



KISS AND LEGACY AUSTRALIA **JOIN FOR UNIQUE TOUR PARTNERSHIP**

War Widows To Work as “KISS Roadies For A Day”.

For more than a decade, legendary rock band **KISS** has worked passionately with several programs in the US assisting returned servicemen and women.

KISS are keen to continue this very valuable work whilst in Australia and today, are pleased to announce they will be doing so on their national tour – courtesy of Legacy Australia.

In the US, KISS are active supporters of the **Wounded Warrior Project**, which is a non-profit organisation assisting men & women who have incurred service connected injuries, and the **Hiring Our Heroes** program, a US initiative to help veterans, transitioning service members, and military spouses find meaningful employment.

KISS has raised awareness for both programs by regularly visiting recovering wounded veterans, raising money through donating proceeds from concert ticket sales and by giving returned veterans the opportunity to work as “KISS Roadies” on their tours. To date KISS has raised upwards of two million dollars in funds and millions more in awareness from media for their support of military veterans causes.

Most recently KISS hired three servicemen to be roadies during their three week residency at the Hard Rock Hotel in Las Vegas, and prior, servicemen were hired to be “KISS Roadies” on the entire KISS/Def Leppard US summer tour, 2013 the KISS/Motley Crue tour and band’s UK tour.

In Australia, the band’s initiative will take on a slightly different feel! As Legacy’s main priority is the welfare of the widows and families of servicemen and women, it is widows around the country who will be given the unique opportunity to become a **“KISS Roadie For A Day”**.

When made aware of the incredible work Legacy does in Australia for war widows and their families, the band felt very passionately about recognising their strength and courage.

At each of the band’s seven Australian concerts starting in Perth on Saturday (October 3), Legacy Australia has selected a woman for this once-in-a-lifetime experience. The ladies will work with the KISS team in the VIP Packages area. They will prep and build the area at each venue, meet and host the VIP fans who attend a special afternoon acoustic session, and help manage the VIP band photo opportunities. And of course, after all that hard work, sit back and enjoy the show!

The women are of various ages and have lost husbands or partners in different conflicts, including Shelley Kovco who lost her husband Jake in Iraq in 2006. She was left with two very young children on her own after his death and Legacy has assisted her with school fees, uniforms, books as well as much-needed emotional support for the whole family.

Shelley and Melbourne Legacy CEO, Mikaela Stafrace, met KISS in Melbourne last night. Shelley will be the KISS Roadie working at the Rod Laver Arena show next Thursday October 8.

Legacy Australia Chairman, Mr David Gray said it is a fantastic opportunity to be supported by one of the most famous rock bands in the world, helping raise not only awareness but give some of our very special ladies a “money can’t buy experience”.

“It really is such a tremendous opportunity, and we can’t thank KISS enough for the support they are giving our organisation while touring in Australia and helping raise awareness around the world,” he said. “KISS have a very close affiliation with service men and women in the US and we are very happy they have decided to support our vital work here in Australia. These ladies have made such a huge sacrifice and it is fabulous we are offering them something very, very, special in return.”

The first KISS Roadie, to attend the Perth concert, will be ex-soldier Naomi Nary, who lost her Special Air Service Regiment husband David in a motor vehicle accident in Iraq. Naomi has two kids and has received significant support from Legacy.

Legacy is liaising with ladies from other states now, with the complete list being finalised over the weekend.

CONCERT DATES

Saturday October 3 PERTH Arena
Tuesday October 6 ADELAIDE Entertainment Centre
Thursday October 8 MELBOURNE Rod Laver Arena
Friday October 9 MELBOURNE Rod Laver Arena
Saturday October 10 SYDNEY AllPhones Arena
Monday October 12 NEWCASTLE Entertainment Centre
Tuesday October 13 BRISBANE Entertainment Centre

ABOUT KISS

KISS remains one of the most influential bands in the history of rock and roll. As one of America's top gold-record champions, KISS has released 44 albums and sold more than 100 million albums worldwide. Decades of record-breaking tours around the globe have included high-profile appearances at Super Bowl XXXIII, the Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, the Rockin' The Corps concert dedicated to our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan, and special guest appearance on the 2009 American Idol finale that boasted 30 million viewers and a 2010 Dr. Pepper Super Bowl commercial and advertising campaign in support of their Hottest Show On Earth tour. KISS is currently featured in major advertising and marketing campaigns for John Varvatos and Google Play. In 2014, KISS launched their inaugural Arena Football League Season with the LA KISS Football team bringing professional football back to Los Angeles. The unparalleled devotion and loyalty of the KISS Army to the "Hottest Band in the World" is a striking testament to the band's unbreakable bond with its fans.

ABOUT LEGACY AUSTRALIA

As one of Australia's most iconic charities, Legacy grew out of the ashes of the Great War and still supports around 90,000 families of Defence personnel who have given their lives or their health for their country. Australia has lost just over 100,000 service men and women in all conflicts with many, many more badly injured, both mentally and physically. In WWI alone around 60,000 service men and women were killed with another 60,000 losing their lives in the following 10 years as a result of their service. Legacy is dedicated to improving the lives of families by innovative programs including the protection of families' basic needs, advocating for their entitlements and benefits, assisting with bereavement, overcoming social isolation and helping people thrive through adversity of loss. Legacy is the only organisation of its type in the world and relies on an army of dedicated volunteers, many of whom are ex-servicemen and women, to carry out its vital work. Legacy cares for widows and dependants ranging in age between three weeks and 109, with all sharing the heartache of losing a loved one.

For MEDIA Information:

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KISS with their new mates, the very popular Legacy Bears in Melbourne last night. Picture: Kim Baker