



**OFF TO THE RACES:** Three-year-old Scarlett, her mum Marketa and dad Dieter get ready for today's Oakbank meeting. **Picture: CHRIS MANGAN**

#### THOMAS CONLIN

THIS Toorak Gardens family has good reason to cheer on the horses at Oakbank today.

Three-year-old leukemia patient Scarlett and her parents, Marketa and Dieter, are hoping the day raises much-needed funds for the Little Heroes Foundation.

Proceeds from today's race

meeting at Oakbank Racing Club – a prelude to the famous Easter races and which is in its third year – will support the Little Heroes charity.

“The proceeds will go into the child family care program,” said Marketa.

“We have benefited from that specifically so we really want to support Little Heroes in its endeavours.

“We really hope it is a successful event for them because they do provide a lot of services for children.”

She said Scarlett particularly enjoyed the arts program, which allowed her to be creative in a clean and safe environment.

This was vital during treatment that depresses her immune system and makes her vulnerable to infection.