

Speech
By Mayor Logan K Howlett, JP
on the occasion of the
Inaugural Cockburn Central Billycart Festival
held in the
Cockburn Town Square
Sunday 13 March 2016

Good Morning,

I am pleased to be here on this wonderful autumn day to officially open the inaugural Cockburn Central Billycart Festival.

I acknowledge the Nyungar people who are the Traditional Custodians of the Land we are gathered on today.

I pay respect to the Elders both past and present of the Nyungar nation and extend that respect to other Aboriginal Australians who may be here with us today.

The Cockburn Central Billycart Festival, the first of its kind in Western Australia has clearly demonstrated the value of partnerships across a community.

Congratulations go to the Cockburn Central Town Centre Association Chairman and event organiser Doug Weir for coming up with the idea of racing billy carts in Cockburn Central and to the committee for their endeavours and the creation of the amazing atmosphere we all see and hear today.

Events like this do not occur without a lot of hard work - none of this could have been possible without Doug and his team.

Let's give them a big round of applause.

I take this opportunity to acknowledge the major sponsors of the event including the City of Cockburn, Landcorp, GN Construction, Frasers Property Development supported by the Cockburn Central Town Centre Association, Office Works, Adventure World, Spud Shed and many others to make this a truly family event.

Today families have the opportunity to see bilycarts, jet dragsters, motorcycles, a monster truck, live bands and a market with proceeds going towards the Eating Disorder Ward at Princess Margaret Hospital, such an important cause.

We have two very brave people here today; Angus and Tegan who have been through the PMH Eating Disorder Program and are here to share their story. Well done guys – you are great ambassadors for Princess Margaret Hospital and the Program..

The Cockburn Central Billycart Festival is raising awareness of this issue and sending the message that help is available to individuals and their families.

So have a chat with Angus and Tegan as they wander around and give generously to the cause and of course, have fun and absorb the atmosphere of the Billycart Festival.

Thank you to the donors who supplied everything here today and of course a big thank you to the hard working volunteers.

When a loved one has an eating disorder it impacts the whole family, so let's also have a round of applause for Princess Margaret Hospital for helping sick children and their families.

I official declare open the Inaugural Cockburn Central Billycart Festival.

May this be the first of many Cockburn Central Billycart Festivals to come?