Braydon Charlie Gyzen was born on the 24th of March, 2007 at The Royal Women's Hospital. He came in to the world at just 24 weeks gestation weighing only 750 grams.

After doing well for 17 days in NICU he was then diagnosed with NEC. He was transferred to the Neonatal Unit at The Royal Children's Hospital via NETS where he deteriorated upon arrival. Fortunately after quick diagnosis the antibiotics resolved the infection and he did not require surgery as expected, however whilst in the ICU his breathing deteriorated and was put on an oscillator to support his breathing.

Braydon also needed PDA surgery due to his prematurity and a course of steroids to improve his lung function so that he would no longer require the ventilator. Braydon stayed in the NNU at RCH for 6 weeks, he was then transferred back to The Royal Women's Hospital. 111 days after Braydon's birth, he was finally well enough to be transferred home to Geelong Hospital. Upon arrival the doctors at the Geelong Hospital found that Braydon had hernias. Braydon was then taken back to the RCH to have hernia surgery. After a total of 130 days in hospital we finally got to take Braydon home.

To show our appreciation for all the NNU at RCH had done for us during this stressful time in our lives we decided we should try to give something back to them. We decided to open our home to all the people who supported us during this time and have a fundraising event for the NNU on Good Friday. We organised a BBQ asking everyone to make a donation to the NNU upon entry and also had raffles during the day. After initially expecting to have about 6 prizes for the raffle, they started rolling in - almost everyone who heard about it wanted to donate something. We were overwhelmed by everyone's generosity and ended up with about 60 prizes all of which were donated. It was a great day with about 100 people turning up and everybody emphasised how willing they were to give to such a good cause.

We would like to thank all of our family and friends for all of their love and support — without this, the success we had on this day wouldn't have happened. We raised over $6300 for the NNU. Most of all, we would like to thank all the staff in the NNU at The Royal Children's Hospital — if not for your professional team, our son may not be with us now. This event was the least we could do to show our appreciation and we know from our own experience, that the funds we raised will be put to excellent use... thank you!

Morry, Julie and Braydon.

PORT PHILLIP FUNDRAISING

Thanks to Port Phillip Prison's Youth Unit baby Jack's web.sites.xxx/penry/lollies-monirolo while he's in the care of the RCH Neonatal Unit. He's connected to a step down monitor which was purchased with funds donated by the Youth Unit. The monitor keeps track of Jack's heart beat, blood pressure, breathing, temperature and oxygen levels.

The Youth Unit generated profits by running their own business as part of the Small Business Program and donated $11,500 to their chosen charity, the RCH Good Friday Appeal.

NNU UPCOMING FUNDRAISING EVENTS CALENDAR 2008

SATURDAY 16TH AUGUST
The next "Wills Memory" event will be a cocktail party held at Churches in Richmond. Please contact Michelle Ferguson at willsmemory@hotmail.com for further details i.e. ticket purchases, auction item donations etc. All NNU families, their friends and supporters are invited to attend and we look forward to seeing many new faces this year!

FRIDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER

SATURDAY 1ST NOVEMBER
Melbourne Tigers Vs Gold Coast Blaze at The Cage — fundraising event for NNU babies celebrating their 1st Birthday with complimentary cakes courtesy Michel's Patisserie. Come along and support the Melbourne Tigers as they battle it out to win back-to-back titles, see family friendly basketball at its best and help to raise funds for the NNU at the same time! Tickets are available through Ticketmaster on 1388100 or www.ticketmaster.com.au. Visit www.tigers.com.au for more information.

MONDAY 24TH NOVEMBER
"Opera in the Roses": Morning Star Estate, Mt Eliza, Victoria. Luncheon Tickets $35 all inclusive. All inquiries, please contact Event Organizer Judy Hooper Mobile 0411 467 946

Opera in the Roses