



MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday 2 December 2008

WITH ASTHMA FROM THE ONSET

Vic Court suffered from severe asthma as a child. Asthma care and research has developed dramatically since his childhood days and he has played an integral role in this growth. An honorary life member and current Treasurer of the Board of the Asthma Foundation of WA, Vic Court has been volunteering for over 40 years in roles that include being President of the Board (5 years), Vice President of the Board (2 years) and Honourable Treasurer (11 years). This Friday 5th December, the staff of the Asthma Foundation of WA will thank Vic and the dedicated team of volunteers that collectively donate over 8,800 hours every year.

Hundreds of very generous people work tirelessly behind the scenes and at the forefront to assist the Asthma Foundation of WA. This Friday's event in Kings Park will highlight the incredible efforts of many people who assist the Foundation as voluntary members of the Board, members of the Asthma Research Committee, members of the Medical and Scientific Committee, Administration assistants and asthma event volunteers. The commitment from these people displays both a great level of care for people living with asthma, and a great investment in the work of the Asthma Foundation of WA, in supporting these people.

The Asthma Foundation of WA CEO, Mr John Gummer says, "We have a wonderful team of committed men and women who volunteer for a variety of reasons. Our volunteers range in age and background. We would be at a loss without them. Quite remarkably we have some people, like Vic Court, who have been with us for as long as 40 years".

In June 2006 Vic Court was awarded a Member of the Order of Australia for service to the community through executive and management roles with the Asthma Foundation of Western Australia. His family involvement extends to the Late Sir Charles Court being a Patron for many years and his younger brother Richard Court officially opening the Asthma Foundation of WA's West Perth premises as Premier in July 1999.

The Foundation recognises the efforts and contributions of the wonderful team of volunteers throughout the entire year, however to coincide with International Volunteer Day on Friday 5th December, this is the one day in the year when all the staff will congregate to wait on and thank the volunteers.

"Friday's event is a small token of our appreciation for this vital group of people. Not only do they contribute greatly through the time they donate; their skills and passion for improving asthma support in Western Australia is truly remarkable", he said.

According to Volunteering Australia, an incredible 5.4 million people volunteer every year to make Australia a better place and during International Volunteer Day on Friday it is hoped that the community acknowledges the incredible contributions that volunteers make.

The Asthma Foundation of WA is a community based, not-for-profit organisation that provides asthma education and training and helps to reduce the number of asthma-related deaths in the community.

To arrange photos or interviews with the Asthma Foundation of WA please contact:

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