

Planning on Setting a World Record?
Click here to see past results and records.

Issue 7

100 Days-To-Go!

Today is exactly 100 days until the 17th World Transplant Games! Imagine – the world's largest awareness event for organ and tissue donation. And it's on the beautiful Gold Coast, Australia.

I am ecstatic to be welcoming you to the Games and to this magnificent country. There is also so much to get done between now and then, but we can proudly report that the games management is coming along nicely.

If you've already registered, please phone, door knock, email, SMS – whatever it takes – to get your fellow athletes to register before June 15. There are almost 1,600 people registered from 46 WTGF member countries so far which means we are on track for a world record – help us to get more than 2,000 to the Games.

The English are certainly bringing a merry bunch and if you happen to notice the tea stock is running short, its because they are bringing the largest international team (300 strong). The home nation is rivalling these numbers closely and I'm sure the competition will be hot.

Hopefully your training schedule is on schedule. Australia has a proud history of sportsmanship, great sports people and spectator-fever, and these games will be no different. Check the results from the Bangkok Games to weigh up your record setting skills or to inspire your training program.

The most important question... what should you pack? Here's a quick guide to what you'll need to survive what will be a great Games:

1. Your cossie, trunks, bathers, swimmers, budgie smugglers – or if you're French, your 'maillon de bain'. The water temperature promises to be around 20-22 degrees Celsius, which is quite barmy compared to what our English friends are use to.
2. Slip, slop, slap. Don't forget the sunscreen. Days will be quite warm - remember the phrase – 'Queensland – beautiful one day, perfect the next'.
3. Your sunnies – the days in August should be clear blue skies with plenty of sunshine. Don't forget your sunglasses.
4. There'll be a great shindig at the gala dinner so frock up – in other words, bring something glamorous.
5. A good hat – you probably won't need one complete with dangling corks to keep the flies away but a good broad-rimmed hat is essential for surviving Australia.
6. Your joggers. Although accommodation is quite close to the Games Village, a pair of casual sports shoes won't go astray.
7. Binoculars – its whale watching season, so if you plan to venture out into the deep blue a pair of



binoculars is a must.

8. Some courage – at Seaworld you can swim with the sharks – it is safe, we promise. However a little bit of courage won't go astray.

9. Your thongs – well at least that's what we call them in Australia. Flop flops, sandals, double pluggers. Anything to encourage a bit of sand between the toes. And you if you decide to bring your other thong – well that's none of our business.

A beach towel – they'll be plenty of chance to catch a few rays – with plenty of sunscreen of course. Then again you could forget your towel and buy one of our special limited edition towels to celebrate the World Games.

All the best and look forward to meeting you here!

Chris Thomas
Chair Local Organising Committee
CEO Transplant Australia



Squash Venue Change

Due to venue refurbishments, the squash will now be played at the Nerang Squash and Fitness Centre in Nerang. This is a great venue, close to the Games Village and Hub and will definitely be enjoyed by both players and spectators.

Registrations

Registration closes on June 15, 2009. There are over 1,500 people registered for the Games – so come join us! Register online [click here](#).



Medical

The Games Office cannot accept your medical certificates before July 20. It is a medical requirement that forms are current to one month before competition, so please talk to your team manager who will be providing the Games office with your forms.

We have received some enquiries regarding the Games after the recent outbreak of Swine Flu. We believe there is no need to cancel the Games but can assure we will continue to monitor situation. Australia has not been affected so we are looking forward to seeing you on the Gold Coast in just over 4 months.

Volunteer Profile

Willie Uys – South African National Chairman and WTGF Councillor

Why are you inspired to be a part of these Games?

I just believe in the principle of being thankful and "giving back". I have been so blessed to have had my wife, Heilie's health restored by someone who donated a kidney. I would like to spread the message to assist those

who are still on waiting lists and those who are considering the question of becoming a donor.

What are you involved in?

After Heilie's transplant we got involved with Transplant Sports in South Africa. I am now the National Chairman and in 2007 was also elected to the WTGF Council. It is an honour to be able to serve as a non-transplanted person.

How are these Games going to be memorable?

It is our third WTG and we look forward to seeing "old" friends and to making new friends and to just experience the wonderful camaraderie among transplantees, donors and donor families, their families and friends. What a wonderful experience!

How many in your Team and what are your country colours?

40 athletes and 22 supporters. Our colours are very close to that of Australia - rumour is that they wanted so much to be like the South Africans that they chose these colours!! South Africa's colours are primarily Green & Gold while Australia's colours are Gold & Green. Our flag is a multi-coloured flag which I believe is going to be seen very regularly on the podiums at the Games this year.



To read earlier editions of the World Transplant Games Circular [click here](#).

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



© Transplant Australia Ltd. All rights reserved.

[Contact Us](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Unsubscribe Newsletter](#)