



Murrumbidgee COUNCIL

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MEDIA RELEASE

COUNCIL SUPPORTS RIVERINA REDNECK RALLY

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Murrumbidgee Council has once again thrown its support behind a five-day fundraising event being run to support seriously ill children.

The second annual Riverina Redneck Rally will leave Hillston on 5 March and return to Darlington Point on 9 March 2018.

The first rally, held in March 2017, was a resounding success, raising \$123,614 for Country Hope.

Country Hope is a Riverina/Murray-based organisation that offers support to children diagnosed with cancer and other life threatening illnesses.

Event Director Gavin Gilbert said he was looking forward to the fundraising event this year.

"The primary source of funding for Country Hope is from corporate sponsors and community fundraisers like this due to the fact that they receive no Government funding," Mr Gilbert said.

"This is why we decided to make Country Hope the sole beneficiary of our fundraising efforts.

"The first Riverina Redneck Rally was the largest fundraiser that Country Hope has ever had. Our aim is to try and double the amount in 2018."

As part of the event Riverina Redneck Rally competitors raise funds to aid Country Hope. Once teams are accepted they must raise a minimum of \$2500 to be eligible to participate in the rally.

"All of the teams entered went above and beyond this figure for the last rally with the highest amount from one team being \$12,100 raised," Mr Gilbert said

"The first rally attracted 30 car entries. Final numbers for cars entered is 65 as well as 12 Support vehicles plus video production/ camera crew. Around 160 people will be part of the rally."

Major sponsors are Rivcott Cotton Gin and Darlington Point Lions Club, with Murrumbidgee Council contributing \$2500 to the event.

General Manager Craig Moffitt said he was happy that Council could support the rally.

"It is wonderful to see members of our community so willing to contribute their time and energy to such a worthy cause," he said.

"An event like this, which travels through our Council area, helps showcase the region to visitors, many of whom are taking part."

"I wish all of the participants the very best for a safe and enjoyable rally."

The rally will end at the Darlington Point Sports Club, with a final dinner and presentation being held.

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