



Testimony from the Wilson-Banks Family (18th April 2018)

It has been three years since the boys received their Lions Children of Courage Awards and we are pleased to say they are doing well.

Our eldest son Evan has been off cancer treatment for two and a half years and the latest MRI showed no signs of the brain tumor returning. He has worked tirelessly in rehabilitation to re-learn how to use the left side of his body from the brain operation that had resulted in an acquired brain injury. He can now hop, skip, run, jump, swim, catch, write, cut and even sew and cook. Evan began high school this year and he is flourishing in his new learning environment.

Our middle son Samuel continues to be the high-energy comedian that brings light into everyone's life. He has been representing his school in academic, musical and sporting interschool competitions, while continuing his after-school activities such as lacrosse, tennis, footy and religious studies. Samuel is a good friend to many but best friends with his brothers.

Our youngest son Nate continues to inspire those all around him to try harder and give anything a go. His lovely teacher this year has created a safe place for all the children to get to know each other for who they are, and not what they can and cannot do. He has made some beautiful friendships despite being the only child with cerebral palsy in mainstream education. Being the avid sport fan that he is, Nate is super excited to have memberships to both the Perth Scorchers and the Fremantle Dockers for the first time. Nate will be undergoing major orthopedic surgery in a few months but is looking forward to the positive results after the long recovery.

When asked what the Lions Children of Courage Awards meant to us, the answer is simple. **It allowed us to pause for a moment in a very difficult time in our lives to celebrate the positive spirits and attributes each of our children contributes to this world and the beautiful, loving relationship they have with each other.** As parents, we draw tremendous comfort in knowing that no matter what life brings our boys in the coming years as long as they support one another, they can overcome any challenges and celebrate any victories together. BFF – Brothers First Forever!

Christine Wilson-Banks (Mother)
Sponsored by Lions Club of Rockingham
Children of Courage Awards 2015