



## Parramatta drummer beats the odds



When you enter Andrew Hewitt's home in Parramatta, you are told to forget what you think you know about what can and can't be achieved.

Mr Hewitt, 43, has cerebral palsy but has not let the motor condition stop him learning to play the drums.

"Drumming has just given me a feeling that I have achieved something," Mr Hewitt said.

"So many people told me I couldn't do it but it just made me more determined."

Mr Hewitt's achievements don't end with his accomplished drumming, through his music and campaigning he has raised \$170,000 for Cerebral Palsy Alliance.

That money has been used to buy aides, such as wheelchairs which cost almost \$20,000, and make life more comfortable for others with the condition.

He is now in the process of raising funds so he can travel to the US and learn a drumming program specifically for people with disabilities.

The program is said to be therapeutic for many people and Hewitt, who preaches the benefits that drumming has had for him, hopes to bring the program to Australia to teach others.

A group of Sydney musicians who have played with Hewitt have organised a fund-raising event at the Hawkesbury Hotel in Windsor on January 20.

There will be up to 10 performances by musicians and bands, including The Young Fellas, Carlolia Zeppelin, and the Rooty Hill Surfers.

The event starts at noon and is expected to run into the night.

Tickets are \$10. more details at [www.drummerstix.com.au](http://www.drummerstix.com.au).