

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Thursday, 18 April 2019

### **Caffeinated charity boost for world record attempt**

A bunch of caring kids from Hale School are capitalising on the expected 2,000 strong crowd who will witness Louis Brown's shearing World Record attempt to raise more for people with disabilities.

Shearer Louis Brown will attempt to break the world record for the number of ewes shorn by one person in 8 hours on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2019 at Hope Farm in Kojonup. The World Record is currently held by Cartwright Terry who sheared 466 ewes back in 2003.

Shearing superstar Louis said that he picked up shears for the first time at the age of 14 at his family's farm in Pingrup and since then, has built a reputation as one of Australia's best shearers winning multiple awards.

"I have put myself through an intensive training program, with a personal trainer flown in from England who specialises in training shearers, to prepare physically and mentally for my first world record attempt," Mr Brown said.

"I am really excited at the chance to be a World Record holder in an industry I have dedicated my life to and as a bonus, the people who will be cheering me on will also be helping Nulsen Group which supports people with complex disabilities," he said.

World Records need to be verified by three accredited judges and official World Record Judges are traveling from South Africa and New Zealand to witness Louis' mammoth shearing feat.

Nulsen Group CEO Gordon Trewern said that Louis won't be the only one who needs energy to last the 8-hour shearing distance and that is how brothers Harry and George Hope came up with a clever idea to raise money for people with disabilities.

"Harry and George are both Hale boys and are part of the Nulsen Youth Patron Program – it was their idea to capitalise on crowd at their family's farm who will be cheering Louis on and sell them coffee and beverages which will raise money for Nulsen Group," Mr Trewern said.

"The Nulsen Youth Patron Program fosters social wellbeing and harmony by supporting year 10 and 11 students to actively improve the quality of life for people with disabilities and become more aware of the issues surrounding disability.

"Harry and George along with their schoolmates have shown that they are business minded philanthropists by coordinating with 5 Senses Coffee and Bannister Downs Dairy to donate all items for the day along with their expertise to help them maximise their fundraising," he said.

5 Senses Coffee and Bannister Downs Dairy have shown overwhelming support of the event with 5 Senses Coffee supplying the coffee machine, grinder, coffee beans, cups and lids and Bannister Downs Dairy the milk.



Mr Trewern said the shearing world record fundraising event is an excellent example of how the Nulsen Youth Patron Program helps our future leaders and people with disability, but the successful program is under threat.

“After almost 15 years, the Nulsen Youth Patron Program could cease to exist next year because it is no longer eligible for funding under the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

“Despite the ongoing commitment of various corporate partners to deliver the program, the weight of the incredible financial burden Nulsen is experiencing due to doing business with the NDIS means it will not continue unless we secure recurring sponsorship of \$53,000 per year,” Mr Trewern said.

### **ABOUT NULSEN YOUTH PATRON PROGRAM**

The Nulsen Youth Patron Program instils an understanding of how individual and collective social responsibility shapes a civil society in which we can all live and work. The program extends way beyond the students, reaching parents, teachers and alumni in the school community; Nulsen staff and supporters; and the broader community.

Each year, selected students from the three schools participate in the Nulsen Youth Patron program. Positions in the program are hotly contested as the leadership skills and personal development gained during the year-long program see many of the participants go on to assume leadership positions not only within their schools but later within their chosen professions and the community.

### **MEDIA OPPORTUNITY**

Date: Saturday April 27

Time: 7am – 5pm

Location: James and Nina Hope’s farm ‘Rockcliffe Shearing Shed’  
585 Samson Rd, Kojonup

Parking: Onsite

Interview and photo opportunities:

- Danica Wieman, Manager Partnerships & Communication Nulsen Group
- Dave Reed, Director Community Engagement Hale School
- Hale School Nulsen Youth Patron students

### **ABOUT NULSEN**

Nulsen Group is a not-for-profit organisation that provides care and services to more than 200 Western Australians with complex disabilities. We have been part of the WA community for more than 65 years.

### **MEDIA CONTACT**

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