



Help from the ground (beans) up

LAURA NELSON

LAURA.NELSON@NEWS.COM.AU

COFFEE lovers are being called on to make a cupful of difference from their daily caffeine hits by supporting a national event to help the homeless.

Chocolatto, at Biggera Waters, will be one of many cafes in the area that will be raising money this Friday as part of the CafeSmart event, which has been organised by StreetSmart.

Chocolatto manager Julie Cox said patrons would be encouraged to make a donation when they bought their cup of coffee.

“Every little bit counts and will go a long way towards helping out the homeless,” she said.

“We’re happy to be involved with such a worthy cause and it’s encouraging to see how much money was raised last year through CafeSmart.”

Organisers have set their sights on increasing last year’s tally of more than \$80,000 to \$100,000 this year.

Coffee roasters, cafes and coffee drinkers have been invited to extend a helping cup to the homeless and one dollar from every coffee sold on the day will be donated by participating cafes to fund projects.

StreetSmart’s chief executive Adam Robinson said homelessness was an issue which often fell under the



Julie Cox at Chocolatto, Biggera Waters.

Picture: RICHARD GOSLING

radar or it was stuck in the too-hard basket.

“When an initiative like CafeSmart comes around, it’s a reminder that it’s the small gestures that make a difference,” he said.

“The simple message is ‘Drink coffee, do good – and help from the ground up.’”

In 2013, 275 cafes around the country helped raise \$83,950 in one day to help 77 community projects near them.

This surpassed the \$74,477 raised in 2012.

To find participating cafes in your area, visit streetsmartaustralia.org/findcafe