



THE FINAL BANKWEST TALLY

\$36,431,381

bankwest 

Sunday 22 October, 2017

For 50 years, the people of Western Australia have opened their hearts and donated over \$250 million to Telethon since 1968.

We are so proud of your generosity W.A. The money you helped us raise this weekend will be spread back into the WA community to support crucial child health research, provide much needed medical equipment, and drive social welfare programs.

Telethon 2017 kicked off Saturday night to a sold-out audience at the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre in the heart of Perth, with thousands watching the live broadcast in Perth on Channel 7 and on GWN7 around the state.

Samantha Jade & Leo Sayer were among the stars who entertained, plus Ross Wilson came from the Lexus Ball to give a surprise performance on TV. Money raised from the Lexus Ball was a massive \$1.68 million.

7 year old Maddox Ball and 9 year old Olivia Riley stole our hearts as the two ambassadors chosen to represent the kids of WA as the 2017 Little Telethon Stars.

The marathon 26-hour television broadcast went live across Channel 7 Perth and across WA on GWN7. Plus it was streamed nationally via the telethon7.com, thewest.com.au and perthnow.com.au websites.

The team at Channel 7 Perth, The West Australian and The Sunday Times led an army of volunteers, plus more than 250 TV production crew, 600 entertainers and 1,000 volunteers to make this year's Telethon weekend the most successful ever.

There were plenty of major donations from Telethon's famous Million Dollar Partners, but as always it was the generosity of the people of Western Australia that shone through raising a record-breaking amount.

The Prime Minister was in Perth to hand over a massive \$2 million to commemorate the 50th Telethon. He also committed \$13 million over the next decade to co-fund the "Origins Project" that is being conducted at Joondalup Health Campus in partnership with Telethon Kids Institute. Paul Ramsay Foundation also committed \$13 million to fund this project over the next decade.

Mr Turnbull and his wife Lucy also very generously donated \$25,000 from the Turnbull Foundation.

BHP Billiton once again donated \$4 million as part of their \$20 million five-year commitment. Wesfarmers upped their donation from last year to \$1.5m for the next few years. Another surprise was Andrew and Nicola Forrest's Minderoo Foundation, contributing \$3 million to the overall tally by matching donations called in by the public across the weekend.

Premier Mark McGowan pledged \$3 million from the State Government on behalf of all West Australians. \$2 million of this will be set aside in the Telethon Perth Children's Hospital Child Health Research Fund which Telethon will match dollar for dollar, so that \$4 million can be granted over the next 12 months to help researchers in this state carry out research into children's diseases.

Perth businessman Tim Roberts generously donated \$1.5 million. Malcolm, Tonya and Carolyn McCusker generously donated \$1.9 million from the McCusker Charitable Foundation throughout the course of the weekend. Bill Beament donated \$250,000 plus a magnificent gold bullion bar which was auctioned for \$75,000 at the Lexus Ball on behalf of Northern Star Resources.

For the 6th year, Hawaiian Property Group held The Rob Broadfield Dinner at Cable Beach Club Resort & Spa in Broome, which raised \$500,000.

Other large donations throughout the year included: Telethon Community Cinemas – \$639,597; Perth Airport – \$110,000; and Bankwest – \$100,000.

Ex-rugby player, Matt Fuller, UFC champion Soa "The Hulk", and Chef Josh Catalano, spent months preparing for a 24-hour challenge that saw them conduct a non-stop spin class for 24 hours straight at Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre, with Peard Real Estate donating \$50,000 towards their efforts, and an additional \$100,000 in fundraising.

In the closing stages of the broadcast, Executive Chairman of Seven Group Holdings and Chairman of the Channel 7 Telethon Trust, Mr Kerry Stokes AC, made a generous donation of \$2 million on behalf of his private company Australian Capital Equity.

Telethon CEO, Steve Mummery was ecstatic with the result from the weekend.

"It's an exciting year for Telethon celebrating its 50th, and even though WA continues through tough economic times, the community have dug deep for the children of Perth. Once again, my thanks go out to

all of the mums and dads and their kids, who have helped raise money for Telethon over the past 12 months”, he said.

A huge line-up of 7 Network artists flew in from around Australia including David Koch, Samantha Armytage, Natalie Barr and Sam Mac from Sunrise; James Tobin from Weekend Sunrise; Benson Jack Anthony from 800 Words; Lynne McGranger, James Stewart, Jackson Heywood, Rohan Nichol, Sophie Dillman, Kestie Morassi, Jake Ryan, Olivia Deeble, Anna Cocquerel and Scott Lee from Home And Away; Rachel Gordon, Jordan Hare and JR Reyne from The Secret Daughter; Lincoln Lewis, David Oldfield, Debra Lawrance and Sam Frost from Hell’s Kitchen; Wendy Moore, Drew Heath and Perth twins Andrew and Jono King from House Rules; Melissa Doyle, Alex Cullen, Denham Hitchcock, Steve Pennells and Matt Doran from Sunday Night; Issa Schultz, Matt Parkinson and Brydon Coverdale from The Chase Australia; Sam Lane, Sam McClure and Nathan Templeton from Seven Sport; Karen Ledbury from The Morning Show and Sarah Cumming from The Daily Edition; Perth team Bek and Ash from MKR; Michael Usher from Seven News; Peter Ford, Seven Entertainment Reporter; Rachel Watts and Lorinska Merrington from Yummy Mummies and Candice Dixon from Flushed.

They were joined by 7’s Perth favourites Rick Ardon, Susannah Carr, Basil Zempilas, Sam Jolly, Matt Tinney and Adrian Barich, plus many more from 7 News as well as Today Tonight’s Monika Kos, Mark Gibson, Graeme Butler, Cassie Silver, Mark Readings and Syan Dougherty. Plus, many of Perth’s radio personalities from Mix 94.5, hit 92.9, Nova 93.7, 6PR and 6iX.

Social media again played a huge role in connecting celebrities with their fans across the Telethon weekend, with loads of personalities taking to the Telethon Twitter, Facebook and Instagram feeds to interact live as the action unfolded. This year #telethon7 also had massive support from around the world.

For any media enquiries or photos please contact:

Belinda Giglia (Publicity Manager, Seven Perth)

bgiglia@seven.com.au | 0419 015 282

END -