



MEDIA RELEASE

WA Community and former Miss Australia Entrants Come Together to Celebrate WA Week

The Centre for Cerebral Palsy (The Centre) is hosting a Cocktail Hour to celebrate WA Week on Monday October 19, 2009 from 4 - 5pm.

Special guests include Randy Baker Miss Australia 1974 and over 30 Charity Princesses, Queens and Entrants from the Miss Australia Quest, the Centre's premier fundraising event which began in 1954 and concluded in 1990.

Miss WA Charity Queen 1979, Kathy Fitzgerald, who has CP raised \$26,000 for the Quest that year recalls, "The Quest was a lot of hard work but...I wanted to give back in time and energy to say thanks for the services I received from The Centre".

Other special guests at the Happy Hour include Lisa Weyell, Sandra Williams and Matt Young from the Commonwealth Bank Staff Community Chest Fund. Founded in 1917, it is Australia's longest running employee workplace giving programme that has supported WA children for over 72 years!

The Centre's first fundraising event in 1946, raised 3 pounds 6 shillings and 4 pence. Thanks to events such as the Miss Australia Quest, CBA's Staff Community Fund and support received from the WA community The Centre for Cerebral Palsy has grown into one of the largest disability service providers in WA.

"The Centre for Cerebral Palsy is proud to be an integral part of WA's history and is pleased to be part of WA Week Celebrations" Judy Hogben, The Centre's CEO.

"WA Week was re-launched by Celebrate WA in 2007 to provide people from all regions and sectors with an opportunity to celebrate Western Australia's unique history, heritage and development," says Celebrate WA Chairman, Peter Fitzpatrick.

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Photo Opportunity

Miss Australia contestants gather for the first time since the Quest ended in 1989. Some will be wearing their sash!

Date: Monday 19 October

Time: 4-5pm

Venue: The Sir David Brand Centre, 106 Bradford St Coolbinia WA 6050

For further information contact:

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The Centre for Cerebral Palsy

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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.*