

SKiP Newsletter

December 2012

Issue # 1

SKiP – ‘Support Kids in Pain’ is launched!

We are pleased to share with you SKiP's official launch on the 12th July at the Victoria Park Golf Club, Brisbane.

It was our honour to have our patron Emeritus Professor Tess Cramond AO, OBE speak on SKiP's behalf.

SKiP would like to thank the wonderful guest speaker for the evening Emeritus Professor Roly Sussex AOM.

We extend our thanks also to those who provided items for the silent auction:

Queensland REDS for donating a signed and framed shirt; Professor Robin Cooke; Caloundra Quilters, the Brisbane Art Institute and Artists for the donation of their works including Kathryn Blunke; Sally Cox; Stewart Free; Sandi Harrold; Sarah Hickey; Diana Kalas; Michael Stanley and Svetlana Trefilova.

Congratulations to all the successful bidders and hopefully much joy is given by the purchases.

Many thanks to our volunteers, without whom the evening would not have been possible nor have gone as smoothly.

The evening was successful in raising over \$5000 to support children in pain.

A Quick Overview – the Why, What and How of SKiP

Why: Because the current system abandons too many kids suffering chronic pain

What: We're building on proven overseas models and bringing local specialists together

How: To lead and implement programs and clinics that put kids first

With thanks to the very generous support of Mr Peter Cunningham, from RedSuit Advertising, we are working on a marketing plan for SKiP – watch out for another update on how we are skipping on early next year!



The SKiP board, Mr Bernie McGowan, Jules Mead, Dr Kathleen Cooke and Mr Justin Hartley, with guest speaker Emeritus Professor Roly Sussex and Patron for SKiP, Emeritus Professor Tess Cramond.



Lucky art auction winners – Mr Michael Dean, Dr Tania Morris and John, pictured with SKiP Directors, Dr Kathleen Cooke and Mr Justin Hartley.



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SKiP's first Media Release

A Queensland first for children and adolescents living with persistent pain has been launched to coincide with National Pain Week July 22 – 28 in Brisbane with the official opening of Support Kids in Pain (SKiP) – a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to providing support and education for children and adolescents living with persistent pain.

SKiP co-founder and Paediatric Pain Specialist Dr. Kathleen Cooke said the launch of the free-of-charge treatment and education service was long overdue and eagerly awaited by many Queensland families who struggle with the emotional, social and financial impacts of chronic pain every day.

“Each year in Queensland, approximately 1 in 5 children and adolescents are diagnosed with persistent pain, most commonly post-trauma or injury, headache, musculoskeletal and recurrent abdominal pain,” Dr. Cooke said.

“While less obvious than acute pain associated with physical injuries, persistent pain reduces quality of life and is equally debilitating, incessant and too often – suffered in silence. If left untreated, it places a physical and psychological strain on those directly affected and a financial strain on increasingly stretched support networks such as the allied health and social welfare community.

“In 2011, the Queensland Government invested \$39 million towards programs to assist adults with pain management. For every adult suffering pain, there is another youth also suffering. Despite this, to date, there remains no funding for children and adolescents.”

Dr. Cooke said through the provision of highly specialised and personalised pain management programs run by a team of expert allied health and pain specialists, SKiP will help to fill this gap.

“Like all not-for-profits, SKiP relies on the generosity of community members to help fund our life-changing services, and greatly appreciates donations of any kind which will go directly towards the funding of our free services.”

For more information about SKiP and / or to donate please visit www.skip.org.au or e-mail info@skip.org.au.



SKiP – A Brief History

- 15 October 2011 – Board of SKiP holds its first meeting
- 10 July 2012 – SKiP website, www.skip.org.au, goes live!
- 12 July 2012 – SKiP is officially launched
- July 2012 – SKiP successfully receives grant from Allens Law Firm
- 25 October 2012 – SKiP presents to Yeronga State School – “INTERACT” group
- 28 October 2012 – SKiP presents at Cordiality concert
- December 2012 – the first clinical staff to represent SKiP will be announced
- February 2013 – SKiP will commence clinical services with the launch of the PAD “Pain Assessment Days”

“A QUEENSLAND FIRST FOR CHILDREN LIVING WITH PAIN”

SKiP Presents at “Chordiality” Concert

“Chordiality” (Brisbane’s community based choir) invited SKiP to present at its concert of ‘Love, Life and Death’ at Queensland Conservatorium of Music, South Bank, Brisbane.

It was a pleasure for SKiP to be asked to speak to the sell-out audience at 'Chordiality's' concert 'Of Love, Life and Death' held at Queensland's Conservatorium of Music!

SKiP would like to thank the Board of 'Chordiality' and especially Mr Max Wheat, who kindly organised the event and sold CDs with SKiP's name on the cover!

SKiP was honoured to be asked to stay and enjoy the concert too. It was a highly professional and enjoyable performance with some outstanding students also appearing from both St. Joseph's, Gregory Terrace and St. Peters, Indooroopilly.

We look forward to the next concert being held on 9 December, 2012.

A big ‘THANK YOU’ to 'Chordiality' for generously offering to donate all proceeds at the door after the next concert.



SKiP MEETS THE STUDENTS OF 'INTERACT', YERONGA STATE HIGH SCHOOL

Kathleen and Justin made a presentation about SKiP to the wonderful students of 'Interact, Yeronga State High School back in October 2012

Students, led by their 'Interact' President, Milan asked SKiP many interesting and insightful questions.

SKiP would like to thank all concerned (especially Ms Victoria Hutchings) for the kind hospitality shown during SKiP's visit to the school.

In particular SKiP would like to thank all involved at 'Interact' for the VERY generous donation made to SKiP. 'Interact' is clearly full of very bright young leaders and the hard work and generosity shown to SKiP will directly benefit the children in pain. Thank you so much.

“15 – 30% of children will suffer chronic pain in their lives. This equates to over 100,000 Queensland children at direct risk.”

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SKiP Christmas Cards for sale – limited numbers, so get in quick!

Get these great Christmas cards, not only will your friends and family, love these funky, unique designs the money will be going to a great cause.

For just \$15 you will get a pack of 10 cards, and envelopes, and best still, we will deliver them straight to your front door! There are 5 unique designs in each pack!

To get your hands on the best Christmas cards available this festive season, contact SKiP on 0439 781 276 or via our website on www.skip.org.au

Support Kids in Pain

Let's help kids kick pain – together we can all make a difference in the lives of our children

**GET INVOLVED; FIND OUT HOW;
CONTACT US TODAY!**

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