

WALK FOR PREMS 2018 - VIC

FACT SHEET - VICTORIA

Thousands of families across Victoria will hit the pavement on Sunday October 28 in support of Life's Little Treasures Foundation's *Walk for Prems 2018* event.

More than 48,000 Australian babies are admitted into neonatal and special care units every year – a whopping 14.5 per cent of all births and 115 admissions each and every day.

In the past nine years the foundation has raised \$1.4 million for sick and premature babies, and hopes to receive \$300,000 in donations this year.

Date	Sunday 28 October, 2018
Times	Melbourne: 9am Ballarat, Gippsland and Goulburn Valley: 9.30am
Location	Melbourne: Palms Lawn, Albert Park Lake, Albert Park Ballarat: Wendouree Parade, Lake Wendouree, Ballarat Gippsland: St Pauls Anglican Grammar School Gymnasium, 150 Bowen Street, Warragul Goulburn Valley: Nathalia Primary School, Bromley Street, Nathalia

Ambassadors

- Brisbane: **Brooke Hanson** OAM, Australian Olympic Swimmer and radio/television presenter. Brooke along with husband Jared Clarke experienced nine months in the NICU after the birth of their son Jack Hanson Clarke. Jack was born at 28 weeks 5 days, 12 weeks premature, weighing just 663grams, severely growth restricted and only 32cm long. Sadly, after a nine-month battle in the NICU Jack passed away. Despite her loss, Brooke wants to continue to bring a greater awareness to the birth of premature babies and the importance Life's Little Treasures Foundation can have on parents, family and friends through the journey of their "Little Treasure".
- Brisbane: **Michelle & Tom Worthington**, Michelle is an internationally published award-winning author of empowering picture books for children of all ages, who has written a book for families of a premature baby called "My Brother Tom". Her gorgeous three year old Little Treasure Tom was born premature at 28 weeks, weighing 1350 grams. Michelle was the recent recipient of the 2018 AusMumpreneur Award for Business Excellence as a scholarship holder and graduate of the Women's Business School.
- Melbourne: **Rusty Benson**, Director, Raine & Makin. Dad to Jack and Juno. Jack, Rusty's first child, was a late preterm baby who spent the first 10 days of his life in NICU back in 2015. Since this challenging start, he is always open to sharing his experience to hopefully help others feel connected and not alone in theirs.

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- Melbourne: **Dr Simon Fraser**, trained in Neonatology at the Mater Hospital for Women in the late 80s - early 90s and practiced as Staff Neonatologist at the Mercy Hospital for Women from 1993 to 2005 and then in various Special Care Nurseries in Gippsland until 2016. He currently runs a small private practice in regional Victoria with a particular interest in premature babies. He also sits on the board as Director of one of the Victorian regional health services.
- Melbourne: **Monique Mastrobattosta**, ex prem born at 25 weeks in 2003, weighing 665grams. Spent 3 months in NICU and Special Care. Now a published author and social media influencer.
- Sydney: **Matt Levy** OAM, Australian Paralympian Swimmer & Bronze medal winner at the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games. Matt has vision impairment and cerebral palsy due to being born 15 weeks premature. He competed in his first Paralympic Games at Athens in 2004.

Presenting Partner	Baby Bunting
Major Sponsors	Medela Australia, Huggies, Britax
Sponsors	Earlybirds and Web Intelligenz
State Sponsors	Cold Fusion Capital (VIC)
Entertainment	After the walk, participants can enjoy a range of children’s activities including music, a jumping castle and face-painting. Well-known acrobatic entertainers, the <i>Trash Test Dummies</i> , will be appearing at the Melbourne walk.
Register	To register for <i>Walk for Prems 2018</i> and donate, visit www.walkforprems.org.au
Cost	<p>Melbourne: \$44 for adults, \$20 for children and \$10 for babies.</p> <p>Gippsland, Goulburn Valley and Ballarat: \$18 for adults, \$10 for children and \$7 for babies.</p> <p>Virtual Walk Team registration: \$30 for adults and \$25 for children, includes a <i>Walk for Prems 2018</i> t-shirt.</p> <p>Everyone who registers receives a participation medal at the conclusion of the walk, as well as access to free entertainment and children’s activities at each location.</p> <p>Participants are asked to fundraise, either individually or as a team, through their own page on the <i>Walk for Prems</i> website.</p>
Social	<p>Instagram: @walkforprems @lltfoz</p> <p>Facebook: www.facebook.com/lifeslittletreasuresfoundationwalkforprems</p> <p>Hash tags: #walkforprems2018 #makingadifferencetogether #lifeslittletreasuresfoundation</p>



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For Walk media enquiries and interviews with local participants please contact:

Progressive PR

Darren Saffin

darren@progressivepr.com.au

0411 089 209

For charity Walk media enquiries please contact:

Life's Little Treasures Foundation

Shusannah Morris

CEO

Life's Little Treasures Foundation

1300 697 736 / 0425 778 886

shusannah.morris@lifeslittletreasures.org.au