



Canberra Region Kidney Support Group

Kidney News

The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the CRKSG

With assistance from the ACT Government under the Community Support and Infrastructure Grants Program

Organ Donation Legislation passes Senate

Joint release by the Prime Minister, Minister for Health and the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing — 13 November 2008

The passage through the Senate today of the legislation setting up the Australian Organ and Tissue Donation and Transplantation Authority marks a new era of hope for people needing organ transplants.

The authority, the centrepiece of the Rudd Government's strategy to increase Australia's low rate of donation, will implement and oversee Australia's new organ donation and transplantation system. The Rudd Government will work with states and territories, clinicians, consumers and the community sector to build a world-leading system to reduce unnecessary suffering for thousands of Australians who are waiting for donated organs.

Now that the legislation has been passed, the Government expects to announce the head of the authority as quickly as possible so that the authority can begin operating early in the new year. A dedicated team within the Department of Health and Ageing has been working full-time on the new national donation and transplantation system to ensure that implementation can progress as quickly as possible.

The Australian Organ and Tissue Donation and Transplantation Authority created today is part of a national reform package worth \$151.1 million, including new funding of \$136.4 million over four years.

The key features of the reform package include:

- **\$67 million** to fund dedicated organ donation specialist doctors and other staff in public and private hospitals;
- **\$46 million** to establish the authority, to be set up by 1 January 2009;
- **\$17 million** in new funding for hospitals to meet additional staffing, bed and infrastructure costs associated with organ donation.
- **\$13.4 million** to continue national public awareness and education;
- **\$1.9 million** for counselling for potential donor families; and
- Other significant measures including enhanced professional education programs, consistent clinical protocols, 'clinical trigger' checklists and data collection for organ transplants in hospitals.

The Rudd Government encourages individuals to do two things to help bring the gift of life to the thousands of Australians who need it:

- Talk to your families if you are considering becoming a donor. A decision to donate that is fully understood and supported by your family is the best decision.
- Register your consent for organ donation on the Australian Organ Donation Register, which is administered by Medicare Australia. People can obtain registration forms at the Medicare Australia web site, www.medicareaustralia.gov.au/organ, by calling Medicare on 1800-777-203, or by visiting their local Medicare office.

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Kidney Health Australia Launches 'Australian Made' Call Centre

11 November 2008 — Kidney Health Australia has ignored the current financial turmoil and increasing trend of sending call centre jobs off shore by expanding its own call centre and launching a new call centre outsourcing operation in Australia.

Anne Wilson, CEO of Kidney Health Australia said, “The launching of Solution K as an Australian based call centre was a deliberate strategy to fulfill the requirements of many organizations who wanted to outsource their call centre operations but also wanted to have an onshore supplier”.



Anne Wilson

“We are deliberately focused on creating jobs in Australia as an underlying principal.”

Solution K provides call centre services for business to business marketing, customer service, promotions, customer surveys, fundraising and new product launches.

The launching of Solution K, a national call centre service based in Adelaide as a stand alone business under the direction of Derek Finch, Head of Customer Operations for Kidney Health Australia, builds on Kidney Health Australia's experience of successfully operating its own national call centre for 14 years, which has raised millions of dollars through fund raising programs.

Ms Wilson said Kidney Health Australia is a national charitable organization which receives no funding from government. Kidney Health Australia is the peak body supporting tens of thousands of patients, carers and people at risk of developing kidney disease. This is achieved through delivery of research, education, advocacy and health services.

“Opening its doors just over a month ago Solution K already has a number of high profile clients including another charity The Foundation of Public Safety Professionals, Neverfail Springwater, Great Southern Rail and a number of others.”

Derek Finch said Solution K plans to more than double its seating capacity by moving to larger premises in December, with further expansion already planned.

Mr Finch said Solution K provides Corporate Australia and Government agencies with an opportunity to fulfill their community social responsibility governance guidelines by doing business with a charity whose profits go to helping people with kidney disease.

“Company involvement with Solution K also opens opportunities for specially tailored health programs for staff or customers in relation to kidney health community awareness programs. Other charities using Solution K identify with Solution K’s not for profit status.”

Mr Finch said that it also helps that as a charity we run on a low budget and therefore can offer highly competitive rates whilst still delivering a quality product.

Sir Jack and Lady Brabham Become Patrons of Kidney Health Australia

24 November 2008 — Sir Jack and Lady Margaret Brabham will become patrons of Kidney Health Australia to help raise awareness about Chronic Kidney Disease in Australia which affects over two million Australians and is growing at 6% a year.

Anne Wilson, CEO of Kidney Health Australia said the involvement of Sir Jack and Lady Margaret Brabham as patrons would provide an opportunity to increase the awareness of Chronic Kidney Disease within the Australian community.

Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) is known as the silent killer as a person can lose up to 90% use of their Kidney without even knowing it.

In 2005/2006 one third of all admissions to public hospitals were due to dialysis, 2000 each day of the year.

Sir Jack Brabham, who suffers from kidney failure and who is on dialysis, with his wife Lady Margaret will be officially inducted as patrons of Kidney Health Australia at a special ceremony at the National Sports Museum at the MCG on Thursday 27th November 2008.

The triple world champion is the only Formula One driver to have won a world title in a car of his own construction - the BT19 - which he drove to victory in 1966. The following year the Brabham team won its second successive world championship when New Zealander Denny Hulme drove the BT20 to victory.

The ceremony will take place beside Sir Jack's famous BT19 racing car which he drove to victory for the first time in 1966. The car is now on display at the museum.

Sir Jack and Lady Margaret Brabham will immediately take action to increase awareness about Chronic Kidney Disease by officially launching a new patient and carer's handbook "Living with Reduced Kidney Function".



Jack Brabham in his BT19 — 1966
Dutch Grand Prix
(<http://www.jackbrabham.com>)

Calendar of Events

Support Group Meetings.

When: Quarterly on first Tuesday of each month.

4th November 2008, 3rd February 2009, 5th May 2009 and 4th August 2009.

Where: The Pearce Community Centre
Building 1, Collett Place
Pearce ACT 2607.

When: 7:30 pm.

All welcome

Christmas is with us again. It seems to arrive earlier every year!

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all of you the very best for the festive season.



Australian Car Racing Legend Faces Toughest Drive

27 November 2008 — Australian Racing Car Legend Sir Jack Brabham today said the toughest drive of his life had been facing up to coping with kidney failure and being placed on dialysis. The eighty two year old father of Australian motor sport, the only driver to win a world championship in a racing car he designed and built, was speaking at special ceremony in Melbourne this morning at the National Sports Museum at the MCG.

The triple world champion is the only Formula One driver to have won a world title in a car of his own construction - the BT19 - which he drove to victory in 1966.

The following year the Brabham team won its second successive world championship when New Zealander Denny Hulme drove the BT20 to victory.

Sir Jack and Lady Margaret Brabham have accepted the role of becoming patrons of Kidney Health Australia to promote community awareness of Chronic Kidney Disease in Australia

which affects close to two million Australians and is responsible for just over one third of admissions to Australia's public hospitals.

Sir Jack Brabham standing beside the famous car he designed and drove to victory urged patients not to withdraw from daily activity but to remain positive.

“It is important for people suffering from Chronic Kidney Disease not to give in and isolate themselves from the things they love and enjoy doing, whether it is gardening, reading, going out, meeting friends or playing with the children or grandchildren.”



Sir Jack Brabham OBE speaking at the National Sports Museum this morning



The Patron's presentation to Sir Jack and Lady Margaret Brabham by Dr Tim Mathew, Medical Director Kidney Health Australia (left) and Anne Wilson CEO Kidney Health Australia (right)

“Plan around dialysis - don't let it run your life. Build your own race strategy and at times whilst it will get tough always try to maintain a positive outlook and just try to get the most of out every day.”

17th World Transplant Games – August 2009

Transplant Australia has reported that they are looking forward to hosting one of the best games in history; to be held on the Gold Coast in Queensland between 22nd and 30th August 2009.

Registration costs have been announced by the Gold Coast Local Organising Committee for next year's World Games. The cost per adult athlete or supporter is \$1200.00 and per junior athlete or supporter is \$1067.00.

The cost is all inclusive and includes:

- ⇒ Full access to all sporting events and approved training sessions,
- ⇒ Standard accommodation in a shared four star or above self-contained apartment. Those wanting single rooms will be required to pay a subsidy pending configuration and availability,
- ⇒ Three meals daily (breakfast, lunch and dinner) from dinner on 22nd August to breakfast on 30th August,
- ⇒ Gala Dinner and Opening Dinner,
- ⇒ Approved transfers from either Brisbane Domestic or International airports or Gold Coast Domestic or International airports,
- ⇒ Scheduled transport to all sports and training sessions, and
- ⇒ A Games T-shirt, bag and program.

A substantial number of subsidies for child athletes to attend the Games have been secured by Transplant Australia. The subsidies will cover the junior athlete registration fee of \$1067.00. Transport costs to the games are not covered by the subsidies.

Transplant Australia has just launched the new World Transplant Games 2009 website. The site will promote the Gold Coast Games until August. Please visit <http://www.worldtransplantgames09.com/> for all of your games information.



Surfers Paradise, looking north
Photo courtesy Wikipedia the free encyclopedia

PO Box 5051
Garran ACT 2605

Phone: 02 6290 1984
E-mail: crksg@shout.org.au
Web: http://www.crksg.org.au



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

Canberra Region Kidney Support Group Inc
PO Box 5051 GARRAN ACT 2605.
ABN: 77 396 063 641

Last Name: **First Name:**

Address:.....

Email:

Phone No:

I would like to make a voluntary donation to CRKSG for the amount of: \$..... Membership is free. All donations \$2 or more are tax deductible. Cheque/Money Order payable to CRKSG Inc. Please accept this application for membership of the Canberra Region Kidney Support Group Inc.

Signature: **Date:**.....

Post Form to:

The Treasurer
Canberra Region Kidney Support Group Inc
PO Box 5051
GARRAN ACT 2605.

NOTE: This form may also be used to notify a change of address/contact details.