

YOUR IMPACT

SPRING NEWSLETTER



**THE KIDS'
CANCER
PROJECT**

SURVIVAL STARTS WITH SCIENCE.



Hugo's comeback took a team. Now he's challenging others to help fight cancer.

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Bobby rings the bell during his parents' wedding week after two years of treatment

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Meet our 2024 Col Reynolds Fellows - the next generation of ground-breaking scientists

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Find out how you can get involved in our upcoming fundraising campaigns



HUGO WITH HIS
PARENTS, FRANKIE
AND DENAI

HUGO'S COMEBACK TOOK A TEAM

NOW HE'S CHALLENGING OTHERS TO HELP FIGHT CANCER

When rugby-mad youngster Hugo was given a life-altering medical diagnosis, he learned the true value of a team.

It was during a Year 6 maths class that 11-year-old Hugo Kulcsar felt a lump on the back of his neck. Being used to a few scrapes and bumps from rugby, he thought nothing of it.

After a weekend of playing rugby games, including a two-hour training session for an upcoming state championship, he told his mum about the lump he had felt.

Concerned about glandular fever, his doctor sent him for a blood test. By Wednesday afternoon he was called to hospital to be told he was suffering acute lymphoblastic leukaemia (ALL).

"I remember my mum was devastated," Hugo recalls. "We were all in shock." It was only three years prior he had lost his grandfather to acute myeloid leukaemia.

"So, when I was told I had cancer...I thought that was it for me. All I knew was that you could die from it, because that's what happened to

my grandfather," says Hugo, now an 18-year-old apprentice carpenter and Randwick Rugby player.

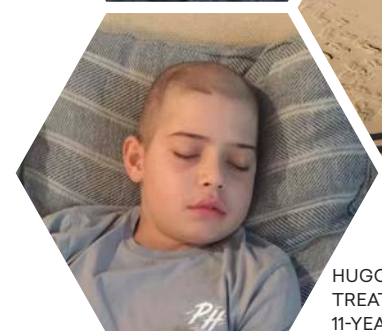
During nine months of intense therapy where "he pretty much lived at hospital", Hugo was treated for a 15cm blood clot in his brain and endured severe burns during several rounds of chemotherapy, losing a quarter of his body weight. He says it was the toughest year of his life. He even disconnected from his school mates.

But it was his desire to play footy again with his U11 Coogee Seahorses rugby team that became his biggest motivation to get better.

"The whole two years I was not playing I literally just watched my older brother Noah play - I couldn't watch my own team. I went to watch them once, and I started shaking. I didn't want to watch them until I could be back playing. It's what drove me to get better."

During that time Hugo's rugby community gathered around him. A few of the older boys from his school were coaching his 15-year-old brother's team - and they took him under their wing. It was a lifeline.

"They asked me to help them with coaching and to be the waterboy. That was really important, because it



HUGO UNDERGOING
TREATMENT AS AN
11-YEAR-OLD

kept me in the game. It gave me some element of a normal life."

They even shaved their heads in solidarity with him.

That structure, motivation and purpose, Hugo says, is a vital ingredient typically missing from the lives of most children who have come through cancer treatment.

His father, Frankie - a former personal trainer - recommended a fitness schedule that was instrumental to his comeback.

"When I was sick, what forced me to keep moving was little exercises - even if it was just walking to the beach.

Dad was the one who pushed me to not feel sorry for myself – to keep going.

“I’d have two months in hospital and a week at home – and mentally I wasn’t feeling good, and I’d be stuck at home. He sort of kicked me up the backside and would say ‘if it’s a beautiful day, I want you to go to the beach, I want you to sit there and get out of the house’, and even doing those little things made such a big difference.”

Hugo even refused to call his leukaemia ‘cancer’ preferring to call it an ‘injury’ he needed to recover from. “He looked at it like he was out of the game with a footy injury, and just needed time to heal and rehab,” says his proud dad, Frankie. “It was this kind of mental attitude which helped him through his treatment and to fight cancer.”

Once his gruelling treatments were finished, Hugo was determined to get back on the footy field and knew he had to work harder than anyone else. He would hop out of bed at 5am every day to do a long session, then he’d do it all again that afternoon.

“I loved the discipline of it,” he says. “I felt like it gave me an edge.”

“What happened in my past motivated me to train hard. It taught me how strong I was. And mentally, it made me stronger.”



ABOVE & LEFT: HUGO PLAYING RUGBY WITH RANDWICK AND WINNING THE STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS, WITH OWEN FINEGAN AS COACH

DR DAVID MIZRAHI
WITH HUGO



THE BETTER CHALLENGE: THE MAGIC OF MOVEMENT

Hugo is now playing 3rd Grade Colts for Randwick Rugby Football Club. His team recently won the NSW Junior Rugby State Championships, coached by The Kids’ Cancer Project CEO – and former Wallaby – Owen Finegan.

He is also an ambassador for the Better Challenge, where participants fundraise by taking on 90 kms throughout September. His own journey has proven to him the essential nature of exercise during cancer treatment and recovery. But the scars are still there.

He is currently facing a diagnosis of Avascular Necrosis (AVN) – where loss of blood flow to bone tissue has caused his knee bone to die. “These are all results of his cancer treatment,” says mum Denai. “But he’s determined it won’t stop him from playing.”

“I think it has physically [set me back] – a lot of people ask me do I feel like I’m the same, but I’m not, because I’ve been battered by the treatment,” says Hugo. “I don’t feel sorry for myself. I get up and get going again – and it can be hard for some kids mentally to get up and get going again.”

That’s why he says he’d like further research into how children with cancer can enjoy positive outcomes through the magic of movement.

Research like that of Dr David Mizrahi, an award-winning Accredited Exercise Physiologist and Col Reynolds Fellow, who’s investigating the role of physical activity in children impacted by cancer, thanks to your support.

“It’s a complex area that requires a lot more work,” says Dr Mizrahi. “We’ve got different types of cancers. We’ve got babies and we’ve got teenagers. We’ve got families who are only just coping, trying to get through the experience. We’ve got kids who love exercise and kids who hate it. Cancer treatment can be so debilitating, over the short and long term. 90% of childhood cancer survivors develop at least one chronic condition.

“After cancer treatment, kids are 10-to-15 times more likely to get heart disease, and 10 times more likely to suffer other conditions like diabetes, osteoporosis, accelerated ageing frailty and many other conditions. We know exercise can help reduce these risks.”

Dr Mizrahi believes if medical practitioners can intervene and offer children an active lifestyle earlier, they can potentially prevent chronic diseases.

“We can help them avoid going into wheelchairs and help them back into school sport. This helps them socially, psychologically and emotionally. It’s a huge win.”



With a regular gift of \$36 a month, you can fund pioneering exercise-tracking technology designed to help kids with cancer get active and healthy.

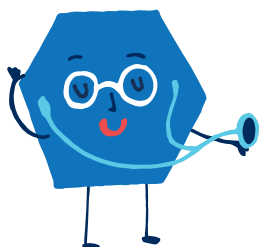


BEHIND THE SCENES: Dr Karin Plummer

2023 Col Reynolds Fellow, Dr Karin Plummer, holds a joint appointment at Griffith University and the Children's Hospital Queensland Department of Anaesthesia and Pain.

Your study aims to revolutionise pain management in children undergoing bone marrow transplants. Tell me what it's about?

Pain management for children undergoing bone marrow transplantation remains a considerable challenge despite medical advancements. My study aims to develop a decision aid so parents and healthcare providers can collaborate in creating a personalised pain management plan for the complex pain experienced by children during bone marrow transplantation. By breaking down barriers to effective pain management it will ultimately promote their better recovery and overall quality of life. It's an e-health decision aid initially and then possibly an app. It's co-designed with parents who have been through it.



Why did you decide this was such an important area to research?

In bone marrow transplant there's a very acute phase where pain is obvious, followed by other complications, and children are in hospital for over a month. These kids became so used to the pain that when they communicate it, they don't appear to be distressed. They might say "I've got 10 out of 10 pain," but it doesn't appear they do. Some will deny pain because they want to protect their parents and then there are kids that are in real pain saying, "no, I don't have pain" as they have a fear their cancer has come back.

Why did you choose this path?

I've been nursing for a long time and noticed if you manage pain well, everything feels better for the patient. This led me to pursue a Master's in pain management. I found if you don't treat pain in the acute phase, then you get this whole cascade of changes that happen at a biological level. You run the risk of long-term pain if it's not managed well in the first instance. It really struck me there was so much distress around bone marrow transplants in particular; from children,

from their families, from everyone caring for them. I kept hearing, "this is the worst pain ever" which is why I started asking; "Why is this? What's being done out there about this?" And I found limited information.

Working in this space with children can be harrowing and heart-breaking. What keeps you motivated?

I wanted to reduce that trauma related to the treatment and make sure when they do survive, that they've got the best opportunity of living a full and amazing life. Seeing children who had suffered so much now out there travelling and doing wonderful things, that keeps me motivated.

Are there particular children you've worked with that have affected you deeply?

Absolutely. When I really don't want to get out of bed to train, I do because I think of this child, who died during her transplant, and she loved to run, and she would've done anything to be able to get out of bed and go for a run. So absolutely, it's like "I'm getting my butt out of bed today!"

I also remember saying to one 10-year-old boy: "Do you have any advice for other children going through this?" and he was like; "Just love everyone, because you just don't know how long you've got. Just love."

What does receiving a Col Reynolds Fellowship mean to you?

It was life-changing. To be funded, to be able to advance my research for the next three years and not have to worry about everything else, to know I've got a chance to follow on my research dream and make a difference. I was at the point where if I didn't get some funding, I wouldn't be able to continue.

What would you say to people who donate to help fund this project?

I literally wouldn't be able to do it without them. You're funding life changing moments for researchers who are working hard to make life better for kids and their families during cancer treatment but also, so they have amazing lives after everything they've gone through.

BOBBY'S BRAVERY

When Bobby rang the bell last year at the Sydney Children's Hospital in Randwick - after two years of gruelling cancer treatment - he had his four siblings, his parents and an extended family of cousins, aunts and uncles visiting from Ireland to cheer him on.



BOBBY (FAR LEFT) WITH HIS SIBLINGS AT THEIR PARENTS' WEDDING

Taking place during the week of the wedding of his parents, Colin and Vanessa, Bobby's bell ringing was the triumphant moment his entire family could take a breath after years of harrowing treatments. "It was a huge celebration to celebrate that he was finally cancer-free," says mum Vanessa proudly.

Bobby, four, the youngest in a blended family of four children including Charlie, 12, Ava Rose, 12, Eddie, 10 and Will, 8, was a bundle of energy - playing with his siblings and indulging in his favourite toys like Monster Trucks and Spider-Man - when his world turned upside down shortly after his second birthday.

It began with subtle signs - unexplained bruises on his legs, a persistent fever and a sudden loss of appetite. He grazed his toe, and the bleeding just wouldn't stop, prompting Vanessa to seek medical advice during COVID restrictions.

A telehealth call with their GP quickly escalated to a trip to the hospital where Bobby underwent tests revealing the devastating news - he had T-Cell acute lymphoblastic leukaemia (T-ALL). Overnight, the family was plunged into a blurred nightmare of surgeries, chemotherapy and hospital stays. For Bobby, it meant immediate surgery, where they put in a central line to his chest which resulted in several blood transfusions.



TOP IMAGE:
BOBBY NOW;
LEFT: BOBBY
UNDERGOING
TREATMENT AS A
TWO-YEAR-OLD

The strain on the family was immense. Vanessa had to leave her job and Colin was forced to resign. "During COVID they had a rule, one parent at a time, so Colin and I would have 20 minutes each and pass each other. It was awful. His siblings didn't see Bobby for months at a time. It was extremely hard. He was that five percent kid that would get everything."

Among the complications were focal seizures, a life-threatening 12cm blood clot in his brain and injections into his thigh every 12 hours to thin his blood. Twice he stopped walking. He was in a wheelchair for nearly six months as his legs broke in two places and he had to learn how to crawl again.

Yet amidst the despair, moments of light shone through - Bobby's unwavering spirit and visits from his brothers and sisters where they would just "love and cuddle him".

Today, Bobby's laughter fills the house once more. He's catching up on missed milestones and has a new furry friend by his side, The Kids' Cancer Project's Ollie Puppy, that he calls Big Row Row.

"He's bossing all his older brothers and sisters around like nothing's happened," smiles Vanessa. "He starts school next year, but he's super delayed. We're just playing catch up now."

His future remains uncertain, marked by regular monthly check-ups and the lingering possibility of a relapse. Yet through it all, the family holds on to hope, buoyed by love and just so grateful for all the little things.

"I'm so grateful Bobby's still here, and we're still a family. And these little things that Bobby gets to do are just extra special now, because we know what could have happened, and his little life could have been taken away from us."



With a gift of \$108 you can fund a scientist for two hours to develop revolutionary new treatments for cancers like Bobby's.

Meet our 2024 Col Reynolds Fellows

The Kids' Cancer Project is proud to announce the second round of Col Reynolds Fellows for 2024, committing \$2.8 million to these researchers.

From a field of 54 outstanding applicants across Australia, nine of the next generation's brightest childhood cancer researchers have been selected, representing a diverse range of early and mid-career researchers, young clinicians and PhD scholars.

The Fellowships, named to honour The Kids' Cancer Project Founder, Col Reynolds OAM, are designed to help future-proof the childhood cancer research sector by giving brilliant scientists and budding talent the resources needed to continue their lifesaving and life-changing work. To support the Col Reynolds Fellowships and PhD Scholarships, The Kids' Cancer Project has committed a total of \$7.6 million to fund 24 Fellows.

DR RYAN CROSS Mid-Career

Cancer Type: Brain Cancer
Research Pillar: Discover
Institute: The Walter and Eliza Hall
Institute of Medical Research, VIC



Lab research has empowered chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T-cell therapy immune cells to fight cancer cells. Using new synthetic biological circuits, my research is further refining CAR T-cells so they can make the vital distinction in recognising healthy tissue from tumour cells.

DR EMMY FLEUREN Mid-Career

Cancer Type: Sarcoma
Research Pillar: Discover
Institute: Children's Cancer
Institute, NSW



Cancer is different for everyone. What works well for one, may not work for another. I hope to find a tumour-specific, non-toxic drug for every child with cancer including sarcoma patients who often miss out on new drugs. My aim is to make kinder, more effective drugs a treatment reality.

DR EVANGELINE JACKSON Early-Career

Cancer Type: Brain Cancer
Research Pillar: Discover
Institute: The University of
Newcastle, NSW



Diffuse midline glioma (DMG) is the most lethal childhood cancer. Using current clinical trial treatments, I am investigating a series of anti-DMG strategies using an innovative coupling of cell and molecular biology techniques, patient-derived disease models, and gene and protein analyses to give kids a better chance of survival.

DR MICHELLE TENNANT Early-Career

Cancer Type: Various
Research Pillar: Support
Institute: Murdoch Children's
Research Institute, VIC



I've witnessed how overwhelming radiation therapy is for kids with cancer who must wear masks and stay still during treatment. However, virtual reality can lessen children's anxiety, giving them a new way to safely experience this therapy, so they know what to expect even before their first treatment.

\$7.6M

Committed to
Col Reynolds
Fellowships

Scientists
supported

x24



5x

Early-Career
Fellows

6x

Mid-Career
Fellows

6x

Clinical
Fellows

7x

PhD Top-Up
Scholarships

To find out more, please scan the
QR code or visit:

[thekidscancerproject.org.au/
research/fellowship-recipients](http://thekidscancerproject.org.au/research/fellowship-recipients)



RACHEL EDWARDS

Clinical Nursing



Cancer Type: Various

Research Pillar: Translate

Institute: Queensland Children's
Hospital, QLD

While patient-reported outcome measures (PROM) help assess and monitor symptoms, they are not often used to inform clinical care. Using PROM, my research aims to implement evidence-based education resources to support nurses in providing optimal care for kids with cancer experiencing distressing symptoms.

DR NOEMI FUENTES-BOLANOS

Clinical Medical



Cancer Type: Brain Cancer

Research Pillar: Translate

Institute: Children's Cancer
Institute, NSW

My research project examines the differences between children with and without genetic predisposition to a specific cancer. I'm investigating the genetic causes of the formation of cancer to better diagnose and manage kids' cancer by ascertaining whether or not a gene mutation can increase the risk of developing cancers.

DR LORNA MCLEMAN

PhD Top-Up Scholarship



Cancer Type: Leukaemia

Research Pillar: Translate

Institute: St Vincent's Institute of
Medical Research, VIC

Fanconi anaemia (FA) causes inherited bone marrow failure, leading to problems treating leukaemia. Bone marrow transplant is lifesaving but kids with FA have an increased risk of secondary cancers post-transplant. I'm researching new gene editing technology using patients' stem cells to correct multiple Fanconi mutations before they do damage.

CHELSEA VALETIN

PhD Top-Up Scholarship



Cancer Type: Various

Research Pillar: Support

Institute: Kids' Cancer Centre,
NSW

Occupational therapy helps kids with cancer. My PhD research project aims to achieve improved quality-of-life outcomes for those affected, by better understanding their developmental needs and experiences throughout treatment, and developing new guidelines to improve care globally so kids can live their best lives post-treatment.

BRYCE THOMAS

PhD Top-Up Scholarship



Cancer Type: Brain Cancer

Research Pillar: Discover

Institute: The University of
Newcastle, NSW

Diffuse midline glioma (DMG) is a fatal childhood brain cancer. DMG tumour cells effectively cloak themselves to avoid detection so they can fester and grow. My PhD research project investigates how these tumours hide from the immune systems making it easier for cancer-killing immune cells (CAR T-cells) to navigate and destroy cancerous cells.



FUNDRAISING SNAPSHOT

Across the country, wonderful people like you are hosting and participating in a huge range of fun and creative fundraising activities to support kids' cancer research.

On 15 February, International Childhood Cancer Day, our K'day ambassador Molly Croft, a two-time sarcoma survivor, made sure the nation swapped G'day for **K'day** as we celebrated our annual double impact day. From Karl Stefanovic on the Today Show to her family and friends in Dubbo, thousands were inspired to dig deep for childhood cancer research. Special shout out to our corporate partners who matched funds, and our donors who helped us have double the impact and raise over \$396,000. We can't wait to say K'day with you all again in 2025!



The team at RONDO have raised a staggering \$95,344 in 2024 so far, hosting several events around the country including a golf day, a race day and, most recently, a dunk tank event which took place at their 60th anniversary lunch and strategy launch day. Thank you so much to all our corporate partners whose support we couldn't do without.



In March, 120 of our corporate partners got their clubs out for a cause, heading to St Michael's Golf Club at Little Bay for our **Autumn Golf Day**. Over \$72,000 was raised, with prize winners ProMinent Fluid Controls taking home the trophy. While much fun was had, it was the address by keen golfer and childhood cancer survivor Nathan Rix, who spoke of losing his leg through his cancer treatment, which left the crowd inspired to dig deep. We hope to see you all at our next Golf day in the ACT or NSW in September.



Ahoy! Each year all hands are on deck with our community of pirate crews rallying across the country to raise vital funds and awareness for Brain Cancer Awareness Month in May. From Tassie to the outback, daycares, kindies, community groups, schools and workplaces got out their swords and eye patches and dressed up in their pirate best to jump aboard. Special mention to Retail Management Group, who raised \$7,419 across their stores and the crew at St. Columba's Primary School, Wilston, who raised \$3,643 for their **Pirate Day**. A big thank you to the super cute pirate crew at Bennett Street Childcare Centre (pictured) in Bondi, for their amazing dress up inspiration to promote our cause.

Our 22nd annual Write a Book in a Day competition kicked off in May with writers from across the country signed up to start their masterpieces. Top of the class to St Andrews College Marayong, Box Hill High School, The Gap State High School and St Mary MacKillop College Canberra who have each entered 25 teams or more!

Our CEO, Owen Finegan and Researcher, Dr Lauren Ha, attended Barker College to talk to the students about how their books and fundraising help children in hospital impacted by childhood cancer. This is Barker's Year 6 cohort's fourth year writing, illustrating and publishing a book in less than 12 hours – raising more than \$140,000 over the years.



Thank you to the 25 volunteer readers from across Australia who are helping to grade and judge the books! It's not too late to sign up – head to writeabookinaday.com where you can also read the books in our online library.





We had a wonderful day hosting our inaugural **The Long Lunch** at The Woollahra Hotel in Sydney in May to acknowledge our long-term donors and partners and welcome new sponsors. We were honoured to hear the heartfelt story of Brooke Fretwell, who passed too soon at the age of 15, after fighting brain cancer three times in her short life. Her incredible parents Karl and Olivia Fretwell attended and spoke beautifully.



The annual Superkids Superheroes Auskick round was held once again this year in May in Perth, WA. All the players dressed up as their favourite superhero, in honour of Declan Kane, an honorary Auskick player who sadly passed away from Neuroblastoma in 2018. Declan's favourite superhero was Batman! Since 2016, Declan's family, Simon, Kim, Brodie and the group have raised over \$400,000 for The Kids' Cancer Project. How amazing!!



Captain Australia continues his monumental lap of Australia, walking an impressive 15,000kms over 730 days! To date, Cap has raised close to \$80,000 as he continues in his quest to raise money for childhood cancer after his own journey with cancer. "I want to show that ordinary people can do extraordinary things," says Cap. "We can superhero up, for science, for each other, for any good cause." Look out for a Cap sighting near you as he continues his journey!



Over 50 bakers got busy in the kitchen this year raising dough as part of our **Cupcakes 4 a Cure** campaign, raising over \$7,000 so far. Special brownie points for Linda Said, who baked hundreds of impressive cupcakes, making over \$1,000 in the process. BeSprinkled by Jen sold yummy cupcakes (pictured) at the Bathurst Winter Festival and has raised over \$4,500! Well done!



Netballers from NSW Associations went crazy for the cause this season raising over \$24,000 for The Kids' Cancer Project while donning their craziest socks and hairstyles on the courts. A special shout out to Penrith District Netball Association and Randwick Netball Association (pictured). Thank you to all those in the netball community for your continued support - we love to see you colour the courts!

DIARY DATES

Ways you can support kids' cancer research

2024



1 SEPTEMBER
THE BETTER CHALLENGE BEGINS

6 & 20 SEPTEMBER
SPRING GOLF DAYS
ACT & NSW

18 OCTOBER
THE LONG LUNCH
QLD



1 DECEMBER
BONDI TO
BRONTE SWIM

5 DECEMBER
CHRISTMAS FOR
A CURE LUNCH

2025



15 FEBRUARY
K'DAY

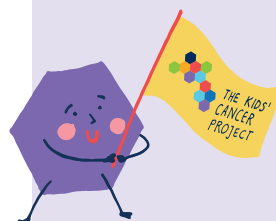
16 MAY
PIRATE DAY



1 JUNE
WRITE A BOOK IN
A DAY BEGINS

To sign up to our events or to download resources to fundraise, please scan the QR code or visit:

thekidscancerproject.org.au/fundraising-events



A HEARTFELT thank you!



Bromic CEO, Scott Smith and the team hand over a cheque to The Kids' Cancer Project founder, Col Reynolds, and CEO, Owen Finegan.

Since 2018, Bromic's partnership with us has funded the equivalent of:

2,540 HOURS
of expert research

TESTS FOR 137 KIDS
to see if their new treatments are working

20 KIDS PARTICIPATING
in an Australian clinical trial to access a new treatment

ACCESS FOR 274 KIDS
to follow-up care appointments after treatment

Since partnering with manufacturing outfit Bromic in 2018, The Kids' Cancer Project has witnessed their extraordinary generosity and unwavering commitment. Their team have raised over \$137,000 in support of vital children's cancer research—an incredible achievement in six years.

When Bromic first partnered with The Kids' Cancer Project, their decision was deeply rooted in a belief that businesses have a responsibility beyond profit margins. That belief is felt company-wide.

"We operate as a close-knit business and we firmly believe a business exists for more than just for profit and must give back to its people and the community in which it operates," shares Bromic CEO Scott Smith. "We wanted a very worthwhile cause that resonated with our beliefs and values of family, passion and problem solving."

Inspired by Col Reynolds' mission and the children-centric approach of The Kids' Cancer Project, Bromic's passion and creativity has been felt throughout a number of events, from our Christmas for a Cure luncheon to a Super Mario-style go-karting event.

"We are a business that thrives on problem solving, so being able to have fun, solve problems and work as a team truly makes me happy. Events like our Super Mario go-kart derby are true examples of this," remarks Scott. "There is true passion from the team in what we do for The Kids' Cancer Project and this makes me personally so incredibly proud of who we are."

Looking ahead to 2025, Scott says Bromic is setting their sights higher with a fundraising target of \$50,000. "As always we have some new ideas to inspire our team and achieve our goal - but they are a secret!"

The dream, he says, is that the funds "provide the little extra impetus required to support a scientist's work, or a clinical trial, that leads to one extra child being saved - that would be more than enough."

To other organisations considering supporting The Kids' Cancer Project, Scott offers a resounding message; "Do it. Don't wait! Contributing to the well-being of children and their families is immensely fulfilling. It's a cause that grounds you and gives perspective on what truly matters."

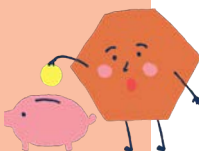
The Kids' Cancer Project extends heartfelt thanks to Bromic and all its supporters. The dedication and generosity of each of our partners has fuelled progress and instilled hope in the hearts of families facing the unimaginable. Together, we are working towards the dream of a brighter, cancer-free future for children everywhere.

Partner with us

Whether your goal is to promote staff engagement, boost team morale or to implement a corporate social responsibility strategy, The Kids' Cancer Project will collaborate with you to create a tailor-made solution that meets your organisation's objectives.



To find out more, please scan the QR code or visit thekidscancerproject.org.au/get-involved/partner-with-us



A family's journey Turning heartache into hope

Stories of personal triumph over adversity often inspire profound philanthropic acts.

LINDA HAMMOND
WITH SON, ZAK



For Linda Hammond, CEO of a successful company and childhood cancer research advocate, supporting The Kids' Cancer Project began with her son's cancer diagnosis.

"It was a personal story for us," says Linda, reflecting on the day forever etched in her heart when her son Zak, 16, was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukaemia and needed four years of chemotherapy.

Now Zak is a healthy 31-year-old, Linda recalls seeing many families struggling through the cancer treatment journey during that challenging time. It was this pivotal moment that sparked a deep commitment to support The Kids' Cancer Project.

"Survival Starts with Science is the tagline of The Kids' Cancer Project, and there has never been a more true statement given you fund research across all cancers and build programs for long-term quality of life after treatment," she says.

Linda's journey into philanthropy with husband, Allen, and Zak, was shaped by both personal experience and business success. "We always gave to charities but in smaller ways," she explains. "When Zak's treatment started, we were offered

charitable support. But we were doing OK and could afford the time off to be by his bedside. Many families weren't that lucky, so we didn't accept any offers."

Zak's experience made them realise they could make a bigger impact. "Without philanthropy, many causes could not fund the research needed to save lives, and, as successful businesspeople, we owe it to give back to charities like yours. We decided it was our chance to give back in a larger way by setting up The Hammond Family Foundation.

"The research you fund into rare forms of cancer appealed to our family and you also fund over 50 scientists and look for better ways of delivering treatments that will lead to minimal long-term effects for kids."

From generous supporters, like The Hammond Family Foundation, to all of our donors who dare to dream of a world without childhood cancer, it is supporters like you that are pushing kids' cancer research further than ever before. As their personal story illustrates, sometimes the darkest moments can ignite the brightest acts of compassion and commitment.



A \$237 gift can fund the pharmaceutical preparation of a new clinical trial drug to save more kids' lives.



Help more kids survive cancer by including a gift in your Will

You can create a powerful legacy by supporting The Kids' Cancer Project, helping create more effective and less toxic cancer treatments for kids like Millie (pictured).

We've partnered with Gathered Here to offer you professional Will writing completely free of charge.

To find out more and begin writing your Will for free, scan the QR code or visit thekidscancerproject.org.au/giftinwill





COVER IMAGE: HUGO KULOSAR
PHOTO COURTESY OF FIONA WOLF, WOLFWERK PHOTOGRAPHY

YOU CAN GIVE COMFORT to kids with cancer when they need it most



Luna Unicorn
\$59.95



Deedee Dinosaur
\$59.95



Ollie Puppy
\$59.95

DID YOU KNOW...

Whether you donate a bear to a child in hospital or buy yourself a cuddly new friend, the proceeds go directly to supporting vital kids' cancer research – your cuddles really are helping to save lives!



Fantasy Bear Bundle
\$119.90



Hospital Favourites Bear Bundle
\$119.90



View our full range of bears by
scanning the QR code or by visiting
thekidscancerproject.org.au/bears



**THE KIDS'
CANCER
PROJECT**

SURVIVAL STARTS WITH SCIENCE.