



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Wednesday 15 July 2015

### Random Acts of Kindness to bring joy to cancer patients

Families dealing with cancer will receive a 'random act of kindness' through the allocation of funds from the Rotary Beats Cycle for Hope (BCFH) ride.

The annual Rotary BCFH ride from Portland to Cape Bridgewater held in March this year raised over \$8,000, which will be used to provide practical support for local families experiencing cancer.

The event was the brainchild of Portland man, Paul Beattie, whose legacy lives on through the annual ride, now in its 3<sup>rd</sup> year.

This year, the Rotary BCFH committee has made a decision to partially shift the focus of the funds from well-being programs to gifting a "random act of kindness" gift card.

Rotary BCFH committee is working closely with Portland District Health (PDH) Palliative Care Unit to ensure families receive the gift card. The gift card will act as a simple gesture to families to bring some joy to their day.

Along with the gift card, the Palliative Care Unit will be able to access discretionary funds through the United Way Glenelg PDH Samaritan Fund and directly through the Rotary Club of Portland.

Mr Beattie's wife, Mandy, who encouraged the change of direction, said the palliative care staff work very closely with families and are best placed to determine how the gift cards and discretionary funds will be managed

"The palliative care staff was wonderful to Paul and our family. They managed Paul's physically and emotional pain respectfully," Mrs Beattie said.

"The staff was empathetic and sincere, making my role as carer a little easier. All my questions were answered honestly and we knew exactly what to expect".

Mrs Beattie is very proud that funds raised remain in the Portland community.

"Majority of riders participating in the Rotary BCFH event are local. To return their donation into the community to where it can lend a hand is extremely satisfying." Concluded Mrs Beattie.

A contribution will also be made to the YMCA Caring for Cancer Carers Well-Being program, in addition to the donation made by Portland Aluminum through the "Alcoans in motion" initiative.

Families who wish to access discretionary funds from Rotary Club of Portland please email Mandy Beattie on [mandybeattie11@gmail.com](mailto:mandybeattie11@gmail.com)

The 2016 Rotary Beats Cycle for Hope event will be on Sunday 20 March and request community members keep this date free.

To donate to the Rotary Club of Portland, please visit [www.beatscycleforhope.org/apps/donations/](http://www.beatscycleforhope.org/apps/donations/)

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