Craig Watts – Transcript

Audio Description: Two middle aged men sit side by side on a sofa watching tv in front of a home office area. The man on the left, Craig, is wearing a navy jumper with a black and white scarf around his neck. The scarf is embroidered with a kiwi bird and the words Kiwis at the bottom. He holds a beer bottle in a stubby holder that has the words All Blacks on it. His friend Pete is wearing a cap and black jumper and shorts and holding a cup of coffee.

**Craig:** I’m Craig, from New Zealand, a Kiwi. And I enjoy my rugby, especially the All Blacks, because I like supporting winning teams.

Audio Description: Pete gestures at the TV as he urges the players on. Craig lifts his beer in a cheers gesture.

There are lots of framed photos on a shelf above the computer area, including one of a baby with the words Happy Birthday Grandad written on top, and another of Craig with a young man and woman against the Perth city skyline. Craig is now sitting at the computer with his hand on the mouse, looking at his emails.

**Craig:** I have a son and a daughter and two grandsons living in New Zealand. And I'm planning on getting back there soon for a visit.

Audio Description: Craig sits in his wheelchair in his backyard. In his arms is his small white fluffy dog, LaLa, who wears a leopard skin coat and is lying on her back enjoying the cuddle. She tries to lick Craig as he brings his face close to talk to her.

**Craig:** I love getting out and mixing with people, hearing their story. Going to the shops, the pub occasionally, and my lawn-bowling club.

Audio Description: Craig’s chair, is now raised to the height of the bar at his local pub. Alongside is a man of similar age with short white hair and moustache, his friend Damon. The very tall barman, who wears a colourful shirt patterned with sunflowers, pulls the beer tap and pours both men a pint. They chat and clink glasses together with a cheers. Behind them on the wall is a large TV screen with a football game in progress.

**Craig:** My background in Sales has meant that I have had to talk and listen to people. And I guess that's one of the reasons why I enjoy trying to connect with people.

Audio Description: In the beer garden of the pub, Craig sits at a table with three other men and three woman of varying ages as they all have a chat and a laugh. There are glasses and menus on the table. The younger woman sips on a cocktail.

In a different scene, Craig is in his backyard in front of a large, raised aluminium gardening bed. Wearing gardening gloves, he clips some leaves on his chili plant and then uses a trowel to rake the soil around some vegetable seedlings. He pokes a plastic tag with the name of the plant and its details alongside into the soil.

**Craig:** I wanted my own place so that I could have more independence, do what I wanted, when I wanted.

I attend my gym on a regular basis to keep fit and keep my strength up.

Audio Description: In a large gym with treadmills and weights and different machines behind him, Craig is seated on a cycling machine with a screen in front, as his legs push the pedals round. Two other men are in the gym, one watching Craig and another on a stepper machine off to the front. On a different machine, Craig sits in a chair. With his arms grabbing rails above his head and his elbows on pads, he brings his arms from above his head to chest level and back again.

**Craig:** On a Monday morning, my favourite thing to do is go along to Breathworks, which is a form of meditation and an excellent way to relax and rejuvenate your body.

In a park, a younger man in a black beanie and glasses, walks barefoot on grass around a line of people who are lying on mats, covered with blankets and doonas. He moves to Craig who is seated in his chair next to them, looking out to some sandhills and the sea beyond it. Behind them are a row of large houses and parked cars.

Craig is wrapped up warmly in a beanie and scarf with a blanket over his lap. His eyes are open, and he looks very relaxed. Another young man in a hoodie and vest gives him a big hug. At the end of the class the members stand. They hold multicoloured material in each hand which is sewn onto hand fans and wave them around in big movements, or twirl. Craig also twirls his flag from his chair. Lala the dog, still in her leopard skin coat, is also there and ends up sitting on Craig’s lap, where she is admired by another class member in her own leopard skin jacket.

**Craig:** And after Breathworks, we generally all meet up for coffee at the kiosk and reflect on our coming day.

Audio Description: Craig and two of the women from his class, all in coats and beanies, sit at a wooden bench outside the kiosk with their colourful keep cups.

Back at home, a slim woman with glasses and dark hair in a bun, carries Quincy, a white poodle mix. She smiles as she brings her into Craig’s loungeroom. Craig pats the dog and shakes her paw.

**Craig:** Recently I've been thinking of various ways to make some money. I’ve just started a dog-sitting business for small dogs, which is working out really well.

Audio Description: Quincy sits on the floor of the kitchen next to Lala and Craig feeds them both treats. On a wall we see a poster with the title Watts Good 4 Dogs with pictures of different breeds of dogs underneath and the words: Craig’s Doggy Daycare. Call Craig/Suzie for quality dog-sitting. Fifo care, emergency care, holidays or during work hours. Prices start from $15 per day. Small to medium dogs only. Underneath the words are photos of Lala and companion dogs on the back seat of a car and enjoying a sunset at the beach.

Quincy sits on Craig’s lap in the middle of an oval. She jumps off and joins La la and they race round the oval as Craig follows.

**Craig:** My business name is 'Watts Good 4 Dogs' because my surname is Watts, so it’s a good play on words. Lala enjoys my dog-sitting business. She enjoys making friends. Having dogs around me in my home is very comforting. They complete my home and make it more homely.

Audio Description: Back at home, Lala, still in her coat, lies in a black and red dog bed with Quincy close by.

In Craig’s backyard a leafy Frangipani tree catches the last rays of the sun. Craig’s friend Suzi, wearing sunglasses, sits in the backyard pouring red wine into a glass as they laugh and chat with snacks on the table in-between. Craig massages Quincy with his foot under the table. They clink their glasses in a cheers.

Craig: My home is set in an ideal location. Everything I love to do is close by and helps connect me with the fun things I enjoy doing. My meditation, the pub, and a few of the friends that I've met along the way.

On a wooden bridge in the middle of the bush, Craig holds onto the rail and walks slowly, taking in the peaceful surroundings.

Text on screen:

The Lives We Lead Homelife. This story is part of The Lives We Lead Homelife and has been funded by the Department of Communities, Disability Services

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