



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

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

19<sup>th</sup> February 2007

### **Start Walking For Tauranga Relay For Life**

It's time to start walking – Tauranga Relay For Life kicks into gear from midday this Saturday.

Relay for Life is 24-hour overnight fundraiser for the Waikato / Bay of Plenty Cancer Society and is also an important and fun community event.

Rebecca Croad, event coordinator, says she is thrilled by the response from the Bay of Plenty with more than 600 people signed up to take part in next weekend's Relay at the Tauranga Racecourse.

"Team registrations have closed but we are still really keen for members of the public to join us at the Relay. It's going to be very much a carnival atmosphere, with heaps of entertainment – everybody is welcome!"

She says the public can also take part in some of the Relay's special moments, such as the opening Survivors' Lap and the Candlelight Ceremony, without registering a team.

"At midday the Relay opens with the Survivors' Lap. This is an opportunity to honour survivors for their courage, strength and victory over cancer by leading the way through the first lap of the Relay.

"Caregivers and family are encouraged to join their survivors on track to show their support while the rest of the teams line the track in encouragement."

At 9pm on Saturday evening the inner track is lit up with hundreds of candle bags as a tribute to honour and support people with cancer and in memory of those loved ones no longer with us.

"The Candlelight Ceremony is incredibly moving. People can purchase their own candle bags to decorate and inscribe with a personal message."

More ...

The candle tributes are placed around the track from 8pm and everyone is welcome to join in.

Rebecca says Relay For Life provides a unique way of raising awareness of cancer in the community and for raising funds for Cancer Society's support services, cancer prevention programmes and research.

"But it's also going to be so much fun and we really hope lots of people will come along to support those taking part and to enjoy being part of a fun and exciting event in Tauranga."

For more information visit: [www.relayforlife.org.nz](http://www.relayforlife.org.nz) or contact Rebecca Croad, ph 07 571 2035 or email: [rebeccacroad@cancersociety.org.nz](mailto:rebeccacroad@cancersociety.org.nz).

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

**Ends**

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

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**2006 Photos available**

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**Waikato/Bay of Plenty Cancer Society RELAY FOR LIFE 2007 – Dates & Venues:**

**Tauranga Relay For Life**  
**24<sup>th</sup>- 25<sup>th</sup> February – Tauranga Racecourse**  
For more information, contact: Event Coordinator Rebecca Croad  
Ph 07 571 2035 or  
Email: [rebeccacroad@cancersociety.org.nz](mailto:rebeccacroad@cancersociety.org.nz)

**Hamilton Relay For Life**  
**17<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> March - Claudelands Events Centre**  
Event Coordinator – Erin Brown  
Ph 07 838 2027  
Email: [events@cancersociety.org.nz](mailto:events@cancersociety.org.nz)

**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