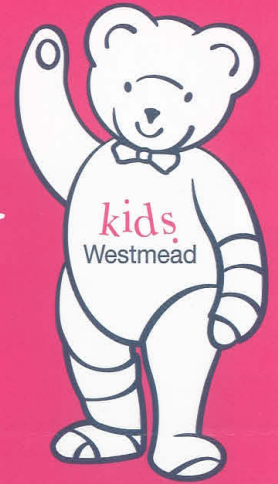


'the bandaged bear'



Newsletter August 2010 www.chw.edu.au

fundraising news

An adventure to remember

In an incredible five-week expedition, Darren Wise and best mate Shane Popher climbed not one, but two of the world's highest peaks – Mt Aconcagua in South America (22,841ft) and Mt Elbrus in Russia (18,442ft) – raising \$13,000 for the Hospital.

This trek, while a feat in itself, was a training climb for the pair as they both aimed to climb all seven summit mountains, including Everest. Before leaving for Argentina, the pair rallied support from family and friends and raised funds through their local RSL and Everyday Hero page.

The trip had a very shaky start with an earthquake registering 6.0 hitting Argentina, forcing their plane to divert to Chile. After a ten-hour bus ride to Mendoza, they had to climb quickly to make up for lost time, which resulted in altitude sickness. But on 7 April, both men returned home unharmed with many stories to tell.

On their visit to the Hospital to present their cheque, Darren and Shane met four-year-old Tianna who was



Darren and Shane with four-year-old Tianna Zilifian at The Children's Hospital at Westmead.

awaiting a liver transplant.

"It was a heart wrenching moment. We agreed we would climb the mountains again ten times if it would change Tianna's life tomorrow – she touched our hearts. Moments like these really put life into perspective. Shane and I are not the brave ones... it is these

children and their parents who face the daily battles and uncertainties through little choice of their own."

Darren and Shane plan to raise more funds through their future expeditions. You can visit www.darrenwise.com.au to see pictures from their expedition and find out more. 🐾