

COMMUNITY

THORN BELIEVES BUSINESSES SHOULD GIVE BACK TO THE COMMUNITIES IN WHICH THEY OPERATE AND BE A GOOD CORPORATE CITIZEN IN ORDER TO HAVE A SOCIAL LICENSE TO OPERATE. THORN'S ENTIRE TEAM IS COMMITTED TO DEVELOPING AND MAINTAINING LONG TERM PARTNERSHIPS WITH COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS, NETWORKS, AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES.

As part of Thorn's commitment, staff are encouraged to participate in community activities along with Thorn providing direct financial support, including matching staff donations dollar for dollar for approved activities. Among the initiatives supported by Thorn are White Ribbon, Digger's Rest, Project New Dawn, Mission Australia, and the Children's Tumour Foundation of Australia.

WHITE RIBBON

Thorn Group supports White Ribbon, Australia's only national, male led Campaign to end men's violence against women and promote gender equality and healthy relationships.

Thorn's support of White Ribbon is organisation-wide, involving all employees, brands and businesses under the Thorn Group banner, with all members of the leadership team being White Ribbon ambassadors.

White Ribbon is an organisation that works to prevent violence by changing attitudes and behaviours.

The prevention work is driven through social marketing, the Ambassador Program and initiatives with communities, schools, universities, sporting codes and workplaces.

Statistics show that domestic violence and family violence are the principal causes of homelessness for women and their children.

One woman is killed every week in Australia as a result of domestic violence and one in four children is exposed to domestic violence.

Thorn's brands, in particular Radio Rentals, strongly align with White Ribbon's core promise "We've got your back". Radio Rentals and Rentlo employees interact with some customers who are directly affected by domestic violence.

By showing support for White Ribbon, Thorn aims to play an important role in the community; raising awareness and helping victims of domestic violence with basic needs and support.

THORN'S RENTAL BRANDS, IN PARTICULAR RADIO RENTALS, STRONGLY ALIGN WITH WHITE RIBBON'S CORE PROMISE "WE'VE GOT YOUR BACK"



THORN ACTIVELY SUPPORTS THE WHITE RIBBON CAUSE, THROUGH INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL ACTIVATIONS

Thorn actively supports the White Ribbon cause, through internal and external activations, including:

- employee engagement activities including fundraising lunches
- implementation of the White Ribbon Workplace Accreditation program across the organisation, including workshops and policy development
- a marketing activation plan to raise awareness and additional funds for White Ribbon across stores and websites including the sale of White Ribbon merchandise
- major sponsorship of White Ribbon events:
 - White Ribbon Night (held annually in July), host of “Have a Night In” event in selected stores
 - White Ribbon Day (25 November) - This year, Radio Rentals stores nationally hosted a Wear-A-Pair fundraiser, with Radio Rentals’ male employees (store network and head office) wearing a pair of heels for the day to inspire conversation and promote the important social cause.



DIGGER’S REST

Digger’s Rest “A Soldiers Retreat” was set up as an eco-friendly bush lodge based on the Sunshine Coast in Queensland. The aim is to bring serving soldiers, younger Veterans and their families to a friendly environment to help them reconnect with family, society and themselves at no financial outlay to them.

Most of the retreat’s soldiers and veterans served in Afghanistan, Iraq, East Timor and Somalia. Many of these members now suffer chronic PTSD. Digger’s Rest opened its doors with one mission: to stop potential suicides.

Digger’s Rest called on Corporate Australia to help out here and Radio Rentals answered. For the period 1 Jan 2016 to 23 December 2016 a total of 363 Soldiers, Veterans and Family members visited with 646 nights slept at the Digger’s Rest and a total of 163 Day visitors. Five homeless Veterans were also taken in for various periods of time – offering them a safe place off the streets. This was a direct result from Radio Rentals helping Digger’s Rest.

The aim is to grow from one site in Queensland to a second on the Victorian/New South Wales border as well as one in Western Australia.

COMMUNITY

CHILDREN'S TUMOUR FOUNDATION OF AUSTRALIA (CTF)

The Children's Tumour Foundation is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to providing information, support services and finding effective treatments for people living with neurofibromatosis (NF), a debilitating condition that doesn't follow any one path. NF affects over 10,000 people in Australia and the varied condition has a wide range of severity that can lead to an array of complications including learning difficulties, blindness, deafness, bone deformities, cancer, and chronic pain. Under recognised and underdiagnosed, there is currently no cure and few treatment options.

CTF is dedicated to:

- Supporting children and adults diagnosed with neurofibromatosis, their families and carers with information, resources and practical support across their NF journey; and
- Funding world-leading research into effective treatments for NF and ultimately finding a cure

Through the close association with Thorn, CTF has been able to:

- Invest in support officers in three states (only one previously)
- Fund a three year fellowship based out of Melbourne with the ultimate aim that this will result in an individual with a career specialising in clinical aspects and research in type I neurofibromatosis
- Contribute to world class research projects

CTF is committed to ensuring those suffering with NF receive adequate, multidisciplinary care throughout their lives. CTF has strong links internationally to NF organisations and researchers in the USA, Great Britain, Ireland, Canada and Europe. CTF also works closely with and provides funding to world-class local researchers and clinicians at The Children's Hospital at Westmead, the Murdoch Children's Research Institute and Royal North Shore Hospital.

"THE CHILDREN, ADULTS AND FAMILIES LIVING WITH NF INSPIRE OUR WORLD"
- CTF



NATURAL DISASTER

When disaster strikes across Australia, such as bushfires or floods, or there is a worthwhile cause needing assistance, then there is a good chance that someone from Thorn will be there to assist our customers and the community in general. Over the years, assistance has been provided in various forms, including free supply of bedding, washing machines and refrigerators to relief centres, substantial goodwill credits on customer accounts and the donation of products for fundraising.

In April 2017, Cyclone Debbie hit the Queensland coast and north coast of New South Wales, triggering heavy rainfall which led to significant flooding in the town of Lismore. Radio Rentals Lismore assisted a number of customers during that time. The focus was on helping Radio Rentals customers to get back on their feet as quickly as possible, which was done by processing claims for damaged items as quickly as possible with a focus on replacing fridges and washing machines as a priority, installing any replacement item at no additional cost to the customer. Other stores also provided assistance by sending stock from Queensland. The main goal was to make sure customers had their essential items during a very difficult time.

LOCAL COMMUNITY SUPPORT

In June 2017, Radio Rentals assisted Morayfield East State School after a fire tore through its classroom, affecting the local community. Radio Rentals donated 110 brand new musical instruments, boosting the school spirit and supporting the school's plan to build up a music program.

