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## PRESS RELEASE

# DAKTARI® ADVENTURES TO BE BROUGHT TO THE SCREEN

25th August 2004

Pacific & Beyond Pty Limited, a subsidiary of Beyond International, announced today that it will work with Daktari Productions Ltd to develop television programmes based on the life and adventures of "Daktari" Sue Hart, renowned wildlife veterinarian, conservationist, author, educator and humanitarian.

The programmes will draw from her autobiographies "Too Short A Day", "Listen to the Wild" and "Life with Daktari" and feature her experiences working as a wildlife vet in Kenya during the mid nineteen sixties. Sue Hart was given the name "Daktari" by the local African people at this time – it means 'healer' in the local Swahili language.

Sue Hart's story will now become the basis of original live-action dramatic programming intended for family audiences worldwide by Pacific & Beyond. The programming will depict events drawn from Sue's life and stories and will be set in exotic and daunting locations and will also bring a very modern perspective, highlighting animal and conservation issues of universal value.

Ron Saunders, Managing Director of Pacific and Beyond International, said "This is a marvelous opportunity and we look forward whole heartedly to bringing Sue's remarkable life to the screen. We think it will make great family television ".

Rowena Paxton, Director of Daktari Productions, expressed her delight by saying "I have known Sue for twenty four years and she has been an inspiration to me and has touched the lives of many. We are very excited at having the opportunity of working with Beyond who have a worldwide reputation for producing high quality entertainment."

This series follows the recent announcement from Daktari Productions of a children's animated series, **Daktari's Web**, which is based on Sue's original children's animal stories, "Tales of the Full Moon" and "The Forever Tree".

#### **About Sue Hart**

Sue Hart moved from England to South Africa after she qualified from the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, after the war and embarked on a career in what was entirely a 'man's world'.

She was probably the first female wildlife vet in Africa and her pioneering work brought her into contact and kindled friendships with some of the most famous scientists, naturalists and conservationists of that era, for whom she provided many vital services. Over the years she

also produced and presented radio and TV shows, has written books for children and adults and had a long-running column in a daily newspaper.

#### **About Daktari Productions**

Daktari Productions Ltd. is a company that has been created to manage and develop programming, publishing and associated merchandise based upon the remarkable life and works of Sue Hart

For more information on Sue Hart, Daktari Productions and related programming visit: www.daktariproductions.com or contact Rowena Paxton on +44 1628 891112.

### **About Beyond International**

Beyond International Pty Ltd( <a href="www.beyond.com.au">www.beyond.com.au</a>) is one of the world's leading film, television and archive production, sales and distribution companies. Based in Sydney, with international offices in London and New York, Beyond is committed to producing and distributing quality television and feature films in domestic and international markets.

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# PHOTO Attachment: Dr. Sue Hart

