

Run aims to save sight

WHEN shire resident Ada Nicodemou sets off to run across Sydney Harbour Bridge in September, her thoughts will be in far away Zambia.

Every step the Home and Away star makes from North Sydney to the Opera House will raise funds for the PixiFoto Foundation, a charity dedicated to preventing blindness among children in the Sinazongwe district in Zambia.

Ada will remember the children she met on two visits to Zambia with officials of the foundation.

"That second visit was a follow-up and such a lovely surprise to see what changes we were making," Ada said.

"The foundation uses funds raised to build wells to provide fresh water to the villages. It's as simple as that.

"Without fresh clean water, as many as 90 per cent of the village children were in danger of going blind from



Curing blindness: Ada Nicodemou with some of the young people from the village of Gwembe in Zambia.

from glaucoma."

Ada said she was aware of statistics from Africa that a child who loses his or her sight has less than a four-year life expectancy. As ambassador for the foundation, Ada will lead the Pix-

iFoto team in the 2009 Blackmores Sydney Running Festival on Sunday, September 20. All funds raised by Ada and the team will go towards drilling fresh water bores in Zambia.

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PANDORA



About Pandora Charms

Pandora bracelet first appears, in Danish market in 1999. and now, it is a well-known brand across Europe. Pandora first made its mark in its hometown in Copenhagen, Denmark.

Pandora jewelry managed to break into the North American jewelry market in 2002. since then, variety of styles has been created. Such as handcrafted charm bracelets, earrings, necklaces, and rings. Today, pandora jewelry becomes widely popular across Europe, North America, Australia, and the Caribbean.

"The establishment of the Pandora Jewelry line would not have been possible if the creators did not get inspired by the Greek mythology character, Pandora. Greek mythology has it that Zeus, the god of the gods, wanted to take revenge on Prometheus, which is the reason why he asked the god Hephaestus to create the first woman in the world named Pandora. The gods lavished everything on Pandora, with Zeus even giving Pandora a box containing all the evils in the world. Zeus forbade her to open it, but since Pandora is naturally curious, she was not able to resist temptation. She opened the box, releasing all the evils in the world – conflict, disease, sadness, and the like. This is the story that inspired the creation of Pandora jewelry charms."

They say, the charm that pandora jewelry charms possess is the customizability of the pandora charms. The wearer gets to personalize her own bracelet, that is, every pandora bracelet is unique. It encourages artistry, individuality, and creativity among its customers.

Just recently, Casijewelry.com.Inc released its latest designed Pandora beaded jewelry, which are jewelries made of gemstones. This launch features the the stackable Pandora rings, Pandora bracelet, Panora necklace, Pandora chains, freshwater pearl necklace, which can be combined to get a unique style.

For more information about Pandora charms please logon to our website <http://www.casijewelry.com/>

Constantine Maroulis: I 'Opened the Door' for Future Idol Rockers

American Idol alum Constantine Maroulis has been making his mark on Broadway since appearing on the hit FOX show's fourth season in 2005. He was recently nominated for a Tony for his role in the rock musical Rock of Ages and the actor-musician credits the reality competition for the chance it gave him.



"I was blessed – I was a finalist," he says. "I probably wouldn't be in this chair if I

wouldn't have gone on the audition that day."

But, he says, there is something he'd do differently

if he were able to appear on Idol again. "They had a hard time getting the support from artists and publishers to clear a lot of the material, so there were a lot of songs I wanted to do that I couldn't do," he says. "Stuff from U2, Aerosmith, anything Led Zeppelin, Bon Jovi. That was the stuff I was really good at. If I could have done the 'Bohemian Rhapsody' kind of thing week after week, it would have been interesting to see how it would have worked out."

Still, Maroulis thinks his appearance helped pave the way for future rockers that appeared on the show. "I definitely opened the door for people after me, like Chris Daughtry and David Cook and all those guys," he says. "[Season 8 runner-up]

Adam [Lambert]'s a good kid, I wish him all the best."

Inspired by Boy Bands

Maroulis is a rocker in his current Broadway role and in real life, but he admits some of his influences come from other types of music he grew up with. Boy bands like New Kids on the Block and 'N Sync have surfaced within his Rock of Ages character. "I'm not much of a dancer, but I've tried to channel some of that for Rock of Ages for my 'Joshy J' moment," he says.

The singer also appreciates the classic crooners his parents enjoyed (Frank Sinatra, Nat King Cole, Perry Como and Dean Martin among them), show tunes (he likes Brigadoon and Jesus Christ Superstar, but says his favorite is West Side Story), and is using music to reacquaint himself with his Greek roots.

"We didn't listen to a lot of traditional Greek music in my house the way a lot of my Greek friends do, but I enjoy it. There's what we call Greek nights, which is basically a club night with my friends. They play a lot more of the modern music from Greece along with the traditional stuff. There's a lot bouzouki [a traditional Greek guitar] and a lot of fun," he says. "I really embrace my culture more now than I ever did."

Reality TV auditions Coast

THE bold, beautiful and buff swamped the Gold Coast over the weekend in the hope of being selected for a new international reality show.

The show, whose title remains a secret, will feature six bachelors and bachelorettes from Australia, the UK and the US who will be flown to the Greek Isles to compete for the title of the world's most dateable single.

Producers selected the Gold Coast as the only casting call location in Australia and hopeful models, actors and regular joes flocked to Billy's Beachhouse in Surfers Paradise to audition. The lucky chosen pair will be flown to Greece this month to begin filming. Ben Parkinson casting director Glen McLaren said the Gold Coast was the ideal location for finding hot bodies suitable for television.

"I'm honestly thrilled with the amount of talent we've found here," he said.

"Surprisingly there has been more guys than girls and the men are absolutely immaculate."