

## Media Release

## COMMONWEALTH BANK OPENS ITS BRANCHES FOR CANCER REASEARCH DONATIONS

**SYDNEY 4 JUNE 2002:** The Commonwealth Bank of Australia has announced its support for the Akta-Vite Campfires against Cancer Appeal by making its branches available across Australia for public donations.

Regarded as the longest charity horse ride in the world, a team of volunteers will ride some 4,500 kilometres and pass through more than 70 towns between Darwin (Northern Territory) and Corryong (Victoria).

Appropriate to 2002 The Year of the Outback, this Appeal seeks to involve rural communities in the fight against cancer by inviting local participants to sections of the ride.

Announcing the Commonwealth Bank's support, Jill Lester, the Bank's Head, Group Corporate Relations, said that cancer was a national issue and that one in every three Australians develop some form of this illness.

"This disease can touch anyone at any time," Ms Lester said. "It is vital therefore that research continues. And it is vital that corporate Australia plays a role in supporting this research."

The Bank's contribution is part of its wider support of medical research projects aimed at treating or finding a cure for cancer. The Bank supports the research of organisations including the Breast Cancer Institute, Prostate Cancer Foundation, Children's Cancer Institute, ANZAC Health and Medical Research Foundation.

"I can assure you that the Commonwealth Bank's branch network - the largest branch network of any financial services company in Australia - is standing by as a very willing resource for this Appeal," Ms Lester said:

Donation details are:

ACCOUNT NAME: Akta-Vite Campfires Against Cancer Appeal

ACCOUNT NUMBER: 06 2000 1107 2911

In addition, the Bank is making a donation to the Appeal in its start-up phase.