



Registrations are over 800!

Issue 5 March 09

### Interview with a Volunteer

Our fantastic Volunteers are helping to make this event spectacular by devoting many hours of hard work. This is what Michelle Ashby says about being a volunteer (pictured below, left with sister Stef):

#### Why are you inspired to be involved in the Games?

It is the perfect opportunity to promote awareness for organ donation both throughout Australia and world wide; It gives hope to other people who are awaiting a transplant and a goal to those who have had one; I get to meet some hugely inspirational people – everyone has a unique story to tell.

For personal reasons, I love to push myself physically and mentally and these Games allow us to do this and make the most of what we have been given through transplantation.



#### What are you involved in?

I'm the Chair of the Day 1-9 Committee (sports) and the sports co-ordinator for the Men's and Women's opening event – running road race; A member of the Local Organising Committee and Member of the Executive Committee. For sport I am competing in the 400m, 800m and 1500m track and the 3km road race. *Go Michelle!*

#### How are these Games going to be memorable?

Because they are being held in Australia and will be run by a bunch of down to earth Aussies - so fair dinkum, these Games are going to be ace, we've been flat out like a lizard drinking getting it organised so mate, grab your sunnies and get yourself over here and join us at the World Transplant Games 2009, then you can check out the roos, put a prawn of the barbie, and see why the Gold Coast is one of the greatest places to veg out while you discover why we love Australia, and more importantly – why we talk like this! Cheers.

### Information Booklet

Have you been seeking handy information for your coffee table or to pass around to your friends about the Games? The conveniently sized World Transplant Games Information Booklet is due for release early March and is a quick and easy resource packed with everything you need to know. Your Team Manager will receive copies soon.



### The Sea World Experience!



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It's a place where imaginary underwater worlds and animal friends are brought to life. On Tuesday August 25, 2009 the World Transplant Games will be taking you to experience this at one of Australia's most impressive animal theme parks, Sea World.

After arriving by bus (20 minutes from Broadbeach) you will be treated to a magical welcome from the Sea. The Sea World dolphins will flip and jump in coordinated and interactive routines to give you that definite 'wow' factor. It's a unique experience at Dolphin Cove to watch the dolphins and trainers in an incredible display of human-animal companionship. With five pools at Dolphin Cove, filled with more than 17 million litres of water, you will be seated in a comfortable undercover viewing area. After the show, feel free to roam around the theme park and encounter some of your deepest fears and fascinations. Sharks anyone? You can see sharks up close and personal at Shark Bay, meet the polar bears and view underwater havens to learn all about the deep sea. There are plenty of eating options to satisfy your appetite from the casual food stalls. To give you one last blast, you can attend the WaterSki WipeOut Show. A 1960s musical, it will get you singing along to old time classics and enjoying the colourful costumes and light humour.

This will be an evening to remember!



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### Australia uncovered... some interesting facts

In 1838 it was declared illegal to swim at public beaches during the day! This law was enforced until 1902.

Police force - Australia's first police force was a group of 12 of the most well behaved Convicts.

Female vote - Australia was the second country in the world to give women the vote

In 1954, Bob Hawke was immortalised by the *Guinness Book of Records* for sculling 2.5 pints of beer in 11 seconds. Bob later became the Prime Minister of Australia.

Emus and kangaroos cannot walk backwards, and are on the Australian coat of arms for that reason.

Alcohol- It has been reported that the first European settlers in Australia drank more alcohol per head of population than any other community in the history of mankind.

Prime Minister Harold Holt went for a swim at Cheviot Beach, near Portsea on 17th December 1967, and was never seen again. The event has been referred to as 'the swim that needed no towel'.

Until 1984, Australia's National anthem was "God save the Queen/King".

*More interesting facts next edition...*

**The 17th World Transplant Games - August 22-30, 2009. Proudly supported by**



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