**JUNE 2022 IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**RUN FOR WISHES - FROM CAIRNS TO MELBOURNE IN 60 DAYS TO RAISE $60,000**

Today, Friday 10 June, 24-year-old Melbourne local, Sean Bell will be arriving in Melbourne on foot after running 3,700km from Cairns, to raise awareness and much needed funds for Make-A-Wish Australia®.

Sean’s goal was to raise $60,000 for Make-A-Wish Australia in 60 days and has so far raised over his goal of $60,000 which will go towards granting the wishes of critically ill kids.

Sean’s arrival into Melbourne will be the final leg of his run after running an average of 60-80km a day for the last 59 days.

When asked why he chose Make-A-Wish Australia, Sean said he is so inspired by the life-changing work that Make-A-Wish Australia do.

“In chasing my dream and doing what I love (running and helping others), I can play a small part in helping make the wishes of sick children come true.

“When Make-A-Wish Australia grant their life-changing wish, they show that child and their family that the impossible is possible. They help the kids believe that they can do anything they set their minds to. This is what my run is all about,” Sean said.

With more than 800 seriously ill children waiting for their wish to be granted due to the disruption and ongoing uncertainties of COVID-19, CEO of Make-A-Wish Australia Sally Bateman, said the need for community support is greater than ever before.

“With no government funding, Make-A-Wish relies on the incredible generosity and support from the community to make wishes possible,” said Ms Bateman.

“We are incredibly grateful to Sean for undertaking this inspiring run in support of Make-A-Wish. His fundraising efforts will go towards making more wishes come true, encouraging sick kids to dream bigger and to believe that anything is possible.”

Make-A-Wish Australia has been supporting Australian children in the community for over 36 years.

To support Sean on his Run for Wishes journey or to donate to Make-A-Wish Australia please visit <https://makeawish.grassrootz.com/run-for-wishes>.

For more information on Run for Wishes campaign, please visit: <https://www.seanbellrunforwishes.com/>

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**About Make-A-Wish**

Make-A-Wish Australia is part of the world’s largest wish-granting organisation and brings the local community together to grant the life-changing wishes of children with critical illnesses. Since 1985 it has delivered more than 10,000 unforgettable wishes to children around the country. From the incredibly humble to the seemingly impossible – the Wish Force has made unicorns fly, sent kids to the moon and even brought dinosaurs back from extinction. Over the past five years, Make-A-Wish Australia has led the world in the adoption of the Wish Journey, a carefully curated program which focuses on wish capture and design, building anticipation for each child ahead of their one true wish being realised. In December 2021, Make-A-Wish was incredibly proud to again place among Australia's most reputable charities.