be able to purchase Red Tee Shirts, Black Polo Shirts, Pens, Stick Pins, Wristbands and much more.

Dance for Daniel

Twin Waters will again be the venue for our annual Dinner Dance. Saturday the 8th of March will be bigger and better than ever before. We had over 450 people attend the last one. Tickets will be available via our website from November. First in best dressed as tickets are limited. Great entertainment, great auction items, great food - get on board early.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

13th October

Rock for Daniel

31st October

Day For Daniel

See our website for more details and child safety awareness ideas.

Pride in Policing



On Sunday the 12th of August the Queensland Police Service held a march in central Brisbane which concluded at the Botanical Gardens. Neither the Daniel Morcombe Foundation Inc or indeed Denise and Bruce wanted to make a political statement but they felt that as individuals, who are in the centre of an extremely high profile police investigation, that they wanted to say, "Thanks and keep up the good work."

"We have experienced the professional strength that will solve this case and also the very human spirit of trust and companionship" said Bruce.

We are on the same side. Each day that passes is a day closer to finding out what happened to Daniel. Without the dedicated officers of the QPS we would be in a far worse position than we currently sit.

Special Thanks

The Maroochy Surf Club continues support to the DMF, which is very much appreciated. Above and beyond complementary meeting rooms for us, we are soon to receive a \$5,000 donation as well. They also support other local charities like Bloomhill Cancer Help. The Club have to battle financial survival themselves but still they find enough to help others.



In August, the DMF also purchased a near new, off-road bike for a young lad who has suffered. Griffin Motorcycles assisted with the supply of much needed accessories like a helmet, boots and the list goes on. Privacy issues prevent us from saying anything too specific except that based on professional advice of these particular circumstances it was our judgement that such a purchase will make a significant healthy impact to the young man and his family. Helping people with the courage and inner strength they have shown is what we are about.

House Move

Denise and Bruce have moved house. But to set the record straight they have not moved to Tasmania. They have in fact only moved a couple of kilometres down the road and still reside in Palmwoods on the Sunshine Coast hinterland. The link with Tassie is that periodically throughout the year they need to recharge the batteries, and Tasmania has been the destination of choice. Some media reports have played a greater emphasis on this, which is just not factual.