

Spring 2014

Positive News

All the latest news from the Bobby Goldsmith Foundation



**bobby
goldsmith
foundation**

practical emotional
financial support

Once Upon A... Bake Off - A Resounding Success!

Punters lined the street for a spectacular afternoon of entertainment at this year's BGF Bake Off. It was a packed house at the iconic Imperial Hotel, Erskineville on Sunday, 3rd August.

Featuring an array of celebrities and performers, the 27th annual Bake Off was hosted by the hilarious Auntie Mavis and musical theatre star James Lee, with the gorgeous Candy Box as Maître D'.

Once Upon A... Bake Off was fairly tale themed and with over 50 entries, it was fantastic to see the high calibre of delicacies on display—an incredible effort in each endeavour.

The venue was transformed into a wonderland and looked enchanting, thanks to Rohan Forkner of Scalawag Productions, Man Lie Lasers, Sydney Props and Opera Australia Props Hire.

This year's Head Judge was reigning DIVA Hall of Fame winner, Claire de Lune of Claire's Kitchen at Le Salon. She was joined by Christina Batista from MasterChef, Marty Boetz from Cooks Co-Op, and Adriano Zumbo, one of Australia's most celebrated patissiers. Winning entries were auctioned off by the fabulous, Romany Brooks.

What a pleasure it was to have on stage Miss 3D, Cindy Pastel, Dawn Service and Campanosity. There was also a special greeting, all the way from London, from Mitzi Macintosh, host of many a past Bake Off.

The crowd were drawn to the popular chocolate wheel, the pie throwing contest and a host of other gaming



Photos by Ann-Marie Caillhanna.

treats with prizes to be won. Players from Sydney Stingers water polo team joined in to help sell jelly shots.

Around 500 people attended the event, helping to raise a staggering \$17,000 profit! The atmosphere was electric. The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive.

BGF CEO David Riddell said: "This year the Bake Off was a great fundraising success and monies raised will provide vital services to our growing and diverse client base. I'd like to thank everyone who donated their time, in-kind support, goodwill and prizes on the day."

"Special thanks go to our event sponsor SkinDNA Clinics, to the Imperial Hotel for their amazing support, and to Imagination for the creative artwork."

BGF are delighted with the community support they have received and to have Bake Off firmly cemented on the social calendar as a much loved and celebrated event.

Check out some of the action from the day on the Bobby Goldsmith Foundation Facebook page and on Youtube at: [youtube.com/watch?v=lqHtwuwwDYQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lqHtwuwwDYQ)

TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR HEALTH+

A WORKSHOP IN BETTER HEALTH MANAGEMENT FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV.

Developed by
Stanford University of California

Presented by the
Bobby Goldsmith Foundation

Workshops are open to
people living with HIV
who are NSW residents.

Register your interest by emailing
Richard.Kennedy@bgf.org.au
or calling us on 02 9283 8666.

A Donor's Life: *Shelly's Story*

To me, as a young child, Uncle Michael was fun and generous. He always took us out to nice places and to see many of Sydney's sights. Michael always had exquisite taste for the finer things in life. As kids, though, we knew nothing of his status as a gay man. To us, he was just our uncle.

When my family learned of Michael's HIV positive diagnosis, it was a sad occasion that I still remember vividly. Granny and Poppy barely spoke of it after. I remember seeing my mother and grandmother very upset and my grandfather very confused. I was 15 at the time. I didn't fully understand what it all meant or how much impact the news would have on members of my family. It raised questions that needed to be answered, but there wasn't a simple set of answers or solutions.

My uncle lived for 10 years with HIV and was on many trial medications which enabled him to live a normal life. It wasn't until 1995 that his HIV evolved to AIDS.

Michael was a strong and fit man for most of his life, even with HIV. So the ramifications of what was

happening to him were not initially understood. At one stage, Michael was the longest surviving HIV/AIDS patient in Sydney and this in itself is a true reflection of the determination and courage he had within.

Throughout his struggle, he never gave in to allowing the disease to take over his life. Michael wanted the best for himself and for his family and friends. His partner and immediate family were with him until the last breaths of his life.

My story is like many others that endorse the great work of the foundation. As we enter a time of remarkable and life changing medical breakthroughs, supporting the right people and the right organisations means that we support those who may one day not only find a cure but also need to be cured.

My business, Red Pout Boutique, will be donating on a regular basis. 10% of all Cosmetic Tattooing Procedures will go to The Bobby Goldsmith Foundation.

If you have a story share, please email Michelle.Lesco@bgf.org.au

Community Support Inspires All at BGF's Auction

The BGF Auction went off with a bang at the China Republic Restaurant in World Square on 6th May.

Many hands were raised to bid on a range of extravagant experiences and luxury items for this major event which grossed over \$70,000.

One buyer walked away with an original portrait of The Hon Michael Kirby AC CMG (pictured). Painted live, it was personally signed by The Hon Kirby and artist, Matteo Charles.

Another guest went home with tickets to the grand finale of *The Voice*. Other auction items included dinners with

politicians, rides with the Dykes on Bikes, VIP tickets to the grand final of the Bingham Cup, theatre tickets, a Blue Mountains holiday retreat, and much more.

Attracting over 100 guests, the event was hosted by celebrity Angela Bishop, with Andrew Mercado and Romany Brooks leading the live auction. Wines were kindly donated by Lisa McGuigan Wines.

From the BGF Board, staff, clients, and volunteers - thank you for your support. Your generosity helps the lives of many people living with HIV to change for the better.



BGF Patron The Hon Michael Kirby AC CMG, signs the portrait of himself painted live by artist Matteo Charles at the BGF Auction.

Ita Buttrose Accepts Honorary Life Membership

On 27th November 2013, the Bobby Goldsmith Foundation officially welcomed its newest Honorary Life Member, Ms Ita Buttrose AO OBE.

The ceremony took place in The Oxford Hotel, the venue where BGF was first founded in 1984.

Wendy White, the sister of Bobby Goldsmith, and Ken Bryan, Bobby's final partner, presented Ms Buttrose with her Honorary Life Membership citation. It was an emotional and very moving

evening for those who attended, including many founding members who were able to reconnect on the night.

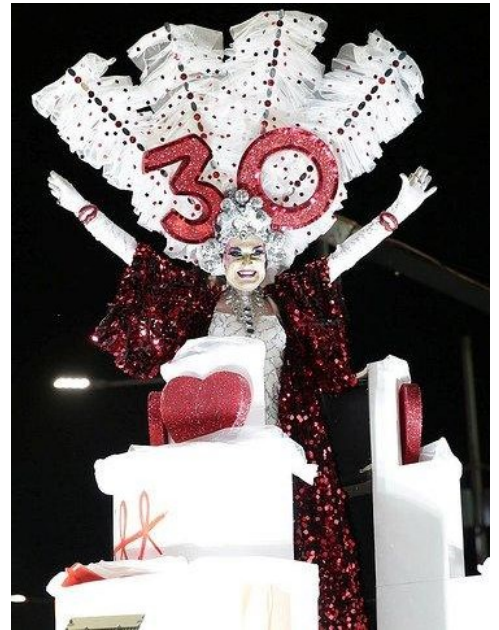
BGF Patron, The Hon Michael Kirby AC CMG, paid tribute to Ita: "Those of us who are members of sexual minorities will never forget the way in which Ita came forward during our darkest times when the HIV/AIDS epidemic first struck us and our friends. At the times of deepest despair and grief, she stood with us shoulder to shoulder."



From left, BGF President Damien Hodgkinson, Ken Bryan, Ita Buttrose AO OBE, Wendy White, BGF CEO David Riddell.

Ms Buttrose has made an invaluable contribution to our sector. BGF is honoured to welcome her as a Life Member.

Thank You for 30 Years of Love, Sweat, and Tears



This year marks the 30th birthday of the Bobby Goldsmith Foundation. In celebration, BGF created an award-winning float in the Mardi Gras Parade.

'Celebrating 30 Years', the float paid tribute to Bobby's swimming career featuring the Wett Ones and the Aqualicious swim teams. The BGF procession also recognised all those whose lives have been lost over the years.

Looking spectacular in a giant birthday cake was Miss 3D. From the top of the double-decker bus, Claire de Lune and Christina

Batista (MasterChef) promoted Bake Off.

CEO David Riddell was thrilled: "On behalf of everyone at BGF, I would like to extend an enormous thank you to all of you who took part."

"The crowd were fantastic, and the reception was terrific, but most importantly, you, the participants were extraordinary."

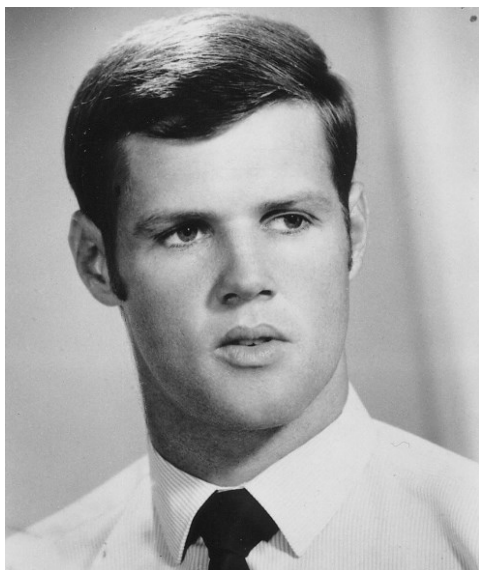
"Your enthusiasm, camaraderie and support was felt by all and helped BGF get the right balance of commemoration and celebration in

our 30th anniversary year. I am moved by, and grateful for, your participation."

"The work BGF does now continues and builds upon the tradition of love, care, and support that built this unique and amazing community organisation in 1984. We honour our past and embrace our future with greater confidence knowing that such support exists."

"BGF has been able to adapt to the changing epidemic of HIV over the years and will continue to do so. This is credit to you, our valued supporters. Thank you."

Photo Call



In honour of BGF's 30th year, we are reaching out to our community for photos of Bobby.

Email: michelle.lesco@bgf.org.au
Or mail to:
Bobby Goldsmith Foundation
PO Box 1444
Strawberry Hills NSW 2012

Community Events

Once again, Oz Showbiz Cares / Equity Fights AIDS presented the incredible show, **Hats Off**, in February at the Seymour Centre. The show continues to be a memorable one-night only experience. It featured a galaxy of musical theatre stars, including this year's ambassador Paul Capsis. The show raised more than \$25,000!

Three runners took part in this year's **City2Surf** to support the work of BGF. Thank you so much Tim Blanshard, Kelley Fields, and Paulo Cardona for raising over \$2,500.

If you'd like to be involved in, or run your own community fundraiser for BGF, call us on 02 9283 8666.

Follow us!



New Staff

BGF welcome several **new team members**: Caseworkers: Sue Wood, Alexandra Fish & Richard Exomoh; Caseworker Team Supervisor: Alex Durrant; Compliance, Research & Operations Manager: Andrew Buchanan; Fundraising Manager: Barbara Smith; Events Coordinator: Laurence Stark; and Volunteer Coordinator: Jon Coll.

Prefer to read your newsletter online? Send a short email to michelle.lesco@bgf.org.au

BOBBY GOLDSMITH FOUNDATION

WWW.BGF.ORG.AU | BGF@BGF.ORG.AU

PHONE: (02) 9283 8666

STREET ADDRESS:
LEVEL 3, 111-117 DEVONSHIRE ST
SURRY HILLS NSW 2010

POSTAL ADDRESS:
PO BOX 1444
STRAWBERRYHILLS NSW 2012

ABN 65 141 126 703 | NSW CFN 13955



LOVE, SWEAT & 30 YEARS *WE'RE STILL HERE*

**Send your completed form to: Bobby Goldsmith Foundation, Reply Paid 86183, Strawberry Hills NSW 2012.
Or, give online at: www.bgf.org.au**

Please accept my tax-deductible gift:

☐ One-off donation

☐ Monthly donation

☐ \$30

☐ \$50

☐ \$100

☐ \$250

☐ My Choice:

\$

My details:

Name:

Address:

Payment details:

☐ Cheque or Money Order payable to the Bobby Goldsmith Foundation

☐ Credit Card (Visa, MasterCard, or American Express)

Card Number:

Expiry:

Name on card:

Signature: