



Volume 1 - July 2013

Hi Everyone,

Welcome to our very first newsletter, for the Georgina Josephine Foundation! We will post a bi-annual newsletter to help people keep in touch with our activities and progress.

The Georgina Josephine Foundation was registered as a non-profit organisation in February 2012 in honour of Georgina Cockburn who lost her life from a Low Speed Run Over accident (LSVR's) in April 2011.

The Foundation aims to promote awareness about LSVR's, how they can be prevented and support families who have been affected by such accidents.

I hope you enjoy our newsletter, and we have continual updates of our activities on our website and Facebook page as well.

Cheers,

Emma Cockburn

Chairperson

Georgina Josephine Foundation

WHY ARE WE DOING THIS?

The Facts and Figures

Georgina's accident prompted us to research LSVRs. It was astonishing to find this is a common occurrence. The Foundation submitted its findings to many organisations and government agencies. This resulted in a meeting with the Hon. Catherine King, Parliamentary Secretary of Infrastructure and Transport, in October 2011. Driveway Safety was included as a key topic at the National Road Safety forum held at Parliament House in August 2012.

Recent research shows:

- The incidence of fatalities is highest in the 0-5 years age group
- Most often the driver of the vehicle is a parent, close relation or friend
- Most accidents occur in the home environment, with vehicles reversing, and some moving forwards.

So, WHY?

As you know prevention is better than cure- for survivors of these types of accidents the injuries can be very traumatic to deal with, and some may never fully recover. For those who lose a loved one the effects are devastating on all those involved and the family and friends around them. One never gets over losing a child, one has to learn to live with it and that is not easy.

In order to prevent such accidents, a combination of factors needs to be in place:

- physical barriers (if there is a fence or wall, closed gate or closed door, between a child and a vehicle, there is less chance of an accident happening);
- visibility and reversing systems on vehicles,
- awareness and education- reminding people to check around their vehicle before they get in and drive; always be aware- where are the kids whenever a vehicle is moving around the property/ hold their hands, find them a safe place to play away from the car, driveway or garage.





WHAT HAVE WE BEEN DOING?

Over the last 12 months or more we have been involved in a range of events, many of which information and photos can be found on our website or Facebook page.

Some of the key events we have been involved in so far have included:

October 2011

- Meeting with the Hon. Catherine King, Parliamentary Secretary for Infrastructure and Transport.

April 2012

- Meeting with NSW Transport Minister Duncan Gay, and NRMA President Wendy Machin.

May 2012

- Queensland Injury Prevention Council- 'Putting the Brakes on Low Speed Vehicle Run-Over Accidents' forum, at the Exhibition Centre, Brisbane, where we presented the story of our experience.

August 2012

- National Road Safety forum, at Parliament House Canberra, where we also shared the story of our experience, and demonstrated our ideas for the internal access door between house and garage, electronic isolation switch for automatic roller doors, and Reverse Alert, a patented reversing system for vehicles.

Driveway Safety Displays

2011

- Young Cherry Festival

2012

- Pregnancy, Babies & Children's Expo, Sydney
- Murrumbateman Field Day
- Henty Field Day
- HIA Trade night, Wagga Wagga
- McHappy Day, Young
- Cherry Festival, Young

2013

- Dads for Kids Festival, Dubbo
- Down to Earth Opera, Young
- HIA Home Show, Sydney
- Master Builder's Association Trade Show, Wagga Wagga.

Movie Fundraiser

Monsters University (Monsters Inc 2)
Family Night at the Southern Cross Cinema



A successful fundraiser was held in June at the local Southern Cross Cinema where families enjoyed plenty of food and drink, with the opportunity to win some great 'lucky seat' prizes. Thanks to all the local businesses who donated goods to our cause- without their help we could not have had such a successful fundraising event!



Safe Driveways



Safe Children

WHAT WE PLAN TO DO:

Activities we plan to be involved with over the next couple of months include:

- National Road Safety Forum 30th July, Hobart Tasmania
- Master Builder's Association Trade Show, Roseville, Sydney- 31st July 2013
- Master Builder's Association Trade Shows and Information nights at various locations including Orange, Cowra, Griffith and Tamworth .
- Fundraising BBQ's to be held locally in Young during September and December.

SUPPORT PROGRAM

The Foundation contacts families affected by LSVR through liaison with local police. The family is sent an information package designed to assist them during this difficult stage. The Foundation invites families to contact us for further support.

The website has a designated space called 'Support' that includes a variety of information and useful links. The website also contains an 'Angel page' where families can share the story of their 'angel'.

The Foundation welcomes any ideas or suggestions to help support families. If you know someone who has been affected by such an accident, please encourage them to contact us.



Number of Facebook followers: 341 likes
Click here to view our Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/gjfoundation>



The work we do cannot happen without support. If you would like to donate you can do this through our website:
www.gjfoundation.com.au

Patron - Judith Durham

We have the wonderful patronage of Judith Durham, from the Seekers. We have been very privileged to meet with her a couple of times in the last couple of years. The song 'Georgy Girl' has special meaning for our family, and so a special moment was taking Georgina's three big sisters to 'meet the lady who sings Georgy Girl' in Canberra after the 50th Anniversary concert in May! We were very distressed when we heard that Judith had fallen ill, and we all hope she is on the road to recovery.



Ambassador- Rhys Muldoon

Rhys Muldoon (featured in Channel 9 show: Househusbands) is the Foundations first Ambassador. Rhys enjoyed assisting at the Cherry Festival display last year, including riding on our float in the parade.

Our newest Ambassador- Scott Cam

(from Channel 9's 'The Block' TV series) Scott Cam has also supported the Foundation as an Ambassador and kindly provided a video which can be viewed on our website. He is launching his own website soon (scottycam.com.au) which will list the charities he supports; including us! We had the privilege of meeting Scott at the opening of the Mitre 10 store at Hume in ACT.



www.gjfoundation.com.au

