



15 May 2009

MEDIA RELEASE

Swan Give Rex a Helping Hand

Swan Lodge have kindly funded an electric bed for 40-year old Rex from Carlisle as part of The Centre Cerebral Palsy (The Centre)'s Equipment Sponsorship Programme.

Rex recently broke his femur and as a result relies on a carer for the first time in 40 years to get in and out of bed. To retain his independence Rex urgently needed an electric bed that he could control himself.

Kathy Kane, Business Development Manager at The Centre says, "It can be difficult to fund equipment for adults but Swan Lodge understood the urgency around this special wish and were pleased to fund the bed to help Rex retain his independence."

The electric bed for Rex is one of 26 items on The Centre's Wish List that urgently need funding. These items range from wheelchairs, to walkers, to beds; all as important as each other. Fulfilling wishes is becoming even more difficult in these tough economic times, which is why the support The Centre receives from community groups like Swan Lodge is so very important.

Ms Kane says, "The Centre has funded 103 individual pieces of equipment to benefit people like Rex through the wonderful support of the community. It is always sad when we have people with cerebral palsy waiting for basic items that are so very important to their health and well being."

"I encourage anyone who is able to contribute to contact us for a copy of our latest Wish List. Donations towards our never ending Wish List are tax deductible and will make a big difference to people like Rex who is delighted with his new bed and the chance to retain his independence," says Ms Kane.

The Centre is hoping to raise \$80,000 by June 30 to clear the current backlog of outstanding Wishes and would love to hear from anyone who would like to help.

To find out more about The Centre visit www.tccp.com.au and click Donate to see their Wish List, or call Kathy on 9443 0228.

-ENDS-

For further information contact:

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FACTS ABOUT CEREBRAL PALSY

- *CP is a permanent physical condition that affects movement.*
- *In Australia a child is born with CP every 18 hours.*
- *Australians under 18 are three times more likely to be diagnosed with cerebral palsy than cancer.*
- *There is no pre-birth test, no known cure and severity is on the increase.*
- *For most the cause of CP is unknown.*
- *CP is not a disease, it is not contagious.*
- *CP can be as mild as just a weakness in one hand ranging to almost complete lack of movement.*
- *Since 1951 The Cerebral Palsy Association has forged an enviable reputation as one of the leading disability service providers in WA. In line with the outstanding work we do in the area of CP management and support to those with disability, on 13 March 2007 we adopted a new name The Centre for Cerebral Palsy and colourful new logo.*

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