

in fundraising half marathon, fun run and corporate challenge

One red letter day for Amanda

STEPPING OUT: Amanda Grobbelaar has been training for the BMA Mackay Marina Run.

PHOTO: TONY MARTIN



Mackay mum with multiple sclerosis sets sights on MS fundraiser half marathon

Andrea Davy
andrea.davy@dailymercury.com.au

A MULTIPLE sclerosis diagnosis didn't prevent Mackay mum Amanda Grobbelaar from becoming a runner and it hasn't phased her from completing her first half marathon.

You won't miss Ms Grobbelaar at the start line of the BMA Mackay Marina Run tomorrow as she plans

on donning bright red; the colour worn to raise awareness for MS.

She wore a vibrant shade of crimson lipstick when she stepped out for the LayZee Runners Mackay and Amanda Grobbelaar 5km Valentine's Day run earlier this year.

"I set a fundraising goal of \$5000 for 2014. The 5km fun run on Valentine's Day was my first attempt at

raising funds and I am grateful for the \$2150 raised," Ms Grobbelaar said.

She joked 5km wasn't impressive enough.

"Hopefully (Mackay) will get behind me even more when they see that I am willing to work hard for the next \$2850," she said.

Regular running training has now become part of her routine.

"I have learnt to never say never. The spirit is willing but the knees are over 40," she said.

"I am running so that the clever people can find a cure soon.

"There is medication that can slow down progression, but for too many sufferers it comes with severe side-effects."

Ms Grobbelaar, who describes herself as a

"walking miracle", stopped her own treatment on May 23, partly because of the side-effects.

"Too many young Australians are being diagnosed on a daily basis I am doing this for the next generations too," she said.

Visit www.kissgoodbyetoms.org/fundraisers/individuals/amanda-grobbelaar-0 to help find a cure.

ROAD CLOSURES

■ THE Marina Wall will be closed from 6-9.30am from Mulherin Drive Roundabout (local traffic access to residents and yacht club permitted)

■ Lane closure section of Ron Searle Dr and Mulherin Dr from 6-9am

■ Lane closure city bound traffic on Harbour Rd from 6-9am

■ Lane closure city bound traffic on Ron Camm Bridge 6-7.30am

■ Lane closure Gordon St between Bruce Hwy and Memorial pool from 6-7.30am

■ Runners crossing road on Harbour Rd near Palmer St between 6.45-7am

■ Runners crossing road on Malcomson St near

Valley St between 6.55-7.25am

■ Runners crossing road on Sams Rd at Willets Rd intersection between 7-7.30am

■ Runners crossing road at River St near Wood St between 7.15-7.55am

■ Runners crossing road at Sydney St near Bluewater Quay between 7.15-7.55am

MACKAY AIRPORT PARK