



## Manjimup Bridgetown Times

Wednesday 2/04/2014

Page: 4  
Section: General News  
Region: Manjimup WA, AU  
Circulation: 2693  
Type: Regional  
Size: 169.00 sq.cms.



**slice**  
CUT STRAIGHT TO YOUR NEWS

press clip

# Mates' charity run draws to a close

AARON CORLETT

AN epic 1500km journey will come to an end when the Mates 500 Relay finishes in Manjimup on Thursday.

The Mates 500 Relay team consists of 12 friends, each of whom has run about 26km a day. It began in Mukinbudin and has gone through 40 towns.

Money raised from Mates 500 Relay goes towards the Regional Men's Health Initiative and Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia.

Relay chairman Paul Omodei said the excitement was building as they neared the end.

"Everyone now realises that we are nearing the finish so the light is at the end of the tunnel and it's not a train coming the other way," he said.

"It's a long way from Mukinbudin to Manjimup and the impact has been nothing short of profound, both physically and emotionally for runners and support crew."

A number of students from Manjimup Senior High School joined in the relay and Mr Omodei said he was excited to come back to Manjimup and celebrate at a function at Fonty's Pool on Thursday at 7pm.

"Everyone is excited about the finale function," he said.

"We are looking forward to seeing



Paul Omodei has led a charity relay from Mukinbudin to Manjimup.

our friends and family, and to celebrate with our supporters, sponsors and others who were involved."

Mr Omodei said the guest speakers during the Mates 500 Relay had been inspirational.

"Bruce Yardley has just been outstanding and very funny and David Parkin was simply inspirational," he said.

"Tiny Holly as MC and auctioneer has also added a fantastic entertainment value.

"The communities have been fantastic with their generosity for the cause and support for the event."