

Dance for Daniel 2011



See more photos, visit
DanielMorcombe.com.au



6th Annual Dance

Our 6th Annual Gala Charity fund raising event was held on the 19th of March. Yet again it has proved to be the best social event on the Sunshine Coast calendar. Nothing but praise and good memories is the unanimous flavour echoed in the wave of comments received from guests. Check out our photo gallery on danielmorcombe.com.au for more action shots. We grossed more than \$65,000 from Auction Items and Raffles which is a great effort. How good were those donated paintings? Simply outstanding!

From the 'get go', guests were eager to flow into the fabulously decorated room at the start of the night to capture the spirited calling by our Lone Piper. M.C. Meshel Laurie warmed the crowd and the DMF's Patron Kay McGrath welcomed everyone and provided some glowing words about the Foundation. Hon Neil Roberts MP Minister for Police also

acknowledged the DMF's work and commitment including a message of support from the Queensland Premier. In a revised format Band of Blue then got the place rocking with a very popular set which saw the dance floor permanently filled. Immediately after the main course it was time to reflect on some positive achievements by the DMF over the last 12 months. Denise and Bruce spoke to the 300 plus guests who at times were choked with emotion.

Bruce then continued with a passionate display which included a collage of newspaper headlines concerning the Coronial Hearing; many were quite disturbing in their nature. A number of thank yous followed and while still on the serious side, Bruce made everyone aware that no matter what the Coronial Inquiry unearths, the Morcombe family is united in its commitment to work with the Queensland Police Service and solve Daniel's case. Formalities continued as we heard from the Police Commissioner Bob Atkinson and Hon Peter Slipper MP Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives. Time for a change and comedian Mike Van Acker was next up, followed by band Signed Sealed Delivered.

What a surprise packet! Fabulous music and the place was pumping until past midnight. Discussions are already taking place to look at next year's event. Please check our website regularly for updates. Tickets are always popular so 'First in Best Dressed'! Register your interest for 2012 now.

A special thank you to all of the 2011 Table Champions, your assistance in coordinating the tables was greatly appreciated. We are already looking forward to 2012. We will continually be looking for Table Champions so if you are interested in becoming a Table Champion please do not hesitate to contact us. We will also be establishing a Dance for Daniel Ticket Sales Committee. If you would like to express an interest in being on this committee please contact DMF Committee member Tracey McAsey traceymcsey@hotmail.com. Any ideas, feedback, suggestions for 2012 would also be appreciated.

Dance Highlights

Another highlight of the Dance was the announcement of the new child safety initiative Daniel's Signal to be developed by the foundation in the forthcoming months.

The live auctions again created great interest and excitement with our auctioneer Justin Veivers, entertaining the crowd as he attempted to involve more people in the bidding wars for items. The highlight of the auction was the spirited bidding for the Nelson Mandela signed "Banned Speech" which brought the highest return for the evening.



The Dance for Daniel has now become entrenched on the Sunshine Coast social calendar as a not to be missed fun night in March of each year.

Coronial Inquest

Three months have now elapsed since the last sitting days, but on Monday the 28th March the Queensland State Coroner Mr Michael Barnes will recommence the Coronial Inquest into the abduction and suspected murder of Daniel Morcombe.



The first 5 days will be held in the Brisbane Magistrates Court and the following week it returns to Maroochydore. We are very pleased to note that preparations have been extensive and the Morcombe family report that they do not see this as a wasted exercise and are privately entering this phase of the public hearing with a degree of optimism that new information will come to light.

Daniel's Danger Signal

Initial field trials have been in progress at a number of schools with government officials and media interest particularly strong. Momentum is driving this to a point where we can see very positive results in the weeks and months ahead. The DMF does stress that if and when our Danger Signal is launched, it is merely an additional tool or resource that can be used when a child needs help.



In a personal emergency it is recommended that to run and scream, which are your natural defences, be employed. But in some circumstances a warning signal to others that you need help has merit. Perhaps it is a medical emergency or you feel something is not right and wish to have that checked by an adult.

We are working closely with the Qld. Police Commissioner Bob Atkinson who is preparing a discussion paper for the Premier Anna Bligh. It is our intention that the signal will be a nationally recognised symbol with the roll-out being adopted by all States and Territories. Stay tuned for updates in the near future.

Safety DVD Update

More than 3,000 copies of the revised edition of Foundation Red have been delivered free of charge to schools and concerned parents since its release late last year.



Order a FREE dvd,
visit our website

Very much a wanted item it contains best practice information covering bullying, texting, internet safety, how to recognise situations that are inappropriate and a comprehensive list of tips on what to do in these situations.



Guest presenters include wonderful role models for children like, Kenny Koala, Agro, Shane Webcke, Jessica Watson, Terri, Bindi and Robert Irwin plus others. Its subject matter is non-confronting yet informative, suitable for children aged 6 to 13 years old. Order your copy online at danielmorcombe.com.au

Day for Daniel 2011

October 28th is our designated Day for Daniel in 2011. Already we are approaching 100 schools and businesses who have visited our website and indicated that they are participating and supporting our 'day-of-action' on child safety.



Download a poster and present that to your school's administration office to check what they may do. It's a fun day with a serious message. To find out more please go to DayForDaniel.com.au