

Foundation Update

Children's Leukaemia & Cancer Research Foundation







From the Chairman

Geoff Cattach, AM



I hope everyone had a lovely Christmas and peaceful start to 2018.

A lot has happened since my last message – one item that needs to be mentioned is that the Foundation has become a \$1M partner with Telethon. This partnership was formally announced during the 2017 Telethon weekend, when the magnificent sum of over \$36M was raised through the Western Australian community.

I want to clearly advise our own very generous and loyal donors that nothing has altered in our research funding arrangements as we already contribute around \$1M annually to research projects undertaken at the Telethon Kids Institute and it is these funds that represent the "Million Dollar Partnership".

The advantage to our Foundation is that the million dollars that we already contribute annually to research funding is the trigger, under the Telethon Trust Agreement with CLCRF, to generate an additional minimum sum of \$250K – and dependant on circumstances, up to \$500K – annually from Telethon, to support additional research into childhood cancers in collaboration with the Telethon Kids Institute. Accordingly, this is a wonderful boost to our overall fundraising and, as a consequence, an additional boost to our future research endeavours.

On an administration matter, the Foundation has now been classed, via the ATO and the ACNC, as a Health Promotion Charity (HPC) which has DGR 1 Status.

This will now enable CLCRF to receive donations/

grants/funds from many organisations/private funds etc. The Foundation ABN is 42 030 465 053.

So it was a very busy and exciting end to 2017. Now, everyone at CLCRF is looking forward to an even bigger and better 2018, which I'm sure we will achieve with the wonderful generosity of our supporters. CLCRF would not be able to fund life-saving research without our wonderful donor family and we are truly grateful for your support now and into the future.

Loft actuck

Geoff Cattach, AM CHAIRMAN

Farewell Professor Urusla Kees

In my last message I touched on Professor Ursula Kees' retirement. On the 11 October, a small private dinner was held to farewell Ursula. Amongst those attending, were Dr Michael Willoughby, Professor Keven Turner and wife Fay, John and Margaret Myers as well as current members of the Board of Management.

At the Foundation AGM in December last year, it was announced that in recognition of her wonderful legacy to childhood cancer research, Professor Kees was awarded Honorary Life Membership to CLCRF. It was also announced that a new fellowship (funded by CLCRF), titled the Ursula Kees Fellowship, would be awarded in 2018.

It should also be noted that the Telethon Kids Institute will be organising a symposium, celebrating Professor Kees' contribution, over 35 years to childhood cancer research, in early 2018.



Bootscootin' For Cancer Research



The Nambung Country Music Muster on 26-29 October 2017 was a celebration of country music bringing together 1,000 country music fans.

The event raised money for several charities including the Children's Leukaemia & Cancer Research Foundation (Inc.) (CLCRF).

The four-day event saw fans enjoy country music concerts around the historic Nambung Shearing Shed, 200 kilometres north of Perth. Stars of the show included Tom Maxwell, Laura Downing, Evan Platschinda, Terry Bennetts and Ginger Cox of the Band of Mates.

Boot scooting and old-time dancing were hugely popular along with the local CWA cooking up a storm.

The Bush Poet's Breakfast saw performances by Bill Gordon, Stinger and other talented poets to the aromas of freshly cooked bacon and eggs. The Sunday finale brought all the stars together to sing Waltzing Matilda, We Are Proud, and a stirring rendition of Slim Dusty's Lights on the Hill.

This year's muster promises to be just as successful on 25-28 October 2018.

The CLCRF thanks the Nambung Country Music Muster for generously donating \$3,000. Your kind donation will go towards vital childhood cancer research.



Photo credit:





Camping Out Under the Stars for

CHILD CANCER RESEARCH

The Friends of Finlay Camp Out was held on Saturday 25 November. A fantastic experience for the whole family, this fun-filled event saw 150 people camp out under the stars for a good cause.

The guest of honour, our little fair-haired hero, Finlay Higgs, was absolutely beaming with excitement to camp out with his family, friends and the community that registered to support him.

The Camp Out kicked off at 3pm with the campers setting up their tents. Footy drills and cricket playing with the Perth Demons kicked off around 4pm and children learned how to play footy from the finest. Kids had a

blast with face painting, bubbleblowing, sack races, obstacle courses and a hugely popular bouncy castle which kept the children thoroughly entertained for hours.

A barbecue dinner was served and everyone kicked back to listen to musicians Sally Jane and Double Shots who performed beautiful music to listen and singalong to. Campers appreciated the fun and chilled atmosphere that the musicians created and everyone relaxed into the evening spent coming together to support an important cause.

The main lights were turned off at 10pm but you could still hear

the excited chattering of some as they fell asleep.

On Sunday morning, families awoke to continue the camping experience, kids played on the bouncy castle and giant snakes and ladders game whilst their parents sat back with a coffee before starting to pack up their tents to head home. Everyone was chirpy despite an early start to the day and enjoyed the chance the turn off the technology and camp together as a family.





Order your sleeping bags now!

www.friendsoffinlay.com.au/events/campout

It was a fantastic Camp Out and Children's Leukaemia & Cancer Research Foundation (Inc.) want to thank the Higgs Family, everyone who camped out and/or bought sleeping bags, all of the amazing volunteers and event organisers who worked so hard to make the Camp Out a success. We especially would like to thank the amazing sponsors: Lotterywest, Absolute Edge Media, West Coast Eagles, Perth Demons

Football Club, Edith Cowan University and EverSharp Financial Services for their wonderful support of the Camp Out.

Friends of Finlay Sleeping
Bags (for a person 140cm or
under in height) are currently
available for purchase before
the weather cools down.
Head over to
www.friendsoffinlay.com.
au/events/campout to order
your sleeping bag now!

"

Save the date for the next Friends of Finlay Camp Out!

Saturday 27 October 2018











The 10th annual Wellard Campdraft held over three days

starting on 24 November 2017 in Pinjarra, featured highly bred and trained horses and their skilled riders running at their best in manoeuvring cattle around the course. The event was held at the McLarty family's Blythewood farming property with funds raised going to the Children's Leukaemia & Cancer Research Foundation (Inc.) (CLCRF).

The unique sport of campdrafting is a family affair, and most competitors take time out of their busy lives to have fun and participate in the three-day festival of events. This year's Campdraft had two prestigious Open events producing outstanding winners. An evening barbeque on Saturday night gave those involved an opportunity to let their hair down and socialise.

Wellard Limited Executive Director of Operations, Fred Troncone, said the livestock exporter was proud of its commitment to such a successful event. "Being involved with the Wellard Star of the West Camp Draft over the years is a fantastic experience. To see the dedication of the riders and their horses and also the local community who come together to put the event on is amazing – thanks to everyone involved, particularly the McLarty Family, Boar Swamp Committee and Wellard," said Andrea Alexander, Executive Officer of CLCRF.

Congratulations to the event organisers, winners and competitors of the Wellard Campdraft. We value your contribution to child cancer research through this outstanding annual event.





CLCRF wins FIA Award for Fundraising Team of the Year

On Thursday 7 December 2017, Fundraising Institute of Australia celebrated their End of Year Awards Night at the Resident Bar in Nedlands. It was an opportunity to celebrate the successes of the year and highlight achievements of organisations within the WA fundraising sector.

Children's Leukaemia & Cancer Research Foundation (Inc.) (CLCRF) were incredibly excited and proud to be awarded the inaugural FIA WA Award for Fundraising Team of the Year on the night.

"The team at CLCRF are incredibly excited to win this! What a fabulous way to start 2018," said Andrea Alexander, Executive Officer of CLCRF.

The CLCRF are now in the running for the National FIA Award which will be announced in March 2018 at the FIA National Conference held in Sydney.







\$3,000 for NUT Carcinoma Research Manuscript

\$3,000 in additional funding from the Children's Leukaemia & Cancer Research Foundation (Inc.) (CLCRF) was provided for publication of Dr Alex Beesley's research manuscript into NUT Carcinoma in December 2017. Originally, CLCRF provided \$12,000 in funding for manuscript costs. A further \$3,000 has been granted to Dr Beesley to enable the completion of his manuscript for publication.

Dr Alex Beesley, Honorary Research Fellow at the Telethon Kids Institute, together with Dr Anja Stirnweiss conducted a landmark study of key features of one of the most hostile cancers, NUT Carcinoma. The study looked into the genetics behind NUT Carcinoma. NUT Carcinoma is a highly aggressive cancer and research into better therapies for patients with this cancer is desperately needed.

In the study, researchers have used a unique panel of NUT carcinoma samples to look for drugs that are more effective at fighting these tumours. In addition, they have analysed the genetic code of these samples, the first time that this has been done comprehensively for this disease.

The findings, recently published in the prestigious journal, Oncotarget, provide a blueprint of what goes wrong in these cancer cells and the types of drugs that might be best for treatment in the future. Dr Beesley's research provides hope for finding better therapies for children who suffer from NUT Carcinoma.

The CLCRF is dedicated to funding research that will better the lives of children who suffer from this terrible disease and is glad to help Dr Alex Beesley in his key research.

The Ball was themed 'Farewell to Subi' and it was a poignant night as Fremantle players joined club sponsors, members and fans to farewell Subiaco Oval.

Freo Dockers Foundation Ball: Farewell to Subi

Children's Leukaemia & Cancer Research Foundation (CLCRF) ambassadors, Georgia Lowry and Zoe Manuel, were a part of a glamorous Fremantle Dockers Foundation Ball on Saturday night, 25 November 2017 at the Subiaco Oval. The Ball was themed 'Farewell to Subi' and it was a poignant night as Fremantle players joined club sponsors, members and fans to farewell Subiaco Oval as AFL games move to Optus Stadium.

A tour of the oval kicked off the night, followed by an evening of entertainment on the centre square of the oval's hallowed turf. Guests were led into the stands and change rooms, and had the opportunity to have a photo at their favourite player's locker.

Fireworks lit up the night sky before guests were served a three-course meal while Aaron Sandilands, David Mundy Nat Fyfe and Matthew Pavlich shared their memories of the venue.

CLCRF ambassador, Zoe Manuel, said, "the best part about the night was definitely meeting a few of the players and also listening to everything they have done in the past at the oval."

As one of the Associate Friends of the Fremantle Dockers Foundation, the CLCRF was proud to be represented by such lovely ambassadors.

Dr Rishi Investigates New Cancer Drug in the Fight Against Infant Leukaemia

Dr Rishi Sury Kotecha is one of the scientists conducting child cancer research at the Children's Leukaemia & Cancer Research Foundation (Inc.) Lab at the Telethon Kids Institute. His expertise lies in preclinical and clinical leukaemia research and he is currently conducting studies into a key new drug called Blinatumomab. In the study, he will be examining whether the drug, Blinatumomab, can be safely added to the standard chemotherapy used to treat infants under 12 months of age with acute lymphoblastic leukaemia.

Blinatumomab is a form of immunotherapy and binds to both the leukaemia cells and T-cells, which are important in our body's natural defence against infections, facilitating destruction of the leukaemia

cells by the T-cells. Dr Rishi believes Blinatumomab is going to be a crucial drug in the treatment of acute lymphoblastic leukaemia in infants.

Until now, studies have shown that Blinatumomab is safe. to use in older children and adults. Dr Rishi's research is an early phase trial study.

Most babies with pre-B acute lymphoblastic leukaemia have a very poor survival rate due to a genetic abnormality, which is called a MLL rearrangement. Only 40 percent of babies with this abnormality survive beyond five years. For those under three months of age, there is only 16 percent survival.

This highlights the desperate need for better therapies to

improve their outcome. It is hoped that Blinatumomab will not only improve the outcome of these infants. but also enable reduction of conventional chemotherapy which is highly toxic to their fragile bodies.

When asked why Dr Rishi chose to specialise in paediatric haematology/ oncology, he was very positive "I chose this specialty for the successes that have come from such research. When I receive emails and photos from a child I've treated telling me about their lives, such as starting university and having families of their own, I see the impact that research has made on their outcome and it makes it all worthwhile."





\$45,000 Hole-in-One!

If you would like to fundraise for the Foundation just give us a call during office hours on (08) 9363 7400.



On 12 December 2017, Andrea and Wendy of Children's Leukaemia & Cancer Research Foundation (Inc.) (CLCRF) attended a lunch at the Royal Perth Golf Club and the CLCRF were presented with a generous cheque of \$45,000 from the Royal Perth Ladies Charity Committee. The donation came from fundraising efforts of the Royal Perth Ladies Charity Committee through proceeds from their Golf Day, Bridge Club and other activities

In Committee Chairperson, Vicki Prastidis' own words:

The Royal Perth Ladies Charity Committee run a large golf day in October every year. The event is for the R.O. Law cup which has been played for 82 years. We have a field of close to 200 ladies playing golf (from clubs all over W.A.), we also have over 50 bridge players. Each player pays a fee for the day. The ladies set up stalls selling flowers, plants, cakes and produce, books, craft, bags, raffles and wine. The day is lots of fun and the members and community generously provide so much for us.

As well as the golf day, we are given money each week by our Bridge club who charge a gold coin to each player. These ladies are a huge support to us.

Throughout the year, we hold a fashion parade, sell fresh produce and have several raffles. The members at Royal Perth are so proud to be part of helping children live fuller happier lives and work hard to do that.

The CLCRF thanks Vicki and the members of the Royal Perth Ladies Charity Committee for their generous donation and is very appreciative of their wonderful contribution to child cancer research.

"Best sunflowers ever. I have never grown any this large before, the neighbours were in awe. **Fantastic way to support** a great cause."

Stunning Sunflowers Rise For Awareness



Last September, Children's Leukaemia & Cancer Research Foundation (Inc.) (CLCRF) 'sowed the seeds for childhood cancer awareness' by selling sunflower seeds for Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. The sunflower seeds were a hit with supporters and many packets were sold raising over \$1,800.

Cook, sent the Foundation some photos of sunflowers that grew from the seeds they purchased from CLCRF last September.

"Best sunflowers ever. I have never grown any this large before, the neighbours were in awe. Fantastic way to support a great cause."

The sunflower seed packets will make a comeback this year for September Childhood Cancer Awareness Month so stay tuned!



2017 Southwest Bike Trek

Written by Eric Maddock - Trek Organiser

The Children's Leukaemia & Cancer Research Foundation's 2017 Southwest Bike Trek started off from Mandurah on Monday 9 October to finish in Augusta on Saturday 16 October. Even with reduced numbers of riders taking part we still raised in excess of \$23,400.

Our small number of riders had our ranks increased for a couple of days between Harvey and Busselton with a large group of riders from the Bunbury Over 40s Cycle Club, whom I would like to thank for their participation. I must also say a huge thanks to all the Lions and Rotary Clubs along the way who provided the much appreciated support for our riders of food and accommodation, as well as various monetary donations.

Others who assisted along the way were the ladies from the Binningup Seniors Club who

provided not only a beautiful lunch but a monetary donation as well. The ladies from the Harvey Professional & Business Women's Association also assisted with homemade biscuits for various tea breaks along the way and with providing our afternoon tea at the Harvey Shire offices in Harvey.

Further acknowledgements that need to be made are to our various support crew; Norma Cox, Wendy Sims and Ed Pereira for driving the lead and following vehicles and Kay Tonzig for acting as our first aid person. Without their support this ride would not have been possible. We were also assisted along the way by Jarrah Infusion at Pinjarra, Equinox Cafe at Busselton, and the Deck Chair Cafe in Augusta who provided the riders and support crew with the necessary cuppa and cake. And, of course, it

would be remiss of me not to acknowledge, Annette, my wife for all the work she did assisting me with putting the whole thing together.

The ride was a great social event as well as fundraiser and we enjoyed lovely weather for the majority of the time. We only had about three hours of rain on the Tuesday but that's life and no one was complaining anyway. So overall a good time was had by all.

Looking forward to next year when I hope we will have a full contingent of riders (25 to 30). Hopefully the riders from this year will spread the word so that we can do something amazing to raise further money for research to help children fight leukaemia and cancer and have fun doing it.







Poseidon Primary Fundraising for Child Cancer Research

On 16 March 2017, Poseidon Primary, a small school of 370 students based in Heathridge, raised \$2,269.30 for Children's Leukaemia & Cancer Research Foundation (Inc.) (CLCRF) through their annual 'hairraising' fundraising event. Aroha White, one of the students of the school, was diagnosed with leukaemia and the school teamed together to raise money for CLCRF. Aroha's mother, Emma White, as well as six school staff members were sponsored to change their hair in different ways.

A brave and excited Emma had her hair coloured with hairspray, then it was shaved off completely in front of the school. The school's principal, Peter Blackford, was brave enough to have his hair coloured and shaved by Emma and Aroha White.

Many of the students also coloured their hair with hairspray for the special event.

A coin challenge after the hair shaving took place on their basketball court where each class had their own line to place coins and notes. The winner of the longest line went to Mrs Isbister's Pre-Primary / Year 1 class. Some of the parents generously put down \$50 notes in the challenge, which greatly helped in the fundraising.

Eco Faeries painted children's faces and engaged students with other fun activities.

Overall, the event was very inspiring for students and staff, and a fantastic amount was raised for CLCRF. Thank you Poseidon Primary for your generosity and efforts towards raising money for child cancer research.

If you would like to start your own fundraising event, just start a fundraising page at fund.clcrfgiving.org/event/ Fundraising Events and share your link with friends and family!

Geoff Cattach Awarded for a Lifetime of Excellence

On 18 January 2018, AMP honoured several financial advisers for a lifetime of achievement. Children's Leukaemia & Cancer Research Foundation (Inc.) chairman, Geoff Cattach, was amongst those who

were honoured.

For over 50 years, Geoff has represented AMP and served in and around the Harvey community as head of Harvey Financial Services. Geoff takes pride in the fact that his first client from 1965 is still with him.

This is not the first time that Geoff has been honoured for his dedication and service to the community. In 2009, Geoff was made a member of the General Division for the Order of Australia for service to the community, particularly through the CLCRF. In 2014, Geoff was a finalist for the WA Senior Australian of the Year. Geoff holds to core beliefs that have served him well for over

50 years. "I have always treated people with integrity. My attitude has always been: if you never tell a lie then you don't need a good memory; treat everyone with morality and you will never be far wrong; empathy is most important as it is about your client's life and their dependents."

CLCRF Board and members congratulate Geoff Cattach for his outstanding achievement, and thank him for the incredible contribution that he has made to the Foundation, the community and Financial Planning.





Georgia Lowry has a Dream!



Our young ambassador, Georgia Lowry, came up with an exciting new idea to raise funds for child cancer research.

Our young ambassador, Georgia Lowry, came up with an exciting new idea to raise funds for child cancer research. As part of the 'Million Dollar Project', Georgia has a dream to travel all around Australia in a small van to speak and raise \$1 million to fund a Young Scientist Fellowship Program with the Children's Leukaemia & Cancer Research Foundation (Inc.) (CLCRF).

The Young Scientist Fellowship Program aims to seek out young scientific fellows on an international level, who would be interested in working in the CLCRF Lab in the Telethon Kids Institute. They will be mentored in their research career into child cancer. This fellowship will advance the legacy of research that Professor Ursula Kees and Dr Michael Willoughby set

into place, moving the team closer to finding a cure and better treatment protocols for children.

To 'fuel' her dream, she needs the following things in place:

- 1. Firstly, she needs a small Kombi van. So, if you or you know someone who is willing to donate a van in safe working condition, get in touch with the Foundation.
- 2. She will require a mechanic to help her fix the van so it will travel around the country safely.
- 3. It needs to be fitted out with comfortable facilities and a bed so that she can live in it. So, let us know if you can help with this.

- 4. Someone who is willing to spray paint or graphic wrap the van with the Children's Leukaemia & Cancer Research Foundation Inc. logo.
- 5. Donations to help pay for her fuel and food.

With all these things in place, Georgia will then be able to travel around Australia and raise a million dollars for the project! Will you help her?

If you can help Georgia in any way, please give CLCRF a call on (08) 9363 7400 or email admin@childcancerresearch. com.au.



Make a Difference by Saving!

Make a real difference with your savings account and open a Community Reward Account with Beyond Bank! The more you save, the more Beyond Bank will donate to Children's Leukaemia & Cancer Research Foundation (Inc.) (CLCRF) at no cost to you!

It's a high interest savings account and a unique way for supporters of CLCRF to give towards child cancer research. Beyond Bank will give the Foundation a Community Reward Payment based on

the combined average annual balances of all supporters' savings.

Each year, Beyond Bank generously donates over \$350,000 back to not-for-profit community organisations such as CLCRF. It's great to see a bank give so much to the community.

Show your support and head over now to www.beyondbank.com.au/ communityrewardaccount to start a Community Reward Account!





CONTACT US



Street Address: Postal Address:

Email:

Phone:

Website:

Suite 3/100, Hay Street, Subiaco, WA 6008

PO Box 1118, West Perth, WA 6872 admin@childcancerresearch.com.au

(08) 9363 7400

www.childcancerresearch.com.au



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Donate to Children's Leukaemia & Cancer Research Foundation Inc.

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You can make a donation by visiting our website, phoning us or completing this form and mailing it to us (all details above).		I would like to make a donation of:
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Address:		OR 📉 I enclose my cheque / money order (payable to Children's Leukaemia & Cancer
Suburb:	Postcode:	Research Foundation) - No Staples please.
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	Thank you for your generocity	Denotions over \$2 are tay deductible and a receipt will be issued

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.			

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

