



Palliative Care WA (Inc)

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JUNE 2007

NATIONAL PALLIATIVE CARE WEEK PROVIDED US WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO RAISE THE PUBLIC PROFILE OF PALLIATIVE CARE IN WA

It was great to see many of you at the annual Palliative Care Week Breakfast at the Zoo on Monday 21st May. Under the expert guidance of Mary Thornton the function room at the Perth Zoo looked spectacular. In particular art work provided by Corpus Christi College, Bateman (right) and Settlers Primary School made a colourful backdrop to the stage. I would like to express our gratitude to the children concerned. They have a great talent to take forward in their lives.

Palliative Care WA launched its chapter of the National Initiative "Make a difference when someone you know has a terminal illness". The national community education initiative includes the messages:- "What is Palliative Care?"; "What can I say, what can I do?" and "Palliative Care is a Community Affair." Each of these messages is expressed in well produced brochures available from PCA. PCA also launched a second "Palliative Care Story Collection" in partnership with its community education initiative. Details of this program and the brochures can be found on www.pallcare.org.au.

The Hon Jim McGinty spoke to the breakfast attendees about the state of the health reform agenda in WA and in particular in relation to palliative care. He also expressed his concern about the delay of the passage of legislation on "living wills" in the upper house of State Parliament. He stressed the importance of raising our profile on this issue and to bring our influence to the debate.



BUY A RAFFLE TICKET OR ELSE..

Since that time we have, through the media and by personal contact, brought the associations influence to the debate. We are now hopeful that the numbers are right for the legislation to be debated and passed. This should happen in the next few weeks. I wish to thank the team of senior clinicians who have provided upper house members with information and support on the legislation.

PCWA has been exposed for its lack of infrastructure as it has taken on a greater load of work in palliative care. The legislation, the breakfast, the National Initiative and the Palliative Care Network all impacted on us simultaneously and revealed our urgent need to have better infrastructure. The executive of the association has been working on a business case to reach out for a mixture of public and private funding to develop adequate infrastructure. We are seeking to build the capacity of the association as it endeavors to service the needs of palliative care into the future. We hope to appoint a full time executive officer in the near future to enable our aspirations to materialize.



HANG IN THERE!

There is much to do. We look forward to the time when we have the capacity to do all that we should be doing. In the meantime I wish to thank all the executive members, and others of you who contribute over and above the normal call of duty to enable our association to achieve beyond its capacity. Finally thank you again to Mary Thornton who we pay for 2 days a week but who gives us so much more.

SCOTT BLACKWELL *President*



PLEASE LOOK AFTER ME DR. ENG?



MARY THORNTON FINDS A NEW FRIEND . . . AND SOME PEOPLE WIN ALL THE PRIZES!



SETTLERS PRIMARY SCHOOLS AMAZING DIARAMA

Settlers Primary School pre-primary class created a beautiful Diarama for the PCWA breakfast. The children were encouraged to talk about palliative care by their teacher, Marie Arrowsmith and her assistant Liz Taasse. The Diarama portrays the mystery, barriers and misconception people have about palliative care. The tree represents the foundation being rooted to the earth; the giraffe shows the ability to view from another perspective; the elephants portray wisdom and strength required to break through the barriers and the bars represent fear, mystery and anxiety. The lions are empowering people to overcome pride and prejudice. PCWA would like to thank Settlers Primary School for their wonderful contribution to helping promote palliative care within the community.



Above: KAREN PROCTOR AND DR. LARRY LIEW ABSCOND WITH SOME BALLOONS TO SANDLEWOOD PALLIATIVE CARE, GLENGARRY PRIVATE HOSPITAL.



Left: SUE HENNING BLOWS UP A FEW MORE BALLOONS



Centre: SCOTT BLACKWELL AND MARGHERITA NICOLETTI ADOPT A GIBBON!

**INCREDIBLE TALENT FROM STUDENTS AT
CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE, BATEMAN**

Year 10 art students from Corpus Christi College in Bateman gave up their time during school holidays and after school as part of their community awareness program, to create stunning artwork to decorate The Perth Zoo function room for the launch of National Palliative Care Week. The jungle scenes, painted in acrylics, symbolically represent the earth's ability to give us everything in life that we need. The jungle is externalising everything humans already have within them. The students have artistically and profoundly encapsulated this concept with the use of vibrant colour, which has perfectly captured the empowering aspects of palliative care. PCWA wishes to thank each and everyone involved at Corpus Christi and in particular teachers Gabby Lynch and Paul Ross who encouraged the students with design and structural ideas. Many thanks also go to Chrissie White, from Murdoch Community Hospice, for her brilliant job at co-ordinating the schools involvement and bringing awareness of palliative care into the community and youth of today.



MARY THORNTON AND MICHELLE D'SILVA



MURDOCH HOSPICE VOLUNTEERS HELP SELL RAFFLE TICKETS

**THE ST LUKE'S DAY SERVICE 2007 WILL BE HELD AT WINTHROP HALL, UWA
THURSDAY 25th OCTOBER at 7.15pm with supper to follow in the Undercroft.**

For further information please contact:

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**OUR SINCERE THANKS
GO TO
BARBARA &
LAWRENCE MEYER
FROM
QUINTZILLION FOR
HELPING TO SUPPLY
THE
FANTASTIC ARRAY OF
ZOO ANIMALS FOR
THE PCWA
RAFFLE.**



SOME PEARLS OF WISDOM FROM PRE-PRIMARY STUDENTS AT SETTLERS PRIMARY SCHOOL WHEN ASKED TO DRAW A PICTURE AND WRITE THEIR FEELINGS ON THE LOSS OF SOMETHING THEY LOVED



"My fish died and it was an orange fish. They were the same so it didn't have a name because I would get muddled up." By Erin

"Poppy bought Angela for me to cheer me up when I was sick. It helped me get better." By Anthony

"My bunny rabbit called Bugs. We went outside to see if he was eating but he was gone up in heaven. I felt sad. I cried. I feel better now because I smile when I think about playing with him." By Chloe

"My cat Rex is playing. He died. He was old. I feel bad. I played with him lots." By Austen

"This is my pet dog. He is called 'Bear'. He got old. I felt not nice and sad. I still feel sad but I dream I play with him. I feel good." By Curtis

"That's my dog Tia and my frog Lizzy. My frog died so we buried her in the dog poo. I feel sad." By Jack

"This is a fish. It is mine and they made me sad because I flushed them down the toilet when they were dead. They couldn't get up and didn't move." By Chris

PLEASE REMEMBER!!! - TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN JULY FOR 2007-2008 AND HELP OUR ASSOCIATION GROW BY INTRODUCING A NEW MEMBER TODAY!