



MEDIA RELEASE

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WAYNE THROWS HIS FINAL BOOMERANG AT FREMANTLE MARKETS!

Passionate Fremantle local and Fremantle Market stallholder -- Wayne Summerfield -- passed away this week – at the age of 62 – and left a lasting legacy at the markets- having been the legendary Boomerang thrower at the portside markets for the past 15 years.

Wayne was well known for his incredible ability to throw boomerangs and sold these at his stall - Spinback Boomerangs - at the Fremantle Markets for the past 15 years. It is rumoured that he threw his Boomerangs more than 10 million times – during his time at Fremantle Markets.

Having worked all over Australia for most of his life, it was Fremantle where he finally settled down and began working at the Spinback Boomerangs stall at Fremantle Markets under Roger Parry for 14 years.

In 2018 Wayne purchased the business from Roger fulfilling his dream to one day own his own business.

Embracing his indigenous background, Wayne would regularly visit Roger at his home and assist him in handmaking the boomerangs that they would sell at the Fremantle Markets stalls.

Wayne was dedicated to his craft and every weekend at the markets you would find him standing tall on his footstep in front of his stall amazing market goers with his impressive ability to throw boomerangs – of course these being foam boomerangs when he was throwing them inside the market – as they whizzed past people’s heads.

Despite entering many competitions around the world for his talent, to Wayne boomerang throwing was not just a sport but a lifelong passion. From a very young age his grandfather taught him everything he knows about boomerangs.

“He would often reflect on his childhood, especially his close bond with his grandfather. He taught Wayne everything he knew about boomerangs” said fellow stallholder at the Fremantle Markets.

Not many people would know about the sport or the history of the boomerang and Wayne was always eager to let everyone know how special the boomerang is.

Wayne was generous of his time to those who were interested in the history and skill of boomerang throwing, sharing his stories and talent to anyone who would lend an ear. He would even take

groups of people over to the Fremantle Oval to demonstrate boomerang throwing with a real Australian boomerang.

“He was so passionate about boomerangs and boomerang throwing, and he was incredible at it too” says fellow stallholder, Pedro.

“Everyone who walked by his stall would be amazed with what he could do with the small foam boomerang in the market. Kids especially loved it. He would chat for ages to people about the sport and its unique indigenous history and always encouraged kids to get outside. He would usually give the kids a boomerang to take home and practice with,” continued Pedro.

All boomerangs are made from top quality marine plywood from Western Australia. The finish is in quality acrylic auto paint...

Pedro described him as a “completely honest, down to earth Aussie bloke who will be greatly missed at the markets”.

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