

Media Release

Thursday 20 September 2001

One tray of mangoes? – that will be \$16,000!

\$16,000 was paid this morning for the season's first tray of mangoes at the 11th annual Mango Auction held at Sydney Markets, Flemington.

A huge crowd of fruit and vegetable traders, media and intrigued onlookers joined Anthony "the man" Mundine and other special guests to see more than \$31,000 raised for The Children's Hospital at Westmead.

The successful bidder, Joe Logozzo of Joes' Fruit World, Wetherill Park, was happy to have beaten off all challengers for the major prize.

"16 mangoes for \$16,000. I know that's a pretty expensive tray of mangoes, but its worth every cent to be able to support The Children's Hospital.

"One tray will be delivered to the children at The Children's Hospital at Westmead while the other tray will sit nicely at my Wetherill Park store, before being cut up and given to our regular customers.

"While I bought the mangoes, many of the guys at the markets chipped in and dug deep for the other auctioned items, with proceeds going to the kids," he said.

Sydney Markets has long been a supporter of children's charities, with the annual Mango Auction one of the highlights. Other activities include the famous Cherry Auction in October, support of the Strathfield Mayoral Ball's Youth off the Streets Fundraiser and the ever- popular Fresh for Kids™ Program.

Funds raised through this year's auction will help the kidney transplantation research group, at the hospital, develop a tolerance protocol which allows children to undergo organ transplants without requiring lifelong medication.

Anthony "the man" Mundine was a very popular guest at the auction, announcing his upcoming fight to a crowd of onlookers directly after the mangoes went under the hammer.

The mango season usually runs from late September through to March, and they are grown in the hot and humid conditions of northern Australia. The "*Kensington Pride*" mangoes auctioned today came all the way from Pine Creek in the Northern Territory.

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Editor's Note

The Children's Hospital Westmead

The Children's Hospital at Westmead is one of the world's newest centers for paediatric care and also one of the oldest children's hospitals in NSW – established in 1880. It is one of only three paediatric liver transplant units in Australia. Last year it conducted seven kidney transplants, nine liver transplants and 20 bone marrow transplants. Donations to the unit ensure equipment is updated and 200 staffing positions are funded.

Sydney Produce Market

Sydney Produce Market is the largest fresh fruit and vegetable wholesale market in Australia and one of the largest in the world. These markets play a significant role in the horticultural industry and the economy of New South Wales. This market primarily caters to professional buyers from supermarkets, restaurants, greengrocers, exporters and food processors.

Where the mangoes came from

Tom and Regina Harbrow of Pine Creek, NT, are the suppliers of the mangoes in this year's auction. One of the most popular types of mango, the Kensington Pride, will be transported down to Sydney to be auctioned off as the season's first. Kensington Pride mangoes are extremely popular both in Australia and overseas. Each season Advance Produce Pty Ltd at Sydney Markets, Flemington, exports the Harbrow's mangoes as far away as Paris, Milan, Frankfurt and Vienna.