

Lively atmosphere at relays

Celebrate 80 years of road

Tom Bennett

RELAY for Life events at Collendina and Torquay made a major contribution to the fight against cancer at the weekend.

With plenty of cash still to come in, organisers have already collected more than \$120,000 between them and are confident they will topple their respective tallies from last year.

Both events ran continuously from noon Saturday to noon Sunday, and while there was plenty of fun on and off the course, there was also high emotion as teams honoured cancer victims and survivors.

More than \$50,000 was raised at the Bellarine relay at Collendina, with The Group (\$10,000) raising the most of all 25 teams.

In total of 550 participants walked and/or ran in that relay.

Organiser Sarah Mayhew was delighted with the turnout: "It was just fantastic. The great weather really made the occasion and inspired people."

Ms Mayhew said the event began with a lap honouring cancer survivors and carers.

There were stalls, tents and a variety of activities off the relay course.

"It was just electric, a real carnival atmosphere."

Ms Mayhew also paid tribute to solo participant Hayley Menheere.

"She was a one-person



Clockwise from main: Sienna Purcell and Leilani Feher provide some support from the sidelines at the Surf Coast Relay for Life; Sue and Brian Lloyd walk laps; Katie Halson walks the walk at the Bellarine Relay for Life; Geelong Grammar's team at the Surf Coast relay; relay participants in high spirits.

team who remained on the track for the vast majority of the 24 hours," she said.

The Surf Coast Relay for Life at Torquay also saw an outstanding one-out performance.

"The efforts of Jan Juc's Jenny Moss left everyone speechless," co-ordinator Avril Baxter said. "She managed to compete the whole relay challenge by herself."

The Torquay relay at-

tracted 26 teams and 511 participants. It raised more than \$70,000, which is expected to increase substantially when all the teams have collected their sponsor contributions.

Organiser Heidi Maguire, herself battling cancer, showed incredible bravery in helping other volunteers set up the event moments before being admitted to hospital.

Peter Begg

A VINTAGE vehicle rally to celebrate the 80th anniversary of Great Ocean Road will pass through Barwon Heads, Torquay and Lorne at the end of next week.

The rally will leave Melbourne on Saturday, November 24, stopping at Geelong's Johnstone Park for lunch at 1pm.

This will be followed by a visit to Barwon Heads, where a talk about former Mayor of Geelong Howard Hitchcock's lofty ambition back in 1918 to build the road, will be given. This will take place about 4.15pm at Jetty Rd Park.

Day one concludes with a cocktail party at Torquay's Surf World Museum. On the Sunday, a family day has been planned from 9am-1pm at Spring Creek Reserve, before the cars head down to Lorne for the night.

Monday, November 26, is the actual anniversary day, and a re-enactment will take place at the Grand Pacific Hotel about 11.30am after a street rally starting at 10am. The rally will stay in Lorne that night before heading off to Port Campbell.

The final night of the rally, on Wednesday, the cars will stay in Port Fairy after being welcomed into the town with an afternoon street party.