

*Fund research, find a cure*

Cancer in Kids @ RCH invites you to celebrate the annual

## *Blue and Orange Ball*

Saturday 10 September 2011  
Sebel Albert Park



CIKA's famous Blue and Orange Ball is on again and your attendance will ensure that you can be part of the team striving to "Cure Kids' Cancer Through Research". The Ball will be held on Saturday, September 10 at The Sebel in Albert Park.

Why should you support the Ball? Each year:

- The Children's Cancer Centre at the RCH treats around 180 newly diagnosed cancer patients under the age of 18.
- Many, many children receive ongoing treatment and active follow up.
- Too many children in our community die each year of incurable cancers.

CIKA is committed to funding cancer research but we need your support. You can help by:

- Donating goods or services that can be sold at the Ball
- Organising a table of friends to come along to share a great night!

We'll have some favourite activities and some new surprises so make sure you don't miss it.



*Curing kids' cancer through research*

You are invited to join us for a fabulous night featuring a 3 course dinner and beverages as well as entertainment by the Bob Valentine band.

Saturday 10 September 2011

Sebel Albert Park  
65 Queens Road, Melbourne

6.15 for 7.00pm start

Ticket cost \$145

The evening which raises funds to find a cure for cancer in kids will also feature a grand auction, silent auction, raffle and many other great surprises.

*Ticket bookings*

Phone: (03) 9345 5037 | Email: [secretary@cika.org.au](mailto:secretary@cika.org.au)

Proudly supporting

The Royal Children's  
Hospital Melbourne





It's hard to believe that it is already more than half way through the year. 2010 was a wonderful year for CIKA as we celebrated our 30th Anniversary and we hope to bring you a commemorative publication of CIKA's 30 year history before the close of this year. In 2011 the CIKA team has continued to work hard to raise funds for paediatric cancer research. Our most recent event was the 2011 Lab Day, an opportunity for our supporters to learn more about the innovative work of Dr Denise Caruso and her team. This is cutting edge research and all found it inspiring to hear of the achievements and setbacks that come with clinical trials. It was wonderful to hear that children, who, in the past, have had such a poor prognosis, are the beneficiaries of this work.

We are now gearing up for the annual CIKA Ball. This will be held on September 10 at The Sebel in Albert Park and we are expecting a great night. If you, either personally or through your business connections, can help with donations or products for the night, please contact me by email on [president@cika.org.au](mailto:president@cika.org.au) or by mobile on 0409 369 853.

Thanks again to all of you, our wonderful supporters, who work with us to help the children and families who experience paediatric cancer.

Sandra Lehrer, President.

## Are you on the CIKA website?

We like to acknowledge our supporters and the CIKA website is one way we can do this. Manager of the website, David Clift, works hard to ensure that all our supporters are listed. The many small groups and individuals in our community who give to CIKA don't get a lot of publicity as a result of their actions – they help us because they too are committed to curing kids' cancer through research.

You can help us to keep this information current. Please visit the website at <http://www.cika.org.au/MajorSponsors> to see your listing. If you are a platinum, gold, silver or bronze sponsor and wish to update your business logo then please contact us.



## History & Aims

CIKA was founded in April 1980 by 3 families, to increase the awareness of cancer in children and to encourage financial support to aid research into children's cancer. CIKA is an official auxiliary of the Royal Children's Hospital and is open to any interested person who feels that they would like to contribute to help CIKA.

Over 140 children under 15 years of age are diagnosed with cancer each year in Victoria and 90% of these children are treated at RCH. CIKA is committed to providing funding for research into solid tumors, the most common group of childhood cancer. Solid tumors include Wilm's tumor, Neuroblastoma, Osteosarcoma and Ewing's Sarcoma.

Apart from the influence of genetic factors, inherited conditions and exposure to ionising radiation, little is known of the cause(s) of childhood cancers and nothing can be done to prevent them. Therefore, the need to continue financial support for research into childhood cancer is imperative.

The hopes and dreams of CIKA are to stop children from ever contracting these types of cancer, but if they do, to ensure that the treatment they receive is successful. At present, the only way to move positively towards these ideals is through research.

CIKA has actively supported research projects at RCH with financial assistance since its inception and will continue to do so until these types of cancer are cured. CIKA is recognised as one of the foremost fundraising auxiliaries of the RCH, Melbourne.

The CIKA logo is in memory of the children of the founding families of CIKA. One child liked birds, particularly seagulls, one child liked butterflies and the other liked flowers especially nasturtiums.

May the children rest in peace.

## Legal Notice

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Contact us at [cikanews@cika.org.au](mailto:cikanews@cika.org.au)



The current Phase I clinical trials utilizing Anti-tumour vaccines to treat children who have failed standard therapies will be finishing up in the 2011/2012 year. We will continue to offer this treatment for any eligible patients during this time, whilst we begin data collection for the completed trial participants. We will then collect and analyse follow up clinical data and correlate this with our lab based experiments. This part of the clinical trial is heavily based on the lab experiments and we are lucky to have an Honours Student helping us this year to complete this work. These experiments will form the basis of his thesis, as he has a keen interest in cancer immunotherapies. Moving on from this



RCH Research Laboratory

work we have several patient-related projects that will help us further understand the effects of tumours on the immune system and why and how they escape the immune system's normal ability to eliminate tumour cells. One project focuses on understanding the ineffective immune system found in people with cancer, while the other project looks to develop new immunotherapy agents that may be useful for several types of cancer.

Furthermore, the Children's Cancer Centre has been, for several years now, running a Tumour Bank to be sure to capture precious samples for research purposes. This Tumour Bank was implemented as a direct result of the clinical trials that CIKA has funded. Recently there has been a renewed appreciation for this resource and an understanding within the RCH, MCRI and wider community of the importance such a facility has on the impact for paediatric research locally and internationally. Thus, we need to upgrade our current Tumour Bank to come in to line with other tumour banks with the view of creating a paediatric tumour bank network. A coordinated tumour banking approach will allow researchers the opportunity to do clearly defined and applied research projects by increasing both the number and quality of samples. A high quality Tumour Bank will be an invaluable resource for the advancement in the research on paediatric cancers.

*Denise A Caruso BS PhD  
Senior Research Officer  
Children's Cancer Centre, RCH*

## Stall Dates 2011

10 February	11 August
10 March	8 September
17 March (Paddy's Market)	13 October
14 April	10 November
12 May	30 November (Andy's Market)
9 June	8 December
14 July	

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*A complex workplace*

Every two years the CIKA team, along with lead researcher Dr Denise Caruso, opens the doors to the cancer research laboratory at the Royal Children's Hospital here in Melbourne to allow the many people who support CIKA to see for themselves what they have helped to provide by their generosity and hard work. This is always a wonderful opportunity not only to visit the laboratory but to talk to the doctors involved in the important work of finding a cure for childhood cancer. Laboratory tours were conducted half hourly and were headed by Denise and fellow scientist Yosuke Minoda. We were able to see the facilities, specialised equipment and even abnormal cells under the microscope.



*Yosuke Minoda at work*



*Visitors to the 2011 Lab Day*

We welcomed over sixty guests, many from our existing support groups, and also new CIKA supporters. A special thanks to the groups of students from two Melbourne secondary schools who are looking forward to adding their help to our fundraising. We were particularly pleased that many of the guests spent time after the tours to talk to the CIKA team and to enjoy afternoon tea with the group.



*Students at the CIKA Lab Day*

# MacArthur and District Lions Club

Earlier this year, an invitation was extended to CIKA Vice president, Ellen Webb, to be the guest Speaker at the Australia Day celebration of the Macarthur and District Lions Club in the Western District. After travelling to Western Victoria, she and CIKA President, Sandra Lehrer, received a very warm welcome from members of the local community who provided a delicious BBQ dinner and supper.

Ellen spoke about the work that CIKA has done during the last thirty years, our present commitments and the important part that the community plays in supporting charities like ours.

Many of those in attendance give great support to the Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday appeal each year and the visitors heard many stories about the local connections that so many of the folk have with the RCH.

We would like to thank Lions' President, Andrew Duyvestyn for his warm welcome and to express our appreciation to all those in attendance who gave up their time to find out about the that work we do. Particular thanks are due to the Duyvestyn family who took time out of their busy schedule to make Ellen and Sandra welcome in their home.

We are most grateful to Andrew and the Club for the \$500 cheque that was presented to Sandra to help CIKA fund its commitment to research at the RCH.



*Ellen Webb (left) & Christine Duyvestyn*



*From left to right: Andrew Duyvestyn, Ellen Webb and Helen Addinsall*



*Andrew presents a cheque to CIKA president, Sandra Lehrer*

## An Interview with Catherine Chang

### **Tell us a little bit about yourself?**

I am from Malaysia and came to Australia to study at Monash University in 1999. I decided to stay and work in Australia after finishing my Masters degree in Accounting. I began working with iwood Australia in 2003 in the accounts department. I am now Business Manager for the company.

### **How did you initially become involved with CIKA?**

One of our sales representatives, Margarite Stewart, is a member of the Woodpeckers, the charity group of the furniture industry in Victoria. The Woodpeckers are platinum sponsors of CIKA. In 2009 Margarite asked the company if they would be willing to donate product for the Blue and Orange Ball. We were happy to do so and gave again in 2010.

### **How has your involvement with CIKA developed over time?**

Following the initial donation iwood made further contributions to raffle prizes. At a personal level I was interested in undertaking some charity work and so I asked Margarite more about CIKA and decided to become involved on the committee. My particular interests are in developing the sponsorship base and bringing fresh ideas to fund-raising. I want to encourage younger people to become involved in philanthropy and in working for others.



# Donvale Neighbourhood Charity Auction

The inaugural Donvale Charity auction was held on the 27th of February at the home of Jenny and George Tselepi. The afternoon began with a welcome from CIKA President, Sandra Lehrer, followed by a brief description of the work that CIKA supports, by Vice President, Ellen Webb. Jenny and her wonderful family reconfigured their living space to accommodate the seating and beautifully decorated tables for their guests, all of whom received a complimentary soap. The local business community was most generous, donating many articles for auction, and each guest also donated a gift to assist with the fund-raising. The auction was in the most capable hands of Michelle Lanigan and for over two and a half hours she cajoled and squeezed bids from the guests.



*Jenn, Lyn and Pam*



*Michelle Lanigan*



*Mary McGowan*



*Afternoon Tea!*

Guests then enjoyed a delicious afternoon tea which included an array of very fine Greek cakes and biscuits. CIKA members present were Sandra Lehrer, Ellen Webb and Fay Love. Several members of the newly formed Friends of CIKA were also spotted, namely Pam Phillips, Michelle Lanigan, Lyn Weber, and Margaret and Geoff Greenwood.

CIKA would like to pay special thanks to Pam Phillips who helped Jenny put this event together. The CIKA team were also very proud to have Mary McGowan in attendance, representing the Children's Cancer Centre. Mary delivered a heartfelt "thank you" for all the wonderful work done by Jenny and her family. Jenny's hospitality will ensure that this will be a must-go-to event next year. The afternoon was an outstanding success with over sixty guests attending and \$5,000 raised for research.

## James Dawson - update



You might know of James Dawson, diagnosed with a Wilms' Tumour when he was very young. The impact of this diagnosis is outlined in a moving story by James's older sister, Tanya, on the CIKA website at [www.cika.org.au/JamesD](http://www.cika.org.au/JamesD). James is certainly a survivor. Here he is with his proud family, photographed at the Gisborne Secondary College Deb Ball held at Melrose Reception Centre, Tullamarine in May 2011.

## CIKA Supporters



CIKA supporters Tanya and Jordan bought and donated chocolates to CIKA. They were sold by Jim and Bernie Dawson at AirServices Australia, raising \$221.00.



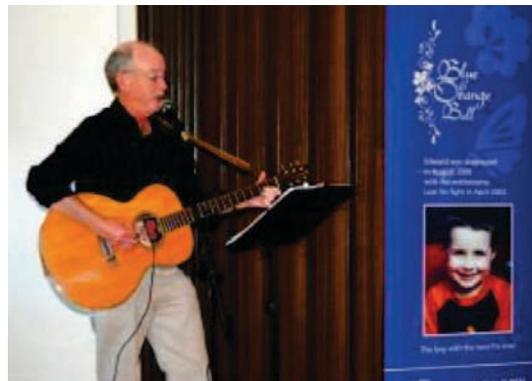


*Bidding was heated...*

It is always great to receive publicity but it is not always easy to get a foot in the door with the media. A special fundraising event in December clearly deserved the adjacent article published in the Maroondah Leader newspaper. CIKA was most fortunate to be on the receiving end of a wonderful function organized by Beverley Garrett at the Heathmont Bowling Club. A great team of people came together to supply and donate food and a multitude of other items for this event.

Faye Love and Sandra Lehrer did a superb job in setting up the CIKA stall and promotional material and Ellen Webb, as always, was a great support when it came time for speeches. It was also wonderful to have Ted and Sue Taplin with us at the event.

A special thank you to CIKA supporter Pam Phillips who did several days of baking for the luncheon and a very special tribute to Margaret and Geoff Greenwood who were recognized by CIKA and by their local Mayor for the great contribution they have made to the Royal Children's Hospital over many years.



*...but the entertainer was cool*



*Pam Phillips and Margaret Greenwood who work so hard for CIKA and the RCH*



*Organiser Bev Garrat and CIKA President, Sandra Lehrer*



*Sandra Lehrer, Margaret Greenwood, Mayor Tony Dib and Geoff Greenwood.*

## Auction has a serious message

### MY EVENT

**Beverley Garratt**

ON December 5, \$5500 was raised at a fun charity auction afternoon held at the Heathmont Bowls Club for Cancer In Kids (CIKA) at the Royal Children's Hospital here in Melbourne.

CIKA was founded in 1980 and consists of parents and friends of children who have been diagnosed with a solid cancerous tumour.

CIKA is a volunteer group and they fund vital cancer research at the hospital.

Maroondah Mayor Tony Dib and Sandra Lehrer, president of CIKA, attended on the day and presented two Maroondah residents, Margaret and Geoff Greenwood, with an award for their work over the past 15 years raising more than \$60,000.

Margaret is also well known for the beautiful jams and chutneys that she sells at the Heathmont Bowls Club to raise funds for CIKA.

Many local businesses supported this worthy cause by donating items for the auction that was attended by 80 people.

Heathmont Bowls Club kindly donated the use of their venue for the event.

Sandra Lehrer thanked the many volunteers who supported this function and also talked about the work that CIKA does and that with fundraising for research they can leverage a further \$5 for every dollar raised.

Due to the success of the day, another auction will be held in November 2011 to support research into bowel cancer.

# Focus Lunch with Peter Mitchell



The Macedon Ranges Focus Group is a long-time supporter of CIKA and, over the years, a special relationship has developed with these wonderful people. We were therefore delighted to arrange for Peter Mitchell to be the guest speaker at their sell-out June 10 lunch. Several carloads of CIKA members and their supporters enjoyed a delicious lunch at “Off the Rails” at Riddells Creek and over 90 guests heard Peter talk about his work in the media. Thank you to those that made the effort to attend. We were well rewarded with an interesting speech and great fellowship.

CIKA places great value on the support provided by the Focus Group. Through regular activities over many years the Macedon Ranges Focus Group has raised a very significant amount for paediatric cancer research.



*Peter Mitchell and Judy Liljekvist*



*Cathy Dyer and friends*



*CIKA members, Lou and Faye with Sue Manson from the RCH*



*Joy Puxley*

## Monster Raffle 2011

The CIKA Monster Raffle was drawn on Thursday 9 June, raising a record **\$5500.00**. Our thanks go to the folk who donated the prizes:

- Catherine Chang from iwood Australia
- Alex Graham from Mulhallen’s Retravison - Mitre10 Nhill
- Mercedes Benz
- Enfield Furniture
- Croydon Camera House.

A big thank you to Pam Phillips for the great effort in running the raffle. Pam also arranged the ticket printing which was donated by Minuteman Press, Heathmont.

All winners have been notified.

# CIKA Stalls set the benchmark

The CIKA stalls have gone from strength to strength in recent years. June 9 was no exception. CIKA had three stalls running simultaneously in the RCH foyer. The financial result was excellent and we thank Ruth, Sharron, Pam, Pat, Lyn, Sala and Jill for their great effort. The stalls presented an array of goods including knitwear, heat packs and a stunning new array of jewellery sourced by stalls coordinator, Ruth Murray. Margaret and Geoff Greenwood were also to be seen behind their “Jam and Apron stall”, from which all proceeds were donated to CIKA. These stalls are a constant source of income for CIKA and we would welcome your assistance. Ruth Murray, manager of the CIKA stalls, would be delighted to talk to you about donating goods and can be contacted on [0419 886 144](tel:0419886144).

The stall team consists of:

- |                       |                 |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Ruth Murray (manager) | Pam Phillips    |
| Sharon Markovic       | Sala Rubinstein |
| Sandra Lehrer         | Jill Tremonti   |
| Pat Livingstone       | Lyn Weber       |



*Ruth and Sharron hard at work preparing items for the next stall.*



*Ruth and Jill*



*Margaret & her jams*

## O-I BBQ



*Julie (third from left) and some of her fabulous team*

A cryptic title for this article but no ambiguity about the intentions of CIKA member, Julie Casilli, and a small team of committed volunteers, when they organized a recent fundraiser at O-I Melbourne. The sausage sizzle and raffle raised over \$800 for CIKA, with workmates attending the fundraiser during their breaks. The CIKA message was told via a story board collated by Julie that set out all the CIKA children’s stories together with their pictures.



*The cooks in control while the hungry queue...*



*Fed, at last.*

# Cycling Robe to Bendigo - Nov 14 to 21, 2010

The following article was written by Barry Rayner, a member of the group that cycled from Robe in South Australia to Bendigo to raise \$3259.50 for CIKA. Ruth Edelsten took the photographs.

It seems to us that there can be no more enjoyable way of fund-raising for a most worthy cause – the Cancer in Kids Auxiliary of the Royal Children’s Hospital. Not only did we cover the 550 km distance in a week, we gained in fitness, saw some wonderful scenery, met many friendly and generous country people, had a lot of fun, advertised the research supported by CIKA and raised over \$2000.

Our group of eight riders (and bus driver) aged 61 to 82 decided to follow one of the routes taken by Chinese who left their ships in Robe to walk, carrying all their belongings, to the goldfields in the 1850’s. Because one of our cycling group is a member of a focus group in Gisborne which supports CIKA and another had lost a child to cancer, we readily accepted the idea of collecting donations. We drove across to Robe, S.A., in a small bus with bike-trailer attached, arriving on Sunday November 14th in time to be taken by Shirley (Women in Black) on a conducted tour of Robe which is a lovely historic town nestling beside beautiful Guichen Bay.

Our first day’s ride (104 km) took us along mostly quiet and flat roads to Penola where the local Women on Wheels (WOW) group met us and provided several bottles of beautiful wine donated by a local vineyard, as well as spending time with us - and riding out with us next day as far as our morning tea break.

On Tuesday we encountered a few gentle hills but the shorter distance (58km) meant a really enjoyable ride to Casterton. The countryside throughout our ride at present looks a picture with lush vegetation, dams full and the crops, sheep and cattle appearing to be in prime condition. We were constantly reminded that we are fortunate to live in such a great country. But also were in awe of the Chinese whose path we were following.



## Cycling Robe to Bendigo (continued...)

Day three was especially memorable as we continued on through Coleraine - stopping for Ruth to conduct another radio interview, indulging ourselves at the wonderful chocolate factory in Coleraine, then riding on to the delightful town of Cavendish (66 km). Max celebrated his birthday - 82 years young - with the help of our fantastic new friends and hosts. We were billeted by three families as there is no permanent accommodation, however we were taken on a tour of this beautiful town, which included the very attractive camping and caravan park beside the river. Alan Brumley, one of the energetic townsfolk had arranged our visit with great enthusiasm and care. Dinner with our lovely hosts was in the town's hotel. This old hotel was to close its doors so fifteen families bought it, renovated it and now run it themselves. It really is very well-worth visiting and the views from the dining room over the river valley are great.

A photographer/reporter from the Weekly Times spent quite some time with us in Cavenish and, as we had notified all TV and radio stations as well as newspapers along the route, we had similar attention in Avoca, Maryborough and Bendigo. We were really pleased to be able to publicise the CIKA cause.

A demanding ride of about 80 km over quite hilly terrain took us through the lovely Grampians to Hall's Gap. Then on Friday across to Ararat (82km) where we visited the excellent Chinese museum (Gum San Heritage Centre).



Saturday's weather became warmer and we were pleased to have only a 60km to ride as the hills were a little more of a challenge. Our motel hosts had gone to much trouble to make sure the locals knew we were coming and several came over to have a chat as well as to donate to the cause. In fact, in every town our accommodation was excellent and the hosts very welcoming, most went to much trouble to let locals know of the visit as well as make donations themselves.

We completed the ride with a short detour to Maryborough for coffee at the historic Railway Station and on to Bendigo by early afternoon. Win TV filmed our arrival at the park beside the lake where family members had gathered to welcome our return.

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