

Easter means Oakbank but so does March in 2009!

Oakbank Racing Club hosted over 100 guests in a marquee riverside at Pinky Flat to launch the 2008 Oakbank Racing Season. Chairman John Glatz was impressed with the great turnout and support despite the 43 degree heat. Guests enjoyed fine food from Encore catering complemented by fine wines Yalumba and Fosters fine ales which will all be enjoyed trackside this season at Oakbank.

Adelaide media legend Ken "KG" Cunningham was "very honoured and touched" to be named the first male Ambassador for Oakbank Racing Club for epitomising the Oakbank spirit.

Each year, over 110,000 people flock to the usually serene Adelaide Hills' town of Oakbank for the Oakbank Easter Racing Carnival and this year will be no different.

But in 2009 over 5,000 people will be trackside for the inaugural Oakbank Prelude Raceday on Saturday March 14th.

Oakbank Racing Club in conjunction with McGuinness McDermott Foundation will host this new family event which will have rides, face painters, food and refreshments will be available with part proceeds going to The McGuinness McDermott Foundation to help their work assisting children who have contracted cancer.

Chairman of Oakbank Racing Club, John Glatz, says the focus of the Club is on families and friends getting together and enjoying themselves in a friendly environment. "Oakbank is a very informal race meeting, and this one we're calling 'Oakbank light' as we expect about 5,000 instead of over 100,000 at Easter" John says. "The emphasis is on having a great day out that's affordable. Oakbank only happens once a year and people like to make the most of it. The children, in particular, love Oakbank, and it's a terrific introduction to racing."

"Monies raised by this Prelude race day will go towards setting solid foundations for the soon to be launched MMF Survivorship Services (MMFSS), a program being designed to deliver a service model providing best practice outcomes and services for children surviving cancer in the areas of wellness, physical, psychological and advocacy" Tony McGuinness said.

John believes it's the simplicity of Oakbank that makes it such a popular track, "It's about people having a great time," John says, "We provide the beautiful venue, the family entertainment and the fantastic program of racing, and we make sure all those things are done properly. Then it's just a matter of everyone turning up and doing their own thing."

Easter is set to continue its reputation as the worlds biggest picnic race meeting with Ambassador Ken "KG" Cunningham trackside to enjoy all the racing, colour and fun. Young party goers should book now for the Highway Inn Marquee on Saturday or the Young Members Marquee on Monday as they will be the places to be seen at Oakbank.

So all you need to do is get your family and friends together and head to Oakbank this March 14th & Easter – April 11th & 13th.

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

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