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09 JUL, 2019

Working towards a cancer-free Christmas

Kingborough Chronicle, Kingston

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## Working towards a cancer-free Christmas

Channel Court Shopping Centre and the Lions Club of Kingborough are working together once again to help bring families the wish that remains on so many Christmas lists; a life without kids' cancers.

Each year, the Lions set up shop at Channel Court to offer gift-wrapping in the lead-up to Christmas.

In addition to this, they also fundraise through a series of activities during the school holidays, raising \$12,400 in conjunction with Channel Court in the last financial year.

Channel Court Marketing Coordinator, Jaimee Bishop, said "We think the Lions do incredible, important work in our community and we look forward to continuing our relationship and raising funds to help fight children's cancer." With over 2000 children and young adults diagnosed with

cancer annually in Australia, the cause is an important one. Sadly, one in five of these children or young adults will

have a relapse and most of those will unfortunately not

win their battle.

In conjunction with the Kids Cancer Centre at the Sydney Children's Hospital, Garvan Institute and Hudson Institute of Medical Research, the Lions are fundraising for the innovative new PRISM trial.

The PRISM clinical trial is working to determine whether unique and personalised treatments will assist in higher recovery rates and eventually, identify the causes of each type of cancer.

Patients will receive a highly effective treatment plan, tailored specifically to their disease.

So far, 200 children have taken part in the PRISM trial; 21 of these patients have gone on to receive the recommended therapy and had a positive response.

The Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation (ALCCRF) National Chair, John Thorpe, said "The responding children with terminal illnesses include an 11-year-old boy with an aggressive brain tumor and a 3-

year-old girl with a tumor in her chest the size of a football. "Following targeted therapy, she saw almost complete shrinkage of the tumor.

"The Kingborough Lions are so proud to have been a part of the vital research that has given these patients back to their families and friends, with the chance to live out their dreams.

"We believe it's not a case of if we find the cure, but when. "Until then, we continue to give hope to children, families and friends and are thankful for partnerships we have

with businesses like Channel Court," said Mr Thorpe.

Donations to the Kingborough Lions will continue to assist to facilitate trials, train cancer specialists, geneticists and scientists, as well as the creation of a database that will be used by researchers and doctors worldwide.

100% of all proceeds go directly to cancer research. If you are interested in joining the Kingborough Lions and helping this wonderful cause, contact can be made by email to kingborough@lionstasmania.org or by phoning 0428 127 968.



Each year the Lions Club of Kingborough set up shop at Channel Court to offer gift-wrapping in the lead-up to Christmas to raise funds for kids cancer. (PS)

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