

NEWS

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Petero Joins DMF

NRL Legend Petero Civoniceva has joined with the Daniel Morcombe Foundation as Ambassador for the Daniel Morcombe Cup as part of the 12th annual Day for Daniel.

The Kawana Junior Dolphins Rugby League Club will host the series of rugby league matches between Daniel's former schools Siena Catholic College and Mountain Creek State High, as well as a Kawana NRL Masters Legends of League charity match.



We thank Anthony Farquharson (pictured left) for his extraordinary efforts in bringing this together.

Bruce Morcombe outlined his gratitude by saying; "Petero is a giant of a man with a big heart. We look forward to building on this partnership, as he is such a wonderful role model to not only our kids but young adults as well. Together we can make a big, big difference."

Senator Hinch

Congratulations to Derryn Hinch upon his election as a Victorian Senator.

Derryn and the Morcombes have a relationship going back a decade. We all know that high on his agenda is the National roll-out of an online public accessible sex offender's register.

Bruce and Denise look forward to catching up with Senator Hinch in the months ahead to explore how this can be fast tracked and explore other ideas that could assist parents to keep their kids safe.



Qld Child Safety Ambassadors

Welcome good news!



Bruce and Denise Morcombe and the Queensland Government through Department of Education and Training have successfully negotiated a 2 year extension of their responsibilities as Queensland Child Safety Ambassadors.



"We love what we do. Visiting schools across the State is just the best feeling. Knowing that your presentation to students has made a difference to their personal safety is addictive." Bruce explained.

"Having some certainty going forward allows the Daniel Morcombe Foundation to structure its commitment to child safety initiatives deep into 2018. We thank the Palaszczuk Government for this opportunity." Denise added.

AFP Meetings

A decade ago the AFP and the Daniel Morcombe Foundation established a mutual understanding to protect children and this continues to prosper.

Educating the community about Cyber Safety and the dangers that exist online are obvious areas where cross pollination of ideas and projects work effectively.

Recently, Bec Kotz (AFP Team Leader; Prevention – Missing and Exploited Crime Operations) took 4 weeks leave and volunteered her time at our Maroochydore Office. We were also honoured to have Marina Simoncini (AFP Manager / Coordinator; Prevention (Cyber and Child Safety) Crime Operations) and Rosie Garland (AFP Team Leader; Prevention (Cyber and Child Safety) Crime Operations) visit us where the discussions again proved beneficial.



School Visits

Continuing their 2016 North Queensland school tour, Bruce and Denise visited Townsville, Weipa, Doomadgee, Burketown and a stack of other regional and remote centres across the State.

School presentations were conducted at Agnes Waters SS, Builyan SS, St John the Baptist Gladstone, Trinity College Gladstone, Chanel College Gladstone, St Paul's Gracemere, Gracemere SS, Emmaus College Rockhampton, Sacred Heart SS Yeppoon, St Joseph's Wondai, Koumala SS, Mackay High School, Homebush SS, Proserpine SS, St Joseph's The Strand Townsville, Northern Beaches High School, William Ross High School, Southern Cross Annandale, St Joseph's Weipa, Western Cape SS Weipa, Burketown SS and Doomadgee SS.



"It is very pleasing to see a neighbouring school support our visit by transporting their students or at least a representation of student leaders to join with the one we are booked to attend. That makes a lot of sense and helps produce the greatest benefit from these tours." Commented Denise.

Bruce continued; "Parents and Teachers also gain an enormous amount of confidence from our visits. We like to think that we start the process, initiate a conversation if you like, to illustrate to children that it is important to learn these basic life skills."

Annie's Letter

The QCWA Gregory Branch recently facilitated a visit by Bruce and Denise Morcombe to the remote communities of Doomadgee and Burketown, in the Gulf of Carpentaria. I was lucky enough to be guide and chaperone for the two day visit.

I was personally touched by the number of people who felt compelled to come up to Bruce and Denise, take their hands, and offer them sincerely condolences and praise for their braveness and while the talk with the Doomadgee children was very interactive and praiseworthy, it was the impromptu talk with the adults that I felt really touched the Doomadgee community.

In his talk, Bruce spoke about how life is not a bed of roses. It doesn't matter who you are, what money you make or what colour you are – we can all be affected by something tragic in our lives and it is not who we are but how we choose to deal with it that will make the difference.



This was a powerful message for the people in that room, many of whom experience some sort of loss and hardship on a regular basis. Having someone outside the community, whom they respect, say, "If we can do it, so can you," would no doubt have played in the minds of many and hopefully encouraged them.

The following community BBQ at the school was wonderfully supported and there was no denying the support of the Burketown community either with over 70 people attending the "Dinner with the Morcombe's" event at the Burketown Pub on the Wednesday evening.

Proudly, our little community raised around \$1000 for The Daniel Morcombe Foundation and again, I think so many attended just to let Bruce and Denise know that through it all, we have all been thinking of them and feel as though we know them so personally but have not had the opportunity to let them know how much we care. The following day Bruce and Denise visited the Burketown State School and were joined by children from a local station who participate in School of the Air. The children were extremely well behaved, enjoyed the interactive sessions and gave Bruce and Denise a send-off to remember.

We are so very grateful for Bruce and Denise making the effort to come to our remote area. It made a lasting impact on many of the adults and children – I know, my little two year old, Jack, still stomps his foot, holds out his hand and yells, "No! My body belongs to me!"

Thank you Bruce and Denise. Your visit will be long remembered and we hope to stir up some enthusiasm in October and get some Day for Daniel events happening!

Annie Backhaus
QCWA Gregory Branch Secretary & Publicity Officer

Entrepreneur of the Year

Denise and Bruce Morcombe have been selected as winners of the EY Entrepreneur of the Year (Northern Region) for 2016, in the Social Category.

The Australian Entrepreneur of the Year Award is conducted in 5 regions and culminates in a national award ceremony. Entrepreneurs from each region are recognised in a number of competitive award categories at the national level, with an overall Australian Entrepreneur of the Year chosen to representative Australia at EY's World Entrepreneur of the Year held annually in Monte Carlo.

We wish them well at the national level.

Bruce and Denise feel a little embarrassed but honoured. They commented; "This is amazing! We cannot believe that this recognition is forthcoming. We just keep chipping away with the resources we have and never give up."



Victim Support

One very important arm of the Daniel Morcombe Foundation is to support young victims of crime.

Because of the very nature of this work it often gains very little exposure in terms of media attention. Privacy concerns and the possibility of identifying these victims in the public arena clearly means that much of this valuable work and the positive outcomes achieved are not broadly recognised.

We are happy to report that our "Walk Tall" counselling service has now increased by an additional full time therapist and employment of another is in the pipeline.

We have recently supported a number of youngsters who have been the subject of neglect, physical or mental abuse. Did you know that the DMF extends support to these children by providing them with educational or sporting gifts which we believe helps facilitate a speedy recovery and shows that the world is not all bad?

An horrific and sad tale that we all shook our head at concerned the death of Lynette Daley in northern NSW. Ms Daley, 33, and a mother to 7 children died from serious injuries during a camping trip on the beach near Iluka.



After a 4 Corners report caused a media and political frenzy two men have now been charged over her death in northern New South Wales in January 2011. After a recent review of the case both now are due to appear in Grafton Local Court on August 2.

Within hours of the program going to air the DMF had made contact with Lynette's mother and step father who are guardians to her children to see if we could be of assistance in any way.

The following day Denise and Bruce had made their way to their family home in NSW to personally offer support. They were greeted by a surprisingly strong and united family that sort justice for their much loved mum and daughter. Instantly a friendship was struck for they knew of the Morcombe's long and difficult journey.



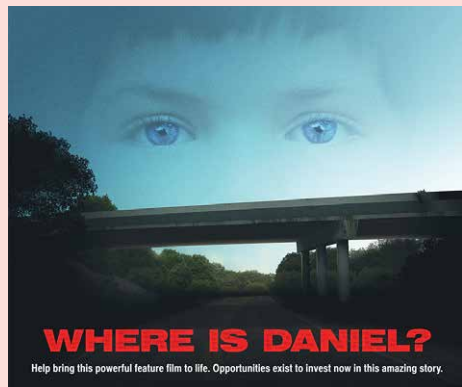
A plan was hatched while sharing a pizza and coffee: The Daniel Morcombe Foundation would offer to help each member of the family; all we needed was a

wish-list. The DMF wanted nothing in return, just a smile of thanks would be enough. Just a week later we were back, this time the car was full of gadgets and goodies from ipads, iphones, vouchers for dance lessons and driving lessons, a holiday for mum and dad, a signed footy, NRL jumpers and so on, and "Yes" that smile was broad, because they could not believe we were genuine and true to our word.

Their long legal battle ahead has just started but at least thanks to your support we have brought some joy to this very deserving family.

Where is Daniel? - the Movie

The filmmakers behind the 'Where Is Daniel?' Feature Film are excited to let you know about a chance to get involved in bringing this story to life on the big screen... the community crowdfunding event is live NOW!



Over 10% of the target was achieved within the first 24 hours - \$31,000 pledged by only 176 people out of the \$300,000 target.

This film will honour Daniel's legacy and tell the story of how Bruce and Denise journeyed over so many years to achieve justice, as well as their part in the police investigation which brought Daniel home, plus the growth of the Daniel Morcombe Foundation and the amazing community support along the way.



Rewards for pledging include signed scripts by Bruce, Denise and the lead actors, the opportunity to be an extra in the film, your name in the credits, lunch with the Director and actors and more!

How you can be a part:

Take a look at how you can be involved in making sure this important story is told:
www.whereisdanielmovie.com.

The filmmakers thank you for your generous support and would love for you to share this amongst your, friends and social networks.

Score for Daniel

Football Queensland and the Daniel Morcombe Foundation have a successful history working together to raise awareness on the issue of Child Protection. The 2016 Score for Daniel held over the weekend of May 22-23, marked the first time an awareness campaign was run in conjunction with football clubs across all Queensland state zones.

With over 50,000 registered participants under the age of 17, child protection and safety awareness needs to be paramount within the entire football community.

Research shows that most child safety issues result from someone the child knows, so it is important that the football community understands and utilises the Daniel Morcombe Foundation's initiatives and help empower our children to 'Recognise, React and Report' if they feel something is not right.



Last year Football Gold Coast Zone and the Clubs did a fantastic job in raising \$5,000. With funds still coming in, we are pleased to report that it is already well over \$6,000.

We acknowledge the commitment and support of Score for Daniel by: Geoff Foster, Football Qld CEO; Breeanna Reidy, Football Qld; Shane King MP; Tim Mander MP; Brendon Ross, Football Brisbane President; Roger McIntosh, Mitchelton FC President and Richard O'Leary.

QHVSG Awareness Day

A few weeks ago, Kayla and Robin representing the DMF, hitched up our promotional trailer and with young Darcy and Joey in support, they made their way to the annual Homicide Awareness Day hosted by the Queensland Homicide Victims Support Group in the CBD Brisbane.

The impact of homicide is devastating to more than one cares to initially think. Family and friends of course are rocked to the core, but add in neighbours, school classmates, work colleagues and friends of friends and you quickly appreciate there are no winners here. Think before you act is what we want people to do.



The Good Guys

Thank you to *The Good Guys* for inviting the Daniel Morcombe Foundation and our victims of crime to attend their Super Hero Academy workshop in Brisbane on Monday July 4th.

There were 20 children from Department of Communities, 13 from ACT for Kids and 6 from the Walk Tall Program in attendance.



The kids had a blast and learnt some awesome super hero qualities. The Super Hero Academy has been created by *The Good Guys* as part of their 'Doing Good' program to help create happy and healthy communities. It's for girls and boys six to twelve years old and you don't have to be sporty - you just have to use your imagination and have fun! The Super Hero Academy is 1.5 hours of super hero fun for everyone! All our young super heroes got a super hero goodie bag, cape, mask and special certificate.



The DMF applaud *The Good Guys* for initiating such a unique program and we thank Tracey in representing the DMF at the event.

United for Daniel

Woombye Snakes Football Club hosted "United for Daniel" on Saturday 11th June 2016.

It is an annual family fun day held on the fixture date of the clash Woombye v Kawana soccer match. The ladies kicked it off with a friendly match followed by the Reserves where the Snakes were victorious with a 3 - 1 win.

The Under 8's and 9's played a friendly showcase prior to the main event. The Premier Men of Kawana Force ran out convincing winners with a 7 - Nil score line.

Thank you to Mark from the Woombye Snakes for all his mammoth effort and to Tracey, Bec, Tayla and Gail from the DMF for volunteering at the event.



Open Garden

Camellia House in Palmwoods contains one of the largest collections of Camellias in Queensland. July 2 & 3 was a bright sunny weekend and it played host to their second Garden Open Day.

This beautiful property was once the home of the Morcombe Family and given that personal link, the Daniel Morcombe Foundation was the chosen charity of choice with gate proceeds going to our key objectives, educating children about their personal safety and supporting young victims of crime.

Peter and Doreen Briggs, the owners of Camellia House, spend countless hours each week maintaining the 5 ½ acre property where you will find more than 700 camellia species, an ornamental lake named 'Ferry Folly', over 40 varieties of exotic fruit trees and a variety of wildlife.



Also on show was a classic car show, antique stalls, handmade jewellery stall, a shoe stall and potted camellias available for purchase. The weekend saw more than 1,000 people walk through the gates to view the immaculate gardens.

We thank Kayla for representing the DMF and her sustained energy over the weekend and of course the Briggs family for raising a very impressive \$4,000.

Townsville Show

From July 1 to 4 Townsville hosted their Regional Show; an anxious time for mums and dads who attend and have to care to the little ones. The registration of a Kids ID Alert wristband as a family enters the Show is now considered a 'must do' first job before anyone races off to the rides.

Celebrating its 10th year, these wristbands have proven to be very much a wanted item. The Daniel Morcombe Foundation has been a sponsor of this free initiative for many years.

We thank the countless volunteers who rotate shifts at the gate to make the system smooth and effective. It is also a wonderful opportunity to build trust and friendships between Police and the community.



Rotary Donation

'Denise Schellbach from the Rotary Club of Brisbane organised a very successful invitation only luncheon in August 2015 at The Brisbane Club with Denise and Bruce Morcombe as the very special guests.

Every person is in awe of the courage and strength Denise and Bruce show honouring their son Daniel, making meaning of his life, ensuring his memory lives on and doing something very positive so as to bring attention to the horrific tragedies that can happen in our world, especially to our precious children and youth.

It is essential to keep our children safe, always. This is the most important thing we can do in this world.

No parent can ever be the same after losing a child, as something is missing forever. Part of them is gone. A parent is not 'whole' anymore. They just exist but by doing something positive to honour a child's memory it is a way of coping and being able to continue to look forward, making a difference to other people's lives.

Denise Schellbach was delighted to accept the invitation from Denise and Bruce Morcombe to become an Ambassador for the Foundation.



The Rotary Club of Brisbane were very happy to give a \$5000 donation to this very worthy cause and help continue with the wonderful work being carried out by the Daniel Morcombe Foundation'.

DanceFever for Daniel – 2016 comp

Teaching a child about their personal safety can often be a fruitless process, as they think bad things only happens to others. "That will never happen to me" they simplistically believe.

You have to strike interest with the child to have a more successful learning experience. How about incorporating safety messages with Dance, Drama and Music? Continuing on from the success of 2015, the "Dancefever for Daniel" schools competition is now open for 2016!

Entry is FREE and there are fantastic prizes on offer including \$5,000 cash, school dance and skipping programs and school discos.

Get your school to create a "Recognise, React, Report" Dance Video and help spread child safety messages! To register go to www.dancefevermultisport.com/dancefeverfordaniel/

Day for Daniel 2016

Australia's largest and most successful child safety awareness day is back for 2016.

Last year, more than 1,000,000 children started a conversation with their parents or were actively taught in school about their personal safety on our national day-of-action.

Already there are over 2,000 schools registered, making it even bigger than last year's event.



We ask that everyone get behind our efforts and support us on our special day, where collectively as a Nation we say that crimes against children have no place in modern Australia.

Check out more information and our free resources online. Day for Daniel 2016 is October 28th. Visit DayForDaniel.com.au

Mackay's Dance for Daniel

Tickets are now on sale for the 2nd Dance for Daniel in Mackay. Going by feedback from last year it was a great success. A varied cross section of locals attended including parents, community leaders, teachers, child care workers and police.

Live entertainment will be supplied by Mango Junction and Rachael Mako. Exciting live auction items and raffles are also guaranteed to bring a smile to people's faces.

All this plus a mouth-watering 3 course meal and welcoming drink is included in the very reasonable price of just \$130. There is no excuse! Come as a couple or add your friends to make up a Table of 10.

All funds raised go to the Daniel Morcombe Foundation and these are channelled into local community efforts that keep our kids safe.



Bruce and Denise Morcombe will be attending and they look forward to this very stylish event at the MECC. Please order tickets at: mackayfix.com.au or ring 4961 9777.