

# GIFT OF LIFE AUSTRALIA

## SAVE A LIFE

### HELP SAVE Lilly's Life..

A special testing station has been set up at the 2008 PACIFIC UNITY FESTIVAL on Saturday 8th November '08 TEMPE RESERVE, Holebeach Ave, Tempe to help save the life of New Zealand born Lilly Kimberley Edmonds.

**Lilly is dying and needs your help.**



She has been diagnosed with an aggressive Cancer and her only chance of survival is an urgent stem cell/ bone marrow transplant. No one in her vast family of 7 brothers and sisters, 72 cousins, aunts and uncles has been found to be 100% matching.

Her only chance of finding a DNA match is within her own Polynesian Maori Pacific Island community. But the chance of this happening is only 1 in 50 000! Two teaspoons of blood is all that is needed to be tissue typed onto the Australian Bone Marrow Donor Registry, under the umbrella of the **Red Cross Blood Services (ARCBS)**.

GIFT OF LIFE AUSTRALIA and ARCBS will be testing as many potential donors as possible. You need to be in good health, between 18 & 50 years old, complete the routine Red Cross forms and have 2 teaspoons of blood taken from your arm. Its that simple.

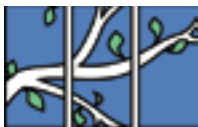
For enquiries about becoming a potential donor call Shula @ Gift of Life Australia on 0414 780 444 or email [shula@giftoflifeaustralia.org.au](mailto:shula@giftoflifeaustralia.org.au) or Maria or Joan at ABMDR 02 9229 4318 , email [jharrington@arcbs.redcross.org.au](mailto:jharrington@arcbs.redcross.org.au)

As Lilly's Mum Neta wrote *"Just remember that as strong and as healthy as Lilly looks and acts, she is not, inside she is like snow, slowly melting"*.

Anyone may donate a unit of blood anytime at any Red Cross Centre and ask to join the ABMDR Registry at the same time, call 13 14 95 [www.abmdr.org.au](http://www.abmdr.org.au)

You can also come to Wolper Hospital, Woollahra, by appointment on Sundays and have 2 teaspoons of blood collected call Shula 0414 780 444 [www.giftoflifeaustralia.org.au](http://www.giftoflifeaustralia.org.au)

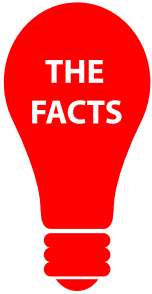
For more details regarding the Pacific Unity Festival please contact Lee Hemi, 0412 533 704 [www.pacificunity.org](http://www.pacificunity.org)



Wolper Jewish Hospital



**Don't wait until you are personally touched ...** Right now at home and around the world there are hundreds of people who are looking for hope



**Fact # 1:** **1 in 3** people will have a relative with matching tissue.  
**2 in 3** people will need to find a match in their community.  
If they don't they will die.

**Fact # 2:** The probability of finding a match between an unrelated donor & a patient in the general community is **1 in 100,000!**

**Fact # 3:** Tissue typing is inherited. The probability of finding a match within the same ethnic group is **1 in 50,000!** All ethnicities must look to their own communities to have a better chance of finding a match

**Fact # 4:** To date, the Polynesian community is under-represented on the Australian Bone Marrow Donor Registry.



Michael is 25 years old and was diagnosed with leukaemia 2 years ago. He had to look beyond his family for a match and after a world-wide search a perfect match was found via the Gift of Life's register in the US. One year after his stem cell (blood) transplant Michael went to New York to personally thank his donor who is also called Michael!  
That could be you.



**If a match is found, donating is straight forward**

A second blood sample is tested for a mixed lymphocyte culture test. Once compatibility is established, there are 2 possibilities:

1. A donor may agree to have a very small amount of bone marrow removed, usually from the pelvic bone, by needle puncture under general anaesthetic and strict hospital supervision. To date over 250,000 bone marrow transplants have been performed with no long-term adverse side effects to the donors ever reported.
2. Peripheral blood may be collected from donors for a Stem Cell Donation (PBSC). After you have been prepared for the treatment by injecting a hormone-like substance called G-CSF, the stem cells circulating in your body's blood system are collected. This procedure does not require an anaesthetic and is performed either at a hospital or blood bank.