



## FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Since last writing this message, it's been a busy few months. We have had our Family Night Out Concert at Houghton Winery, an inaugural 'Rhythms of Life' benefit concert, people have shaved their heads, swung golf clubs, paddled canoes, participated in a campdraft/s, rolled dice and rode motorbikes, bid on luxury items, done an aqua class and played gaelic football ALL to assist this Foundation and the research work it funds.

To the many people and organisations who have supported us THANK YOU – we can't fund this vital research into these devastating diseases without YOUR support.

There is always a need for more research into these diseases and for that to happen we need more funds to provide to the researchers. Your donations and future beguests will help us make that happen.

Lyfs actul

Geoff Cattach Chairman

#### STAR OF THE WEST CAMPDRAFT

From Friday 28 to Sunday 30 November 2014, the Boar Swamp Campdraft Club, together with Wellard Group, hosted the seventh annual Wellard 'Star of the West' Campdraft at the Boar Swamp Campdraft grounds.

Campdrafting is a unique Australian sport dating back to the late 1800s and involves a horse and rider working cattle to vie for the coveted title of the best stockhorse and rider. Points are awarded to the horse and rider for cut out, horse work and course completion from a possible 100 points. A good campdrafter is not just a fine horseman/woman, but has the skill to select a suitable beast from a mob that will run well in the arena. The sport is synonymous with outback rural Australia, stockmen, stockwomen and their families.

Representatives from the Foundation attended the Saturday events, which included the Open Campdraft, Junior and Juvenile Campdraft's, Maiden Campdraft and Open Horse Campdraft.

The day was finished off with a steak and salad dinner and Campdraft Presentations, including the Australian Campdraft Association 2013/14 South West WA Zone awards.

A total of \$12,000 from the Wellard Star of the West Campdraft and Coolup Campdraft was donated to the Foundation. Of this, \$5,000 was kindly donated by Mauro Balzarini, CEO of the



Wellard Group, as well \$5,000 from the Boar Swamp Campdraft Club and \$2,000 from the Coolup Campdraft Club in conjunction with Liveringa Pastoral Co who generously donated their cattle hire costs to the Foundation.

Our sincere thanks to Wellard, the Boar Swamp Campdraft Club, Coolup Campdraft Club, Liveringa Pastoral Co and all other organisations, sponsors and cattle donors who support these great events. We also thank the Mclarty Family for the use of the location and continued support of the CLCRF.





Source: Telethon Kids Institute / telethonkids.org.au

dds are, you've never heard of Geoff Cattach. He's not unhappy about that. Yet for the past 30 years, Geoff has headed the Children's Leukaemia and Cancer Research Foundation (CLCRF), an organisation that has raised \$24 million to fund Telethon Kids' research into childhood cancers. And, in turn, has helped to create a highly respected children's cancer research centre in WA.

"It's not about doing it because I want to be seen or boost my reputation in WA. I'm very low profile," says Geoff. "It's not about ego. We're raising funds to do research to save kids' lives. That's what it's about."

For the Harvey businessman and his wife Marie, this battle is very personal. Two of their three sons have survived cancer.

Brent was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukaemia two days before his third birthday. Stewart suffered a brain tumour at age 13. At 31, he was given just six weeks to live when a second tumour was detected.

Twelve years later, Stewart is still here - happy, well and working in the CLCRF Laboratory at Telethon Kids.

Still, as a dad, Geoff remembers too well the helplessness of sitting beside a sick son's bed, unable to offer anything but fierce love. In the 1970's, when Brent was first diagnosed, his prognosis was poor. "It was pretty awful," says Geoff. "I suppose you never give up hope, but only 30 percent of children with leukaemia survived back then."

If Geoff the father was helpless, Geoff the businessman was not. As an AMP Financial Planner, he had a strong network of connections – people he trusted and who trusted him. They were all accustomed to doing business on a hand-shake, where your word was your bond.

"AMP was like a club," Geoff says. "There wasn't anyone in Perth you couldn't get to to ask for support. Somebody would always know someone."

"Those guys, when you went to speak to them, they knew that you were dinkum, so to speak. It's still the way I do things in life."

Along with Peter Harper, a dad who had promised his dying daughter Jennifer that he would raise funds for research, the Children's Leukaemia and Cancer Research Foundation was established and fundraising began. Within two years they had \$100,000 and were poised to commence sponsoring research.

On the suggestion of Professor Keven Turner, a prominent specialist at Princess Margaret Hospital, they recruited Professor Ursula Kees, a Swiss researcher who had been working at a major cancer facility in Germany. "He was the guy who conned her, so to speak, to come to Australia," jokes Geoff. "I'm sure Ursula wouldn't have come if she had realised we only had a hundred grand in the bank!"

As fundraising continued, so did young Brent Cattach's treatment. Aged seven, his condition deteriorated dramatically. "He was diagnosed as clinically dead, no pulse, blood pressure down," says Geoff.

Continued on next page...



In Loving Memory of Marie Cattach 25/12/1944 - 16/05/2015

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Doctors never left Brent, neither did his family. He rallied. On Christmas Eve 1984, Dr Michael Willoughby, the head of Oncology at Princess Margaret Hospital asked the Cattachs for permission to do a bone-marrow transplant on their little boy, using marrow from their middle son, David.

"He said if we don't go now, we may never get this chance again," remembers Geoff. "My son wouldn't be alive today, if he hadn't," says Geoff Cattach quietly. "So we've been paid back."

In a curious twist, the chance to work with Dr Willoughby and doctors at PMH had been a major factor luring Ursula Kees to Perth. "This collaboration was absolutely unique," she says," and was the important foundation for the ensuing collaboration between the clinicians at the hospital who treat these young patients and us on the research side."

Indeed, over the past 25 years at Telethon Kids, Professor Kees and her team have made some significant advances. They

established Australia's first paediatric tumour bank. They also have on-going projects around a particularly aggressive cancer called NUT midline carcinoma. As well, they're using modern technologies to map genetic changes leading to cancers.

Geoff Cattach is heartened that such important work is being done in Perth. "Why am I so pleased? I suppose it's because I'm a bit parochial," he admits. "I think, 'why shouldn't it be here in Perth?""

"You're raising funds for people in Perth. Our children are sick here. And we've got all the research facilities and intellectual firepower here to help them."

Ursula Kees believes the funding provided by CLCRF is extraordinary. "It's absolutely unique, it's outstanding," she says. And she is glowing in her praise of Geoff Cattach.

"He has been the driver behind the organisation for many, many, many years," she says. "And without his enthusiasm and his hard work and his continuous efforts to find funding for our research, something

of this kind would not have happened."

As for the man himself, Geoff Cattach's thrill lies in the changing fortunes of children diagnosed with cancers, like the leukaemia that threatened to steal his boy, all those years ago.

"Today, if you've got a child with leukaemia, then there's a 90 per cent chance of survival," he says. "So much progress has been made."

But there are other childhood cancers - rarer types of leukaemia, brain tumours - where the deck is still stacked against these children.

"Our foundation is here for the long-term. It's built for the future and we won't rest until the best cures, treatments and preventions are found. It's a real privilege for us to be participating in such an important cause."

# VALE MARIE CATTACH BY KIM WILLIAMSON

It is with great sadness that we advise members of this Foundation the passing of Marie Cattach, wife of our esteemed Chairman Geoff Cattach.

It is without doubt that Marie has been a driving force behind the outstanding contribution Geoff has made to the Children's Leukaemia & Cancer Research Foundation (Inc.) for more than 30 years as well as giving wonderful selfless service in her own right.

As Geoff's wife and best friend, loving mother to Stewart, David and Brent, her steely resolve and determination to face adversity over such a long period was an inspiration to all that knew her.

Her wonderful demeanour and smiling countenance will be sadly missed but never forgotten.



#### **2015 NEXUS GOLF DAY**





Every year, Nexus Risk Services organise a golf day for their clients, with the participants given an opportunity to donate to CLCRF.

This year the golf day, held on 24 March at the Sanctuary Golf Resort in Busselton, was a great success with \$1.000 raised for the Foundation.

Many thanks to Nexus Risk Services for their continued support and a special shout out also to Ron Trezise, from SNAG (Starting New At Golf), novelty golf which was how the golfers made donations on the day.

## **BALD FOR BONNIE**

#### BY KHARA JOHNSON-SMITH

# WOW - KHARA'S 'BALD FOR BONNIE' HEAD SHAVE CAMPAIGN RAISED A TOTAL OF \$4,619.95 FOR CLCRF !! THAT'S A FANTASTIC RESULT KHARA, YOU SHOULD BE VERY PROUD!

Two years worth of volunteering for Telethon and Make A Wish has made me realize just how many sick children we have here in Western Australia and made me appreciate how lucky I am to have good health. I've witnessed my wish children go through treatment and remission and sometimes even pass away and I knew that I had to do something personal to raise money for invaluable research to help cure children's cancer, although I wasn't sure exactly what that would be.

In July last year my friend's niece, Bonnie Klomp, just 6 years old was diagnosed with medulloblastoma; an aggressive brain tumour. Overnight she and her 3 younger siblings, Mum and step dad had to relocate from Narrogin to Perth, leaving behind the house they had just purchased but were yet to enjoy. A reality that is all too familiar for way too many families. Seeing Bonnie lose her hair made me realize I needed to shave my head to raise money and also to support her.

I campaigned online and through fundraising tins and pledged that I would go Bald For Bonnie if I raised \$5,000 for the Children's Leukaemia and Cancer Research Foundation. The generosity and support was amazing. I'll admit I was terrified when my fundraising approached \$5,000 and didn't think I could actually bring myself to do it.

So the day before my hairdresser was booked to shave it I just jumped in the car, drove to Ronald McDonald house and let Bonnie shave it all off. Looking this brave girl in the eye and seeing the smile on her face reminded me why I was doing it.

Her courage and determination to fight this horrid disease is admirable and I am so proud to be her bald buddy and hope to face all life's challenges with her same smile and positive outlook. I'm not used to the new hairdo just yet but I am so privileged that I had the choice to shave unlike Bonnie and many other sick children.





#### ANNUAL CHARITY DICE RUN BY CHUGGA (KYM)





Brothers As One West Coast Albany's annual dice run this year was, as always, a charity run. The Club chose this year to raise funds for the Children's Leukaemia & Cancer Research Foundation.

The Dice Run was held over approx 170km with various stops to throw a set of dice, the person at the end of the run with the highest number wins a first prize, second highest also wins a prize.

Numbers this year were unfortunately down due to a couple of large fires one being the Northcliffe fire and the Boddington fire and a few small fires in and around Perth, some roads were closed and people let us know they couldn't get to the run, also some of our members are voluntary fire brigade members as well and were fighting the fires.

The dice run itself went well with no issues, there were approx 70 motorcycles in the run and everybody that was there had a lot of fun.

We would like to thank Children's Leukaemia & Cancer Research Foundation for allowing us to use their logo and hope the \$2,000 donation raised helped the Foundation in some way.

The Brothers As One West Coast is a Western Australia state wide motorcycle club that was formed to provide a friendly atmosphere in an MC for Australian and Allied, serving and ex serving members of the defence and reserve forces that ride motorcycles.

## Foundation Update



# RHYTHMS OF LIFE BENEFIT CONCERT FOR CLCRF

"Consider the ebb and flow of human relationships - the loves, the losses, the journeys, and the choices. All are affected by the people that we meet thus creating the rhythm that is our life"

This was the introduction to the Children's Leukaemia and Cancer Research Foundation's inaugural Benefit Concert recently held at the Regal Theatre in Subiaco.

People came from far and wide to join

seasoned West Australian performers Caroline McKenzie, Trudy Dunn, Sharon Kiely and Sue Bluck on a journey of a lifetime.

For those lucky enough to attend, the morning started by being given a 'free' goodie bag from our volunteers, filled to the brim with lots of booty from businesses around the local Perth area. Almost all were surprised and definitely delighted at receiving their own gift for coming along and helping to support the event.

Once inside they were treated to a theatrical morning of music and entertainment after Mike Parker from the CLCRF board MC'd brilliantly to share the welcome address and introduction to the event. "Mike has shown himself to be an eloquent speaker and fantastic MC for the foundation, one I will be using again for the next fun event I am yet to plan." said event organiser Kylie Dalton.

Once the show began the audience quickly settled in to listen to the theatrically trained voices of Trudy Dunn and Sharon Kiely. They knew they were in for a treat as Sue Bluck began accompanying them on the baby grand piano.

Caroline McKenzie kept the show moving along fabulously as the shows narrator,













rounding out the all-star cast of performers. Caroline guided the audience along the journey giving them a short history of the artist and composer keeping the ebb and flow moving perfectly.

But the show was about the singing, and we could not have been treated to a more delightful morning of show

tunes than we were on the 19th of April. Each song Trudy and Sharon performed whisked the listeners away down memory lane, asking them to join in and sing along with them. Trudy brought the house down with her comedy skit introducing to the audience another level of theatrics with her characterisation of Ella from the musical The Apple Tree, who sings about the perils of being a chimney sweep and how great it would be to be famous "Oh, to be a Movie Star".

The show was split in to two parts so that people could get up and have a stretch half way through, which gave everybody a chance to share their thoughts with the events team in the Regal Theatre reception area. The team found out that there had been quite a few last minute ticket sales at the door as the word spread about the concert.

With the bell ringing in the second half of the show all of the guests were excited to see how the show would end. They were not to be let down as the show stepped up another level with the singing and dancing becoming very interactive and the energy level rose with the audience singing along.

Overall the event was a large success with many of the guests so excited to have been a part of it and looking forward greatly to a performance again next year. Thank you to Trudy Dunn, Sharon Kiely, Susan Bluck and Caroline McKenzie and the Keep the Flame Alive team for your fabulous efforts with this great event.



Wonderful Weather, Wine and Wedge Chairs, along with a beautiful venue and good food, was the setting for the Foundation's 5th Family Night Out held, once again, on the grounds of Houghton Winery in the Swan Valley.

Patrons were entertained by Gary Anderson and his Ultimate Rock N Roll Show and Children's Entertainer, Zalia Joi. Swan Valley Cuddly Animal Farm, Tamarabella's Face Painters and Twisted Balloon Artists completed the fun.

The quality food hampers, from Beaumonde Catering, accompanied by a wide variety of award-winning Houghton wines topped off an evening enjoyed by all.

The annual concert wouldn't be the success it is without the assistance of the many individuals and organisations that support this event each year. The Foundation would like to thank them:

- Natalie Scali and staff, at Houghton Winery, not only for the great venue but assistance with organising the event and extra infrastructure;
- Brad Smith and staff, at Australian Protection Services, for looking after our security needs and keeping our patrons safe;
- Royal Life Saving Society (WA) staff for manning the First Aid Van;
- Matt Brenner for his ice cream van;
- Mal from Twisted Balloons
- The Crema Cruiser Coffee Van
- Beth at BBC Entertainment for her assistance with booking the act.
- Our fabulous CLCRF Volunteers who assisted on the day.





Australian and New Zealand Children's Haematology/Oncology Group

### ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING

DIFFICULT DISEASES
DIFFICULT SITUATIONS

18 - 20 JUNE 2015

Esplanade Hotel Fremantie by Rydoes Fremantie WA



## **ANZCHOG CONFERENCE**

THE AUSTRALIAN & NZ CHILDREN'S HAEMATOLOGY/ONCOLOGY GROUP (ANZCHOG) CONFERENCE IS BEING HELD AT THE ESPLANDE HOTEL BY RYDGES IN FREMANTLE, WESTERN AUSTRALIA THIS YEAR.

The theme is 'Difficult Diseases, Difficult Situations' and promises to deliver an exciting program which explores the increasing challenges involved with the provision of high quality paediatric haematology and oncology care whilst being able to meet the expectations of patients and families. Valuable and insightful discussions around the theme will be presented by a number of invited international and local speakers recognised for being leaders in their fields.

The CLCRF has the great pleasure in sponsoring Professor Richard Lock, from the Children's Cancer Institute in NSW. Professor Lock collaborates with our head researcher, Professor Ursula Kees, on research into acute lymphoblastic leukaemia.

Professor Richard Lock is an NHMRC Senior Research Fellow at Children's Cancer Institute, UNSW Australia. He received his PhD in 1987 from the University of London, for research carried out at the Imperial Cancer Research Fund Laboratories. His postdoctoral research was carried at the University of Florida and the University of Louisville, USA. Upon relocation to Australia in 1998, he established the Leukaemia Biology Program at Children's Cancer Institute.

The principal focus of his research is in the development and utilisation of orthotopic patient-derived xenograft models of paediatric acute lymphoblastic leukaemia and acute myelogenous leukaemia to study the biology and treatment of the diseases. In 2005 he was the only Principal Investigator outside of the USA invited to participate in the NCI-funded Pediatric Preclinical Testing Program (PPTP), which has received continuous NCI funding since 2005. Professor Lock has published over 130 articles in peer-reviewed journals, and has been an invited speaker at many national and international conferences.

At the conference, Professor Lock will be presenting on 'Preclinical Drug Testing in Paediatric ALL through the Pediatric Preclinical Testing Program'.





# BELMONT OASIS LEISURE CENTRE AQUA FITNESS CLASS



Wendy and Katelyn, from the Foundation, attended an Aqua Fitness Class held on the Labour Day public holiday at Belmont Oasis Leisure Centre. The event saw over 50 people participate in a fun water aerobics class.

Our thanks to Naomi, for organising and running the class, and also to the many people who attended and enjoyed a fun morning while supporting the Foundation. A donation of \$651.75 was received from the event.

#### **WELL DONE MITCHELL DHU!**



Check out these Before & After photos of Mitchell Dhu, from Donnybrook District High School! Late last year, Mitchell shaved his hair off to raise funds for CLCRF. Supported by students and community members, Mitchell raised \$880.65 from his efforts.

Well done and THANK YOU Mitchell. What a transformation.



#### YOUNG AMBASSADORS

In February 2015 we announced our Young Ambassadors Chloe Clements and Caitlin Garrett. You may have met them last year at the Glass Slipper Ball when they both attended the event to support the efforts of event organiser Kasey Carr.

We feel they are a great choice to represent the Foundation in 2015 as they are motivated and passionate about helping us to raise awareness and source funding for childhood cancer research.

In November this year we will look forward to having them perform front and centre at our Dance for A Cure event, once again being held in Forest Place, City of Perth. With the support of Channel Nine helping us spread the word, we know this year will be filled with dancing families all united to find a cure.

We also hope that they will interview the girls who will be able share their journeys and talk about why they are happy that they were chosen to represent CLCRF and help in the important effort to raise awareness for our charity.

Chloe and Caitlin have already shown why they are great Young Ambassadors for Children's Leukaemia and Cancer Research Foundation by coming along to the Family Night Out at Houghton Winery in March.

They had fun with everybody they met and were very vocal in spreading the word about the event. If you would like to welcome the girls to the CLCRF family please head to our Facebook page and send them a message.



## MANDURAH OVER 55'S CANOE CLUB FUNDRAISER BY GREG ROBERTSON - PRESIDENT MO55SCC



Each autumn Mandurah over 55's Canoe Club (Mo55sCC) members & friends gather specifically to paddle their kayaks for charity, always in support of the Children's Leukaemia & Cancer Research Foundation (Inc). The Club has done this since 1999.

Recent outings have been held on the Murray River, between Mandurah and Pinjarra. Launching at Murray Bend, near Ravenswood, several kayaking groups of 6 or 8, and up to 15 or 20, can head up or down river for return trips of between 10 & 30 kms. Paddlers and friends get together afterwards for a BBQ, offering donations of cash and in-kind for the cause.

This year, Monday 13 April, 45 people participated, including Foundation Board Member & Treasurer, Kim Williamson. Kim spoke inspirationally of the Foundation's focus, its successes and the importance of support such as from Mo55sCC.

Kim was ceremonially presented the day's proceeds. He then promptly drew his own ticket out in the raffle! He suggested that he would share his prize of chocolates with Foundation staff members (at the time of printing the jury is still out on this!).

Coupled with annual fundraising by a book club and a craft group (both having Mo55sCC members), plus a generous benefactor donation, the total raised this year was \$1,750.

Autumn 2016 will see Mo55sCC back on the water in support of CLCRF.

Photo with caption 'Mo55sCC Treasurer Graeme Cox presents funds to Kim Williamson'

## 2015 JACK MANN CLASSIC GOLF DAY

What better way to spend a lovely sunny Perth day than playing golf at the beautiful Vines Resort Country Club.

The 2015 Jack Mann Classic Golf Day was another resounding success with the day being enjoyed by all who attended and a fabulous \$546 donated to the Foundation via the charity hole.

Thank you to Brian Sheehy from Houghton Wines for, once again, inviting us to be a part of this event. But who let Katelyn loose on the golf buggy!



#### **MORLEY GAELS GAELIC FOOTBALL CLUB**



Many thanks to the Morley Gaels Gaelic Football Club for their generous gift of \$4,640, which represents their fundraising efforts for CLCRF over the past two years. The official donation was presented by Club members to CLCRF Executive Officer, Andrea, at the Carlisle Hotel on Saturday 25 April.

This Club has been supporting CLCRF since 2011 and has raised (including this donation) a total of \$8,640.

Morley Gaels is one of Australia's biggest GAA Clubs – Fielding a Men's Senior, Intermediate and two Ladies Senior Teams. Since 1975 they have been providing a home away from home for new arrivals into the sunny West Australian City of Perth.

Editors Note: Good luck to the teams for the current season.



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CHILDREN'S

# **Foundation Update**

Children's Leukaemia & Cancer Research Foundation Inc.



- > Register to walk or run: www.swanriverrun.com.au
- > Then head to our Every Day Hero page to be a part of Our Motive to Move Team and create your own supporter page to help raise funds: http://swanrun2015.everydayhero.com/au/team-clcrf We'll even give you a free "Motive to Move T-shirt" if you raise more than \$50!

Any enquires please ring our office on 9363 7400 or email reception@childcancerresearch.com.au

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www.childcancerresearch.com.au



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You can make a donation by visiting our website, phoning us or completing this form and faxing or mailing it to us (all details above).

#### PLEASE COMPLETE FOR TAX RECEIPTING PURPOSES

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#### **Membership / Information Request**

I would like to become a member of the Children's Leukaemia & Cancer Research Foundation and am enclosing		
\$11 (individual membership) or \$22 (family membership)		
Please send me a bequest pamphlet.		

CHILDREN'S Leukaemia & Cancer Research Foundation (Inc.)

Please send to: Children's Leukaemia & Cancer Research Foundation PO Box 1118, West Perth WA 6872