

Media Release

Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

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Little girl with a big heart for Devils

The University of Tasmania Foundation's Save the Tasmanian Devil Appeal has received a significant donation from an 11-year-old girl.

Jasmine Giesen has travelled from Melbourne **today**, to hand over a cheque for \$1200 to the Appeal at the Trowunna Wildlife Park.

"She's really excited to see her hard work and efforts come to fruition," Kellie Giesen, Jasmine's mother, said.

"She originally set her goal at \$700 for the year and when she got that mark she readjusted her goal to \$1000 and once she got past that, she was very proud of herself."

Rebecca Cuthill, Manager of the Save the Tasmanian Devil Appeal, said Jasmine was an exceptional example of the many individuals raising funds and awareness to help save the iconic species.

"Jasmine's story of supporting the Tassie devil is inspirational and we are incredibly grateful for her support," Ms Cuthill said.

"She is helping us make a real and positive difference for this iconic animal and her passion is helping secure the devil's future."

Jasmine's interest in animals started with a visit to a wildlife park when she was just 4 years old and has since turned into a passion.

Setting up market stalls and selling her old clothes and toys, creating cards, hair clips and headbands, Jasmine has worked tirelessly for something she loves and believes in.

“Jasmine struggles at school due to having dyslexia and when she found that she could do something worthwhile for the thing that she loved – and that she was good at it, she just blossomed,” Jasmine’s mother said.

“Jasmine seems constantly to be doing little things towards her fundraising, from taking products into school to sell to her teachers, or sewing bandanas or coming up with new ideas. We have had a couple of big sessions of devil poo (chocolate-covered jellybeans) making, where she will be in the kitchen for hours.”

Jasmine said she hopes the money raised can help find a cure for the Devil Facial Tumour Disease and hopes that her fundraising will show others that “one little thing can make big changes”.

The Devil Appeal has an active Kids Club and works hard to engage many schools across Australia to participate in their fund-raising initiative Black and White Day, which is set to raise over \$30,000 this year.

If you’d like more information about the work of the Appeal please visit www.tassiedevil.com.au or like their Facebook page www.facebook.com/SaveTheTasmanianDevilAppeal

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