



women & infants  
research foundation

# Media Release

## Perth to usher in spring with gala spectacular for WA mothers and babies

**Wednesday, 21 August 2019**

Perth's health, sporting, business and philanthropic community is set to usher in spring in grand style as it unites for the highly anticipated WIRF 2019 Spring Gala.

To be held at Fraser's State Reception Centre on Saturday, 31 August 2019, the Spring Gala will showcase exquisite food and wine unique to the WA region and will shine a light on the pioneering work of the Women & Infants Research Foundation to improve the health of women, mothers and their babies.

WIRF Ambassadors, Mike and Amy Hussey, will be joined by medical, industry and community leaders and innovators, and iconic WA sporting personalities, including West Coast Eagles superstar, Jack Darling, for the Foundation's flagship event.

As a father of two very premature babies, Mike Hussey pointed to WIRF's pioneering work into preterm birth prevention as an area of particular interest and something that all Western Australians should be proud and excited about.

"It's amazing that a WA organisation is leading the world in preterm birth prevention and making such a meaningful impact to so many," Mike said.

"Amy and I know exactly how tough it is for families to go through a preterm birth experience. This event is a critical forum to raise awareness and support the amazing research being done by WIRF which is ultimately saving the lives of Western Australian each and every day."

The springtime spectacular will be brought to life by Perth's internationally renowned florist extraordinaire, Matthew Landers, in partnership with Mardie and Co.

Celebrated Perth news identity, Mark Readings, will join author and entrepreneur, Lesa Hinchcliffe, as MCs for the event which will also feature a stunning four course menu designed by Fraser's Executive Chef, Chris Taylor especially for the night.

WIRF Chief Scientific Director, Professor John Newnham said the event would provide an opportunity for Western Australians to reflect on, and celebrate, the Foundation's transformative work into preterm birth prevention, women's cancers and women's mental health.

"This event is all about showcasing the incredibly meaningful work that has already been done right here in WA, and to strengthen our resolve to improve areas of women's and newborns' health which matter most to our community. This cannot be achieved without the generous support of the WA community."

Spring Gala Major Sponsors, Linneys, have been joined by a number of incredibly generous Event Sponsors including: Hartleys, Vasse Felix, Howard Park, Tomasi Wines, Parkwood Plumbing Centre, Canal House Consulting, Alyka, The Montauk Lighting Co., and Clevertronics.

Limited tickets for the event still remain and can be purchased through the dedicated Spring Gala website: [www.wirf.com.au/springgala2019](http://www.wirf.com.au/springgala2019)

**ENDS**



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## **Background:**

### **The Women and Infants Research Foundation**

The Women & Infants Research Foundation is one of Australia's leading medical research institutes dedicated to improving the health of women and infants. We focus our research and programs across three principal areas: the prevention of preterm birth, gynaecological cancers, and women's mental health. This research and programs have directly contributed to a number of improved clinical practices and health outcomes.