

# your letter

Our readers have their say on a particular topic with this letter of the week ...

## FUNDRAISING NO ILLUSION

I WRITE to bring your attention to the efforts of Cairns magician Sam Powers, who has helped to raise more than \$10,000 for Guide Dogs Queensland through his Xtreme Illusions Show.

Mr Powers was an Ambassador for Guide Dogs Queensland in 2010 – the year of our Golden Anniversary – and through a series of benefit shows he managed to raise \$9,937.50 as a contribution to our services.

Thanks to his generous support and that of his Xtreme Illusions team, he raised the funds from ticket sales to his Mother's Day show, Father's Day show and Christmas Benefit show combined. GDQ also sold raffle tickets and Guide Dog merchandise, which increased the total contribution to nearly \$11,000.

These funds will help us provide our life changing services, including Guide Dogs, to many thousands of Queenslanders, at no cost, to enable them to live with freedom, independence and mobility.

We receive no government funding for our Guide Dogs and less than seven per cent in government funding for some fee-for-service orientation and mobility training. Community support is therefore essential to our operations, and we are grateful to those people in the Cairns community who attended the benefit shows.

On behalf of all Queenslanders who are vision impaired and who access our programs and services, we wish to publicly thank Mr Powers for being such a wonderful Ambassador.

**CHRIS LAINE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
GUIDE DOGS QUEENSLAND**



**AMBASSADOR ROLE:** Magician Sam Powers, pictured with guide dog Charlie, held several charity shows throughout 2010 and raised \$10,000 for Guide Dogs Queensland. Picture: JANNAH CORBETT