

Media Release

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THE HAIR BALL GOES PINK FOR BREAST CANCER

The Hair Ball is back at its spiritual home, in the prestigious Civic Theatre on Saturday 24 October 2009. This year's theme **Pink Cabaret**, coincides with Breast Cancer Awareness Month and funds raised at the ball will go towards the purchase of the latest in surgical based ultrasound equipment that will help to improve outcomes for women with breast cancer.

Funds raised will also go toward the purchase of new wigs for the hospital's free wig service for patients who lose their hair during cancer treatment, and a cancer research grant for Mater researchers.

The Hair Ball, now in its eighth year, is one of the region's most prestigious fundraisers, raising money for cancer care and research initiatives at Calvary Mater Newcastle, the region's cancer specialty hospital.

Compered by the effervescent, Charli Delaney (ex Hi 5), the ball this year features a cabaret style entertainment line-up including, Ultra Swing Lounge, well known Newcastle band The Cruisers and popular Newcastle nightclub regular DJTP, to spin the disco tunes at this Pink gala event.

Guests will arrive on the pink carpet and enjoy pink champagne whilst soaking up the Civic Theatre's specially created pink ambience in support of breast cancer awareness. Guest speaker on the evening will be Professor John Forbes, Director of Surgical Oncology at Calvary Mater Newcastle and world renowned expert on breast cancer and recipient of proceeds from the evening.

This year the hairdressing community of Newcastle will be out in force with displays of grand wigs for a grand pink occasion organised by Charlestown hairdresser, Kirstie Saunders of Woohoo who lost her father last year to cancer.

"The hairdressing community is constantly in touch with cancer patients, we try to be there for those who lose their hair and my commitment to the hospital is in commemoration of my father who died at the Mater Hospice," said Kirstie.

A major feature of every Hair Ball is the amazing raffle sponsored by Proprietors Karen Baird And Joel Edwards of Domayne Kotara with the winner receiving a \$5,000 shopping trip to Domayne, furniture, bedding and homewares with their own personal decorator.

Outstanding Junction businesswoman Janne McKay has worked tirelessly with fellow business people at the Junction to create a 'must have' luxurious shopping package and pampering day for the girls which should raise some significant dollars in the Grand Auction, "every woman loves a good day of shopping and pampering", said Ingrid Grenell, Public Relations Manager, Calvary Mater Newcastle.

"Donations from the Newcastle and Hunter business community have been great, the kindness and generosity towards this cause is overwhelming," said Ms Grenell.

Other auction prizes include, an exclusive dinner for six with Channel Ten's favourite news presenter, Sandra Sully, Mark Richards' donation of his very own surfboard, four hot laps with current and three time Australian Production Car Champion, Colin Osborne at the Production Car Championships in Bathurst in February 2010, Jennifer Hawkins own signed Lovable bra, Hairdressing for a year from Pandora's Hair Witchery, VIP dinner tickets to Fleetwood Mac at Hope Estate in the Hunter Valley, and a visit to the set of Channel Ten's *Neighbours*.

Last minute tickets for this special night are still available so be quick to call Laura Jackel on 4014 4712 and be part of supporting the region's main Premier Cancer Charity Event.

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