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EXCLUSIVE: ONE MAN'S RECORD DONATION TO MEDICAL RESEARCH

\$50m GIFT OF LIFE

JANELLE MILES

MILLIONAIRE Clive Berghofer has spent his life building a development fortune, but now he's building hope.

The self-made man will today announce a \$50 million gift to the Queensland Institute of Medical Research, the biggest single philanthropic donation by an Australian. He hopes it will encourage corporate Australia to give more. **Full report p5**



CONFESSIONS OF A SEXTING MP
REPORT P3



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THEY'VE GOT EXTRA TALENT
SWITCHED ON LIFTOUT



Picture: Mark Callega

MEDICINE'S \$50M MAN

Clive Berghofer's gift stuns research team

JANELLE MILES
MEDICAL REPORTER

SELF-made multi-millionaire Clive Berghofer has pledged \$50.1 million to Queensland scientists in the biggest single philanthropic donation by an Australian.

The gift from the Toowoomba property developer to the Queensland Institute of Medical Research tops a \$50 million donation to Can-

berra's Australian National University by global commodities trader Graham Tuckwell in February.

It comes on top of more than \$10 million Mr Berghofer gave to QIMR in 2001, making the former Toowoomba mayor one of Australia's biggest contributors to medical research.

The QIMR will today announce a name change to the QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute.

Mr Berghofer, who still uses shopper docket to buy his petrol, is one of Queensland's richest men, with a fortune estimated at \$230 million.

The man, who prefers work clothes to a business suit, hopes his donation will encourage corporate Australia to give more.

"There's heaps of people with plenty of money who don't give," the 78-year-old said. "Australians are not really generous when it comes to giving. Some people want you to give, but they don't give themselves. I like to lead by example."

The self-made man has

come a long way since leaving Wellcamp Primary School on the Darling Downs at the age of 13.

"He has risen 'from nothing' to No. 32 on *The Sunday Mail's* rich list after half a century as a property developer in Queensland. In the process he has overcome obstacles including dyslexia thanks to a head for numbers, a strong work ethic and a fierce desire to achieve.

"I was so bad at school, I was frightened," Mr Berghofer said. "I can read but I'm very slow at reading. It takes a bit of digesting at times."

"In the modern day, they'd recognise it as dyslexic."

QIMR director Frank Gannon said he hoped Mr Berghofer's "unbelievable" donation would serve as a beacon for other people to give more.

He said the gift, which would provide a guaranteed \$2 million a year to the institute for the next 25 years, would be spent on improving research outcomes.

The money will allow the institute, which focuses on cancer, infectious diseases and mental health research, to recruit more scientists and purchase the most up-to-date equipment.

"It's like any equipment update. If you've got a mobile

phone, if you don't upgrade it every two or three years, you know what you're missing out on," Prof Gannon said.

"We're faced with the same problem, but on a multiple scale. We have to constantly reinvest to stay up to date at the world level."

The grandfather of 10, who continues to work at an age when most people would have hung up their boots, said he was happy to make the donation.

"I don't need the money but I need something to keep my mind busy, otherwise I go mad sitting at home. I couldn't just sit down and watch television."

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