



the Star Bear program is a grief support program for children

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If you aren't making a difference in other peoples lives, you shouldn't be in business – it's that simple.

Richard Branson

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I love this quote by Richard Branson it is the grass roots of the Why? in business for me. I have always believed that my business is my vehicle to do great things in life; to be able to provide for my family, enjoy time with friends and experience a life where there are endless opportunities but most importantly it gives me the ability to help others.

My inspiration was my mother. She was dedicated to volunteering to organisations. She gave her free time to assist others who were less fortunate in health unstintingly. She always assisted in fundraisers, donating cakes and biscuits, knitting, sewing and, as one of the volunteers from the Women's and Children's hospital reminded us, had a loving warm smile and infectious giggle that left you feeling cared for and special.

Throughout my business life, because of my mother's influence, I have also chosen to support a charity. For the first eight years my chosen charity was Camp Quality which touched my heart and brought me to tears many times. Then I stumbled upon a children's program Star Bear run by AnglicareSA, which sits very close to my heart as I have personal experience of losing my mother very young, leaving four of us behind.

For those of you who do not know, Star Bear is a part of AnglicareSA and the programs goal is to assist bereaved children, between the ages of five and seventeen years old, who have lost a parent, sibling or other significant person. There are two Star Bear camps (for 5-12 year olds) and one Star Bound camp (13-17year olds) each year and the camps are held in the Adelaide Hills. Children are paired with trained volunteer mentors and experience therapeutic sessions, sports, games, arts and crafts.

The program is there to assist the young bereaved children understand sadness and pain and work through those feelings to find a "new normal".

To support the Star Bear Program \$1 for every book sold will be directly donated to the Star Bear weekend program. Thank you for purchasing a copy of The New Retail Revolution and assisting me in supporting the children.