



Media Release

Wear a Bandanna on National Bandanna Day to Show Your Support for Young People Living With Cancer

Bandannas are on sale throughout the month of October at selected outlets and in schools, and can be purchased on the streets on 31st October*

Australia, 29 September 2008 - Friday 31st October is National Bandanna Day, and CanTeen is calling on all Australians not only to buy a bandanna, but also to wear it to show their support for young people living with cancer. By wearing bandannas on Friday, 31st October, Australians will be sending an incredibly powerful message to these young people, that you care and that they are not alone. National Bandanna Day is CanTeen's largest annual fundraiser and awareness day, with this year's goal being to sell 1 million bandannas.

The money raised from National Bandanna Day goes towards CanTeen's programs, camps and services, which are designed to bring young people living with cancer together in a safe and supportive environment. In this environment, CanTeen Members learn about the emotional, physical and practical issues of cancer and how to deal with these in their lives.

Cancer Affects Everyone

Everyone is touched by cancer. Research shows that:

- One in 100 young Australians will get cancer before the age of 30
- One in 10 young Australians have a parent who has been diagnosed with cancer
- One in two men and one in three women will be diagnosed with cancer in their lifetime

CanTeen Member Daniel Berry, who found out he had a brain tumour just two weeks before he turned 16, explains what CanTeen means to him:

“CanTeen helps me out and gives me a chance to get on with my life and try to be as normal as I can. If CanTeen didn't exist it would be harder - I wouldn't have as much support, or the information [about my cancer] that I need to get through it.”



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Andrew Young, CanTeen's CEO says, "We've had a 60 per cent increase in new Members in the past two years, which is great news, as it means we are helping more young people living with cancer. But it also means we must put on more programs, camps and services than ever. I would urge everyone to purchase and wear a bandanna to show support for Members like Daniel."

New Funky Designs

This year's bandannas include some old favourites, plus seven funky new designs, including two designed by Indigenous Artist of the Year award winner and CanTeen TeenMate, Duncan Smith called Meeting Ground and Hunting Ground. Other funky designs are provided by Industrie Clothing. There's sure to be something for everyone.

CanTeen encourages all Australians to not only purchase bandannas, but to wear them on Friday, 31st October. By wearing your bandanna on this day, a strong symbolic gesture, you show young people living with cancer that you support them while they manage their cancer journey.

****Cost and Availability***

Bandannas cost just \$3 and will be available from all Woolworths, Myer, Newlink, Supercheap Auto, schools and Industrie stores around Australia throughout the month of October. On Friday, 31st October, CanTeen's National Bandanna Day awareness day, bandannas can be purchased on the streets across Australia.

Those interested in supporting National Bandanna Day can visit www.bandannaday.com.au or call 1300 226 833.

Editor's Note:

National Bandanna Day 2008 Media Image Library:

- [Members Wearing Bandannas](#)
- [Bandanna Product Shots](#)
- [Duncan Smith Designed Bandannas](#)



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Case studies* are available in the following categories for interviews and photo-ops:

- **Patients** - young people who have been diagnosed with cancer;
- **Siblings & Offspring** - young people who have an immediate family member (brother or sister, parent or primary carer) who has been diagnosed with cancer; and
- **Bereaved Siblings & Offspring** - young people who had an immediate family member who died from cancer.

**Please note - each state has its own set of case study participants.*

- Ends -

For further information or to arrange an interview please contact:

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About CanTeen - The Australia Organisation for Young People Living with Cancer

CanTeen is the Australian Organisation for Young People Living with Cancer. CanTeen's Members are young people (12-24 year-olds) living with cancer, including cancer patients, brothers or sisters of cancer patients and young people with a parent or primary carer with cancer. CanTeen provides Members with a place where they can simply be young people - away from the adult dominated environment of cancer hospitals and treatment regimes. Through its camps and programs, CanTeen encourages its Members to get involved, make friends and have fun! In the words of our Members, the most effective form of support is from other young people in a similar situation - who have "been there, done that". For more information, please visit www.canteen.org.au