



# His \$6m gift to sick kids

By CLAIR WEAVER

TO thousands of seriously ill children, Col Reynolds really is the six-million-dollar man.

For a quarter of a century, the former coach-tour driver has devoted his life to raising money for children with cancer.

Last week, he symbolically handed over a single \$1 coin to the oncology research unit at The Children's Hospital at Westmead. This pushed his total fundraising efforts through his Oncology Children's Foundation (OCF) charity to \$6 million.

"I'm very humbled," he said. "I just want to give the greatest gift of all to kids, and that's the gift of life.

"I'm looking forward to the day when we won't be in business any more — we will have to retire."



**Rewarding:** Col Reynolds with kids from The Children's Hospital at Westmead

His fundraising projects have included call-centre appeals, sponsored bicycle rides in Australia, Cambodia and Vietnam, golf days and corporate events.

Mr Reynolds believes a \$2.5 million

Gene Therapy Project, which his charity has agreed to fund over the next five years at the hospital, will be the next major breakthrough in cancer treatment.

The 69-year-old says when he first started

helping children with cancer in 1984, the survival rate was about three per cent. Today, it is nearly 80 per cent. Seeing young cancer patients recover and go on to lead full lives is the rewarding part of Mr Reynolds' work.