



Sweet 16: Our Annual Dance for Daniel

Brisbane City Hall dazzled in red on Saturday 20 March for our annual Dance for Daniel.

Equally dazzling in red were our supporters who relished the opportunity to gather together and participate in this much-loved event.

In such uncertain times, the Daniel Morcombe Foundation has been astounded at the generosity of our supporters who raised over \$85,000. These funds will enable us to continue our important work in child safety education, work which is still much-needed within the Australian community.

Addressing the attendees, Bruce and Denise shared their vision for child safety in Australia, **"How amazing would it be if we could reduce the instances of child sexual abuse before it has occurred? We believe the time is right to move the goalposts and get greater commitment to funding preventative measures. For too long the focus has almost exclusively been on responses after the abuse. As important as that is, this can fuel the belief that sexual abuse is unavoidable."**

With increased spending, we also saw increased impact. Bruce proudly shared that, "Day for Daniel continues to grow, supporting children to recognise, react and report. Because of the relaxed, informative messaging presented on Day for Daniel, an estimated 240 children disclosed. To build a child's confidence to seize that opportunity is a magic moment," Bruce said.

"Working in a collaborative way will achieve the best outcomes in protecting children from abuse and harm," he continued. In this spirit, representatives of all levels of government were present at the Dance for Daniel, including the Hon. Peter Dutton MP, the Hon. Anastasia Palaszczuk Premier, Lord Mayor Adrian Schrinner and Queensland Police Commissioner Katarina Carroll.

Guests were treated to MC Ben Davis and danced to the Queensland Police Service's own Band of Blue and the euphoric Electric 80s Band.

The Daniel Morcombe Foundation is thankful for the generous supporters who attended our 16th Dance for Daniel and to the staff and volunteers who worked hard to make it happen.

All the amazing photos of the night are now available to view here <https://bit.ly/3rgebSe> thanks to Event Photography



L to R: Katarina Carroll, Queensland Police Commissioner, Lady Mayoress Nina Schrinner, Lord Mayor Adrian Schrinner, Bruce Morcombe, Denise Morcombe, Premier Anastasia Palaszczuk, the Hon. Peter Dutton, Amanda Bradbury, Steven Bradbury and Cheryl Vardon.



Donna Gibb and Katarina Carroll, Queensland Police Commissioner



Band of Blue



Denise Morcombe OAM and Bruce Morcombe OAM



Electric 80s Band



King George Square, Brisbane

Congratulations to this year's Morky Award winners!

Cheryl Vardon: The Daniel Morcombe Foundation commends Cheryl for her tireless work and strong commitment to child safety. Cheryl has served as the Chief Executive and Principal Commissioner of the Queensland Family and Child Commission (QFCC) since 2015. We are thankful for her passion and action for preventing child sexual abuse.

Jo Bryant: A valued member of the Daniel Morcombe Foundation Board, Jo Bryant brings knowledge and experience to the Foundation's strategic direction. We are thankful for the time and effort that Jo has contributed to the growth and continual improvement of the Foundation's work.

Jon Winter: Anyone who has spoken to Jon Winter will attest to being uplifted by his boundless energy, moved by his passion and swept up in his drive to action. Jon contacts schools directly to encourage them to participate in Day for Daniel and Day for Daniel School Fun Raisers. He consistently goes above and beyond to meet the needs of schools and early learning centres. More than that, he is an injection of energy; he notices and celebrates each of the small wins, making each member of the team feel valued.



Welcome to our newest Ambassador Jon Rouse APM



The Daniel Morcombe Foundation is delighted to welcome long term advocate and friend, Detective Inspector Jon Rouse APM as a national ambassador.

Detective Inspector Rouse is an innovative and dedicated leader in the field of child protection, currently serving as Operations Manager of the Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation. He is highly involved in advocacy for children nationally and we welcome his voice and support to the Daniel Morcombe Foundation team.

Conversations with the eSafety Commissioner

eSafety Commissioner Julie Inman Grant also met with Tracey, Conrad, Bruce and Denise to continue dialogue that will effectively maximise the uptake of the Daniel Morcombe Foundation's projects in 2021.

This includes Australia's Biggest Child Safety Lesson for both early years and upper primary children, to be launched in September and our Safe Bedrooms resource, currently in the early stages of production.



L to R. Bruce Morcombe, eSafety Commissioner Julie Inman Grant, Denise Morcombe, Toby Dagg, Tracey McAsey and Conrad Townson.

Collaboration with ACCCE

Daniel Morcombe Foundation Manager Tracey McAsey, National Education Manager Conrad Townson along with Bruce and Denise Morcombe and the team from the Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation (ACCCE) held a very productive meeting on 18 March. Discussions continued on a collaborative project that will send a chill down the spines of every Australian. Work will be underway soon with a launch date mid-year. Stay tuned for more news.



School visits begin for 2021

With the 2021 school year now in full swing, Bruce and Denise have been delighted to get out and about in their role as Queensland Child Safety Ambassadors.

The students of Undurba State School, Beaudesert State School, St Paul's Bald Hills and Good Samaritan Catholic College Bli Bli listened carefully and enjoyed practicing saying, "No! My body belongs to me!"

If you would like to be on Bruce and Denise's waiting list for a school safety presentation at your local primary school in Queensland, please have your school principal email admin@danielmorcombe.com.au.



Meeting with Hon. Leanne Linard MP

On 4 February, the Foundation met with the Hon. Leanne Linard MP, Queensland Minister for Children and Youth Justice and Minister for Multicultural Affairs, and Director-General Deidre Mulkerin to discuss our aspirations to keep kids out of the child protection system.

We want to do this by continuing to educate children about their personal safety and educating parents and carers to start personal safety conversations with children early and to be able to identify warning signs (online and physical) early. We look forward to working together.



L to R. Conrad Townson, Denise Morcombe, the Hon. Leanne Linard MP, Bruce Morcombe and Tracey McAsey

Safe Bedrooms



According to new research from the Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation (ACCCE, 2021), 98% of 8 to 11 year olds regularly use a device.

Keeping kids safe online, particularly from online grooming is becoming more and more important as technology becomes embedded in our daily lives. The Safe Bedrooms program provides resources for parents and carers to talk to their children about online grooming. The Foundation has been delighted at the number of downloads of the resources so far and we look forward to launching additional videos in the coming months. Safe Bedrooms gives you the tools to lock predators out!

Changing Futures - 2021

March saw the return of the Foundation's Changing Futures project for its second year.

The interim evaluation of the project by the Sexual Violence Research and Prevention Unit at the University of the Sunshine Coast is very encouraging, generating more excitement for the next year's work. Changing Futures kicked off 2021 with the first in a series of ten scheduled webinars delivered by international and national therapeutic and academic leaders in the field of harmful sexual behaviours.

World-leading expert in investigative interviewing, Professor Martine Powell from the Centre for Investigative Interviewing (Griffith Criminology Institute) delivered her webinar on 17 March, titled "A Guide for Practice When Interviewing Children."

The Centre offers scientifically validated interviewer training courses and research in the hopes of improving Australia's justice systems and delivering fairer case outcomes. Professor Powell's webinar covered; developing an awareness about what constitutes a good interview with children, debunking common interview myths, and provided key interview rapport building skills and advice.

A short and engaging animation resource titled "askgoodQ's" has also been developed by Professor Powell in conjunction with the Commission of Children and Young People, explaining how adults can help children to be heard during investigations into alleged child abuse.

Online workshops (10:00-14:30 AEST)

22.04.2021	05.05.2021
09.06.2021	07.07.2021

Face-to-Face Workshops

TAS	05/08/2021
NT	30/09/2021
ACT	19/08/2021
WA	14/10/2021
	21/10/2021 (online only)
QLD	(Sth) 25/08/2021
	(Nth) 03/09/2021
NSW	11/11/2021
SA	17/09/2021
VIC	25/11/2021

Thank you for our water bore!

It has long been on the Foundation's wishlist to install a water bore, which would reduce water consumption and the corresponding bills.



The Foundation reached out to GD Geodrill Australia, who instead offered to collaborate with their partners to install a bore at no cost. Thank you to GD Geodrill Australia, Tyzac Vacuum Excavation and The Pump House Nambour. The beautiful roses for which Daniel House is known will continue to bloom thanks to the generosity of these community-minded organisations.



Clubs spotlight: ENTAG

Kris Carver and the team at ENTAG have been long-time supporters of the mission of the Daniel Morcombe Foundation.

As a technology service business ENTAG deliver solutions to businesses of all sizes through their Telstra retail stores, Telstra Business Technology Centre and their national government and enterprise presence.

We welcome ENTAG to the High Five Club.

Are you interested in being involved with the Daniel Morcombe Foundation through the High Five Club? Find out more by visiting DanielMorcombe.com.au/high-five/

Bidfood

We are so grateful to Bidfood Australia who on 16 February presented Bruce and Denise with their Day for Daniel donation.

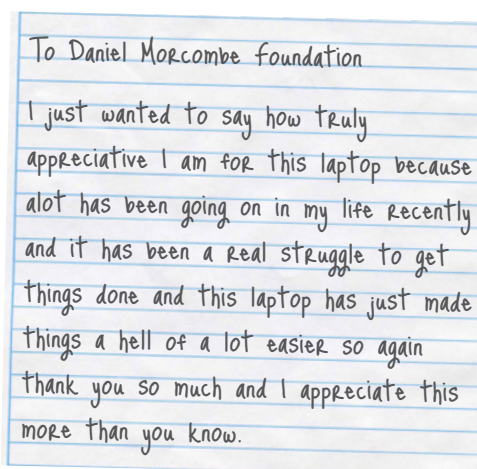
Even in a year full of challenges, their dedicated team raised an astounding \$50,000. The team work hard throughout the year hosting events and raising awareness. Their continued commitment and selfless effort is much appreciated.



testimonial

The Foundation's Victims of Crime program supports young people who have had a difficult start to life. Funds are utilised to meet the specific needs of each child in a way that benefits their mental health, recovery and future. This note of thanks is written by a young person who received a laptop to support them in completing training, applying for work and advancing their career aspirations.

Notes like these illustrate both the devastating impact of abuse and the power of our work in healing young lives.



five tips

to protect children from online grooming

UNDERSTAND HOW CHILDREN USE THE INTERNET

Sit with children and understand how they use the internet – what apps, games and sites do they use? Acknowledge the positives of the online world.

EXPLAIN YOUR CONCERNS

Involve children in honest discussions about the dangers of the internet in line with their developmental capability.

CREATE A FAMILY TECHNOLOGY AGREEMENT

Involve children in designing rules for how the family will use the internet. Restrict device use to common areas, set rules around cut off times and device storage at night.

CREATE AN OPEN RELATIONSHIP

Explain that children can always come to you – and won't get in trouble - if something makes them feel unsafe online. Reacting with anger and removing devices can make children feel like it is their fault and may lead them to hide any future issues they have.

KNOW THE WARNING SIGNS OF GROOMING AND CHECK IN REGULARLY

Learn about how grooming occurs and be aware of children suddenly spending more time online, having more money than usual, being significantly happier or withdrawn, missing school or changes to their friendships.



Upcoming events

3 September
5 - 11 September
7 September
29 October
29 October
October

Dance for Daniel Townsville
National Child Protection Week
Australia's Biggest Child Safety Lesson
Day for Daniel
Walk for Daniel
My Walk for Daniel