



Worried about feeling cold at the start line of the 2010 Sun-Herald City2Surf presented by Westpac?

Wear a good quality jumper or jacket and throw it away before the starting gun fires – in aid of The Smith Family!

A group of about 100 Girl Guide volunteers aged five to 14, plus adult leaders, will scour Hyde Park and the City2Surf start area collecting discarded clothing.

More than six tonnes of jumpers, tracksuits and jackets are left behind by City2Surf participants each year.

The Guides donate the clothing to The Smith Family charity, which assists disadvantaged children and their families by reselling useable items and recycling other material into wiping rags for industry.

With more than 75,000 people expected to take part in this year's 40th City2Surf, the Girl Guides would like everyone to discard a quality item of clothing on the sides of the start area, all in the name of a great cause.

The project began in the early 1990s when Paddington Guides leader Dr Bronwyn Gould noticed that clothing was being scooped up by City2Surf cleaners and thrown in with the ordinary waste.

"I thought 'there has to be some way of salvaging that clothing'," said Dr Gould.

"It couldn't be sorted once it was actually in with the rubbish so I mainly looked at the collection of it as a people-power problem – and that was something the Girl Guides could do."

NSW Girl Guides PR Events Coordinator, Margaret Wood, who coordinates the City2Surf volunteer effort, is proud of the organisation's ongoing work in the community.

"It is the Year of the Girl Guide in 2010, as well as the City2Surf 40th year celebrations, so it is special time for everyone involved," Mrs Wood said.

“We try and teach Guides that there are a lot of people worse off than them, so it is fantastic to see young members collecting clothing and giving it to people who need it.”

With about 60 older Guides also helping distribute water at an on-course drinks station, the Girl Guides organisation contributes more than 160 City2Surf volunteers each year.

*The highest individual and team fundraiser from the 2010 City2Surf can win \$10,000 for their chosen charity from *The Sun-Herald*. See city2surf.com.au for full Terms and Conditions.

The 2010 *Sun-Herald* City2Surf is proudly presented by Westpac and supported by New Balance, Rebel Sport, Gatorade, Jockey, Berlei, RSVP, Nova 969, One HD, 2UE, Fitness First, Sheraton on the Park Sydney, NSW Government, Events NSW, City of Sydney, Waverley and Woollahra Councils.