



celebrating potential, creating possibilities

20 June 2008

MEDIA RELEASE

Sophie's new wheels!

Five year old Sophie from Dalglish recently received her very own manual wheelchair thanks to the generosity of Box Magazine who donated vital funds to The Centre for Cerebral Palsy's Equipment Sponsorship Programme.

Sophie has cerebral palsy, a condition affecting the muscles in her arms and legs; she is unable to walk and is highly dependent on her family for day to day activities.

Living with CP often requires services and support beyond the means of most West Australian families, and hence The Centre's Equipment Sponsorship Programme plays an important role in fulfilling unmet equipment needs for over 1000 children and adults with CP across the state.

"There is over \$59 million of unmet needs for specialised equipment for people living with CP in Australia," said Kathy Kane, The Centre for Cerebral Palsy's Fundraising Manager.

With the help of individuals, local businesses, corporate groups, social and sporting clubs, and community groups who generously donate much needed funds, The Centre's Equipment Sponsorship Programme offers a means of funding for items that are not eligible for Government funding, which can enhance the lives of children and adults living with CP.

"The Centre commends Box Magazine for their generous support; donating the proceeds from magazine subscriptions purchased by Corporate WA to The Centre, which have funded nine pieces of equipment for children like Sophie over the last 12 months." Kathy said.

Sophie's brand new wheelchair was funded by the generous staff from the national engineering company Wood & Grieves Engineers, who purchased one hundred Box Magazine subscriptions specifically to help Sophie.

To make a donation or to support other WA kids like Sophie contact Kathy Kane on (08) 9443 0228 or visit www.tccp.com.au.

Box Magazine, together with representatives from Wood & Grieves Engineers will officially present Sophie with her new wheelchair at a special morning tea to be held at The Centre for Cerebral Palsy's Sir David Brand Centre on Wednesday 25 June at 10am.

-ENDS-

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY: Sophie in her brand new wheel chair with representatives from Box Magazine and Wood & Grieves Engineers

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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.*