

## Media Release

**Date:** 13 May 2004

Subject NIB Supporting Active Mall Walkers at Warringah

One of the State's top four health funds, NIB Health Funds Limited (NIB), has celebrated the opening of its new retail centre at Warringah Mall by announcing its support of the popular Mall Walkers program.

Up to 80 walkers are actively involved in the Warringah program taking part in organised walks through the Mall and car parking areas on Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

Mall Walker activities are supervised by a fully trained fitness instructor.

NIB's Chief Executive, Mark Fitzgibbon, himself a fitness devotee, said the fund has actively sought involvement in community activities that encourage healthier lifestyle choices.

"NIB considers its role as a health insurer somewhat differently to most," Mr Fitzgibbon said.

"We try to implement programs and services that better educate members about the benefits of adopting healthier lifestyles and support them with opportunities to become involved; in addition to making private health cover more affordable and available".

Mr Fitzgibbon said the Mall Walker program at Warringah Mall is an ideal complement to the fund's new retail centre in the shopping complex.

"We provide health cover for over 14,000 people in this area so our decision to locate one of our friendly new look retail centres at Warringah Mall has been well received by our members".

"We intend to become a high profile member of the local community and we'll certainly be encouraging our staff representatives to be part of the Mall Walker program.

"We see this initiative as an excellent way to meet community members and to demonstrate our commitment to doing all we can to improve the health and lifestyle choices of our members and the broader community."

Mr Fitzgibbon was joined at today's official opening of NIB's Retail Centre at Warringah Mall by rugby league legend and Footy Show regular, Paul "The Chief" Harragon.

The Chief presented several members of the Warringah Mall Walker Program with equipment to assist their fitness efforts and then joined them on a walk of the Mall.

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Retail centres around Australia

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