

## Media Release



Health  
NSW Organ & Tissue  
Donation Service

THURSDAY 13 FEBRUARY 2014

### **NSW DonateLife joins forces with Lions Clubs and Bunnings saying 'Have the chat that saves lives' during DonateLife Week Visit Mascot Bunnings Warehouse March 1-2**

In a phenomenal joint initiative, nearly all 75 NSW Bunnings stores will have DonateLife information stands manned by members of the 100+ NSW Lions Clubs during DonateLife Week 2014.

Showing their support for Australia's national awareness week to promote organ and tissue donation, from Sunday 23 February to Sunday 2 March, Lions members will also man barbeques at 69 of the NSW Bunnings Warehouses.

"Raising awareness of the generous gift of organ donation is such an important task and I'm delighted we have the support of all Lions Clubs throughout NSW as well as every single Bunnings store," said Dr Robert Herkes, state medical director of NSW Organ and Tissue Donation Service, the NSW DonateLife agency.

During DonateLife Week 2014, Australians are being urged to discover the facts about organ and tissue donation and to register their donation decision on the Australian Organ Donor Register. Most importantly, we are asking everyone to 'have the chat' with loved ones to make sure their donation decision is known.

Prince of Wales Hospital Donation Specialist Nurse, Cassandra Reed, said 'the chat' we can have today could help prepare our loved ones should they be asked to proceed with organ donation at a time of loss.

"With one organ and tissue donor able to transform the lives of 10 or more people, it's a conversation that could one day save lives," Ms Reed said. "DonateLife Week is a great opportunity to remind your family about your donation decision, and to ask and know their decision."

In Australia, the family will always be asked to confirm the donation decision of the deceased before donation for transplantation can proceed. Families that have discussed and know each other's donation decisions are much more likely to support organ and tissue donation proceeding.

**Maroubra Lions Club will be manning an information stall and barbeque at Mascot Bunnings Warehouse on the weekend of March 1 and 2. Come along!**

**Kim Livingstone a LOCAL ORGAN RECIPIENT CASE STUDY & PICTURE OPPORTUNITY AVAILABLE.**

For more information on organ and tissue donation in NSW, visit: [www.seslhd.health.nsw.gov.au/SESLHDOrgan](http://www.seslhd.health.nsw.gov.au/SESLHDOrgan)

For further information on events being held during DonateLife Week 2014, visit [www.donatelife.gov.au](http://www.donatelife.gov.au)

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