



SYDNEY to YAMBA

Mar 19 - Mar 24, 2018

July Jet Trek Newsletter

Hi Trekkers,

Welcome to the first of our 2018 Yamaha Variety Jet Trek Newsletters!

Over the coming months, we'll be in touch with regular newsletters and emails containing all the latest event developments as plans for the 2018 Yamaha Variety Jet Trek start to take shape.

Included in this newsletter you'll find the full scrutineering list, details on our upcoming Jet Trek survey, plans for a Sydney catch up, the latest on our unprecedented participant numbers and much more.

You'll also find details on some upcoming opportunities and events to help boost your fundraising!

If you have any queries at all, please don't hesitate to contact the Variety Queensland office on 07 3907 9300.

Happy Fundraising!!

~ The Variety Queensland Team



Your fundraising at work...

Thanks from

Sailability Whitsunday!

"On behalf of Sailability Whitsunday, I would like to thank Variety - the Children's Charity of Queensland for their generous support. The inflatable life jackets will allow us to expand to meet the needs of many more children.

Our group of twelve thoroughly enjoyed the Friday night with you all and were impressed with the camaraderie of the pirate night.

Please pass our thanks and deepest appreciation on to your fundraisers and your Board."



Meet Claire!



At nine days old, Claire was diagnosed with a rare genetic disorder - Cri du Chat Syndrome. Long story short, this means Claire has difficulty talking and getting around. She has some words and she can stand but she needs a little help!

This year, Claire started Grade 1 at Gabbinbar State School, and in May she received her Tobii i-15 eye gaze speech device - a piece of equipment with a price tag of over \$25,000.

Variety, through wonderful supporters like you, was able to help fund part of this incredible equipment for Claire to enable her to better communicate, not only with her beautiful family, but also her new school friends!

For regular updates on how your fundraising dollars are helping children who are sick disadvantaged or who have special needs, be sure to "Like" Variety - the Children's Charity of Queensland on Facebook

www.facebook.com/VarietyQLD

2018 Jet Trek Updates

Unprecedented Numbers

We're thrilled to advise, entries for the 2018 Yamaha Variety Jet Trek came through thick and fast and we've now capped numbers with 120 entries on the board for next year!

We are currently taking Expressions of Interest on a waiting list so, if you are keen to come along but didn't quite get your entry completed in the rush, be sure to jump online and register your interest ASAP.

With that in mind, we're asking all currently registered participants to keep us informed if, for whatever reason, your circumstances change and you're no longer able to join us in 2018. We'd hate for anyone on our waiting list to miss out when there could be a place available for them, particularly when some of them are already actively fundraising for the kids...now that's dedication!

2018 Jet Trek Survey

The Variety team are finalising preparations for the 2018 Yamaha Variety Jet Trek survey and they'll be in Sydney on Sunday 6th August.

During the survey, the team will visit each of the boat ramps, lunch venues, fuel stops and overnight accommodation venues (just to name a few) to make sure appropriate plans are in place for an influx of Trekkers in March next year.

The survey will be complete in less than a week and the team hope to be back in the office to finalising bookings as quickly as possible. Once complete they'll have all the detailed information ready to go so keep an eye on your inbox over the coming month or two for the detailed itinerary, theme night details, provisions levy, accommodation information and much more!

Now's the time to let us know if you've recently changed your email address to ensure you don't miss out!

2017 Jet Trek DVD

Seven Productions have finished the final cut of the 2017 "Mission: Whitsundays" Yamaha Variety Jet Trek DVD and we're excited to advise the DVD is currently being copied and will be out in the next couple of weeks!

Not only will you get a copy of the final DVD cut but also the two highlights packages shown during the 2017 event.

Don't forget to let us know if you've recently moved house or changed postal address!!



Sydney Catch Up

With Craig, Warren & Erin in Sydney for the survey, they're keen to catch up with local Trekkers while they're there!

With that in mind we've booked a few large tables at The Winston, 170 Caroline Chisholm Drive, Winston Hills for an early dinner (from 5:30pm) on Sunday 6th August. It'll be a perfect opportunity to catch up with both old & new Trekkers and chat about plans for 2018.

If you're a Sydney-sider (or even if you're not but you'll be in town!) and keen to come along please email erin.searles@varietyqld.org.au with your details and the number of people coming so we can make sure we have enough seats!

Husbands, wives, kids and friends all welcome!

Please RSVP by Tuesday 1st August!

Important Points to Remember

Fundraising Deadlines

When you completed your Jet Trek Entry Form & Registration you will have noticed some key fundraising dates. Due to the high demand for places on the 2018 Yamaha Variety Jet Trek, a cap on numbers and our current waiting list, these fundraising deadlines are extremely important.

In fairness to all Variety Jet Trek entrants and supporters, if you haven't met your fundraising targets by the due dates we will be in contact with you to discuss allocating your place to another participant who is patiently waiting on our waiting list. Unfortunately, **we will be unable to hold places for those who have not met the fundraising deadlines** as set out in the Entry Form.

As a reminder, the fundraising instalment dates are as follows:

\$750 donation/fundraising on or before 29th September 2017

An additional \$750 donation/fundraising on or before 17th Nov 2017

An additional \$1,000 donation/fundraising on or before 2nd Feb 2018

If you need assistance with your fundraising or have any queries please don't hesitate to contact the Variety office on 07 3907 9300.



2018 Pre-event Briefings and Activities

The 2018 Yamaha Variety Jet Trek will kick off in Sydney with Registration & Scrutineering on Sunday 18th March 2018. Although exact venues are on the list to finalise during our upcoming survey, we can confirm the times you'll need to make sure you're in Sydney and ready to go!

Virgin's Briefing

New to the Jet Trek?
This one's for you!!

We'll be running a Virgin Participants briefing prior to our pre-event Registration and Scrutineering. The briefing will run at the same venue as Event Registration (Sydney venue - yet to be confirmed) on **Sunday 18th March** from **9:00am**. Further information will follow in the coming months.

Event Registration

All riders AND road crew must attend Event Registration.

Registration will run from **10:00am until 2:00pm** on **Sunday 18th March**

Exact venue details will be confirmed in the coming months however all entrants will need to ensure they are within the Sydney area to attend Rego between these times.

Scrutineering

All PWC must be scrutineered to be able to take part in the Yamaha Variety Jet Trek.

Participants will need to attend registration prior to coming to scrutineering to ensure all decal kits have been collected and applied to their vessel and vehicles. Scrutineering will run from **10:30am - 2:00pm** on **Sunday 18th March**.

Exact venue details TBA.

Scrutineering Requirements

All Personal Watercraft will be Scrutineered prior to the start of the 2018 Yamaha Variety Jet Trek to ensure compliance with the minimum Scrutineering Requirements. Below is the full list of safety equipment you'll need to ensure you're ready to go!

PWC REQUIREMENTS

- PWC is a 2010 model or newer and of the sit down style
- PWC is in a seaworthy condition
- Participants hold a current and valid PWC licence
- PWC is covered by Third Party Public Liability & Property Damage as a minimum level of insurance
- All appropriate event decals (supplied by Variety) applied as per the scrutineering instructions

MINIMUM SAFETY GEAR

- V Sheet
- EPIRB (these are available for hire through EPIRBHire.com.au if you'd prefer not to purchase one)
- PLB (these are available for hire through EPIRBHire.com.au if you'd prefer not to purchase one)
- Flares (2 red and 2 orange, hand held, smoke flares) CHECK EXPIRY DATES!
- Signalling device (mirror or similar)
- Personal Floatation Device (PFD) – Type 2
- Sufficient anchor with at least 27 metres of rope (this rope can double as your tow rope)
- Tow rope – at least 17 metres long
- One fixed or portable compass
- Minimum 2 x 600ml bottles of drinking water
- Cyalume Snaplight Stick (these will be provided by Variety at Scrutineering)

FURTHER RECOMMENDED GEAR

- Helmet
- Wetsuit
- Floating sunglasses and sunscreen
- Waterproof tool kit with spare parts (including spare plugs)
- Waterproof first aid kit
- GPS device
- Mobile telephone in waterproof case
- VHF Marine Radio

ROAD CREW VEHICLE REQUIREMENTS

- UHF Radio
- Enough jerry cans to refuel your PWC and on-board jerry cans back to capacity
- All appropriate events decals (supplied by Variety) applied as per the scrutineering instructions

Please note: Personal Watercraft with modified exhaust systems are not permitted on the Variety Jet Trek event.



Meet the Team

Throughout the next 8 months you're bound to have questions about the Jet Trek, your fundraising tally or a fundraising idea. You're more than welcome to contact the Variety office with any of these queries! Below are some of the team members you're likely to get on the end of the phone so you can put a face to the name! In the next few newsletters, we'll introduce you to some more of the Variety team as well as our dedicated Volunteer Jet Trek Officials!

Craig Marriott Operations Manager



At the forefront of all Variety's events, if Craig's not in the Variety office working with the team on our next fundraising event you'll find him out on the road on an event survey!

Craig, more affectionately known as "Bear" to those who know him, has been involved with Variety for many years and 2018 will be his eighth Variety Jet Trek!

Erin Searles Events Manager



Pre-event preparation, scrutineering requirements, accommodation info, theme night queries....if you've got any queries about the Jet Trek, Erin's the person to speak to!

Erin (Ez or E3 - yes, there's more than one Erin in the Variety office!) has been with Variety since 2010 and the 2018 Yamaha Variety Jet Trek will be Erin's sixth Trek!

Bec Brockhurst Finance & Corporate Services Manager



Bec's name will pop up in your inbox from time to time as she sends your monthly Fundraising Statements. If you have any queries in relation to your fundraising tally or donations we've received toward your fundraising - feel free to call Bec!

Bec's looking forward to her second Yamaha Variety Jet Trek in 2018!

Angela Haines Partnerships Manager



Have a brilliant fundraising idea but need to run it past someone or need some fundraising support? Angela is the best point of contact and is a wealth of knowledge for all things fundraising!

Although she won't be joining us on the water in 2018, Ange was on the 2016 "Great Ocean Road" Jet Trek so she's totally across all things Jet Trek.

Fundraising Tools & Guidelines

Sponsorship Template & Fundraising Tools

Just in case you weren't aware, we have a range of tools at the Variety office to help you with obtaining sponsors and donors for your fundraising. While the companies and businesses you're speaking with may already know you or your team and be prepared to support you, it doesn't hurt to have some information about the Variety Jet Trek as well as Variety – the Children's Charity and how we support the kids. This is vital to ensuring your supporters know the difference their donation is making to the lives of kids in need.

If you would like a copy of our [Sponsorship Letter Template](#) or [Sponsorship Presentation Template](#), please contact Angela in our office on angela.haines@varietyqld.org.au or 07 3907 9300.

As well as our Sponsorship Templates, we have a range of fundraising ideas, tips and tricks as well as a full [fundraising guide](#), all available on our website.

This information covers off on loads of Frequently Asked Questions as well as info on Coin Collections, Trivia Nights, Morning Tea's, Golf Days, Wine Tastings and much, much more.

To check out our online Fundraising Resources head to:

www.variety.org.au/qld/get-involved/fundraise/

Website, Social Media & Use of the Variety Logo

Website & Social Media Support

Where suitable, Variety will supply limited social media and website support for your event or fundraising activity. Some generic guidelines around this support are:

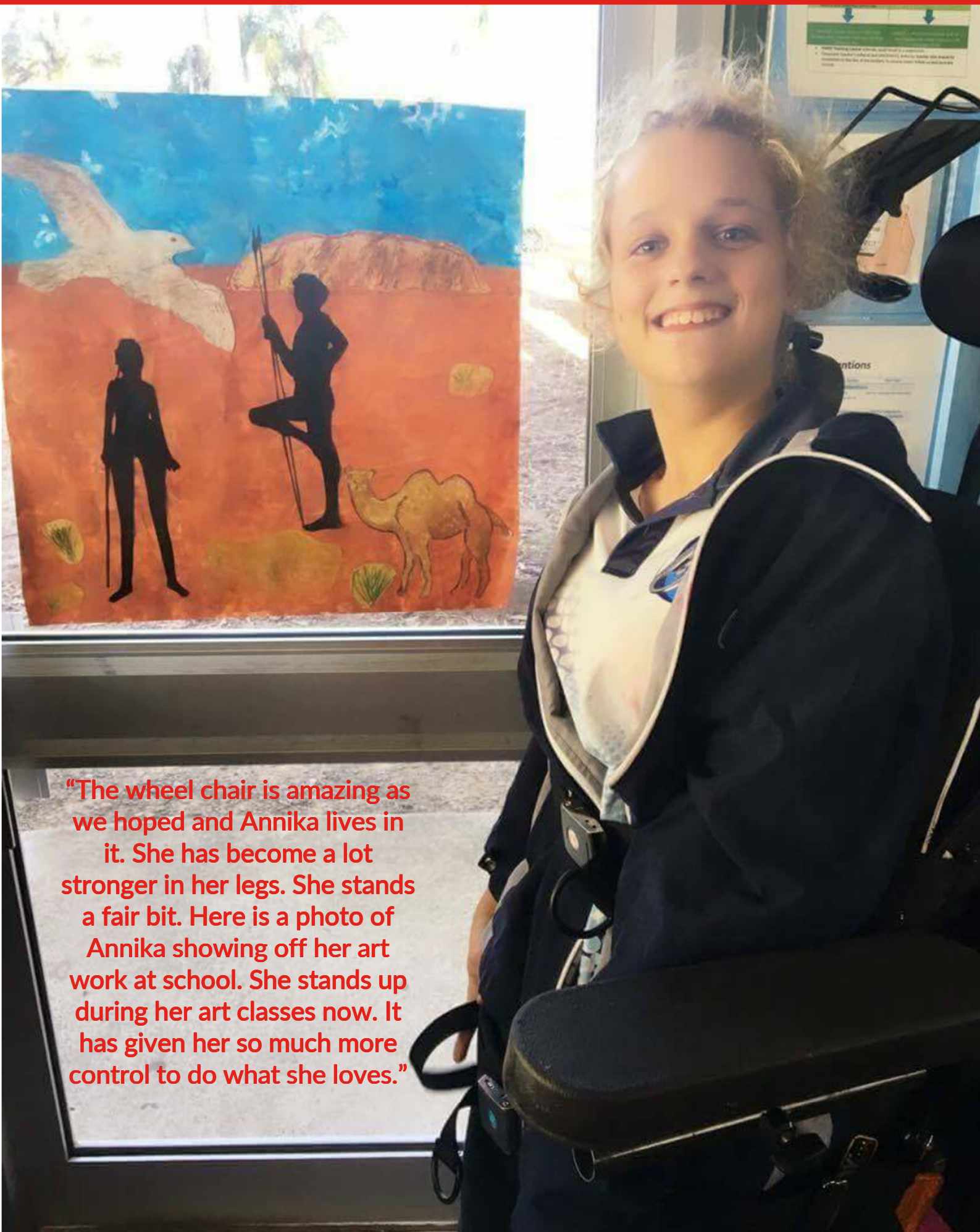
- The activity is not an ongoing one such as a BBQ or market stall.
- The activity is a ticketed style event such as a lunch/dinner or golf day.
- The activity aims to engage with the Variety community and the general public.
- The activity is appropriate to be associated with a Children's Charity.

For all social media & website support requests please supply Variety with the event details including date, location, costs etc + 2 event images + a blurb about the event and inviting people to take part.

Use of the Variety Logo

- The Fundraiser must label their event as "an event supporting Variety – the Children's Charity"
- The 'proudly supporting' logo should be used in all fundraising promotions and on all printing and advertising material. To obtain a copy contact Variety on 07 3907 9300.
- The charity's title "Variety – the Children's Charity" must be used in its whole phrase for headings. The charity may be referred to as Variety in basic content.
- Variety – the Children's Charity is not to be referred to as the Variety Club or any other name in any marketing material.
- Any marketing materials or advertisements must be submitted to Variety for approval. Approval can be given within a day in most cases. Please email this to info@varietyqld.org.au

An update on Annika



“The wheelchair is amazing as we hoped and Annika lives in it. She has become a lot stronger in her legs. She stands a fair bit. Here is a photo of Annika showing off her art work at school. She stands up during her art classes now. It has given her so much more control to do what she loves.”

Fundraising Opportunities

Melbourne Cup Day

It's the race that stops the nation and one of Variety's most successful days of fundraising all year and we need your help!

Melbourne Cup Day is an awesome fundraising opportunity for you and your team – the chance to sell sweeps at one of our venue partners where pre-existing Melbourne Cup events take place!

We take all the hassle out of the day by providing you with a full sweep kit and instructions, all you have to do is turn up on the day!

Venues are scattered between Brisbane and the Gold Coast however fundraising places are limited so get in early and secure your spot now!

To register yourself as a volunteer for Melbourne Cup, simply contact Erin Searles in the Variety office on 07 3907 9300 or email erin.searles@varietyqld.org.au



Broadbeach Country

Music Festival

Spruce up your cowboy boots and round up your posse for the 2017 Broadbeach Country Music Festival!

Shake the tin and arm yourself with one of our "Tap to Donate" devices as punters head through the gates at Broadbeach Country Music Festival. Fundraisers have the opportunity to fill some of the available shifts with all funds collected during your shift going to your Jet trek fundraising! Team of 2 or more are needed for the below shifts...

Sunday 30th July
1:00pm – 4:00pm
1:30pm – 5:00pm

Call Angela Haines in the Variety office on 07 3907 9300 to secure your shift!



Be an Everyday Hero

STEP ONE:

Go to the Variety Jet Trek page on the Everyday Hero website by clicking on the following link:

<https://everydayhero.com.au/event/2018varietyjettrek>

STEP TWO:

Click on the 'Start Fundraising' button

Start Fundraising >

STEP THREE:

Register and create a fundraising account by filling in the electronic form on this page.

STEP FOUR:

Decide whether you want to set up an 'individual' or a 'team' fundraising page.

Ask yourself: Am I the only member of my Jet Trek team that will be utilising Everyday Hero?

Answers: YES Set up an individual page
 NO Set up a team page and get your team members to join your team.

STEP FIVE:

Set up your fundraising page. This includes choosing a colour, adding photo's or video's, deciding on the Title for your page and what your fundraising target is and including personal thank you messages.

Once all of this is completed, you will be given a unique website address that you will be able to forward to all your contacts to start getting the money rolling in!!

Online fundraising facts & figures...

Since 2014, online fundraising for Variety – the Children's Charity of Queensland has grown by more than \$150,000 from \$178k to \$332k.

This is an 86% growth in two years and a good indication of how successful the online fundraising process can be.

In 2017, for the Jet Trek alone, over \$82,200 was raised through online fundraising. This figure represents more than 30% of the total net profit of \$270,000.

The number of Variety Jet Trek Hero pages actively raising these funds this year was 47. On average, that's an income of just over \$1,740 per page with only 51% of the Jet Trek teams represented.

Imagine if we doubled the number of active fundraising pages in 2018? Or even more! Imagine what that would mean for the special kids Variety assists!

We have a range of tools and ideas around the best ways to get your fundraising page and message out to your contacts and can help you through this process.

If you're interested in this help or better utilising your online fundraising page, please contact Angela or Erin in the Variety office on 07 3907 9300.

Did you know...

In 2016, thanks to you and all our other event participants and supporters, Variety – the Children’s Charity of Queensland was able to distribute more than \$1.2 million in grants to children in need.



On average, the Yamaha Variety Jet Trek spends \$94,000 per day in the towns we visit. Through accommodation, food, beverages, fuel and other incidentals, not only are you, as participants, bringing fun and colour you’re also having a huge economic impact on these communities.

Our 2016 grants had a positive impact on the lives of more than 14,000 children who are sick, disadvantaged or who have special needs.



The Yamaha Variety Jet Trek currently holds the Elite World Records record for:

“The Longest Distance Travelled on Personal Watercraft by a Team”