



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

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HAMILTON

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

7<sup>th</sup> February 2007

### **Teenagers Rally for Relay For Life 2007**

Coming up with new and novel fundraising ideas is just part of the fun Silvia Postlewaight and Samantha Taylor have when they take part in Relay For Life.

The girls, Silvia, 16, and Sam, 17, have been involved since the event first began in Hamilton in 2004.

Silvia says they became involved after her mum, Sue, was diagnosed with breast cancer and now stay involved in her memory.

“We wanted to help raise money for the Cancer Society. It’s such an amazing feeling knowing that the money we are raising is going to make a difference, we can see where it goes and it really gives us a huge sense of achievement.”

Some of the more novel fundraising ideas the girls have had include getting children at Waikato Hospital to make artwork and then selling it, street appeals, loaning a mountain bike for rental as well as more straightforward online fundraising.

This year, the girls are making a statement – and will shave their hair in front of the crowd on stage during Relay For Life.

Sam has shaved her hair for fundraising efforts before but this will be a first time for Silvia.

“I’m a bit nervous about it but really hope it raises lots of money. Also I know my hair will grow back and unlike people who loose their hair from cancer treatment this is my choice and I feel like it’s a thing I can do to help raise more money.”

Sam, Silvia and their friend Eleanor Hughes will aim to fundraise prior to the Relay but are also hoping the crowd will give generously too.

“There’ll be a bucket collection going through the crowd and hopefully everyone will get behind us – we think its pretty novel having three young girls shave their hair off!”

The girls are also keen to encourage other young people to take part in the Relay itself.

Sam says it’s a very worthwhile event for everyone.

“There is such an amazing atmosphere – the enthusiasm and energy and everyone’s so happy, it’s so much fun and you meet the most awesome people who are all committed to doing something for a good cause.”

More ....

Erin Brown, Relay For Life event coordinator, says the girls are a real inspiration to everyone who takes part in the event.

“They really embody what it’s all about – having fun, raising money and giving something back to the community.”

To find out more, or to register a team, contact the Cancer Society, email: [admin@cancersociety.org.nz](mailto:admin@cancersociety.org.nz) or ph: 838 2027 or call into the office to pick up a team kit.

For more information visit: [www.relayforlife.org.nz](http://www.relayforlife.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

**Editors 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