



MEDIA RELEASE

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Western Bulldogs Convert Sydney Kids to AFL

At least one North Bondi youngster is likely to leave the SCG on Saturday night an AFL convert thanks to the **Carn the Kids** program that the Western Bulldogs and their major sponsor, LeasePlan, are bringing to Sydney for their “home” clash with the Swans.

Thomas Peters will celebrate both his 11th birthday and his first ever AFL match with the honour of leading the Western Bulldogs players through the banner and out on to the ground on Saturday night.

Thomas is one of 80 children and carers from the CREATE Foundation who are the lucky recipients of a fun day out at the footy on Saturday night through **Carn the Kids**.

The CREATE Foundation provides connecting and empowering opportunities with and for the 21,000 children and young people in care who are unable to live with their birth parents due to abuse and/or neglect and are in State care. They are one of the partners in the **Carn the Kids** program.

LeasePlan and the Western Bulldogs initiated the **Carn the Kids** program with the objective of giving kids from not so lucky circumstances the chance to enjoy what so many of Australian children take for granted – a day at the footy. Free tickets, face painters, souvenirs and food make the kids trip to the footy a truly enjoyable one.

It started last year when a group of 200 from the Melbourne Children’s Hospital enjoyed a Bulldogs game, hosted by LeasePlan.

In 2004 the extended program sees Carn The Kids events at AFL matches in Adelaide, Sydney, Perth, Brisbane and Melbourne for kids from all sorts of worthy organisations.

“We developed this program to simply put some smiles on faces,” said Abe Tomas, Managing Director of LeasePlan Australia. “It is such a simple and rewarding exercise for all involved.”

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For further information (not for publication):

Paul Scully
Communications Manager
LeasePlan Australia
03 9269 2279 / 0411 225 717

CREATE Foundation – Freecall 1800 655 105 – Website www.create.org.au

