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Issue 1

Mummy's Wish Inc

Helping mums with cancer

Registration No: CH1656
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Bernadette and her two children

Inside this Newsletter:

- Why Mummy's Wish
- Services to Mums in need
- How can you help?



Gayle and her daughter

Where would we be without our Mums?

Three years ago, Brisbane mum Bernadette Vella was undergoing treatment for Hodgkin's lymphoma. She had been diagnosed with this cancer whilst 14 weeks pregnant with her second child.

In another hospital bed, another young mother, Gayle Richardson was also suffering with this unfortunate fate. Independently these women struggled on through their respective treatments whilst trying to care for their young children, all the while wishing that they and no other mother should have to go through what they went through.

Out of this grief, was born the very worthwhile charity called Mummy's Wish.

Bernadette called her charity Mummy's Wish because her wish is that there was no need for

such a charity to exist.

She wishes that pregnancy and motherhood somehow could protect you from something as awful as cancer. Her experiences have shown her however that no-one can consider themselves safe from cancer and she knows that, in her lifetime, her wish will probably not come true.

Mummy's Wish seeks to help others in similar situations and so that is our mission – to ease the burden of cancer diagnosis on mothers of young children, helping them and their families through this difficult time

A worthwhile cause is born...

The Brisbane based charity, Mummy's Wish seeks to help other mothers in similar situations and so that is our mission – to ease the burden of cancer diagnosis on mothers of young children.

Mummy's Wish brings Bernadette both joy and sadness. Each time she is contacted by a new mother, she feels joy that she can help someone in a situation she understands. At the same time, she is saddened by the stories of women fighting for their life when they should be relishing in the joys of motherhood. She is reminded of just how lucky she is to be alive and how precious the gift of life really is.

Both Bernadette and Gayle have worked very hard to set up the charity Mummy's Wish hoping to make the lives of other mums with cancer and their partners and children, somewhat more supported.

To keep up to date with our latest news

Join us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)



Can you help us to help mums diagnosed with cancer?

Buy raffle tickets or purchase from one of our affiliates

Do you have some spare time? Volunteer with us and make a difference to a mum



To receive access to any of these services, simply [email us](#) and we will arrange this for you.

By helping us grow you can assist us achieving our long term mission of helping mums and dads all around Australia diagnosed with cancer when they have young children

Mummy's Wish Support Services

Mummy's Wish supports mums with cancer by providing a range of services such as:

Someone to talk to

Affected mums can call Mummy's Wish and talk to one of our dedicated volunteers all of whom are mums who have been diagnosed with cancer and undergone treatment

A Mummy's Wish Treat Bag – a bag of wonderful treats to brighten your day

Some of them are loosely related to cancer, such as a notebook to jot things down when medication is affecting your memory, or a new toiletries bag because of the number of hospital stays you will have. Others are just lovely pampering treats such as a free facial or a new lipstick.

Free membership to [Find a Babysitter](#).

Cancer sufferers will need to have children babysat due to the length of time required for

treatments - Find a Babysitter helps link parents with babysitters in their area. It is not an agency but rather gives a point of contact with private babysitters.

Free family photo shoot and photo

It is inspirational to have a photo with loved ones before commencing treatment. Just being able to see what you are constantly fighting for can give the help to get your through the days where you feel you can't go on. Our photographers have kindly donated a photo shoot as well as a free photo

Financial Assistance

In some situations we are able to offer some financial assistance to help pay for things such as house cleaning, yard maintenance, wheelchair or oxygen hire, mobile broadband whilst in hospital, use of a laptop whilst in hospital or babysitting. We make decisions regarding financial assistance on a case by case basis.

Where to from here for Mummy's Wish....

Mummy's Wish has helped about 15 mums with cancer so far. It is our vision to be able to assist 20 mums next year and have our support network continue to grow so each year we can help even more mums.

Currently all of our income comes from donations and fundraising. We are hoping to be able to obtain some grants (any grant writers willing to offer some assistance would be greatly appreciated) so that we are able to help even more mums.

We hope that one day we will be able to assist not only mums but also dads all around Australia.

The mum's we have helped

Some of the things we have helped mums with include:

- Family trip to Dreamworld and weekend away for a wonderful mum that passed away earlier this year
- Baby clothes and products for a mum diagnosed with cancer at the time of giving birth to her first child
- House cleaning for mums undergoing chemotherapy
- Fuel vouchers to assist a mum travelling from the Sunshine Coast to Brisbane for treatment
- A family portrait session before starting chemotherapy

We are an ATO registered charity and all donations over \$2 are tax deductible

HOW YOU CAN HELP

2009 Major Raffle Closing Soon

Our major raffle for 2009 will be drawn on 16 September 2009. Tickets are only \$1 each and there are 10 fabulous prizes including the major prize of a signed Qld State of Origin jumpsuit. Email Gayle gayle@mummyswish.org.au to purchase tickets or go to our [News and Events page](#)

Book fundraising drive

We are doing a book fundraising drive. Social Club Books offer a fantastic range of books at up to 75% off RRP. Mummy's Wish are doing a book drive and we will earn 20% commission on all orders.

If you would like to place an order yourself or even better get a group of friends and place a group order, please go to www.scb.com.au and place your order making sure you put MUMMY in the SCB club identifier field on your order form. For more information please contact bernadette@mummyswish.org.au

Hold a Mummy's Wish fundraiser

Are you able to hold a fundraiser for Mummy's Wish?

You could get a group of friends together and raise some funds for Mummy's Wish. It could be a trivia night or a Tupperware party or you might want to get a group of friends together and do a breakfast or a dinner to raise some funds

Mummy's Wish is a registered charity with the ATO and all donations over \$2 are tax deductible and receipts can be issued

Would you like to become a volunteer?

We have a strong partnership and wealth of information in our founding members, but need a dedicated band of supporters behind the scenes to help this very worthwhile charity run.

If you are interested in supporting the charity by providing your time in some way, we would love to hear from you.

Please contact Gayle on gayle@mummyswish.org.au

Purchase from an affiliate

When you make a purchase from any of our online shopping affiliates from our [Affiliates](#) page, we earn commissions on your purchase.

So why not shop with some great retailers and help Mummy's Wish at the same time!!

Have a family portrait session done

Choice Creative Photography specialises in pregnancy, newborn and family photos and they donate portraits to our mums.

If you too would like to experience the wonderful talents [Choice Creative](#) for just \$20 you can purchase a voucher from Mummy's Wish that entitles you to a studio sitting, an 8" x 12" portrait print and a presentation DVD. This is over \$200 value and all voucher proceeds go directly to Mummy's Wish.

For more information please contact bernadette@mummyswish.org.au

Corporate Sponsors Needed

If you are a business or corporation you too can help this very worthwhile cause.

Mummy's Wish aims to help ease the burden of mothers suffering from cancer. Your support will allow our work to reach more mums and families in our community.

Sponsorship will help enhance your organisation's corporate image as a good corporate citizen

Sponsorship demonstrates to your staff the importance of caring for the community in which we all live and work

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