

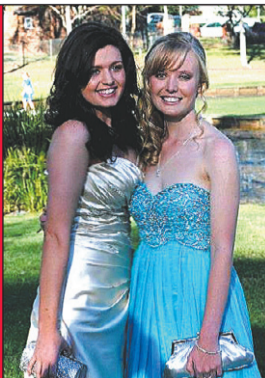
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Alpaca attack  
'a big cat'



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Colo High's formals



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Mentals locked in at Vault



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2011 E.C. Sommerlad Award for Newspaper of the Year - Country Press Awards

# Clinic strikes Gold

by Kietley Isrin

EVEN though the race that stops the nation was over, that didn't stop more than 6000 racegoers and fashion-frenzied females taking to the track for one final punt and judging last Thursday, November 3 at the 2011 Panthers Hawkesbury Gold Cup Ladies Day.

But it wasn't just the ladies and punters who struck gold. The Hawkesbury Living Cancer Trust (HLCT) also won big, thanks to a donation of up to \$1 million made by a well-known Hawkesbury family that wishes to remain anonymous.

This donation and others means that the Hawkesbury now has enough money to put in a development application for the Len and Margaret Peel Chemotherapy and Infusion Unit - a development which will offer residents a locally based clinic with chemotherapy, infusion and oncology services.

HLCT trustee Vivienne Leggett secured the donation and said the family was very proud to be supporting the centre, and that the donation will be used for the fit-out of the chemotherapy and infusion area, and the reception area, waste, and emergency areas for five beds.

"I would truly like to thank each and every person, family and business for their very kind donation and fundraising activities that are now enabling the submission of the development application to council which will see the approval to commence construction of the Len and Margaret Peel Chemotherapy and Infusion Centre," she said.

"There is a shortfall of around \$300,000, but we feel confident with continuing fundraising and further donations we will cover this cost over the coming 12 months. This will be fabulous for the Hawkesbury and it has been an enormous community effort to make it a reality. We could not have achieved this without the support and spirit of Hawkesbury residents."

Mrs Leggett also thanked all the volunteers for giving their time to sell tickets all year for the Holden



Every one of them a winner: The finalists of the Hawkesbury Gold Cup's Fashions on the Field.

Photo: Simply Photography

Astra which also raised funds for HLCT and was drawn on the day. More than \$200,000 has been raised by the Trust so far.

Meanwhile, off the track, if it was bright, it was right.

While the ladies glammed up in their extravagant hats and elegant dresses for the all-important Fashions on the Field competition sponsored by Skin Fitness, it was the spunky and often topless off-duty NSW firefighters who really heated things up, raising more than \$7000 for the burns unit at Westmead Children's Hospital selling calendars.

On the main stage it was all about making a statement. The panel of judges critiqued Fashions on the Field entrants on grooming, suitability and attention to detail in the three categories: best classic, contemporary and hat.

Gazette journalist Cerise Burgess shone in her black-and-white spotted dress and proved to be the judges' favourite, winning the classic section.

But it was Wilberforce's Doreen

Slinkard, also wearing a stylish black-and-white outfit, who was sashed best in contemporary.

Right in keeping with this season's colour blocking trend, best hat category winner Lauren Kenny, of McGraths Hill was spectacular in her lavish bright orange and pink hat.

And while the ladies were busy touching up their lippy and checking their hair, the lads were kept entertained with all the on-track action.

But come 4.48pm, it didn't matter what you were wearing, with all eyes on the biggest race of the day - the \$150,000 Group 3 Panthers Hawkesbury Gold Cup, won by Somepin Anypin (see sport).

In her marketing capacity with Hawkesbury Race Club, Mrs Leggett said although the crowd for Ladies' Day was down on previous years, everyone had a wonderful day.

"Hawkesbury Race Club are very proud of the Hawkesbury community for supporting the day, having a great time and behaving well," she said.



Bonniest babies are back!  
Win great prizes for both baby and mum. P20

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