



Media Release  
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## Selwyn Aquatic Centre staff dive into Relay for Life

Around 60 staff at the Selwyn Aquatic Centre will be swimming the distance from Christchurch to Auckland to raise funds for the Cancer Society's Relay For Life.

The event, named the Speedo Challenge, will run for 90 days starting on Monday 2 February and finishing on Saturday 2 May.

The team at the Aquatic Centre will be swimming 1,068 kilometres, the same distance as from Lyttleton Harbour to Manukau Harbour, where the Speedo head office is located. To complete this monumental relay, Aquatic Centre staff including lifeguards, receptionists and swim instructors will be swimming 42,720 laps of the centre's 25 metre pool, which equates to approximately 3323 lengths per week.

Speedo Challenge organiser and Customer Service Supervisor Angela Leatherby, says that this will be excellent for team morale. "It will be an opportunity for the staff to work together to achieve a goal while also raising money for the Cancer Society's Relay For Life. After participating in the Relay For Life last year the team decided that we would make it our charity of choice for the Speedo Challenge."

A map will be on display in reception to show the team's progress throughout the 90 days. There will be a prize for the staff member who swims the most lengths and for the staff member who raises the most money.

The team will be swapping their speedos for sneakers and also participating in the official Relay For Life event, held at the Rolleston Reserve on March 7-8. Other Selwyn District Council staff will also be participating in this event by walking and running the relay.

The public can help support the Selwyn Aquatic Centre Speedo Challenge by sponsoring the team when they visit the centre. There will also be raffle tickets for sale at reception with the proceeds going towards Relay for Life.

Ends

*Photo 1: Staff members Karli Haugh and Ben Close warm up for the Speedo Challenge.*

*Photo 2: Staff members Ben Close and Karli Haugh get ready to dive into the Speedo Challenge.*

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