



PARLIAMENT OF NEW SOUTH WALES
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

Community Recognition Statement

18 November 2020

MATTY RICHARDS

Ms SONIA HORNER (Wallsend) :

Suicide is a hard topic to talk about and an even harder issue to fundraise for. So when New Lambton local Matty Richards decided he would raffle off one of his photography prints of a lone person walking on the beach towards Bar Beach, he hoped to raise \$1000.

Matty announced the sale of tickets on 25 October and had sold out within 12 hours. He then released more tickets and added a second prize, a 30 minute family or business photoshoot with 10 edited photos.

Within two weeks, Matty had raised \$10,000 for Lifeline. After experiencing his own mental health battles after losing his mother and other role models over the last few years, and losing one of his best friends to suicide.

Matty, a School Learning Support Officer at Cardiff High, wanted to do something that would inspire his students as well as his own children.

As Lifeline relies on fundraising and campaigns to support their services, this donation from Matty will assist Lifeline with supports such as their call service and new text service.

Thank you Matty, for your fundraising efforts and raising awareness of this important issue.