

WORKMATES TO THE FORE!

Ashlee Synott used to work at Coles Kingston, in fact her Mum Karyn and a few other family members still do.

Ashlee is currently taking a break from work as she bravely battles cystic fibrosis, something she has always lived with and is now facing the prospect of a lung transplant.

Her workmates wanted to do something to help and on learning that she would get great benefit from a computer, Teena Goodson gathered a group together to run a fundraiser to purchase one. The main event was a sausage sizzle that also incorporated a cake stall, face painting and a raffle – held at the store at the end of July

Teena, Tamara Mann and Rhys Duggan were the main organisers with other staff members joining in the hard work on the day.



Brett Archer, Tamara Mann, Teena Goodson, Paul Griffin and Rhys Duggan

Paul Griffin, General Secretary of the SDA, also traveled to Hobart and spent four hours helping sell the raffle tickets.

Some \$1300 was raised, which was boosted by another \$200 from workers at Coles Northgate who had heard what was happening and also wanted to contribute. Since then, additional donations have brought the total amount to \$1800.

In the meantime, the SDA stepped in and assisted with the computer purchase so that all funds raised could go towards defraying the crippling costs that will be involved when a transplant becomes available and Ashlee's operation takes place in Melbourne.



Teena Goodson, Paul Griffin and SDA Delegate Marcus Harrison



Karen and Ashlee

"Management was very supportive," says Teena. "They were happy for us to run the fundraiser at the store and also provided Ashlee with return airfares to Melbourne plus three nights accommodation."

An unanticipated benefit came out of this grand effort by the staff as well. "Because most of us only see each other at work," said Teena "it provided an opportunity to do something together and created a wonderful bond between everyone involved."

And it hasn't stopped there – the next fundraising foray will probably be a wheelbarrow run with lots of donated goodies to help raise money – and Teena is confident that will also be well supported.