

Dreaded 'C' one of the last taboos

By Sally Lee

THE women refer to it as "the dreaded C" and they've all been affected by it.

Including Felicity O'Donohue, of Merrylands, who recently experienced the wrath of "the dreaded C" as her brother-in-law was diagnosed with prostate cancer.

This may seem like a story that's been told over and over again but, Mrs O'Donohue puts it simply, "everyone in one way or another has been affected by cancer" – and the official figures speak for themselves.

According to Cancer Council Australia, one in two Australians will be diagnosed with cancer by age 85.

Last year, more than 43,000 Australians died from cancer and it is the leading cause of death in Australia.

Mrs O'Donohue, a mother of two children and owner of the Karma Soap Company, is one of the sponsors of the charity event An Evening to Help Cure Cancer at Parra Villa Function Lounge in Parramatta on August 5.

"Society has made cancer a taboo subject but this event is about celebrating the survivors and remembering the loved ones we've lost to cancer," she said.

Event organiser Melissa Sutton, who also runs a business called Spoilt Much, hopes the community will dig deep and join the fight against cancer.

"With this evening event we see ourselves helping our great community, coming together to raise awareness and to help collect funds that may help to find a cure one day," she said.



Taking on The Big C: Women from western Sydney are hosting a charity evening event at Parra Villa Function Lounge in Parramatta. From left are Melissa Sutton, Jannett Jackson, Kahi Silver, Erin Burns and Felicity O'Donohue.

Picture: Carlos Furtado



Crafty mum shines

By Sally Lee

BEING a mum can be a handful but for Kate Marshall, of Toongabbie, it's inspiring. Which is why she started her online business over two years ago – and now she has been nominated as a finalist in this year's Bio-Oil AusMum preneur Awards.

"Families are my biggest inspiration, especially my two amazing children, Bryce and Taylor," she said. "They're the reason I'm passionate about what I do."

The business, The Kids Room by Kate, specialises in handmade children's decor, clothing and accessories, all handmade by Mrs Marshall and she wouldn't have it any other way.

"That's the beauty of handmade craft because I put my own twist on things. The fundamental idea behind my business is adjusting to what the customer wants. This business lets me do that while being a stay-at-home mum."

The awards are presented by connect2mums, which recognises women who balance their businesses and motherhood. Winners are selected by a public vote.

Details: connect2mums.com.au and thekidsroombykate.com.au.

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■ Tickets for the event cost \$70 and include a three-course meal, drinks, lolly buffet and a chocolate fountain. There are prizes to be won on the night.

■ Details, tickets: charity @spoiltmuch.com.au or 0401 438 637.

■ Donations: everydayhero.com.au/an_evening_to_help_cure_cancer.



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