



Educators asked to support Australia's Donor Heroes Night on May 18th 2021

May 6th 2021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Australian educators are being asked to 'leave a light on' in support of organ and tissue donation at 6pm on the evening of May 18, 2021. Known as **Donor Heroes Night**, the home-based event is designed to commemorate and celebrate the lives of approximately 10,000 Australian organ and tissue donors who have given the ultimate gift so that others may live.

The event is organised by Mr. Graham Harrison, whose 10-year-old son Ben became an organ donor on May 18th in 1993, following a surgical complication. Ben's heart and lungs went to a 12-year-old girl and his kidneys went to a 50-year-old man.

"A few years after Ben's passing, our daughter did a presentation at her secondary school about organ donation. It was something the other students really engaged with and in the end, the whole school was involved and learnt more about the topic" said Mr. Harrison.

As part of the Donor Heroes Night event, young people and their families from around Australia are asked to take a photo of their porch light and upload it to social media with a comment to their social media accounts, tagging @DonorFamiliesAustralia.

In 2020, almost 50,000 participants took part, and this year, Graham and his team are aiming to add an 'extra zero' on that figure.



Further information can be found at:

<https://www.donorfamiliesaustralia.org/events>, and
<https://www.facebook.com/DonorFamiliesAustralia>

MEDIA ENQUIRIES

Graham Harrison // Media Contact // Mobile: 0421 697 048

Bruce McDowell // Chairman // Mobile: 0427 645 262

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BOILERPLATE: Donor Families Australia is a national member-based independent support and advocacy group comprising families who have donated their loved ones' organs and tissue. It's the only organisation of its kind in Australia specifically dedicated to Donor Families.