

12 February 2010

JOIN THE LAUNCH OF AUSTRALIAN ORGAN DONOR AWARENESS WEEK

The Geelong community will be out in force to support the launch of Australian Organ Donor Awareness Week on Thursday February 18, 2010.

Australian Organ Donor Awareness Week is an annual event and runs from February 21 through to February 28.

Guest speakers will appear at the Highton Bowling Club on Roslyn Road to share their stories about organ donation and to urge everyone to sign up and save a life.

Dr David Green and Kathryn Coumans from the official organ donation authority Donateline and Barwon Health's organ donation awareness team, will be at the event to encourage the community to give the gift of life.

Barwon Health has been involved with National Organ Donation Collaborative for the past three years; working to increase the rate of Australian's donating organs. As a result of the Australian Government's \$151.1m National Organ and Tissue Donation Reform Package, Barwon Health appointed Dr David Green as medical specialist and Kathryn Coumans as Senior Nurse for their organ donor program.

For more information about organ donation visit www.donateline.org.au

Ends

For further information contact Kate Nelson on 5226 7707

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

WHO: Dr David Green, Kathryn Coumans and liver donor recipient Margaret Battie.

WHY: To promote the launch of Australian Organ Donor Awareness Week

WHERE: Main Entrance, Geelong Hospital, Bellerine Street.

WHEN: Tuesday February 16, 2010 at 1:30pm