



MELANOMA MATTERS

SUMMER 2006

FUNDRAISING FROM THE COURT TO THE COURSE

The Scott Kirkbride Melanoma Research Centre (SKMRC) has finished the year in style, with two special fundraising events – one focusing on glamour and the other, golf.

On November 17, the transformation of a residential tennis court in Cottesloe into a stylish catwalk succeeded in raising \$35,000 for the Centre.

More than 300 women and a few brave men, including West Coast Eagle Drew Banfield, attended 'Lunch On The Court'. The centrepiece of the event was a fashion parade featuring some of Perth's top models showcasing summer styles from Claremont boutique Adam Heath.

The parade incorporated a performance by dancers from Strut Dance. Venerable Ajahn Brahmavamso, the current abbot of Serpentine's Bodhinyana Buddhist Monastery, also attended the event, giving a humorous and inspiring speech on 'Life Experiences'.

Funds were raised through ticket sales, a balloon raffle and the auction of a stunning necklace and holiday package. The day was the creation of Helen Burke, a close family friend of the Kirkbride's who lost her husband to melanoma in 2004.

WAIMR Director Professor Peter Klinken said the success of the event was a tribute to many, but was a direct result of the tireless efforts of Helen and the organising committee, as well as Tim & Carol Holmes, who opened their home for the event and loaned their Yallingup retreat as a raffle prize.

"There were also many local businesses that sponsored this event and gave it critical support – we are very grateful for their contributions," he said.

Another fun spring fundraising event was held in partnership with the ABC at the Wembley Golf Complex on November 21. The SKMRC's second annual Charity Golf Day teed off in perfect conditions with the help of 720 ABC Radio presenters Geoff Hutchison and Russell Woolf, who went head to head on the course, joined by more than 100 other lovers of the game from across Perth.

720 ABC Perth personality and qualified golf professional Andrew



Wynne also played on the green again this year and Russell Woolf broadcast his popular Drive program live from the event.

Once the 18 holes had been played, a fundraising dinner and auction gave keen bidders a chance to take home spectacular sporting memorabilia including a box-framed golf club belonging to WA golfer Nick O'Hern.

This year's golf day was a resounding success and raised over \$15,000 for the SKMRC. Special thanks go to the Town of Cambridge, the team at Wembley Golf Complex, in particular Rob Farley and Peter Maidment, and of course, the ABC.



SPOTLIGHT ON VOLUNTEERS: CATHERINE DARE

At 17 years of age, Catherine Dare is already a veteran volunteer, who has been helping medical researchers uncover the mysteries of skin cancer for 11 years.

Catherine is now signed up for the Kidskin II study which will help the team at SKMRC and the Telethon Institute for Child Health Research investigate the possible genetic causes of moles and how they might relate to melanoma.

Catherine said it felt rewarding to be part of the study and that her involvement with skin cancer research meant she was more conscious of the risk of melanoma.

"When I was six our school was chosen to be part of the Kidskin I study and I'm really grateful I had the chance to get involved back then, because it's become a part of my life that I'm very proud of, she said.

"All that's needed for the Kidskin II study is a saliva sample that the researchers take DNA from, and that's all I have to do. I think everyone who has a chance to get involved in research should definitely jump in and help.

"What I find most rewarding about being a volunteer is knowing that I'm helping research that could one day save someone's life, and

because melanoma affects so many people, I could even help to save someone I know."

Please visit www.skmrc.org.au to keep up to date with the latest news and research.



SKMRC Kidskin II researcher Matt Legge & Catherine Dare



YOUR CHANCE TO RACE TO THE AFL GRAND FINAL

The hottest prizes this summer will be up for grabs at the SKMRC fundraising Race Day in February.

Two tickets to the 2007 AFL Grand Final and a motorised scooter are being offered as door prizes for the social day to support vital melanoma research.

On Saturday February 3, Ascot will host an SKMRC social day where proceeds from ticket sales will go towards the Centre.

Tickets cost \$50 and include food and drink vouchers, air conditioned comfort, a race book, a chance to win those fantastic prizes and contribute to lifesaving research.

The day will be filled with entertainment including a live jazz band and for those who do like to try their luck on the course, Ascot's race caller Darren McAullay will offer advice as 'guest tipster'.

With popular prizes in high demand, tickets are selling quickly. To book your place, please call (08) 9224 0333.



VONNIE'S VOLUNTEERS

WAIMR is opening volunteer opportunities for people who would like to get involved and contribute to lifesaving work at the Centre and SKMRC.

Volunteers are needed across a whole range of duties to suit all individual skills and talents.

If you are interested in becoming one of 'Vonnie's Volunteers' please register your interest by phoning (08) 9224 0333 or via email at yvonnek@waimr.uwa.edu.au.

More details will be available in 2007.

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All donations to the Centre over \$2 are tax deductible.

