

Young cancer survivor Chelsea Stutchbury releases debut single worldwide with 100% of proceeds to cancer research.

Upcoming artist Chelsea Stutchbury conquers all to release debut single 'Vincristine' with thanks to the support of Sony Foundation Australia and Make-A-Wish Australia.

Chelsea, 18, named the song after a chemotherapy chemical she required for her battle with life-threatening lymphoma. Vincristine came with a side effect that damaged the sound of her voice. 'Vincristine' reflects the fear of whether her strong singing voice would return.

The lymphoma diagnosis came in 2014 during her final year of high school in Bundaberg. Initially shattered with the news, Chelsea took it all in her stride and chose to turn around what life had thrown at her. Taking a positive 'just do it' attitude towards her chemotherapy regimen, she continued to pursue her dream to sing by auditioning for the Queensland Conservatorium of Music while chemotherapy was intravenously attached. She hopes her story will inspire others going through tough times.

"You don't know how truly strong you can be until faced with something of great challenge," said Chelsea. "Dreaming gives escape from reality and creates positivity."

Following her treatment, Chelsea gave an opening solo vocal performance at the Layne Beachley Aim for the Stars Foundation's 2015 gala fundraising dinner in Sydney. Encouraged by World Champion Surfer Layne, to continue to pursue her dream to sing, Chelsea is an 'Aim for the Stars' scholarship recipient and ambassador.

INXS's Kirk Pengilly encouraged Chelsea's musical endeavours with recording and stage confidence wisdom. Meeting Katy Perry, Delta Goodrem and Taylor Swift continued her inspiration to sing and create music.

Chelsea co-wrote the song with The Voice Australia musical director Scott Aplin, who also performed as pianist for 'Vincristine'. Co-producers and engineers were Kevin Browne and Adrian Breakspear. "Chelsea was a natural in the studio and it was a pleasure to work with her. I'm very proud to have been able to help her develop this very special song," said Adrian.

'Vincristine' has just been released to iTunes and Spotify globally with 100% of proceeds going to QIMR Berghofer Medical Institute.

Professor Geoff Hill, Senior Scientist at QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute, and former Queenslander of the Year, said the funds raised would help to continue vital and promising cancer research.

"Breakthrough technology which involves manipulating the immune system is increasingly effective in treating cancer, but is expensive and difficult to fund in clinical practice," Professor Hill said. "Additional funds like these will help to ensure that we do not fall behind the rest of the world in this area."

"Professor Hill (QIMR) locums for my specialist Dr James Morton. He mentioned they always need money for research. Mum and I thought it would be lovely to be able to give back to his life-saving work. If it were not for research I would not be here; it is close to my heart", Chelsea said.

Chelsea's doctor is Hematologist Oncologist, Dr James Morton AM, Shave for a Cure and the AEIOU Foundation founder. He said, "Chelsea showed courage and spirit throughout her diagnosis and it's treatment. She is an inspiration to all who strive to achieve against adversity."

Mr Nick Adams, Telstra's marketing director and NSW Cancer Council Board member, was instrumental in Chelsea's song recording.

Sony Foundation CEO Sophie Ryan said, "We are really thrilled that we've been able to support Chelsea on her journey to making her wish a reality. We hope Chelsea's beautiful song 'Vincristine' brings much hope, strength and happiness to listeners far and wide".

Make-A-Wish Australia have been very supportive, coordinating and further enabling Chelsea's recording idea. The foundation gives joy to many families facing tough times.

Thanks to the support of Dr James Morton, Mr Nick Adams, Make-A-Wish Australia and Sony Foundation Australia.

Chelsea Stutchbury's 'Vincristine' is available on iTunes now.

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