

AUSTRALIA - WINE IS A WINNER IN MELBOURNE

Melbourne Participants: Jill Finch, Jennifer Nelson, Haran Nagendran, Cassie Duncan

The four participants from the Melbourne office, decided that a wine tasting evening would be a perfect way to welcome in the festive season and raise money for the Laos Cycling Challenge.

After making the decision to host a wine tasting evening, a local wine retailer was approached, Get Wines Direct, and having hosted numerous fundraising events previously they were more than happy to host a wine tasting evening at Computershare.

Because the selected wines were cleanskins, it was decided that labels would be printed to promote Change a Life. A local artist, Rob Gale, donated artwork for our in-house designer to use and as a team we came up with the tag line, 'Change a Life and Celebrate'. In the weeks leading up to the event there was a lot to do; we labeled nearly 1,000 bottles, which was quite a task!

With all the preparations in order the night went off without a hitch. Just after 5pm, people started filling the room. There were about 80 people in attendance throughout the evening, all coming together in support of a great cause while also enjoying a friendly catch-up outside of work hours.

Craig Heaven, from Sales and Marketing walked away a happy customer, "The Change a Life wine tasting evening made for quite an enjoyable post work event. Some great nibbles, dry whites and even dryer jokes from Matt Willis! A great way to end a day at Yarra Falls."

The event raised AU\$2,700 (ZAR\$15,241, US\$2,091, €1,620, CAD\$2,467, £1,068), and was held at a perfect time for people to stock up for the festive season!

UPDATES FROM AROUND AUSTRALIA

Dustin Teasdale, a fundraiser and participant claims, "it is all BBQ's and beach in Sydney" with most of his fundraising money coming from BBQ's on the balcony with beers and wine to wash down the charcoal!

Ben Wolrige from Perth utilised his contacts through the family business to generate most of his funds, with long-term customers and suppliers happy to help when they heard about the cause.