

K I M B E R L E Y
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For immediate release
August 12, 2007

Blush Diamond Ball

Kimberley Fine Diamonds helped to raise more than \$350,000 for children's cancer research this week.

As a sponsor of the Children's Cancer Institute Australia Blush Diamond Ball in Sydney at the weekend, the leading Western Australian diamond house continued its solid support of Australian children's charities.

The Blush Diamond Ball was held on Saturday, August 11 at the Hilton Hotel Sydney the grand ballroom of which had been elegantly adorned in a blush pink to welcome a gathering of more than 400 corporate VIPs.

The evening was hosted by television personality Jamie Durie and the glamorous Miss World Australia 2006 Sabrina Houssami. It was an apt role for Sabrina Houssami who has raised more than \$3 million for children's charities. Jamie Durie is also a well know philanthropist, having supported more than 2300 different organisations to date.

The Blush Diamond Ball featured a moving presentation by childhood cancer survivor Anna Rauscher as well as the inspiring video diary of Mitchell Upcroft, who lost his battle with cancer aged just four years old in 2001.

The generous gathering embarked on spirited bidding of numerous live auction items including an 18ct gold pink diamond pendant handcrafted into the shape of the Southern Cross donated by Kimberley Fine Diamonds.

Fund raised from the event will support the institute's internationally acclaimed Pharmacoproteomics Group who are researching why some cancer cells in children are drug resistant, also to identify new targets for anti cancer drugs and improve existing therapies.

According to the CCIA, Australia's only independent medical research institute devoted to childhood cancer, every year one third of children with cancer die from drug resistance.

CCIA Associate Professor Maria Kavallaris, said the Institute has already made a number of important discoveries in the area of drug resistance and expects that with further research it will be able to develop new targeted therapies to treat this condition.

"Funding for research into drug resistance is vital if we want to improve the outcomes for childhood cancer sufferers," Associate Professor Kavallaris said.

"Based on what we already know, we believe that further research into drug resistance will enable us to dramatically increase a child's chance of surviving cancer and significantly reduce their suffering."

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