



# Drawing Olympic support

## Artist backs our Games hopefuls

A BROKEN Hill artist is doing his bit to drum up support for our athletes ahead of the 2012 London Olympic Games.

One of Australia's most prominent young artists, David Hart, has called on Central Victoria and Sunraysia residents and two iconic Aussie Olympians to inspire his next creation and launch Telstra's HeroMessage campaign for the London Games.

Hart was this week joined by legendary Olympians Cathy Freeman and Geoff Huegill who provided their own inspirational HeroMessages and helped to put on canvas the first splash of paint in a masterpiece designed to spur on our Aussie athletes in London.

"I am honoured to launch Telstra's HeroMessage program, and create a piece of art that's been inspired by my fellow Australians," Hart said.

"To have Cathy Freeman and Geoff Huegill, two of my all-time heroes, assist me in producing this artwork is incredibly uplifting.

"I now encourage Central Victoria and Sunraysia residents to send our athletes a HeroMessage and look forward to drawing upon these messages of inspiration to bring this canvas to life."

A Telstra HeroMessage to any Australian athlete can be sent two ways: via SMS to 0428 MYHERO (694 376) or online at [telstra.com/heromessage](http://telstra.com/heromessage).

Freeman, a 400m Gold medallist at the 2000 Sydney Games and recipient of thou-

sands of Telstra HeroMessages during her illustrious career, said she was excited to join David Hart and the nation in supporting our London heroes.

"What a great thrill to join David and Geoff in starting this amazing artwork for our athletes. Along my Olympic journey I read thousands of Telstra HeroMessages from Australians back home, and some of those were so inspiring that I can remember them vividly today," she said.

Born and raised in the dust of the Australian outback in Broken Hill, Hart's artistic expression came from his hero and famous father Pro Hart.

Since its inception at the Seoul 1988 Olympic Games, Telstra has delivered over one million inspirational HeroMessages of support to Australian athletes participating at the Olympic Games.

Telstra Country Wide area general manager, Central Victoria and Sunraysia, Ray Pratt yesterday called on local residents to continue that amazing support throughout the London Games.

"A Telstra HeroMessage is a personal way to connect with our Olympic athletes and let them know we're all behind them, cheering them on to greatness," he said.

"I encourage everyone to show their support and join in the Olympic spirit."

**SUNRAYSA Daily will publish a special 16 page London Olympics feature this Wednesday.**



PRIMED: Artist David Hart and Olympians Cathy Freeman and Geoff Huegill gear up for the 2012 London Olympics