

Edition 1, 2012

## North Queensland celebrates Queensland SunSmart Day



Queensland SunSmart Day was very popular in North Queensland with over 70 schools from the region signing up to participate in the event in November 2011.

Over 3,000 children in the region celebrated the day by taking part in sun safety education activities and getting behind Cancer Council



Holy Spirit School

Queensland's world record attempt to have 'the highest number of people applying sunscreen at one time'.

Sid the Seagull made a special guest appearance at Holy Spirit School in Townsville to have a go at achieving the world record attempt together with 894 students from the school.

Currently we are still awaiting confirmation as to whether our world record attempt was successful, so stayed tuned and hopefully we will know in time for our next edition!

Queensland SunSmart Day will be held again this year on November 16.



Riverside Christian Adventist School

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### Contact us:

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[info@cancerqld.org.au](mailto:info@cancerqld.org.au)

[www.cancerqld.org.au](http://www.cancerqld.org.au)

Cancer Council Helpline 13 11 20

## Free resources

Cancer Council Queensland also has a great range of free sun safety education resources available, [click here](#) and scroll down to the 'sun protection' section to view and order resources online.



# Message from CEO



## Dear readers,

Welcome to the first edition of the SunSmart News for 2012. This edition features 2011 SunSmart highlights and important information about exciting sun protection initiatives taking place in 2012.

Firstly, let me thank those of you who took part in Queensland SunSmart Day last November. The event engaged thousands of young people across

the state in sun safety education activities, raising funds for CCQ's vital skin cancer research, education and patient services. We hope to make the event even bigger this November and encourage your involvement.

I'd also like to thank and acknowledge SunSmart Schools and Early Childhood Centres for their commitment to sun safety for the children in their care. As children are at school or in care during the peak UV periods of the day, it is essential that sun protection and SunSmart behaviours are a part of everyday activities. If your school or centre is not yet registered in our SunSmart program, I warmly invite you to apply for SunSmart status through the links below.

One of the many benefits of being involved in the SunSmart program is a school visit by Sid the Seagull, our much-loved mascot. Page four includes Sid the Seagull's SunSmart messages for sports clubs, following Sid's recent adventures at the Super Sports Sign-On Day at the Gold

Coast. We fully support junior sports clubs in their endeavours to promote active and healthy communities in SunSmart ways.

Finally, on page four, you'll find our colourful Calendar of Events. You can make a difference in our quest for a cancer free Queensland by getting involved in these events in 2012 – why not register your school now for Australia's Biggest SunSmart Morning Tea!!

Yours sincerely,

Prof Jeff Dunn  
Chief Executive Officer  
Cancer Council Queensland

***P.S. Always Slip, Slop, Slap, Seek and Slide to protect yourself and your school community from future risk of skin cancer!***

## Become a SunSmart School or Centre!

Cancer Council Queensland's SunSmart Schools and Early Childhood Centres Program is a unique program that aims to assist schools and early childhood centres to develop and implement a sun protection policy aimed at minimizing children's sun exposure and increasing SunSmart behaviours.

Schools and centres who meet Cancer Council Queensland's criteria with regards to SunSmart policy and practice are recognised for their commitment to the health of the

children in their care with 'SunSmart' status and are able to promote this to their local community.

Because children are at school and childcare during peak ultraviolet radiation (UVR) times, they play a major role in minimising children's exposure to UVR and providing a SunSmart environment which will positively influence long-term behaviours.

If your school or childcare centre is not yet part of the Program but would like to join more than 1,800 other SunSmart schools and centres across the state, fill

out an online application form here:

[SunSmart Schools and Early Childhood Centres Online Application](#)



# 2012 SunSmart Grant Scheme now open!



**The SunSmart Grant Scheme is a partnership initiative developed by Cancer Council Queensland and Queensland Health to assist organisations who have limited funds to work towards sun safety.**

The scheme provides grants to Queensland community organisations whose primary focus group is children aged 0-12 years to help them improve sun protection measures and promote sun safe behaviour.

The scheme aims to support skin cancer prevention and encourage all organisations to adopt a SunSmart policy.

Through the 2010 and 2011 SunSmart Grant Schemes, Cancer Council Queensland and Queensland Health have provided funding to over 350

Queensland organisations to enable them to enhance sun protection for the children in their care.

Applications for the 2012 SunSmart Grant Scheme are now open. The closing date for submitting applications is June 22, 2012 and all funded projects must be complete by October 31, 2012. If you would like to apply for funding on behalf of your organisation, please download a copy of the **Application Form** and the **Application Guidelines**. If you require further information, please contact Cancer Council Helpline on 13 11 20.



Lowwood Kindergarten's beautiful playground shade structure



Homestead State School's new portable shade marquees



Warwick Central State School students enjoy their new hats and sunscreen

## The Critics' Choice 2012



Queensland schools are invited to apply for The Critics' Choice program, a free youth smoking prevention educational resource available to all upper primary and secondary schools. The Critics' Choice is an initiative coordinated annually by the

Australian Network on Young People and Tobacco. Cancer Council Queensland delivers the program to Queensland schools as part of a strategy to reduce the prevalence of young people smoking.

The program encourages students to consider the risks of smoking and to avoid starting to smoke, or quit smoking if they have already started. The Critics' Choice contains a DVD with 12 anti-tobacco television advertisements from around the world and a printable Teacher's Guide with student activities. The 2012

program also features new interactive whiteboard activities.

The Critics' Choice will run from May 31 to September 21 and can be used by teachers and school nurses in a variety of subjects including English, Health and Physical Education, Life and Social Skills and the Arts.

Upon returning evaluation forms, students and schools go into random prize draws. To register online go to [www.cancerqld.org.au](http://www.cancerqld.org.au), click on the "What's On" section or e-mail [TheCriticsChoice@cancerqld.org.au](mailto:TheCriticsChoice@cancerqld.org.au) for all other enquiries.



# Sid the Seagull helps the Gold Coast community to be SunSmart and active

**Cancer Council Queensland recently attended the Queensland Government Super Sports Sign-On Day at the Broadwater Parklands, Gold Coast to raise awareness of skin cancer and educate the community about the importance of being SunSmart.**

The aim of the sign-on day is to encourage children to become more physically active by joining local sporting and recreation clubs where they can be active, make friends and most importantly have fun! Various local sporting and recreation clubs attended the events so that the kids who attended had plenty of options to choose from including basketball, rugby league, netball, gymnastics and hockey. The day was filled with entertainment, interactive displays and plenty of giveaways for children and their parents.

A wide range of SunSmart resources were available at the Cancer Council

Queensland display to remind the community to be SunSmart while being active outdoors. As many sports and recreation activities are undertaken during peak UVR periods (between 10am and 3pm), attendees were educated about how to minimise UVR exposure and engage in SunSmart behaviours. SunSmart mascot Sid the Seagull made a guest appearance at the event to help remind all attendees to Slip, Slop, Slap, Seek and Slide. Children who attended the event were very excited to receive SunSmart resources from Sid the Seagull including stickers, balloons and SPF30+ sunscreen.



Sid Seagull has a go at playing rugby union!








Sid the Seagull and Cancer Council Queensland Community Services Coordinator Cassie O'Brien



Sid the Seagull rubs shoulders with Jamal Idris from Gold Coast Titans.

## 2012

### Calendar of events

<b>All year</b>	Relay For Life - events throughout the state
<b>February</b>	 1-29 Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month 4 World Cancer Day
<b>May</b>	 14-20 National Volunteer Week 24 Australia's Biggest Morning Tea 31 World No Tobacco Day
<b>June</b>	11-17 International Men's Health Week
<b>August</b>	 24 Daffodil Day
<b>September</b>	1-30 Prostate Cancer Awareness Month
<b>October</b>	 1-31 Breast Cancer Awareness Month - Girls Night In throughout October 22 Pink Ribbon Day 
<b>November</b>	19-25 National Skin Cancer Action Week 16 Queensland SunSmart Day

Phone 1300 65 65 85 or visit: [www.cancerqld.org.au](http://www.cancerqld.org.au) to register or volunteer for any of these events.