



A message from

Fiona McWhinnie

Cancer Survivor & Race for a Cure Participant.

Just over 13 years ago, my Mum lost her battle with Cancer. In the same year, just a few months before she died, Mum got to see me win my battle with this wretched disease and I know this gave her great comfort in her final days. I was 20 and my Mum was 55. Since then I've had a number of "scares" but thankfully it hasn't returned. To say 1997 was a year that changed the course of my life doesn't quite cover it.

Despite deciding to take life by the horns, what I haven't done is put cancer behind me – I can't until I know I am safe. You see, my tumour was one you don't typically find in people under the age of 40 – it has no recognisable cause and there is no history of it in my family. There is however, a history of pancreatic cancer with my Mum and her Father. So between the two types of tumours my prospect of dodging the big C again is pretty slim – but we do keep an eye on all the early signs to give me the best chance.

I need Cure Cancer Australia to continue to fund researchers so I and others affected by cancer, have a bright future.