

## Pearls For a Cause

A unique bracelet created by a Kailis designer and close friend of Scott and Nick Kirkbride has been unveiled as a tribute to the solidarity between the brothers – Miles Henderson has taken the initiative to release a very special design close to his heart, to fundraise for the Scott Kirkbride Melanoma Research Centre (SKMRC).

Prior to Scott's diagnosis, Miles crafted sterling silver bracelets for the brothers as a link of solidarity between them.

Following Scott's passing, his mother Yvonne Kirkbride approached Miles with the idea of splitting Scott's bracelet into two – one for herself and one for Scott's father Rob. Scott's parents now wear one half of his bracelet each,



offering them a daily reminder of their courageous son and his enduring legacy.



Yvonne Kirkbride and Miles Henderson

In an effort to raise funds for the Centre, Kailis has released 20 bracelets inspired by the original piece worn by Scott and his brother Nick, and have auctioned the first publically available piece at a fundraising evening.

The sterling silver mini charm bracelets feature an SKMRC medallion alongside a Kailis pearl and are available for \$570 through Kailis' Fremantle, Claremont and Broome boutiques, with part proceeds from each bracelet going to the Centre.

"I am so touched that Miles has used his talents to honour Scott in such a beautiful way, ensuring his passing makes a positive difference. We're also very grateful that Kailis is involved, because corporate support is critical to keeping the Centre on-track with its important research into melanoma," said Yvonne Kirkbride.

For more information about the bracelets, please visit a Kailis store or call 1800 604 033 for details.

## Baskets Made with Love



Hawker Park Primary School children were rewarded for their hard work making hanging baskets for a Mother's Day raffle when Yvonne Kirkbride visited the year one and three students to thank them for the \$260 donated to the Centre.

In May the children spent time and effort making hanging baskets which they raffled for Mother's Day as well as selling on a stall to raise funds for the Centre.

Yvonne Kirkbride said she was delighted to see young children taking notice of the sun-smart messages and dedicating their time to help others.

"It's just amazing to see young children getting involved in fundraising and the hard work they put into making and selling the baskets for our Centre is fabulous – we're

really grateful to have their support," she said.

"A big thanks goes out to Mrs Lois Watts, the year three teacher who coordinated the children's efforts – I hope this will help set the children up with a life-long sun-smart message as well as a relationship with our Centre."

Mrs Watts said the children were all enthusiastic about making the baskets for the Centre and were proud to be a part of a larger community cause.

"The kids have taken a lot of pride in their efforts and loved the whole process of making and selling their baskets. Yvonne's visit to our classrooms was also a highlight for them – they are still wearing the hats they were given, even though some may have to grow into them," she said.

Lois Watts and Yvonne Kirkbride with year 3 students Andre Colley and Hayley Waltham and year 1 students Molly Corderoy and Toby Green

## Team Prendiville Cross the Finish Line

In July, brothers Jamie, Patrick, Garry and Michael Prendiville, and family friends Bill Biffin and Mark Dawson crossed the finish line of a gruelling seven-day, 250 kilometre individual foot race across the Gobi Desert – an effort that has raised almost \$29,000 for the SKMRC.

The Gobi March – also known as “The Race of No Return” – wound through mountainous terrain in Western China with altitudes reaching 3,000 metres across rocks and barren terrain, steep mountains, grassy oases, freezing rivers and villages so ancient that the only mode of transport is by donkey.

Along with the 190 participants, Team Prendiville had to be fully self-supported, carrying all food, water and supplies and endured the strenuous physical feat in soaring 45 degree temperatures suffering from altitude sickness, blisters, groin

injuries, vomiting and nausea and dizziness.

The team motto “make pain your friend” was certainly conveyed in a post by Jamie Prendiville on the Gobi March official website.

“Day one – hard, day two – harder, day three – harder, day four – the hardest day of my life...,” he wrote.

“Day four – the most spectacular scenery ever with the ‘gateway to heaven’ – the only problem is that to get to heaven first you must die. The climb to the summit was unbelievably hard and at one stage I could only go 12 steps at a time without bending over and resting.”

On top of the pain, the team had to deal with several sandstorms that destroyed their tents, extreme climatic conditions and unusual cultural customs (a local man eating a live snake!), yet through the unbearable conditions the team’s spirit and sense of camaraderie grew.

“The team spirit was superb with the younger two, Critta (Michael Prendiville) and Bada (Patrick

Prendiville), electing to stay off the pace to support the older guys,” Jamie wrote.

Patrick Prendiville summed up the final, day five as the toughest, which involved a 24 hour race across an 80 kilometre stretch to the finish line.

“I can’t begin to explain the sequence of events that took place during the week to produce the hardest day of all of our physical lives,” he wrote.

The SKMRC would like to congratulate the team on their mammoth effort and for the amazing fundraising their feat has achieved.



Jamie Prendiville taking part in the Gobi March



Patrick Prendiville, Garry Prendiville and Mark Dawson

## Upcoming SKMRC Events

- Sunny spring is upon us again and the Centre is holding another fundraising golf day on Tuesday November 11 at Wembley Golf Complex. If you would like to get a team together or participate, please call the SKMRC on (08) 0224 0333 to register.
- 720 ABC Perth will again host a fundraising Quiz Night in their East Perth studios with the station’s well-known personalities. Please call the SKMRC for more information.
- Watch this space for upcoming news about the SKMRC Sand & Surf Race to be held in Cottesloe early 2009.