



Sunday, 26 November 2017

November 2, 2017

Family pedalling For Pete's Sake

For Vlad Martinovich, multiple sclerosis is a condition that's very close to home. His wife's cousin was diagnosed with it, a close family friend has MS and six years ago his brother-in-law Peter Moltoni was diagnosed with the neurological condition when he was only 21, after the right side of his body went numb.

"Unfortunately, it's not a nice disease. But Pete is managing his condition well, he's staying out of the heat, managing his diet and it's made a big difference and thankfully he hasn't had a relapse, he's been very lucky," said Vlad.

"Pete's a pretty modest guy, he doesn't make a fuss about his MS and neither do we, but he knows he's got a lot of family support. Family are the ones that he sees the most, we're always hanging around together, so he knows he can lean on us when he needs to."

That family support includes taking part in the MSWA Ocean Ride – Powered by Retravision. Vlad and his three sons Simon, Damian and Anton will be part of the 20 extended family members taking part in the team 'For Pete's Sake'. Over the past six years the team has raised \$59,000.

"I've set myself the target of raising \$5,000 and hopefully the team will raise \$20,000 all up this year. We're doing the family ride, the boys really love it, it's a bit of fun. They have a great time, they get involved and they love the day," added Vlad.

The 8th MSWA Ocean Ride – Powered by Retravision is being held on Sunday 26, November. All the money raised will be used to support Western Australians living with MS and other neurological conditions. This includes providing vital services and support, high-care accommodation and respite facilities and investing in local and global research projects. This year alone, MSWA's contribution to research was a record breaking \$2.6 million making them the largest funders of research into MS and other neurological conditions in Australia.

"We find that many of the people who take part in our fundraising events have family members or know someone who has a neurological condition. That's why they're driven to take part and keep coming back year after year. And for that, we are incredibly grateful to people like Vlad and the extended Moltoni family," said MSWA CEO, Marcus Stafford AM.

"For the second time, Ocean Ride participants can nominate where they would like their fundraising money to be spent. It could be motor neurone disease, stroke, Parkinson's disease, acquired brain injury or Huntington's disease to name a few. The choice is theirs."

MSWA Ambassador and Eagles forward Josh Kennedy is encouraging as many people as possible to take part in the ride.

"In my role as MSWA Ambassador, I've met a lot of people with MS and other neurological conditions and I've visited a number of accommodation and respite centres. I've seen first-hand the support and services delivered by MSWA and the real difference it makes to peoples' lives," said Josh.



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A unique cycling event, the MSWA Ocean Ride – Powered by Retravision, follows Perth's beautiful coastline from Fremantle to Hillarys. With five different ride distances to choose from, there is something to suit all fitness levels – from serious cyclists through to more casual weekend riders.

The finish line for the 2017 MSWA Ocean Ride - Powered by Retravision, at Whitfords Nodes, Hillarys will again be transformed into a 'City of Joondalup Event Village'. With a carnival-like atmosphere, featuring various exhibitors, food and beverage vendors, children's activities and fantastic live entertainment.

Anyone who registers for the ride before November 9 is in the running to win an \$849 all alloy road bike. To register to ride or donate got to mswaoceanride.org.au

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