

CDH Australia Newsletter



Supporting families and
medical professionals along
their CDH journey



From the President...

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Welcome to our first newsletter for 2011. So many things have happened since our last newsletter was released that this edition should keep you reading for quite a bit!

I guess the most obvious thing to comment on first is our wonderful new look newsletter. A special welcome and thank you to Jody, our new editor. As you can see we have already put her hard to work and she has done an amazing job with this, her first edition.

Our website finally went live on Friday 3rd of September. Many hours went into planning, designing, writing and testing the new website to ensure it is as informative and user-friendly as it could be. The design brief for the website was to reflect the diversity of the people we support so that when they visit our site they feel welcome to become a part of our community, which includes parents/carers, adult survivors, extended family and friends and health care professionals caring for people affected by CDH. We have received wonderful feedback and hope it is helpful to CDH families from around the world.

Last year's CAAF in Brisbane was wonderful and we are all looking forward to this year's CAAF in Sydney. You can read all about Brisbane 2010 and find out some basic information for Sydney 2011 in this edition. We hope to see you there.

On Sunday 13th March 2011 our inaugural Sunflower Sunday was held at different locations around the country. I hope you enjoy reading about these events as well as looking at the photos as much as the families did attending the day. This annual event is sure to grow as each year passes and we look forward to seeing lots more families attending and bringing along their family and friends to help spread awareness.

Last but certainly not least, a couple of our longest serving volunteers have decided it is time retire. We can't thank Jo Kjaersgaard and Wendy McKay enough for the dedication and help they have given CDH Australia and more importantly CDH families over the years. We wish them all the very best.

Make sure you keep up with the latest CDH Australia news via the home page of our website www.cdh.org.au



Danielle Kessner

President, CDH
Australia
president@cdh.org.au



Thank You

The Board of Directors would like to thank all of our volunteers for their ongoing support and the following people for their hard work and support over the past months:

Rebecca Bolger	Angela Logozzo	Dr Rod Hunt	Margaret Polacska
Blair Bonser	Nutwork	Danielle Kessner	Artisan Recruitment
Liz Conway	As One	Tara Kessner	Maryanne Reid
Jody Farrell	Wendy McKay	Professor Roy Kimble	Steph Vanloon
Viv Fogarty	Jade Melrose	Joanne Kjaersgaard	Karen Vella
Kellie Greenfield	Rebecca Mills	Damon Knott	Lynda Viset
Rodney Greenfield	Amanda Mulder	Sharon Knott	Linda West
Dr Nadia Gould	Kath Murphy	Kevin Lizars	Alicia Wood



www.rgphotography.net.au

Two of our wonderful long term volunteers have decided that it is time to step down from their positions within CDH Australia. We can't thank these wonderful ladies enough for the dedication they have shown over many years towards supporting CDH families.



Joanne Kjaersgaard was our original state contact for South Queensland as well as being on our very first board of directors as the Volunteer Coordinator. Joanne has been active within CDH Australia since our Australian families first started contacting each other.



Wendy McKay has been our newsletter editor for the past 6 years as well as supporting expecting families whenever called upon to help.



Presentation to the Corrs Chambers Westgarth

On Friday 15th October a delegation from CDH Australia, made up of Danielle Kessener, Sharon Knott, Maryanne Reid, Kathryn Murphy and Linda West met with Daryl Clifford, Partner and Pro-Bono Brisbane Partner and Jo Dwyer, Special Counsel from the firm Corrs Chambers Westgarth. The reason for the meeting was to present a certificate of appreciation and convey our thanks to Corrs for the pro bono assistance provided by Jo Dwyer and Allison Chappell to enable CDH Australia to become an official entity. Corrs provided advice on becoming a registered charity with gift deductible status and together with a group of our members drafted our constitution and liaised with ASIC to complete and file all documentation required.



Danielle gave a short presentation on CDH Australia showing the work we do and how far we have come as an organisation as well as outlining our plans for the future.

Written by Linda West

Birthday and Anniversary Wishes

CDH Australia wishes all our Cherubs who have recently celebrated a birthday or who have an upcoming birthday, a wonderful day!

CDH Australia is thinking of all our angel cherubs and their families on their birthdays and anniversaries.





Membership

Our members run our organisation. They vote on various issues, elect our board and fill director positions. We have different types of membership that encompass a diverse range of people with varied connections to CDH. Our paid-up members support us by contributing to our administration costs so that the majority of donations and fundraising can

go towards helping families. So why not become one? Membership only costs \$20 a year or \$10 for concession. Go to <http://cdh.org.au/become-a-member/> to sign up.

CDH Australia would like to extend a warm welcome to all of our new members.

Family stories

On our website families are able to share their personal CDH journey with other families through their children's stories, photos, blogs, videos and poems. <http://cdh.org.au/our-families/>

We would love to include your cherub on our website. To submit a photo and/or story of your cherub please email information@cdh.org.au

Gabriel Kia



I was very excited to be going for my 18 week ultrasound on Valentine's Day of 2007. This was my second pregnancy, and I was hopeful for a baby brother for my daughter. Like most expectant parents I was excited about seeing my baby up on the screen, hearing the heart beat and getting some pictures to show off to my family and friends. Unfortunately things didn't go as planned, it was also the day we first heard the words Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia.

We got the news we had hoped for, we were expecting a little boy! We were ecstatic to hear that it was a boy,

we asked the sonographer to check again to be sure. But the sonographer had other things on her mind. She looked preoccupied; she was flicking through a book and looking at the screen back and forth. We started the ultrasound again. It seemed to be taking a long time and by now my daughter had had enough of sitting still. Finally we were told something but not what we wanted to hear. The sonographer told us she had found a few problems and would go find a doctor.

The doctor finally came after what felt like a lifetime. She asked a few questions then started the ultrasound again. They talked quietly, I didn't like where this was going. Finally the doctor said something, thank God I thought she is going to clear this all up – just a mistake.

I can't remember everything or what I asked the geneticists. Was I even talking? I was in complete shock, maybe in denial.

Had to be. I was wrong. Next thing I knew I was waiting to see the Geneticist. Friends and family were ringing me to get the news from the ultrasound, I couldn't answer, I was just sitting in the room in disbelief.

I can't remember everything or what I asked the geneticists. Was I even talking? I was in complete shock, maybe in denial. [Continued](#)



Member Profiles

Kellie Greenfield

Hi my name is Kellie Greenfield and after 12.5 years I married the love of my life Rodney. We have had three beautiful children; Erika Bree (19/09/1997), Chloe Olivia (our cherub 01/07/2003 – 14/07/2003) and my little man Caleb John (07/06/2004). We currently live in Wetherill Park NSW.

I am currently working at ASICS in Customer Service/Admin roll; I am also OHS chairman, Fire warden and first aider, with the company. I also work with Rodney in his photography business.



Our weekends are jam packed with kids sport and we love to go to the footy to watch the Penrith Panthers.

I am hoping I can give back something to CDH Australia as they have been wonderful support over the years. I am honoured to be part of CDH Australia I am looking forward to what the future may have in store for me.

Chris Waite

I am the very proud mother of 4 children, 3 girls and 1 boy, and a besotted grandma of 4 beautiful grandchildren, 2 boys and 2 girls.

I work full time in a management role with the state government, and whilst at times it is challenging, mostly it's a very rewarding way to spend the day. My passion is travel, both within Australia and overseas and at the moment my motto is "so little time, so many places to see" I enjoy reading, puzzles, watching sport and gardening. I walk regularly to keep fit.

Through extended family I have been introduced to CDH. My involvement with CDH at Board Level has added a new dimension to my life, and I am honoured to be associated with such an amazing group of people.





Volunteers

Have you, or someone you know, ever thought about volunteering for CDH Australia? CDH Australia relies on volunteers to keep our non-profit organisation running. We have many different voluntary roles to suit all kinds of different skill sets.

<http://cdh.org.au/volunteer/>

We Need You!

We are currently looking for a South QLD Surviving State Contact. What will this involve?

- welcome new members
- inform new members of services we have
- distribute published information to hospitals,
- doctors and clinics
- ongoing support will be given to you in your role

We also need State Contact volunteers for the following:

VIC – Grieving Contact

TAS – Grieving Contact

SA – Surviving Contact

Fundraising more your thing? We are always looking for volunteers to join our Fundraising Committee.

If you are interested in volunteering for any of the above positions, please contact Volunteer

Coordinator, Sharon Knott volunteer@cdh.org.au

We need you!!!

Online Shop

You can order merchandise, membership and support information through our online shop. It's easy to use and online payments are securely made through Paypal. Buying CDH Australia merchandise is a great way to raise awareness of CDH.

<http://cdh.org.au/products-page/>

Awareness Wristbands

Child and Adult sized silicone wristbands with CDH Awareness on one side and CDH Australia's web address www.cdh.org.au on the other side are available for purchase at our online shop. The cost is \$5 each (postage is included).

Please note that the child size may also be suitable for a small female adult wrist.

[Children's Awareness Wristbands](#)

[Adult Awareness Wristbands](#)



CDH Wristbands



CDH USB Thumb Drives
\$17.20 P&H included



Donations

CDH Australia would like to thank the following people for their generous donations. We also sincerely thank those that have donated but wish to remain anonymous.

Name	Details	Tribute Message
Paul & Shirley Donnelly	In memory of Oskar Matteo Mugica	
Julie & Adrian Brown	In memory of Jake John Marshall	
United Way	In the name of Jaana Rosenlund, in honour of Gabriel Kia	
Opec Systems Pty Ltd	In memory of Jessica Kate Murphy	In loving memory of Jessica Kate Murphy
Sophie Franet	In memory of Lachlan Romanyk	A dollar to honour each day of your precious life and courageous journey here on earth.
Julian & Danielle Kessner	In memory of Alyssa Kessner	Donation made in memory of our beautiful daughter Alyssa Kessner for Christmas 2010.
Barry Quirk	In memory of Alyssa Kessner	
Gae Quirk	In memory of Alyssa Kessner	
Christopher Quirk	In memory of Alyssa Kessner	
Kathryn Murphy	In memory of Jessica Kate Murphy	In memory of our beautiful baby girl for Christmas 2010.
Peter Howarth	In memory of Gwen Howarth	
Barry Howarth	In memory of Gwen Howarth	
Danielle Kessner	In memory of Gwen Howarth	
Mary Stone	In memory of Gwen Howarth	
B Howarth	In memory of Gwen Howarth	
Ghassan & Genevieve Zakkour	In memory of Anthony Maroun	

Donate and Fundraise

CDH Australia also thanks and acknowledges the enormous efforts that many individuals have made holding and organising fundraising events. These events have included a chocolate drive, a cinema night, bbq/cake stall, Undercover Wear Party and Funraysia.

Donations and fundraising help us to help families. You can support CDH Australia by collecting donations or hosting a fun event for your school or work community. To learn how you can donate or fundraise go to <http://cdh.org.au/how-you-can-support-us/>



Events

CAAF 2010



The CDH Australia Annual Forum (CAAF) 2010 was held on Saturday 16th October in Chermside Brisbane – always a popular destination as families often extend their trip into a family holiday in the Sunshine state. The venue for our AGM and forum were conveniently located within walking distance to our apartments.

After our presentation to Corrs and the AGM on Friday afternoon a number of our families gathered together to share a social drink and friendly chat before heading out to dinner. This gave families a chance to catch up with old friends and get to know new friends.

On Saturday at the forum CDH Australia's president, Danielle Kessner, delivered a presentation to the group which gave a general overview of CDH Australia's history, achievements and aims (both short and long term).

We were then fortunate enough to be given the opportunity to listen to Professor Roy Kimble present. Roy is a Paediatric Surgeon & Director of Burns & Trauma in the Combined Department of Paediatric Surgery, Brisbane. Previously Roy was involved with

research in fetal surgery on babies with congenital diaphragmatic hernia - specifically oesophageal ligation and the growth of fetal lungs in a fetal ovine model of diaphragmatic hernia.



Roy gave us a history on CDH in utero research that has been conducted in Australia and around the world. It was amazing to see the work that has gone into this field and also to gain an insight as to why the majority of specialists in Australia have decided it is not the direction to follow for improving the survival rate of CDH babies. Roy made his contact details available to our CDH families in Brisbane who felt they wanted their CDH children to have a follow-up appointment with a surgeon.

Before breaking for lunch a ceremony to honour our cherubs was held. The parents attending were called one-by-one to place their cherub's name card in a display and Wendy and Ken McKay remembered the grieving mums by presenting flowers that Lynda Viset had once again thoughtfully made for them.



We then remembered all of our Australian cherubs by watching a touching slideshow created by Viv Fogarty featuring our beautiful children.

After lunch, we shared our individual CDH stories with each other which is always emotional but a lovely way to get to know each other a little

better. This was followed by Liz Conway, a counsellor with SANDS Queensland. Liz outlined and discussed the different stages of grief and how these stages are different for every individual. She also talked about ways to support people who are grieving with regards to what to say and maybe more importantly, what not to say.

Although the various sessions throughout the forum meant different things to different people, the feedback we have received has been very positive and everyone got something from the forum. This was made possible by the great job the babysitters did in keeping the children occupied, with lots of toys, games and face painting so that parents could participate in the sessions.

Families had another chance to socialise at the family dinner on Saturday night. By the end of the evening there were some very weary children not to mention parents! On Sunday a chartered bus took our families to the Australian Zoo for our family day out. It was a perfect way to end our weekend with parents and children alike having the opportunity to raise some CDH Awareness and experience all the delights of this world famous zoo that meant so much to Australian icon Steve Irwin. CDH Australia would like

to extend its heartfelt thanks to the following people who helped make this weekend so special:

- Professor Roy Kimble
- Liz Conway
- Linda West
- Sharon Knott
- Angela Rice
- Moira Rice
- Tara Kessner
- Steph Vanloon
- Fiona Rice
- Wendy McKay
- Jo Kjaersgaard
- Grant and West Families
- Viv Fogarty
- Lynda Viset
- Margaret Polacska
- Danielle Kessner
- Damon Knott - As One Advertising & Marketing
- Kevin Lizars - As One Advertising & Marketing
- Alastair Crimp - C2P Solutions
- Kedron Wavell Services Club
- Chermside Library
- Chermside Apartments
- Bella Cosi
- Jenine Smith - Australian Paper

An extra special thank you goes out to Linda West who spent so much time organizing this weekend. Without her it would never have gone ahead.





“Given the positive comments below, we’re already looking forward to meeting up next year in Sydney”.

‘I have had so many unanswerable questions since Leon passed away 5 years ago. The talk by a doctor who has researched into CDH was a healing experience for me as he put into words one of the cruellest things that I have faced... Wondering if I had given birth in a different hospital or country would the impact on Leon have been less. He was able to state pretty much categorically that there has been no really spectacular advances in pre-natal treatment of babies with CDH, and that any hospital that states it has an 80 per cent success rate has changed the way it counts the babies diagnosed with CDH because there has been no real progress from the global 50 or 60 per cent survival rate of babies diagnosed with CDH.’

‘It was excellent to be able to hear from someone who has done research into CDH and how it might be possible to lessen its impact on our children. Even though what he was saying is that CDH is a hard problem to ‘solve’. Basically the statistics on how many babies will survive have not significantly changed in 20 years despite all the technological and medical advances of this era. He seemed to be saying that he is practically at a loss as to how to continue research on CDH as everything he has tried has not given an improvement or has been too risky to try on real babies. I think that although it sounds like there is not much hope of miraculous change, the fact that research is being done and has been done means there is hope that there will be a solution in the future, and perhaps that it will come from a direction we don’t expect - for example, research in other fields can impact on research into CDH if there are doctors and scientists out there with the concern that advances can be made in the prevention of or lessening impacts of CDH on babies. If these doctors and scientists read about current research and question whether a particular advance could have an impact on CDH research; they will be asking the right questions at the right time for an advance in other fields to be used in CDH research subsequently.



‘It was good to meet others who are faced with the same issues and questions - makes it feel slightly less tough to deal with, even though I wouldn’t wish these issues and questions on anyone!’ – Fiona QLD

“Brisbane 2010 was my first CAAF but I was so glad to go and I met some really inspirational people that I will hold dear to me forever.” – Kellie NSW

“Was great to catch up with old friends and make some new ones, great city, great venue and really well put together. It was fantastic to find out what research has been carried out by Professor Kimble.” – Damon WA

“I had the privilege of babysitting at the Brisbane2010 CAAF. The kids had loads of fun playing together, and were well behaved. They all enjoyed playing with the toys and activities that were brought along, and their favourite activity was painting each other’s faces with face paint.” – Tara Vic



“We left the 2010 CAAF with a sense of belonging, spending time with people who just ‘get it’ with no explanation needed was such a gift to us on our own journey. It was great to be able to put some faces to names and meet some of the people who dedicate so much time to CDH Australia. Listening to the professor gave us mixed feelings, but all of them valuable. For Warwick the factual nature of the presentation cleared up some unanswered questions and enabled him to see just how the odds were stacked against our little man. I couldn’t get past hearing that the outcomes for babies with CDH are not much different today then (for us) six years ago. Although this was disappointing it did ignite that passion for supporting change again. We find it is easy to get caught up in the loss surrounding CDH so as grieving parents a real highlight was meeting some surviving Cherubs. We also gained a great appreciation for the strength of their parents! I would recommend attending a CAAF to anyone who has been touched by CDH, such a safe and understanding place to share with other families :-).” - Jody & Warwick QLD



CDH Australia Annual Forum (CAAF) Sydney 2011



This year’s CAAF will be held in Sydney from Friday 21st to Sunday 23rd October. The CAAF is a fantastic opportunity to meet other CDH families or to catch up with friends. We hope to see lots of our CDH families in beautiful Sydney this year and remember extended family members (grandparents, aunts/uncles etc) and friends are also welcome to attend.

The conference program will incorporate medical workshops on Friday, support workshops on Saturday and the CDH Australia AGM on Saturday afternoon. In addition, social events will be held; a family dinner on Friday and Saturday night and a family day on Sunday at Jamberoo Action Park (transport provided).

If you wish to attend any part of the conference, please complete a [CAAF Registration Form](#) and email it back to our Volunteer Coordinator Sharon Knott volunteer@cdh.org.au as soon as possible.

For more information on the CDH Australia Annual Forum (CAAF) Sydney 2011, visit our events page online at:

<http://cdh.org.au/events/>



Sunflower Sunday



CDH Australia's
Day Of Celebration And Awareness
Of
Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia
www.cdh.org.au

CDH Australia celebrated its inaugural Sunflower Sunday on the 13th March 2011 with CDH families gathering in parks to share a fun picnic with their extended families and friends. Events were held in Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne and Perth and an event was planned for Townsville but had to be cancelled due to severe weather conditions. There were also a few smaller gatherings held by families around Australia.

It was a day to celebrate our wonderful support group, CDH Australia, and the friendships that have been made across the country, and around the world, between people who would never have met had it not been for our shared CDH bond. We also celebrated and acknowledged our wonderful volunteers who give up their time to help families going through tough times, times that the volunteers have been through themselves. Sunflower Sunday was also about raising CDH awareness and how it affects children and their families. Awareness is crucial!!! Without awareness, gaining funding is difficult. And without funding we will never be able to find the cause of CDH or a cure.

The most important part of the day was all about our cherubs – our beautiful children with CDH who we hold close, whether in our arms or in our hearts. By releasing balloons for our cherubs we remembered their fighting spirits, their preciousness and their gift of love with smiles breaking through our tears.

Comments from the day highlight how important Sunflower Sunday was to our families and how it touched people in different ways.

MELBOURNE

“This was another emotional day for me. To be there as a CDH mum who paid the ultimate price with the loss of our child only a few months earlier, it was sad, very sad but at the same time a nice way to formally recognise and remember the CDH journey my little gladiator fought so hard to beat for what was his 10 short weeks of life. CDH came into my life on the 18th of April 2010 when our son was first diagnosed and will now be a part of my life forever.”

“For me the best part was catching up with CDH families and also introducing new friends to CDH Australia. The awareness is spreading as one of my friends who came along has been wearing her awareness band and telling people at her gym about CDH. We had a lovely, relaxing time and are grateful the weather held out long enough for us to release the balloons for all the cherubs. The day wasn't too sad for me as it was more about sharing the day with friends. I had let the tears flow in the couple of weeks leading up to Sunflower Sunday as I read all the cherub stories on the website to remember them.”

“Was great to catch up with other CDH families in a relaxed setting. It was really lovely to take the time to have a moment of reflection when we came together for the balloon release. I know it meant different things to each family as we all hold our own memories in our hearts.”

[Click here for Melbourne photos](#)





SYDNEY

“Sunflower Sunday was a wonderful day, Sydney’s weather turned right out and we had a lovely crowd, we had families come from as far as Canberra, we had some very inspirational families there we met some beautiful cherubs like Arianna, Holly, Liam and Simon and we also honoured some beautiful cherubs that were with us in spirit Brayden, Chloe and Lewis. It was a very emotional day towards the end and when it came to reading Sunflower Sunday words I could not do this, I then passed onto Jade who got through a little and her emotions took hold then it was onto Kris to finish it for us. Not only was it Sunflower Sunday it would have been Brayden’s 9th birthday.

What a day for Sunflower Sunday to fall on. Sydney’s first Sunflower Sunday was a great success and looking forward to it being bigger and better next year.”

[Click here for Sydney photos](#)





PERTH

“Sunflower Sunday in Perth saw families and friends at Perth’s Kings Park. Perth’s weather was perfect for our very first Sunflower Sunday.

Grandparents and children enjoyed playing cricket and the children had loads of fun on the play equipment. Our balloon release was watched by many and was really beautiful. We had a lovely lunch and got to know each other. We look forward to Sunflower Sunday 2012 and seeing many of our CDH Australia WA friends.”



“On Sunday 13th March 2011, at Kings Park in Perth, I meet up with other families that have children with CDH. Meeting our families helped me understand and find out more about kids with CDH. I meet a wonderful woman named, Sharon, who has a son that has the same RCDH as my son does. We talked about feeding delays and speech delays, even just the physical side of things, like the recession in the chest. The 2 boys, Liam and Eli, had the best time ever, meeting each other, although shy at first, they became close and played for a good number of hours. Declan, my other son, had fun playing with Sharon’s husband, he didn’t want to leave he was having that much fun. We all had a wonderful lunch, talked for ages, kids played all day. As the day came to an end, it was sad to leave as I had so much fun meeting Sharon that I didn’t want to leave.

Now that I have met other families with CDH and have been introduced to their website, I have met more and more wonderful people that share the same conditions as my son and it’s wonderful to share our information and stories and I now know that with all this help, and if it wasn’t for Sharon, then I would have thought that our family was the only one out there. Sunflower Sunday was the best day ever and I would encourage everyone to come to the next one.”

[Click here for Perth photos](#)

BRISBANE

“A small group of members, together with friends and extended family, gathered at New Farm Park for morning tea on what was an absolutely beautiful day. We shared some yummy treats and swapped stories of our experiences. Those of us who had met previously took the time to catch up; we were also thrilled to meet some new members who had come along. The kids all had a ball exploring the park and using the great facilities. The event finished with our special ceremony and the release/blowing of a park full of bubbles. It was a great day. We look forward to doing it again next year and hope to share it with a lot more members.”

[Click here for Brisbane photos](#)





Sunflower Day at Wishing Well Childcare Centre

On Thursday 14th March my cherub Ariana and I spent the morning at the Wishing Well Childcare Centre to raise awareness for Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia (CDH).

As the children sat down to paint their pictures of Sunflowers (sunflower being the symbol for CDH), we explained to them what the sunflowers represented.

They were told how Ariana and other babies like her were a little sick when they were born. They had to spend some time in the hospital to get better and the sunflowers they were painting will be sold to their Mummy and Daddy for \$2 and the money will be donated to help the sick kids get better. They were all very excited to help and couldn't wait to start painting.

After they had finished painting Ariana spent a little bit of time in the Possum, Joey and Kookaburra rooms to play with the other children so that they all could understand that no matter if someone had or has a illness, they are still the same and it is ok to play with them.



As a parent of a surviving CDH baby it was heart-warming to see all the kids get involved and how accepting they are of Ariana even after knowing she had a different start to life. Not one child thought of her any differently, and that is something that I and each parent of the students at Wishing Well Child Care should be proud of.

This day was followed up with a Family Day held on Tuesday 5th April. There was a Jumping Castle, Face Painting, Biscuit Decorating, Painting and Crafts all with the same theme of Sunflowers.

There was a \$2 donation to those who attended of which will be put to a donation for CDH Research. Although I didn't sell any arm bands like I would have liked to, I did spark a curiosity in most adults.

The school had organised the Penrith Press to attend where I got to speak to them and tell the story of my Cherub Ariana. [This article](#) was printed in our local newspaper in hope that it will raise awareness in each household and give hope to those who may be battling the same battle we did 2 ½ years ago.

It was fun day and all the kids enjoyed it. Hopefully next time the parents won't be afraid to approach me to ask questions.

Written by Jade Melrose

[Click here](#) to view photos from the Wishing Well Childcare Centres CDH Awareness Day and Family Day.





Join Us

On the Forum or in the Chat Room!

Our chat room is open to registered users who can log in and chat with others.

Registration is free!

CDH Australia forums are a valuable support to people dealing with CDH. The forums are secure and there are a wide range of forum topics for parents of cherubs as well as family and friends. We encourage all registered users to frequently visit our forums to not only find support but to also give support to others in need.

Registration is easy and can be applied for at:

<http://cdh.org.au/accessing-online-support/>

For details on upcoming events:

www.cdh.org.au/events/



www.facebook.com/pages/CDH-Australia/113796065328334

CDH Australia Contact Details

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ABN: 60 131 315 145

Please see the below links for current details including roles and contact details of:

Volunteers

<http://cdh.org.au/volunteers/>

Board of Directors

<http://cdh.org.au/board-of-directors/>



Editor's Note



Welcome to Issue 1 2011!

Thank you to everyone who has helped pull this edition together and to the Board of Directors for their suggestions, support and patience.

I am excited to be working in this position with such a great team of people and for an organisation close to my heart. Sadly our son Bailey passed away in 2004 after being born with LCDH. We have been blessed with a little brother for Bailey who is now 4 years old (Clayton). Residing in Brisbane close to our family, we spend our time with family and friends, working, planning and looking forward to holidays!

I look forward to meeting some more amazing people and hearing about your CDH journey at the 2011 CAAF in Sydney!

If you have any suggestions, comments or would like to contribute something to be published in the coming newsletters please email newsletter@cdh.org.au

Until next time.....:)

Jody Farrell

Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.

Martin Luther King, Jr.

DISCLAIMER: The information in this newsletter is for education only. It is not meant to be used in the place of proper medical care and advice. CDH Australia does not encourage or discourage any medical treatments or procedures. Our purpose is to educate families and medical care providers so that they may make the best decisions for the patients' interests. You cannot compare your child to other children born with CDH, they are all different. The opinions aired by contributors to this web site are their personal views are not necessarily the views of CDH Australia, or its members or staff.