

In the running to find a cure

THREE years ago, the Sanfilippo Children's Foundation had 10 runners in the northern beaches' biggest annual charity fun run — the Pub2Pub — to raise funds for what was then a fledgling foundation.

Since then, this local charity has directed almost \$3million into Sanfilippo research and funded 12 projects including a potentially lifesaving gene therapy clinical trial at the Adelaide Children's and Women's Hospital.

Sanfilippo syndrome is a rare genetic condition that causes fatal brain damage. It is referred to as a childhood disease because most patients never reach adulthood.

The foundation vision is to fund medical research so a cure can be found in time for children battling Sanfilippo today and for those born with it in future.

This year the foundation hopes to recruit up to 100 participants for its Big Feet And Little Feet team in the Pub2Pub, which forms part of its SFSuper Series.

This series of events in-



cludes a trail run, a bicycle ride, an ocean swim, a Cross-Fit challenge and the Pub2Pub.

Events have been selected to challenge and inspire but also because they provide the most fun and are achievable for everyone — no matter how fit or experienced you may be.

Participants can do one event or try to complete the whole series, all the while raising funds for the cause.

The foundation was started by Freshwater mother Megan Donnell, whose children Isla (pictured) and Jude are both battling Sanfilippo.

Megan — and Isla and Jude's father Allan Donnell — will take part in the event, as will relatives and other peninsula families who are right behind this initiative.

The Sanfilippo Children's Foundation represents what the Pub2Pub has been about for all of its 26 years — the coming together of the community to raise funds to help others in need.

While there is no effective treatment or cure for Sanfilippo Syndrome, there is hope.

You can help by joining the Big Feet And Little Feet team and participating in the Pub2Pub on Sunday, August 26.

The Big Feet And Little Feet team is supported by peninsula businesses and sponsors including Manly retailer Humphrey's and Col Crawford Motors BMW.

» To enter the August 26 event or for more information visit:

www.pub2pub.com.au