

# Let's Connect...



... with the Cancer Society and its services

March 2010

## Mission Statement

*Improving community well-being by reducing the incidence and impact of cancer.*

## Cancer Society Centre

246 Manchester Street  
PO Box 13450  
Christchurch 8141  
Telephone: 03 379 5835  
Fax: 03 377 2804  
Email:  
contact@canty.cancernz.org.nz

## South Canterbury Centre

32 Memorial Avenue  
PO Box 682  
Timaru 7940  
Telephone: 03 688 0124  
Fax: 03 684 6314  
Email:  
timaru@canty.cancernz.org.nz

## West Coast Centre

98 High Street  
PO Box 81  
Greymouth 7840  
Telephone: 03 768 9557  
Fax: 03 768 9587  
Email:  
westcoast@canty.cancernz.org.nz

## Mid Canterbury Centre

175 Burnett Street  
PO Box 296  
Ashburton 7740  
Telephone 03 307 7691  
Fax 03 307 7693  
Email:  
midcanty@canty.cancernz.org.nz

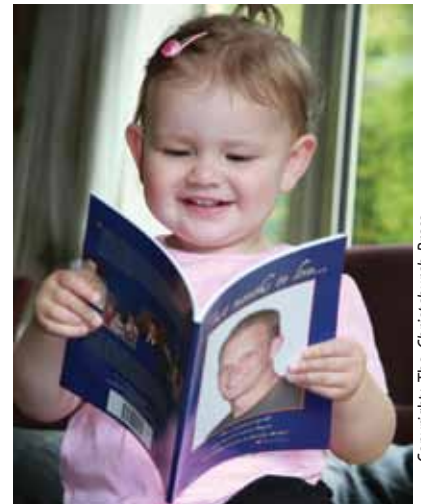
**Cancer Information Service**  
**Freephone 0800 CANCER**  
**0800 226 237**  
**www.cancernz.org.nz**

## A Story To Live By

The day before he turned 28, in June 2008, Christchurch born, Simon Toomey was told by a London Oncologist that he had Stage 4 melanoma.

He was on his OE working for BSkyB. (British Sky Broadcasting) Shortly after this news, and before returning home, Simon commenced writing a journal in the form of a "blog" on the Internet. His unique style of writing quickly became evident and his inspiring story touched thousands of people from all around the world. We, his parents and sisters, have published the "blog" together with the homily, eulogies from his funeral Mass and several photos into a 62 page book entitled *Only Months to Live* in the knowledge that even more people will be inspired. We have funded the publication of this book ourselves and the entire \$25 from the sale of each book will be donated to the Cancer Society of New Zealand—Canterbury West Coast Division Inc.

Article written by Philippa, Michael, Louise and Caroline Toomey



Simon Toomey's niece Bella looks through Simon's book *Just Months to Live*.

Copyright: The Christchurch Press

For an order form, please email pip2me@yahoo.com or write to Michael Toomey PO Box 1574 Christchurch 8140

## Relay For Life

A very successful *Relay For Life* has been held this year in Greymouth with plans already underway for a Buller event in 2011. Christchurch's third event is being held on Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 March, at the A & P Showgrounds. It is a great fun event and we encourage everyone to come and **Celebrate** the lives of those living with cancer, **Remember** and honour those who have been lost to cancer, and **Fight Back** against a disease that affects one in three New Zealanders.



Copyright: The Westport News

Westport South School staff ready to Relay.

Please keep an eye out in future newsletters for *Relay For Life* dates and venues for 2011.

## House and Garden Tours



Final plans are now in place for the upcoming garden tours being run by the *NZ House and Garden Magazine* in support of the Cancer Society and the Look Good Feel Better Trust.

The Christchurch event is being held on Friday 5 March. Tickets cost \$55.00 are available by contacting [www.ticketmaster.co.nz](http://www.ticketmaster.co.nz) or by telephoning 0800 11 999 or from the Cancer Society office at 246 Manchester Street Christchurch.

*The Cancer Society is a non-government organisation, dependent on community support and donations, serving the people of Canterbury and the West Coast.*

# Christmas Generosity

Cancer Society South Canterbury volunteers collected donations totalling \$6200 from shoppers using the Ballantynes car park throughout the month of December. Normally there is no charge for customers to use the park and many shoppers demonstrated a real Christmas spirit through their generous donations. Special thanks go to the staff at Ballantynes, who very generously offered the fundraising opportunity and were most supportive in helping to set up the collection at the start of the day and providing coffee and refreshments for the volunteers. South Canterbury Cancer Society Manager, Gabrielle Hall, says the volunteers enjoyed being part of the festive spirit of December and the public were as generous as always towards the Cancer Society.



Cancer Society volunteer Julie Simpson (seated) with Ballantynes staff.

## Summer and Spring Wedding Shows

Due to the success of the 2009 Spring Wedding Show, plans are well underway for two events to be held this year. The Garden City Charitable Trust has once again generously asked the Cancer Society to be a recipient of the funds raised.

The shows will be held on Sunday 14 March and Sunday 5 September at the Horticultural Hall in Christchurch from 10am–4pm. Tickets are available on the day at the door.

## Summer Studentship Programme

Every year the Cancer Society, Canterbury-West Coast Division funds scholarships to students through the University of Otago's Summer Studentship Programme. The aim of the studentship programme is to encourage the most promising students to take up a research career and the programme is open to staff and students of any tertiary academic institution.

For the 2009/2010 year the Cancer Society has funded five students—with each student receiving \$4000.00 towards their scholarship. Elizabeth Chesterman, Chief Executive Cancer Society says "The Cancer Society is really pleased to be able to support the summer studentship programme because the programme encourages research which is often unable to be undertaken by clinicians or research scientists but evidence is

obtained which will have a positive impact in the future for cancer prevention, diagnosis and treatment".

### The aspiring researchers are:

#### Holly Mills

**Topic** Impact of obesity-related factors on response to chemotherapy in colorectal cancer

**Sponsor** Cancer Society, Canterbury-West Coast Division and Mr Alister Smyth

#### Ken Ng

**Topic** Is Neuropilin-1 expressed on the T regulatory cells of patients with colorectal cancer involved with the inefficient immune surveillance

**Sponsor** Cancer Society Ashburton Support Group

#### Anna van Pomeroy

**Topic** The role of myeloid-derived cells in tumour blood vessel formation

**Sponsor** Cancer Society Buller Support Group

#### Sarah Murphy

**Topic** The needs of cancer patients with life limiting illnesses. A survey of patient needs and sources of support in Christchurch

**Sponsor** Cancer Society, Canterbury-West Coast Division and Mr Alister Smyth

#### Bree McAllum

**Topic** Is the routine treatment of young women with C1N2 necessary? A retrospective study of outcome in women under the age of 25 with C1N2 managed conservatively

**Sponsor** Cancer Society, Canterbury-West Coast Division

## The Cancer Society Daffodil Shuttle



A growing number of people are using the Cancer Society daffodil shuttle to be transported between Daffodil House, Davidson House and the Oncology Department at Christchurch Hospital.

### Passenger Journeys to date are

September 2009	272
October 2009	525
November 2009	726
December 2009	799
January 2010	171

The greatest number of people transported on any one day was 50 people on Wednesday 11 November. Elizabeth Chesterman, Chief Executive says "This service has really helped in the efficient transportation of patients to and from the hospital. The current limited hours of operation are under review, with plans underway to obtain the necessary funds to extend the service".

Special thanks go to the Rotary Clubs of Christchurch Sunrise and Riccarton who purchased the van for

## Well deserved recognition



The Christchurch Cancer Society Smokefree Ambassadors recently received a Youth Award from Volunteering Canterbury. The award recognises the valuable contribution that young people in Canterbury make in volunteering. The Smokefree Ambassadors have been campaigning for a ban on tobacco displays in retail outlets.

the Cancer Society and to the generosity of our special donors who help fund the vehicle running costs. The generosity of our community enables the provision of this valuable service and its extension in the near future to better meet the needs of our cancer community.

# Canterbury and All Black rugby heroes

Local Otago poet, John Bryan, has presented the Cancer Society with a unique fundraising idea. John, who has had a personal connection with cancer and a love of both rugby and poetry, has written a poem called *Simply the Best*—the poem about Canterbury Rugby is printed on red paper with black writing. People are able to order a copy of the framed poem which is also personalised about any player who has been a 1st Division Canterbury Rugby Union representative from any era.

*Men in Black* is a poem dedicated to the All Blacks and is available for any All Black, no matter which province they represented and from any era since 1884.

Each framed poem has the player's name and full playing statistics. Alongside many other rugby greats and supporters, Alex Wylie and Todd Blackadder have already received their personalised framed copies.

In addition to the printed poems, John has designed T-shirts, in either red or black, with the poem *Simply the Best* printed on the front.

Todd Blackadder and Alex Wylie were only too happy to lend their support to promote this campaign and said that anything they could do to raise money for the Cancer Society was a real bonus.

The framed poems are \$50.00 and the T-shirts, which are available in children's sizes through to XXL, are \$35.00 plus postage and packaging. The Cancer Society receives a generous donation from the sale of each item.



Two well known Canterbury rugby sons—Alex Wylie and Todd Blackadder with the *Simply the Best* T-shirts.

To obtain an order form please contact the Cancer Society by email [fundraising@canty.cancernz.org.nz](mailto:fundraising@canty.cancernz.org.nz) or phone 03 379 5835 or write to Cancer Society PO Box 13450, Christchurch 8141.

## Focus on Smokefree

The Cancer Society is currently actively involved in advocacy regarding Tobacco Control (SmokeFree). These include

- Submissions to the Maori Select Committee—the Cancer Society has contributed submissions to a Government inquiry into the impact of tobacco on Maori. This is a significant opportunity to highlight not only the health effects of tobacco on Maori but also what action the Cancer Society believes will be effective in addressing tobacco usage.

Currently 40% of Maori adult men and 50% of Maori adult women smoke, compared with 20% of all adults in New Zealand.

- The review of the Hornby Smokefree Community Project—the Cancer Society has been one of the partners in a community project in Hornby for the last three years which has been designed to promote Smokefree lifestyles, especially for Maori. A recent review of this project by Canterbury District Health Board has been very encouraging and this project will continue through to 2011.

## Busy in North Canterbury

The Cancer Society's volunteers in Amberley have been extremely busy over the past year.

On 8 November a very successful garden tour was held to raise funds for *Relay For Life*. Fifteen gardens were open for members of the public to visit with \$1565.00 raised from the sale of the

tickets, a sales table and scrumptious Devonshire teas.

The Amberley Support Group have also been busy making 362 temporary breast prostheses, urine bags and morphine bags which are given to patients by the Cancer Society staff when they are needed.

## Generosity in Ashburton

Farmers department store celebrated its centenary last year and as part of the festivities the company donated \$10800.00 to the Cancer Society Centre in Ashburton. In November two local Ashburton retailers, *100% Stewart and Holland* and *The Courier* presented Annie Bonifant, Cancer Society Mid Canterbury Liaison, with a heat pump. This heat pump has been installed and will keep the new office warm in the winter and cool in the summer for the comfort of the many volunteers and patients using the Centre at 175 Burnett Street.

## Bands entertain Greymouth

The Greymouth Municipal Brass Band and Sumner Band recently performed a free concert at the Regent Theatre in Greymouth. The night was a great success and raised \$912.00 for the Cancer Society through donations at the door.

Any Cancer,  
Any question

**0800 CANCER** (0800 226 237)

Cancer Society of New Zealand Canterbury West Coast Division  
246 Manchester Street, Christchurch  
Ph 03 379 5835 • [www.cancernz.org.nz](http://www.cancernz.org.nz)



Cancer Society

Cancer Information  
HELPLINE

## November

Mo Bros across the division sported moustaches throughout Movember (November) to raise funds and increase awareness of men's health issues in New Zealand. The Cancer Society is one of the recipient charities for this event and we want to thank all the men who took part, and all the ladies who stood by them!

On the West Coast, Pike River Coal was right behind the event with Cancer Society staff being actively involved in their "shave off". In other parts of the division, Cancer Society volunteers assisted Bunnings staff in distributing men's health information.



An 18-year-old beard getting ready to be shaved!



# Wig stands a welcome gift

The Cancer Society centre in Timaru was delighted to be the recipient of 25 handmade wig stands as a gift from Bob Yellowlees, a member of the Guild of Woodworkers in Wellington, and brother-in-law of a local Timaru cancer survivor. Gabrielle Hall, South Canterbury Centre Manager says the wig stands are loaned to women to use as required and are then returned to the office ready for the next patient.

The stands are a welcome donation as many wig wearers are advised to keep their wig on a preserving jar when they are not wearing it; but the jars are not very attractive on a bedside table.



## PayRoll Giving makes donating even easier

The IRD have launched a new initiative that will make donating to your chosen charity easier than ever.

PayRoll Giving provides you with the chance to donate to an approved organisation directly from your pay. The scheme is voluntary so it is up to your employer to decide if the initiative will be offered within your organisation. For more information talk to your employer or visit [www.ird.govt.nz](http://www.ird.govt.nz)

## Special thanks to

- Graham and Janet Hewett who recently generously donated \$20,000.00 to be used towards bowel cancer research.
- The New Zealand Airways Corporation who generously donated \$2450.00 from tickets sold to the public for tours of the new Air Traffic Control Tower at Christchurch International Airport.
- Danielle Barbier, 12 years old from Loburn School, who shaved her head raising over \$730.00 for the Cancer Society.
- Tait Electronics Social Club who raffled a donated television and other items, raising \$1750.00.
- The Christchurch Press for their fantastic support in advertising our Cancer Information Helpline number—0800 CANCER (0800 226 237).
- Donna Brooks and her mother Wendy for the donation of \$655.20 from the raffle they organised in support of Davidson House.
- Mrs Crosby who organised a Christmas cake raffle in support of the Cancer Society and sent us the proceeds of \$500.00.
- The Jones Foundation who sent us a cheque for \$10000.00.
- The Taiwan Business Association for their donation of \$500.00.
- The wonderful people who decorate their houses with Christmas decorations in support of the Cancer Society, Janice and Brad Maxwell of Redwood Springs and Sheryl Manson and her brother Wayne Green-Hayes of Burnside.
- Beth Alexander and Debbie Kovac, two Christchurch secondary school students who shaved their hair raising \$1267.10 .
- Kelly Services who donated a colour laser printer which is now being used in our South Canterbury Centre.
- The Lady Tait Charitable Trust for their donation of \$3000 for local cancer research.

### DIARY DATES:

Friday 5 March	2010 House and Garden Tour Christchurch
Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 March	Relay For Life Christchurch
Tuesday 9 March	Ellerslie Flower Show Premiere Garden Party
Sunday 14 March	Summer Charity Wedding Show, 10am–4pm, Horticultural Hall Christchurch
Saturday 26 June 2010	Cancer Society Ball
Friday 27 August	<b>DAFFODIL DAY</b>
Sunday 5 September	Spring Charity Wedding Show, 10am–4pm, Horticultural Hall Christchurch

Telephone 03 379 5835 for more information

CUT ALONG THE LINE 

**Yes ...** *I want to help the Cancer Society reduce the incidence and impact of cancer in our community. Here is my donation ...*

Enclosed is my/our tax deductible donation of

\$  \$  \$  \$

\$  Other amount (please enter)

Cheque payable to Cancer Society of New Zealand

Or charge my  American Express

Visa  MasterCard

Card No.

Expiry date \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**THANK YOU!** We will send you a receipt.

Please send me information about making a gift to the Cancer Society in my Will.

I am interested in finding out about direct crediting regular donations to the Cancer Society.

Please remove my name from the mailing list.