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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WORLD FIRST SUPPORT GROUP TAKES OVER THE STREETS OF MELBOURNE TO RAISE AWARENESS FOR NEW DADS

A world first, nation-wide support group for new and expectant fathers will celebrate their first national campaign this Father's Day with simultaneous 'Man With a Pram' walks through cities across the country.

The event will see approximately 400 new dads and kids in capital cities and major regional areas around Australia march in unison on Father's Day to raise awareness of the need for greater support for new dads.

In Melbourne, a group of dedicated dads, babies and toddlers will start their journey at Federation Square, walking side by side along the Yarra.

DGI is a not-for-profit community organisation committed to connecting new dads, thereby improving men's health, preventing family violence and reducing isolation and suicide. It is believed the group is the only organisation of its kind in the world, dedicated to creating micro communities for new fathers.

DGI and Man With a Pram were founded by father-of-three Thomas Docking after he experienced the lack of education and support available to him as a new father. Tom was recently named Queensland Father of the Year for Sunshine Coast and Wide Bay, awarded for his work connecting fathers and providing them access to much-needed support groups.

As Man With a Pram's major food partner, Bakers Delight will be feeding hungry tummies throughout the event at select destinations across Australia.

"We are very happy to be working with Bakers Delight as we take Man With a Pram national. Bakers Delight is at the heart of many communities across Australia which is something Dads Group Inc. hopes to emulate," said Tom.

Bakers Delight Joint CEO (and dedicated dad), David Christie is proud to support DGI, an organisation he believes plays such an important role in communities across the country.

"Providing fathers with a place they can go to find support and guidance within their local community is so important for new families and we couldn't be happier to support," said David.

The national program has created over 100 'dad groups' across Australia, which work hard to provide guidance and support for young and expectant fathers. These groups enable thousands of Australian dads to connect with their children and other local fathers, assisting those who may be feeling lonely, anxious or overwhelmed.

All dads with young children are welcome to join. For event information visit: www.manwithapram.com or dadsgroup.org.

What: Man With a Pram

When: 8:30am – 10:30am, Sunday, 1 September

Where: Taxi Bar Federation Square

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About Dads Group Inc:

Founded by Tom and Kate Docking in 2014, Dad's Group Inc is a not-for-profit community organisation committed to connecting new dads.

After having their first child Tom and Kate discovered there was limited support for new fathers at a national level. Inspired by mothers groups, they designed a program for new dads to connect with other fathers in their local community.

The groups are open to all new and expectant fathers and they work closely with local councils and community groups to offer training for dads interested in starting a DGI dads group in their community.

About Bakers Delight:

Fourth generation baker, Roger Gillespie and his wife Lesley, founded the company's first bakery in 1980 in Hawthorn, Melbourne. They chose the name because they believed that every loaf, every roll, every pizza and bun should be a delight to bake, a delight to eat and a delightful customer experience.

Bakers Delight remains in family hands under the leadership of Elise Gillespie and husband, David Christie and can now be found in more than 700 locations across Australia, Canada, USA and New Zealand. That's a lot of bread being baked fresh and delivered to a lot of happy customers.

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