

Media Release
Friday 18 September 2009



Shaking Hands for Wayside and a World Record

This Monday (21 September 2009), two young men will attempt to break the record for the World's Longest Handshake to raise money for *The Wayside Chapel* and *Australia for UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees)* and earn themselves a place in the Guinness Book of Records.

The idea was hatched by 23 year old landscape gardener, Lindsay Morrison, who has included "break a world record" on his list of 100 things to do before he dies.

"I thought that breaking the longest handshake record would be a lot of fun. As the handshake is the ultimate symbol of peace in the modern age, we have chosen to do it on the UN's International Day of Peace," Lyndsay said.

Lindsay's fellow handshaker, PhD student Jack Tsonis, also aged 23, chose *The Wayside Chapel* and *UNHCR* as the preferred charities as they represent their concern for disadvantaged people both domestically and internationally.

"Both charities offer compassionate and non-judgemental support to many people whose lives have become difficult and desperate," said Jack.

Wayside CEO, Graham Long is moved by their act of compassion in nominating The Wayside Chapel as one of their charities.

"Jack and Lindsay are putting massive energy into trying to break this record while performing a crazy act of love in raising funds for Wayside.

"We are blessed to receive support from these generous young men who are working hard to make the world a better place," Graham said.

To break the world record the pair will need to shake hands continuously for more than 11 hours. The rules state that they cannot separate, even for toilet breaks, during this time, and a webstream from the foyer of the offices at ABC 702 (abc.net.au/streaming/abc-video.aspx) will ensure that every moment is captured on-line.

Lindsay and Jack hope to raise \$10,000 for *The Wayside Chapel* and *UNHCR*. Donations can be made on their webpage at www.worldslongesthandshake.com

For further media information contact Katrina Mathieson at The Wayside Chapel - 02 9358 5582 or 0406 091 713. media@thewaysidechapel.com

The Wayside Chapel has provided unconditional love, care and support for people on and around the streets of Kings Cross since 1964. Each year, thousands of people visit the Wayside for assistance in gaining equitable access to essential health, welfare and related services. The Wayside Chapel is well known for its Youth Service, Community Services Centre and Day to Day Living Programs.