



## MEDIA RELEASE

To: CHIEFS OF STAFF; COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARDS

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### Tas kids called to Tassie Devil's Rescue

This summer holidays, Tasmanian kids are being invited to take part in a competition to redecorate Tasmanian devil donation sculptures that will be sent to airports across Australia.

The gorgeous life-size Tasmanian devil sculptures have been doing a great job in some domestic terminals and Tasmanian Parks & Wildlife Centre offices for many years, collecting donations.

But just like their wild friends, they need our help to help them recover from the ravages of a hard-wearing life.

Throughout January 2011, the Save the Tasmanian Devil Appeal will be calling for kids' ideas about how the sculptures could be decorated. It could be any way they like – creative, weird, wonderful.

Near the end of the school holidays, our judging panel of the Appeal's ambassadors and Tasmanian celebrities will select 10 of the top designs. Then we'll go to the winners, paints in hand, and then the painting begins!

According to Jess Tyler, Manager of the Save the Tasmanian Devil Appeal, the project is an analogy to ravaged wild devils being 'captured', 'nursed back to health' and re-released to the 'wild'.

"The 'devils' are the tired coin collection sculptures, their 'nursing' will be a complete refurbishment and the 'wild' will be various airports locations around the country," she says.

The entire journey will be followed on the Appeal's facebook site and will be promoted at the culmination of the project with release of the sculptures into domestic terminals.

The competition starts 1 January 2010 until 30 January 2011. All details are available at [www.tassiedevil.com.au](http://www.tassiedevil.com.au)

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The Save the Tasmanian Devil Appeal is administered by the University of Tasmania Foundation and is the formal fundraising arm of the Save the Tasmanian Devil Program. The University of Tasmania, in partnership with the Australian and Tasmanian State Government, launched the Save the Tasmanian Devil Program and Appeal to oversee the response to the disease and raise funds for vital research. The aim of the program is to maintain wild Tasmanian devil as an ecologically functional species.