**JULY 2022 IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**MAKE-A-WISH AUSTRALIA INVITES YOU TO BAKE A WISH WITH THE HELP OF HEAD BAKERS JUSTINE SCHOFIELD AND POPPY**

When nine-year-old Poppy's wish to bake sausage rolls with celebrity chef Justine Schofield was granted on national television last year, it was a long-awaited dream come true.

Now, Make-A-Wish Australia® is aiming to raise enough dough to grant more life-changing wishes through its annual Bake A Wish campaign, with the help of newly appointed head bakers, Justine and Poppy.

With over 800 seriously ill kids awaiting their wish across Australia, Make-A-Wish is inviting everyone to get baking and host a get-together for family and friends to help make wishes come true for sick kids. It’s a piece of cake!

Justine Schofield, host of Network Ten’s Everyday Gourmet, said she was thrilled to be part of Poppy’s wish last year.

“When Make-A-Wish reached out to me to assist in granting Poppy’s wish I was so excited to be on this journey with her.

“After waiting almost two years due to Melbourne’s COVID-19 lockdowns we were finally able to make sausage rolls together on Everyday Gourmet. She is the queen of sausage rolls!

“In the lead up to Poppy’s wish we made cookies together over Zoom and it was so special to be part of Poppy’s wish,” Justine concluded.

Now, you too can bake the special sausage rolls Justine and Poppy made on Everyday Gourmet, and the Chocolate, Hazelnut and Caramel Cookies they baked over Zoom. When you register for Bake A Wish, you will be sent a delicious pack of recipes by Justine Schofield to get you started.

At the age of four, budding chef Poppy was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukaemia, after mum Courtney noticed a lump in Poppy’s neck. In 2021, after fully recovering from her chemotherapy, Poppy’s wish of meeting Justine came true thanks to the community of Make-A-Wish supporters across Australia, known as the Wish Force.

Courtney, Poppy’s mum says Poppy was ecstatic when she met Justine. "Even though it was Poppy with cancer, we have all been through it with her. Meeting Justine was like a reward for all of us. It was an incredible experience that we will never forget.

"She pretends she's on YouTube like Justine or any other TV presenter. She'll say 'now I am adding the eggs' and 'this is what we are going to do, we are going to pop it in the oven’.

"Poppy always says to me that when she's grown up I can come around, and she’ll make me a roast dinner," Courtney said.

Funds raised through Bake A Wish will help make more wishes come true for kids like Poppy and her family.

CEO of Make-A-Wish Australia, Sally Bateman, said the organisation is now in its 36th year in Australia and has granted more than 10,000 wishes.

“Our wish program receives no government funding, so we rely on the generosity of the public to keep granting wishes to critically ill children. Wishes have a positive and lasting impact on the lives of sick kids, as well as those of their families and communities.

“Our Wish Force is working hard to grant as many wishes as they can, and we currently have more children waiting for a wish than ever before. Funds raised through Bake A Wish will go towards creating life-changing wishes for really sick children,” Bateman concluded.

To join in the baking fun, simply register to host a fundraising bake sale, morning tea or afternoon tea up until August. Make-A-Wish will send you a beautiful ‘Host Kit’ with all the decorations you need to help make your event extra special. Then, set a date, invite your friends and family and have an incredible time at your event, all while raising money to help grant life-changing wishes to critically ill kids.

To sign up and find out more about hosting a Bake A Wish event, please visit: [www.bakeawish.com.au](http://www.bakeawish.com.au)

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**About Make-A-Wish® Australia**

Make-A-Wish is one of Australia's [most trusted charities](https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.makeawish.org.au%2Fnews%2Ftrusted-charity-2020&data=05%7C01%7C%7Cc2099db8aa8a4460c6ad08da3df8efd9%7C53d90198f7b249858eef59fb50014d8f%7C0%7C0%7C637890436640529192%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=e7OZOKFpzeTzznh%2BWevC5dKNh0SeNeNWqoMZY5kZjbo%3D&reserved=0)and is part of the world’s largest wish-granting organisation. It exists to bring the local community together to grant life-changing wishes for children and teens with critical illnesses. Since 1985 it has delivered more than 10,000 inspirational wishes to children across the country. From the humble to the seemingly impossible – the Wish Force has made unicorns fly, sent kids to the moon and even brought dinosaurs back from extinction. Make-A-Wish Australia led the world in adopting the Wish Journey, a carefully curated program which focuses on wish capture and design, building anticipation for each child ahead of their wish being realised. In 2022, Make-A-Wish Australia was proud to place in YouGov Australia’s [Top 10 Charity Rankings.](https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fau.yougov.com%2Fnews%2F2022%2F02%2F22%2Fyougov-australia-2022-charity-rankings%2F&data=05%7C01%7C%7Cc2099db8aa8a4460c6ad08da3df8efd9%7C53d90198f7b249858eef59fb50014d8f%7C0%7C0%7C637890436640529192%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ul%2FzknXo8LsnfygGYWnFTIXoBatU3UyP4wuCuGjXzQU%3D&reserved=0)