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BRIGHT - POREPUNKAH - MT BEAUTY - TAWONGA - TAWONGA SOUTH

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Running for research

By LEAH ANDERSON-BYRNE

BRIGHT local Rod Browning has only been running since January this year, but that hasn't stopped him raising almost \$4000 for cancer research in memory of his late wife, Sharon.

Rod will be running in the Melbourne Marathon next week, which will fund Melbourne-based cancer research.

"I am on my own these days after Sharon was diagnosed with cancer and passed away very quickly 18 months ago," Rod said.

"The medical expertise available while she was sick was a huge and pleasant surprise to

Local man enters fundraising marathon for his late wife

me and yet, Sharon still didn't survive.

"There has to be more to fight cancer and raising money for Cure Cancer is a tangible way to contribute.

"Two friends inspired me to start running.

"A young race car driver from Canberra and a mum of three from here were both running and enjoying it and their enthusiasm was infectious.

"After 30 years of cycling, I began running for the first time in January this year at age 72.

"Park run and its amazing

community became part of my routine.

"I have been humbled by the support I have received from friends and the community.

"The funds raised have kept me focused on training over winter in the wet and cold of the High Country."

Last year's marathon funding, more than 100k, went towards Melbourne-based cancer researcher, Dr Eric Kusnadi, who is developing new drugs to treat advanced prostate cancer.

"The funding went towards phase one of our clinical trial of a new drug, it funded a whole year of research," Dr Kusnadi said.

"Results have been promising and now progressing to the next phase means we have to recruit more participants, we have to select the right patients to reduce distress.

"This drug we are developing is a combination of multiple people spending multiple years researching the molecular development, now we are able to design molecules that can be used as drugs for treatment for prostate cancer patients.

"We are honoured and privileged to receive this kind of funding

and support from events like the marathon.

"It motivates us to work harder and be more efficient in our research to make sure we give positive impact to people affected by cancer.

"Any donated amount to any projects in Australia, not just mine, is going to help make Australia a better place for cancer treatment and create a healthier country."

This year's funds will go to a project much like Dr Kusnadi's and will aim to fund an entire year of research.

You can donate to Rod's fundraiser at https://melbmara2023.grassrootz. com/curecancer/rod-browning.



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