



Waikato/Bay of Plenty Division
Cancer Society of New Zealand
Inc.

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TAURANGA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Community Event Success For Tauranga Relay For Life

More than 700 joined in Tauranga's Relay For Life over the last weekend in March to take part in the Cancer Society's fun event for the year.

Rebecca Croad, event coordinator, says the Relay was a huge success raising more than \$60,000 for the Waikato/Bay of Plenty Cancer Society.

"But it's so much more than a fundraiser, the Relay is real community event and everyone who takes part in a team or just comes along to be part of the atmosphere enjoys themselves so much."

Rebecca says some of the highlights of the 20-hour overnight Relay included the Candlelight Ceremony, which is a time to remember those we have lost to cancer and to support those facing cancer.

"Luke Thompson sang during the ceremony and I doubt there was a dry eye. The opening Survivors' Lap was also incredibly moving and an inspiring way to start the Relay."

She says one fundraising highlight was the tendering of 1984 Toyota Starlet owned by a 90-year-old lady who wanted it to go to someone special.

"All of the teams put so much effort into their fundraising as well as their team's themes so it really made for a wonderful atmosphere at Blake Park.

"It was such a fun weekend – The Oval at Blake Park was a perfect venue and with amazing weather Relay was once again a great success."

'There is no finish line until we find a cure.'

Ends

For further information, about Relay For Life, please contact:

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Tauranga Relay For Life Coordinator
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**Photos available
2009 RELAY FOR LIFE**

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Editor's Notes:

Waikato/Bay of Plenty Division of the Cancer Society of New Zealand Inc is a non-profit organisation that receives **no** direct financial support from the Government. We are funded by bequests and donations from the public as well as fundraising activities.

We are committed to minimising the impact of cancer in our communities.

We aim to provide:

- Quality support services for people affected by cancer
- Education to promote early detection and help reduce the risk of cancer
- Free information and resources on cancer
- Support for research into the causes, prevention, detection and treatment of cancer