

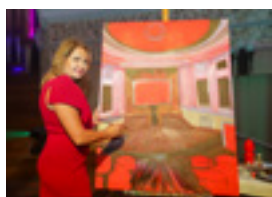


# COMMUNITY NEWS

VOLUME 17 | ISSUE 1 | APRIL 2023

## Dance for Daniel 2023 raised over \$100,000 to help keep kids safe

Images (L-R) The Hon. Peter Dutton MP, the Hon. Leanne Linard MP, the Governor of Queensland, Her Excellency the Honourable Doctor Jeannette Young PSM, Mr Graham Perrett MP, Madonna King, and Bruce and Denise Morcombe.



*The Daniel Morcombe Foundation's 18th Dance for Daniel, held at the iconic Brisbane City Hall, was a night to remember. The support from everyone who attended helped raise over \$100,000 to keep kids safe.*

Dance for Daniel is one of the Foundation's biggest fundraising events to highlight the important work, collaborations, friendships formed and the Foundation's commitment to keeping kids safe.

Bruce and Denise were joined by 550 guests including representatives from the Queensland Police Service, ACCCE and several Child Safety organisations. The evening was hosted by Madonna King with opportunities for guests to show their support in a live and silent auction, and a raffle.

Lending support for the Foundation's cause were guest speakers the Governor of Queensland, Her Excellency the Honourable Doctor Jeannette Young PSM, the Hon. Leanne Linard MP, the Hon. Peter Dutton MP, Mr Graham Perrett MP, Kay McGrath OAM and Phil Morgan. Performances by the Band of Blue and Murphy's Pigs added to the festive atmosphere and made the night even more memorable.

The event was a reminder of the power of community and the importance of working together to protect our children. The Foundation would like to thank all who attended the event, the volunteers and staff who worked to make the night a success.

Event Photography's amazing photos of the evening are available to view at [DanielMorcombe.com.au](https://www.DanielMorcombe.com.au)

## Coming up...

**13 June 2023**

Bright Futures  
Launch and QLD  
Forum - Brisbane

**18 July 2023**

That's Suss: eSafety  
Challenge Launch

**5 September 2023**

Australia's Biggest  
Child Safety  
Lesson Launch

**27 October 2023**

Walk for Daniel  
Day for Daniel



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[DanielMorcombe.com.au](https://www.DanielMorcombe.com.au)

# Congratulations to our 2023 Morky Award winners

## Dr Lara Christensen

As a valued member of the Daniel Morcombe Foundation Board since 2019, Lara has provided invaluable support and expertise. Her dedication and hard work have been instrumental in advancing our cause and making a positive impact on the community.

## Springfree Trampoline

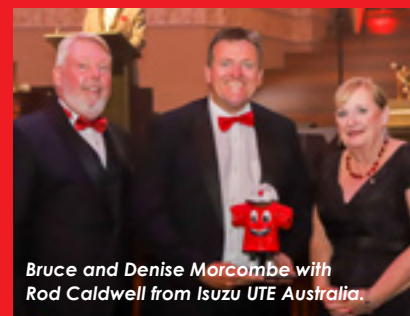
A heartfelt thanks to Springfree Trampoline for their support over the past 8 years. The Daniel Morcombe Foundation would not be where it is today without the generosity of supporters like Springfree Trampoline.

## Isuzu UTE Australia

Isuzu's commitment to providing a vehicle for Bruce and Denise to travel across Australia to deliver child safety school presentations is truly appreciated. Supporters of the Foundation for many years, their assistance has helped us to reach more children and families with important safety messages.



Bruce and Denise Morcombe with Leanne Fretwell from Springfree Trampoline.



Bruce and Denise Morcombe with Rod Caldwell from Isuzu UTE Australia.

## Extra special night

Our raffle prize this year was an 18ct White Gold Round Brilliant Cut Diamond Bracelet, handcrafted by Calleija Jewellers and Jody Veivers was the lucky winner. In her words, "the bracelet is stunning and something we intend to keep and pass down in our family. It will always be a very special piece, not only for the diamonds but for the way it came to us. We are still on cloud nine and it all feels a bit surreal. Winning such a beautiful piece is one thing but doing it at your event just makes it extra special".



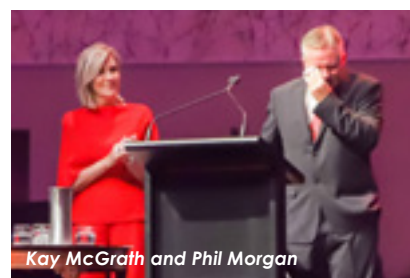
Jody Veivers and Madonna King

Proudly supplied by *Calleija*

## Powerful, moving speech at the Dance

The Foundation was humbled to be joined by Phil Morgan as our guest speaker at this year's Dance for Daniel. Phil shared his lived experience of childhood abduction, adoption and abuse but also his story of strength and resilience.

The key takeaway from Phil's impactful speech was the "importance of giving children the educational tools and resources in keeping them safe. It is also vitally important for a child to be believed and supported when they report any form of sexual abuse, it is most important for adults to act on it and report it to the police".



Kay McGrath and Phil Morgan

## Working with the community to keep kids safe



### Mooloolaba Nippers

The Mooloolaba Surf Life Saving Club team visited Daniel House to explore ways we can work together to help keep kids safe. We were fortunate to present and share some of our resources with the greater Surf Life Saving Club community at the 2023 Queensland Youth Championships in Mooloolaba, 16-19 February 2023.



### Dulux Retail Queensland

It was a pleasure to have Alan Brown, State Sales Manager from Dulux Retail Qld visit us at Daniel House. We were able to share an overview of the Foundation's work with Alan and explore ways that we can work together to keep kids safe.

### ACMS Study Launch

Bruce, Denise and members of our Bright Futures team attended the official launch of the Australian Child Maltreatment Study. The study shows that **62% of Australians over 16 have reported experiencing being abused, neglected, or exposed to domestic violence as children.** The report highlights that Australia must invest significant funding into (primary) prevention of child maltreatment and abuse as an immediate priority, and stop the abuse before it starts.







The Daniel Morcombe Foundation is proud to announce the Launch and first Forum of the Bright Futures program in Queensland on 13 June 2023.

Following on from the successful Changing Futures project, Bright Futures is a national education and training project aiming to reduce and prevent child sexual abuse. Designed for professionals, parents and carers, Bright Futures focuses on the issues of harmful sexual behaviours, child sexual exploitation and technology assisted harmful sexual behaviours.

Bright Futures will be launched this year in Brisbane by our Founders, Bruce and Denise Morcombe and Professor Simon Hackett from Durham University's Department of Sociology. Professor Hackett's research with children and young people with harmful sexual behaviour is internationally recognised and has transformed policy and practice across the globe.

Professor Hackett will be a special keynote speaker as part of the Forum following the launch, and will be joined by experts discussing preventing, identifying and responding to harmful sexual behaviours.

For more information about Bright Futures head to [DanielMorcombe.com.au](https://DanielMorcombe.com.au)

## School visits: Reinforce key safety messages

*Bruce and Denise started their travels in 2023 visiting Tara in Queensland's Western Downs, as Australia Day Ambassadors they presented Australia Day awards to members of the community.*

Term one school visits have seen Bruce and Denise deliver child safety presentations to students at Raceview State School Ipswich, Ipswich West State School, Burnside State School, Two Mile State School in Gympie and Kuraby State School. They also visited Backplains State School and spoke to students from cluster schools including Leyburn, Emu Creek and Clifton State Schools. Every visit reiterates the three key safety messages **"Recognise, react and report!"**

Chevallum State School were excited to have Morky join Bruce and Denise, showing great enthusiasm and taking home the key message **"No, my body belongs to me!"**

Bruce and Denise also made a special visit and presentation to Torbanlea State School, who were 2022's Day for Daniel Bank your funds winners.

If you would like to host a school safety presentation at your local primary school in Queensland, please have your school principal email [admin@danielmorcombe.com.au](mailto:admin@danielmorcombe.com.au)



## Education resources: Working with the experts

Our Education team have been busy working with a range of experts to help shape our upcoming child safety resources. Our experts are none other than kids! Adults often underestimate how much kids know, especially when it comes to the internet. It is important we consult with kids to ensure we speak their language to help them understand the realities of their actions.

Thank you to our experts at Palmwoods State School, Burnside State School and Refocus. We couldn't deliver the new resources without you. Stay tuned for our **That's Suss: eSafety Challenge**, coming soon.



## Victims of Crime

A core objective of the Foundation is to provide support in repairing the lives of children who have had a start to life they did not deserve. This has been delivered through the Walk Tall counselling service and Victims of Crime program. Over \$2.1 million has been spent on these services, with all these funds coming from private donations. Thank you to everyone who has donated to support these life changing programs.

## Springfree Trampoline

Thank you so much to Springfree Trampoline for their continued support and generosity in 2022. We were so happy to welcome Leanne Fretwell, Vice President, to the office to receive their latest donation.



Image (L-R) Bruce and Denise Morcombe, Tracey McAsey and Springfree Trampoline Vice President, Leanne Fretwell.

## Bidfood

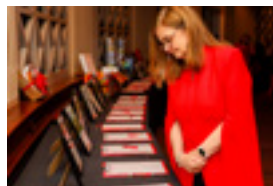
We are continuously touched by the effort Bidfood Australia goes to in promoting, hosting events and fundraising in all of their offices and warehouses across Australia for the Daniel Morcombe Foundation. In 2022, they raised an astonishing \$52,000 that will go directly to educating children about personal safety and assisting young victims of crime. We are so grateful to you!

Image (L-R) Bruce and Denise Morcombe, Tracey McAsey and Bidfood Branch Manager, Cameron Fischer.

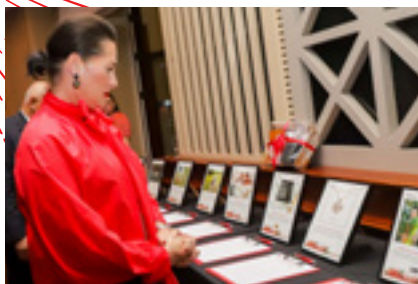
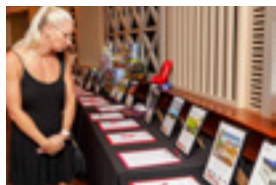


## Donations for Dance: Help make a difference

A big thank you to all the businesses and individuals who contributed towards our event. We are fortunate to have such caring businesses and individuals in our community. Murphy Builders, Epicure, NW Group and Brisbane City Council once again lent their support. New supporters, Jawa Offroad Campers and Campbell & Bradley Flowers were warmly welcomed. We acknowledge the generosity of many of our long-term supporters including Bidfood and The Lott. Such contributions make a positive difference in the lives of many and will be remembered for a long time to come. Once again, we thank everyone for their incredible support and for being an essential part of our fundraising efforts.



Thank you



## Top 5 Safety tips

### How can I protect my child when they are online?

1. Share their online world. Get involved in what your child is doing online.
2. Make their accounts private. Check the settings on all platforms.
3. Sit together and review their friends and followers.
4. Open up conversation. Let your child know that they can come to you about anything that is troubling them online.
5. Empower them to block and report anyone who makes them feel unsafe. They are always allowed to say no to anyone that makes them feel unsafe.

For more info check out our Safe Bedrooms suite of resources  
[DanielMorcombe.com.au](http://DanielMorcombe.com.au)

## Peter Boyce OAM retirement

After 18 years as a foundation committee member Peter Boyce is retiring.

His influence, friendship and generosity are substantial. Peter was also the Morcombe family's pro-bono legal representative at Daniel's Coronial Inquest and Cowan's lengthy trial and subsequent appeals all the way to the High Court.

We all wish that Melissa and Peter enjoy a long and strong retirement.



Image (L-R) Melissa and Peter Boyce with Bruce and Denise Morcombe.