

Frequently Asked Questions about HOPE4Kids – it's history and how it works

We get asked random questions about HOPE 4 Kids from time to time.

We'd like you to be well informed about our annual effort so that you can be confident about your own support of our project AND you can help others become connected simply because you can answer their important questions. Here then are some FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ's) and answers.

What happens to my donation after I make it?

At the end of each fund raiser, the total monies raised are divided up equally between the number of Kids we are supporting in any given annual fundraiser. In 2023, we supported the equivalent of FIVE (5) children. (i.e., FOUR (4) with rare health conditions and ONE (1) fundraising target was a camp that delivers hope for primary aged kids who have suffered abuse and or neglect – in real terms our support made it possible for 4 children to attend the 5 day camp).

There is no administration cost and any transaction/card fees are covered by us, so that ALL MONIES RAISED are used for the project.

As previously mentioned, we choose these kids (NOT just because we know of them or have a minor passing acquaintance), we chose them because we have some deeper level of relationship with them and their families, OR, the opportunity to develop a deeper relationship with them).

As such, we work out with the families themselves, what THEY would like to do with the raised funds. In EVERY case the families want the money to go directly to research towards a cure for the rare childhood disease that their child has. There are rare occasions when one family or another has extraordinary costs related to unique medications or experimental procedures. In these cases, we are happy for the families to apportion some of the funds to cover these things and when this happens, we ask for the exact specs so we can inform our donors what these medications and associated costs are.

What is Heartland Ministries Inc and Why does that name appear on the digital donations' platform occasionally?

[Heartland Ministries Incorporated](#) is an [Australian Government Registered Religious Charity](#) which our Senior Minister and fund raising – a – thon protagonist, Graeme Hush, has been the Managing Director of, since he founded it in 2001. Heartland Ministries is an affiliate of the [Crosslink Christian Network International](#), and this network endorses Heartland's TWO [ministers](#), Graeme Hush and Gordon Barr, so they can receive 'minister of religion' credentials in accord with Australian Law that pertains to religious practitioners and in compliance with the Attorney General's requirements with regard to the Commonwealth Marriage Act. As such, Heartland Ministries Inc. is the primary 'serving' partner of Corrimal Community Church and there is a signed 'Memorandum of Understanding' between the two entities that has enabled

'Heartland' to allow the provision of Graeme to serve CCC as its minister/mission strategy consultant since 2014.

Because Corrimal Community Church is an unincorporated association, its status as a religious charity is more constrained than the Incorporated Heartland Ministries and as such limits its ability to provide fund raising services and logistics. Heartland Ministries is a registered Charity under association regulations and so it partners with Corrimal Community Church to provide the framework for community service and fundraising, along with many other services that support its mission work.

The Square Point of Sale (POS) account that the donate link is connected to, is a Heartland Projects account specifically set up to account for and reconcile all fund-raising donations. The financial managers of both entities ensure the monies are fully accounted for and forwarded as per the previous question and answer, and because Heartland is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission, it can be publicly scrutinized.

Heartland Ministries is also the manager for all of [Graeme's music albums](#) and he has asked that 100% of all sales during the fund raisers, and 30% of all sales at ALL other times, ALSO goes towards the total monies raised.

[Buy Album Better Now](#)

How did the CCC HOPE4Kids Project start?

What is the HOPE4Kids project and how did it all start? Why are we fundraising to 'help find a cure' research for kids with rare childhood diseases? It was mid-2016. My wife, Karen and I were heading towards the halfway point in a partnership we had believed God wanted us to be involved with: the re-planting of a church in a close neighbourhood setting near Wollongong NSW, which was first established the best part 7 decades ago.

Corrimal Community Church had been trying to be a consistent and good neighbour. However, the very localized street it is located on had varied and historical views about this church which operated on its doorsteps. We have learned over the years that views and opinions change given enough time. This change can happen if the fruit of your life and effort speaks louder than words. So we began intentionally seeking after tangible and practical ways to serve and invest in any local community that the Church had/has relationship with.

What are some of the Crazy things that have been done for the annual fund raisers?

Graeme is the sort of person who has never sent anyone to do anything he wouldn't do himself. So, he grabbed the only young bloke he knew in 2016 who would be crazy enough to join him. We decided to hold a 24hour Table Tennis marathon. (G thought he might need this young man's health and energy). Thanks, Josh Rowles!



Graeme and Josh 24 Hour Table Tennis Marathon

We had NO desire to raise money for ourselves. We DID want to inspire our community with a belief that we are on the earth to serve others. At the time, through connections to a long-time close family friendship of Graeme's, we met the incredible and gorgeous Chloe Saxby. Chloe was 7 or 8 years old at this time. When she was just 3, she was diagnosed with a very rare, currently still incurable disease, called 'Vanishing White Matter Disease'. You can find out more about this [@savingchloesaxby](#).

When we met Chloe and her amazing, selfless Mum Nyree, Dad Grant and older sister Mads, we fell in love. Corrimal Community Church began an effort to consistently support the Saxby's, an effort that continues today! That first fund raising effort also included raising awareness about finding a solution to youth Homelessness. This is something Graeme is passionate about. The fact that couch surfing is often the first awful step to a homeless outcome is distressing.

Supporting Salvation Army's homelessness project

So, we supported the [Salvation Army's Couch Project](#). Graeme had the privilege of being a working patron for this cause during his work contract with the Salvos between 2013-2016.

In 2017 we had started serving the combined churches in the Northern Illawarra Christian Education Board. This board raises funds from scratch each year to employ 3 quality scripture teachers in three local high schools, and a chaplain in one of them (for now).

We decided to take our serving the community effort outside of the church walls. So, Graeme did a 6 Hour Backwards Walk with a handful of support walk spotters, past the front gates of our three local High Schools. We continued to support the Chloe Saxby Foundation to help find a cure for Vanishing White Matter Disease. After the Backwards Walk, things seemed to start shifting in a positive direction as far as the neighbourhood's view of our small church re-plant was concerned.

Long story short we started what we call **The HOPE Project**. Simply, it's based on our belief that Jesus was sent to earth by Father God to declare, represent and demonstrate the kingdom of God ON earth as it IS in heaven. And so the **Heaven On Planet Earth (H.O.P.E.)** Project was born.

Is the HOPE 4 Kids Project a part of something bigger?

During the 12 months following the '6 Hour Backwards Walk', we learned a lot and grew in our resolve to serve others. So, in 2018 we planned to have Graeme play Drums for 24 hours. We set this event up as a festival with neighbourhood activities running concurrent with the drum marathon. This crazy event launched The **HOPE Project** which received favourable and broad media attention. **HOPE** was the descriptor and framework for all we were and continue to attempt to this day, and so it was not a stretch at all to establish this annual fund raiser 4Kids with rare childhood diseases, under the HOPE banner.

Earlier in 2018 Graeme had conducted a dedication and naming ceremony for a beautiful little boy who belonged to a family in Canberra that he had conducted a number of life celebrations for whilst he lived in that city (prior to 2016), continuing during the years since. Beau McClinton suffers with [Ohtahara Syndrome](#). This is a rare childhood disease with an unclear future and is a form of epilepsy causing extreme numbers of full body tremors and fits. Well, we would love to help find a cure for this!

About the same time, we also became aware of the young son of a family that Graeme's wife Karen had been closely associated with for many years. Michael Bereznai has a childhood affliction that was only identified as a rare childhood disease in about 2005. Neuroendocrine Hyperplasia of Infancy ([NEHI](#)) affects the lungs and breathing capacity of its victims and with that comes obvious challenges.

CCC HOPE 4 Kids was launched as part of the 'Heaven On Planet Earth (HOPE) Project during the 2018 24 Hour Drum-a-thon as a simple platform for raising awareness and much needed research and support funding, for children dealing with rare childhood diseases and their wonderful families.

We could easily become overwhelmed by the great needs across our community. Nevertheless, we decided to work hard to support children **we had a growing level of relationship with** so that we can connect hearts to this effort as well as other things. It makes things more tangible and measurable and so for now we support Chloe's Foundation, Beau, Michael, Airlee (whom we added in 2021 and share her story and our relationship with her in the 2021 wrap up), and most recently 'Southern Cross Kids' Illawarra 5-day adventure camp for children we have a growing relationship with, who deal with abuse and neglect.

You mentioned earlier that sales of Graeme's new commercial music album 'Better Now', support HOPE4Kids?

From the very beginning of Graeme's [Better Now album project](#), we decided that a significant percentage of total sales of both the Limited Edition CD AND the digital download versions of the album would supplement fund raising efforts. (we have recently added the constant fire sale of previous CD recordings of Graeme's music whilst these are still in stock.)

100% of album sales is dedicated to the **HOPE4Kids Project** during each annual fundraiser and this was commenced after the 2020 event, the ONLINE launch of the 'Better Now' Album.

<https://www.youtube.com/live/ypDxnrUxjyU?feature=shared> Graeme's first anthology of songs from 1982-2007 is also available for digital download and 100% of all sales will be dedicated to the **HOPE4Kids Project** during fund raising event seasons. BOTH releases as described ascribe 30% of all sales to HOPE4Kids at ALL other times.

We've heard some sad news about Chloe Saxby. Can you update us?

Tragically, one of our four HOPE4Kids children, Chloe Saxby, passed away in November 2020, at just 12 years of age. We were so sad when our little mate went to her rest. This can be the reality for these families whose dear children have incurable (currently) childhood diseases. We will keep praying for and supporting these families and their efforts to find cures. The Saxby family are currently more than happy for us to continue our support of 'Saving Chloe Saxby'.

Corrimal Community Church NSW, [Heartland Ministries Incorporated](#) (registered Charity covering body) and the [Better Now Album](#), are proud ongoing supporters of the HOPE4Kids project. If you, too, would like to support our kids and their families you can [purchase a Better Now](#) album or donate by clicking on the link below. DON'T FORGET to identify your deposit as 'H4K' or 'HOPE4Kids' if it fits the description of your donation.

THANK YOU ON BEHALF OF THE McCLINTON, BEREZNAI, SAXBY, PODMORE & SOUTHERN CROSS KIDS FAMILIES!

#ccchope4kids