

ANTICIPATION IS BUILDING IN ADELAIDE FOR OAKBANK SEASON 2011

Oakbank Racing Club launched their 2011 season today (Tuesday March 22) at the Coopers Ale House Hotel in Adelaide with over eighty VIP guests anticipating a great April at Oakbank.

This iconic racing club which has been racing since 1876 is excited to be hosting three great days of racing and family fun in the picturesque Adelaide Hills this April 2011.

“2011 is set to be our best year yet with much interest coming from interstate and overseas trainers and guests for both our Little Heroes Foundation Family Picnic race day and the Easter Racing Carnival. Our ground staff have been preparing the course, and weather permitting, we look to have almost a complete set of hedges for the steeplechases this year - which will make our course even more popular with horses, trainers, as these jumps are even safer with less impact on horses” Oakbank Racing Club Chairman John Glatz said.

In the lead up to Easter 2011 racegoers, trainers and horses alike will be able to prepare themselves by enjoying a fantastic day trackside at Oakbank at the Prelude event - The Little Heroes Foundation Family Picnic race day on Saturday April 2nd. This charity race day event, now in its third year, promises to be a memorable day of racing and family fun, with part proceeds of the day going to Oakbank Racing Club's 2011 Charity Partner – the Little Heroes Foundation.

Executive Director and Chairman of Little Heroes Foundation Chris McDermott said, “The funds raised at Oakbank this year will go towards our ‘Life After Diagnosis’ Survivorship program, the mission of which is to empower every family living with childhood cancer by supporting them from initial diagnosis, through intensive treatment, remission and beyond. The support of the Oakbank Racing Club and the thousands of people who attend Oakbank this April will be invaluable in helping us support these courageous families.”

Three weeks after this prelude event, the World's Biggest Picnic Race Meeting – the Oakbank Easter Racing Carnival will again be a festival that will have attendees jumping with excitement on Saturday April 23 & Monday April 25th 2011.

As Easter Monday also coincides with Anzac Day, an Anzac Memorial Service in conjunction with the RSL will be held prior to the first race - what better way to honour our brave Diggers than at the iconic Oakbank Racecourse?

2011 Oakbank Ambassador (Australian Olympic Swimming team member & Commonwealth Games Gold Medallist) Sophie Edington, who attended today's launch, said “Being here at today's launch is further building the excitement for me for Easter. I was born and bred in the country in Loxton SA and it's going to be sensational to revisit South Australia to experience the country style picnic atmosphere of Oakbank and celebrate both Easter and Anzac Day this April.”

The South Australian Tourism Commission has joined a great stable of sponsors of Oakbank Racing Club in 2011 with Events South Australia General Manager, Hitaf Rasheed saying “Visitors to Oakbank have the chance to discover the wonders of the picturesque Adelaide Hills region, which is only 30 minutes from Adelaide and home to 50 cellar doors. South Australia has a wonderful calendar of brilliant sporting, arts and cultural festivals and the Oakbank Easter Racing Carnival is no exception.”

(End of release)

Please see page 2 for the key Media Diary Dates for Oakbank Season 2011

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Upcoming Media Diary Dates for Oakbank Season

Oakbank Young Members Season Launch

Thursday 24th March 2011 at the Alma Hotel, Magill Road Norwood SA at 7pm

Oakbank Prelude Charity Race Day in association with Little Heroes Foundation

Saturday 2nd April 2011 – Gates open 9am and racing from approximately 11 am

Oakbank Easter Carnival Trials (Jumps Horses Only)

Monday 18th April 2011 at approx. 9:30am.

Oakbank Easter Racing Carnival – Saturday 23rd & Monday 25th April 2011

- Gates open 7am and racing from approximately 11 am to 5pm.

Oakbank Christmas Twilight Race Meeting - Friday December 9th 2011 – Gate opening and race times will be advised by Oakbank Racing Club in November 2011.

All Oakbank Season enquiries and bookings can be made by calling Oakbank Racing Club on 08) 8388 4072, via an email to info@oakbankracingclub.com.au, or via the club website at www.oakbankracingclub.com.au

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