



JULY 2022 | VOL.19

WOMBAT'S WISH NEWSLETTER

The Official Newsletter of Wombat's Wish

We have been busy behind the scenes since our last newsletter, organising new events and programs these included holding our first Gala Fundraiser event at GMHBA in April, attending a Mother's Day Lunch held by Rotary Bellarine North who kindly donated the proceeds of \$2330.33 to Wombat's Wish, and our weekend camp program headed to Camp Kookaburra Corop for the first time for the Goulburn Valley Region. We are looking forward to our upcoming weekend programs that includes our first youth program at Cottage By The Sea in July, Burnside weekend camps in August and November, Goulburn Valley camp in September and our Family Day at Inflatable World in August.

Gala Fundraiser April 2022



After 2 postponements our first Gala Fundraiser was held on Saturday the 2nd of April at GMHBA, it was a great success and raising over \$21,374.77. The night also provided awareness to those who attended the support that Wombat's Wish provides to bereaved children/young people and their families. A special thankyou to our guest speakers Jill Crookes the founder of Wombat's Wish, Brian Cook our patron and our MC for the night Jo Betz for sharing their personal stories with the guests allowing for the audience to receive an understanding of what it means to have had a parent or carer die and why the work that Wombat's Wish does is so important to grieving children/young people.

We are delighted to announce the proceeds from the night will fund a full weekend camp in 2022 this would have not been made possible without the generosity of the community.

Goulburn Valley Region Camp

At Wombat's Wish our vision is to ensure all bereaved children, young people and their families throughout Victoria receive the support they need after a death of a parent or carer. We are now servicing the Goulburn Valley Region and held our Pilot grief camp the last weekend of May at Camp Kookaburra Corop. We are returning to the Goulburn Valley Region on September the 30th to the 2nd of October 2022, this will be our last camp for the year in this region and will return in May 2023.

If you would like further information please complete a referral form at www.wombatswish.org.au/referrals or contact our office on 03 90690314

Camp Kookaburra

Goulburn Valley Region



Aleyah , Alice and I were lucky enough for Wombat's Wish to invite us to attend a weekend camp in Corop. They provide support to the children and the surviving parent after the death of a parent/partner and therapy based activities to support the process of grieving in a healthy way. The confronting statistic is 1 in 20 Australian children before the age of 18 will lose a parent/caregiver.

We have formed some amazing new widow mumma friendships and some I have no doubt will be additions to our family. There were many, many tears shed by both the girls and myself but there was just as many ahh me too moments to validate we aren't alone in our feelings and thoughts throughout this journey.

- Jessica - Parent





"Over the weekend Ella and I were invited to attend a camp run by Wombat's Wish. They help children who have lost a parent learn ways to deal with it. As well as helping parents learn to help the kids. The weekend contained Crying, Talking and Laughter and more crying - Making new friends and finding that our stories; while unique are similar. Both adults and kids found other who related and felt they could talk openly about the experience of losing a parent/partner. A huge thanks to Carly and Josh at Camp Kookaburra for having us! The food was amazing and the kids activities were awesome! Thanks to all the Camp Employees, Volunteers and people behind the scenes and Jill the camp founder. We are very excited to continue with the support of this great program."
Samantha - Parent

Corporate Sponsorship

A big thank you to all our sponsor's & donors for your support the last financial year with your help we were able to provide support to over 120 families and now servicing the Goulburn Valley Region with our camp program in Corop. Your donation made a difference in the life of a child /young person they now know they are not alone in how they are feeling and have made long life friendships, while acknowledging and accepting their loss focusing on the positives in a healthy and productive way.

Did you know that we offer our service at no cost to the children or families we support? It costs approximately \$1200 to support one child to attend camp. Wombat's Wish relies solely on the kindness of others through corporate sponsorships, donations and philanthropic grants we may receive.

Donations received under our corporate sponsorship packages are now more than ever vital for the continued growth of Wombat's Wish so that we can continue to provide support and service to every family that reaches out after a death of a parent/carer. If you can please consider showing your support of Wombat's Wish with one of our premium sponsorship opportunities please contact Nicki on 9069 0314 or nicki@wombatswish.org.au to discuss. . Every \$\$ received directly supports a child through their grief on our camp programs. The benefits of becoming a corporate sponsor in all packages of Wombat's Wish are: -A sense of community and belonging in supporting a non-

profit organisation · Maximisation of your investment within the community · Heightened awareness of your business throughout Victoria · Promotion of your business throughout our media platforms · Develop further business networks throughout Victoria · Tax deductibility options for your business*.



Provided
Weekend grief camps
Group counselling
and
Family Days



**Thank
you**



Rebuilding
children's/young
people lives after
loss



**Supported
over 120
families**

PLATINUM LEVEL SPONSORSHIP - Investment: \$20,000 ex GST per annum · 10 corporate tickets to all Wombats Wish events and fundraisers during the year · Naming rights available for 1 x Wombat's Wish major event. · The opportunity to provide a booth or stand at all Wombat's Wish events or fundraisers promoting your business. · 2 x ½ page newsletter articles throughout the year as well as business mention in every Wombat's Wish newsletter promoting your business and sponsorship. · 4 x social media posts (Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and Twitter) per quarter promoting your business and sponsorship. · Prominent placement of your logo and business synopsis on Wombat's Wish's website sponsors page with a direct link to your business. · Certificate of sponsorship and thank you to be displayed at your business. · Authorised use of the Wombat's Wish logo for your own corporate use stating that you support the organisation.

GOLD LEVEL SPONSORSHIP - Investment: \$10,000 ex GST per annum · 6 corporate tickets to all Wombats Wish events and fundraisers during the year. · An information booth or stand at all Wombat's Wish events or fundraisers promoting your business. · 1 x ½ page newsletter article throughout the year as well as business mention in every Wombat's Wish newsletter promoting your business and sponsorship · 2 x social media posts (Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and Twitter) per quarter promoting your business and sponsorship.

·Prominent placement of your logo and business synopsis on Wombat's Wish's website sponsors page with a direct link to your business. ·Certificate of sponsorship and thank you to be displayed at your business.

SILVER LEVEL SPONSORSHIP - Investment: \$5,000 ex GST per annum ·4 corporate tickets to all Wombats Wish events and fundraisers during the year. ·Your ability to provide printed material to be displayed at all Wombat's Wish events or fundraisers promoting your business. ·1 x ¼ page newsletter article throughout the year as well as business mention in every Wombat's Wish newsletter promoting your business and sponsorship ·2 x social media posts (Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and Twitter) per quarter promoting your business and sponsorship. ·Placement of your logo and business synopsis on Wombat's Wish's website sponsors page with a direct link to your business. ·Certificate of sponsorship and thank you to be displayed at your business.

BRONZE LEVEL SPONSORSHIP - Investment: \$2,500 ex GST per annum ·2 corporate tickets to all Wombats Wish events and fundraisers during the year. ·Your ability to provide printed material to be displayed at all Wombat's Wish events or fundraisers promoting your business. ·Business mention in every Wombat's Wish newsletter throughout the year promoting your business and sponsorship. ·1 x social media post (Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and Twitter) per quarter promoting your business and sponsorship. ·Placement of your logo and business synopsis on Wombat's Wish's website sponsors page with a direct link to your business. ·Certificate of sponsorship and thank you to be displayed at your business.

Message from Casey Wombat's Wish Chair



- *The Board is starting to do work on our 2025 Strategy and we have a planning weekend this month which is a great opportunity to come together, reflect and prioritise. We'll also be together in August for our AGM, the details of which will be announced this month for anyone wishing to attend.*
- *Also coming up this month is our Family Day and our very first youth camp. This has been the result of outstanding teamwork with our operations team, committees and clinical team and we're so proud to be piloting this dedicated program – stay tuned on our socials to see updates on how it went!.*
- *Lastly, a request for our treasured Wombats network, we've launched Freemans Burrow, our member donor program for individuals. If you aren't signed up it's a great way to give back to the organisation and if you are – please feel free to tell your network about what a great program it is. We'll be appealing for more signups this month, we'd love you to help us share the message.*

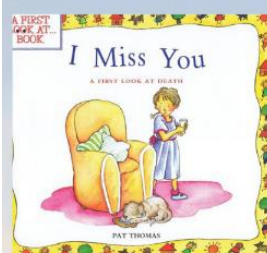
Reading Suggestion List

Using stories can be a very good way to create communication and explore issues with a child who has been bereaved. Often reading a story can help children /young people know they are not alone and normalise what they are experiencing, it can offer a safe way to open a dialogue with children about death and grief in groups, as a family or one on one.

We have some examples below and you can find an extensive list of 64 titles from What's Your Grief

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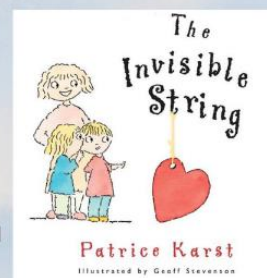
<https://whatsyourgrief.com/childrens-books-about-death/>



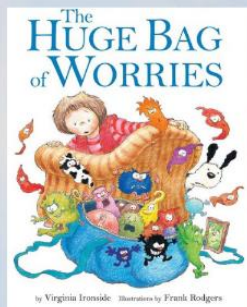
Under 5 years old

I Miss You: A First Look at Death by Pat Thomas explains what we know about death and grief in a simple, factual manner. It outlines reasons why people die, introduces what a funeral is, and explores the difficult feelings and emotions of saying goodbye and missing someone very much.

The Invisible String by Patrice Karst is a comforting story about two siblings who learn that everyone has an invisible string connecting them to everyone they love — anywhere, anytime — through separation, anger, and even death. "Even though you can't see it with your eyes, you can feel it deep in your heart, and know that you are always connected to the ones you love."



5 to 8 years old

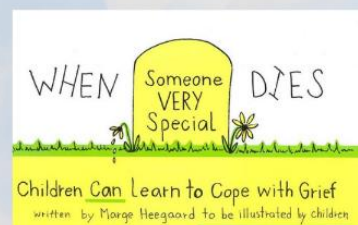


5 to 8 years old

The huge bag of worries by Virginia Ironside -A lovely story with fun illustrations encourages children to talk about their worries.

Jenny begins to worry about lots of different things and these worries build up and get out of control. She just can't get rid of them, until she meets the old lady next door who helps her feel better.

When Someone Very Special Dies by Marge Heegaard A practical format for allowing children to understand the concept of death and develop coping skills for life, this book is designed for young readers to illustrate. The Huge Bag of Worries by Virginia Ironside A funny and reassuring look at dealing with worries and anxiety, to be used as a spring board into important conversations with your child.



8 + years old

Freeman's Burrow

For just a cup of coffee per week you could join Freeman's Burrow as part of our weekly contributions package for \$5,\$10,\$15 or \$20 a week to support a child or young person through their journey with grief.

Every donation we receive goes directly to supporting a child or young person and their family following the death of a parent or carer. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

Head to our website www.wombatswish.org.au/donate Follow the link to Give Now Choose 'setup a regular donation' Type in the amount you would like to donate Complete your details and in 'message to organisation' type "Freeman's Burrow" or contact us on 0390690314



The graphic features a central logo for 'WOMBAT'S WISH' with a wombat illustration and the text 'COMMUNITY BASED GRIEF SUPPORT FOR BEREAVED CHILDREN'. To the right, the text 'Freeman's Burrow Donation Platform' is displayed. Below the logo, four blue hexagonal boxes list donation tiers. At the bottom center is a purple 'Donate Now' button.

Weekly Contribution	Annual Total	Benefits
\$5 PER WEEK	\$260 PER YEAR	You will receive a Wombat's Wish Pack Your contribution fully funds 2 families to attend a family day
\$10 PER WEEK	\$520 PER YEAR	You will receive a Wombat's Wish Pack & Mug Your contribution fully funds 7 hours of 1:1 counselling for a child
\$15 PER WEEK	\$780 PER YEAR	You will receive a Wombat's Wish Pack, Mug & Bag Your contribution fully funds 6 hours of group counselling for 1 child
\$20 PER WEEK	\$1040 PER YEAR	You will receive a Wombat's Wish Pack, Mug, bag, & 1 ticket to every event Your contribution fully funds 1 family to attend camp

[Donate Now](#)

Thank you Mortimer Petroleum



*Wombat's Wish is so grateful to Mortimer Petroleum for their continued support to Wombat's Wish as an **Platinum Sponsor** for this financial year.*

Mortimer Petroleum is an Australian owned and family operated energy company providing bulk fuel across all regional and metro Victoria.

Thank you your donation will make a huge difference in the lives of bereaved children/young people today.

Did you receive our invite?



Wombat's Wish Hoodies for sale!

An advertisement for winter hoodies with a light blue background decorated with white and yellow snowflakes. The text on the left reads: 'Winter is here!' in a large, purple, cursive font; 'Stay warm while supporting Wombat's Wish !' in a smaller, blue, sans-serif font; 'Children's hoodies \$30' and 'Adult hoodies \$35' in a black, serif font; and 'admin@wombatswish.org.au' at the bottom. On the right, there is a photograph of a dark grey hoodie with a small 'WOMBAT'S WISH' logo on the chest.

Child sizes 6 to 14 \$30 each

Adult sizes S to XXXL \$35 each

Please e-mail admin@wombatswish.org.au if you would like to order one for yourself, or a friend.

We are here to help

If you require assistance or would like more information about supporting parentally bereaved children and young people, please contact Wombat's Wish on 03 9069 0314 or 0499 966 228.

Or email us at coordinator@wombatswish.org.au

Take a look at our website: www.wombatswish.org.au

Referrals can be filled in through our website or by contacting us directly.

HELPFUL ORGANISATIONS

Wombat's Wish - www.wombatswish.org.au

Kids help line - www.kidshelpline.com

Life line - www.lifeline.org.au

Beyond Blue - www.beyondblue.org.au

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service - www.barwonhealth.org.au

Headspace Geelong - www.headspace.org.au

Bethany Community Support - www.bethany.org.au

Hope Bereavement Care - www.bereavement.org.au

Compassionate Friends - www.compassionatefriendsvictoria.org.au

Australian Centre for Grief and Bereavement - www.grief.org.au

Canteen - www.canteen.org.au

Barwon Child Youth & Family - www.bcyf.org.au

USEFUL WEBSITES FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Winston's Wish - www.winstonswish.org

Bereavement Care Centre - www.bereavementcare.com.au

Good Grief - www.goodgrief.asn.au

Grieflink - grieflink.asn.au

Griefline - griefline.org.au

Hope for Life Suicide Prevention and Bereavement Support

www.salvos.org.au/need-help/professional-counselling-and-bereavement

The National Centre for Childhood Grief - www.childhoodgrief.org.au

Support after Suicide - www.supportaftersuicide.org.au

Dougy Centre - www.dougy.org



SAVE THE DATES

Camps

15th -17th July- Pilot Youth Camp- Cottage By The Sea

12th-14th Aug- New Families Camp- Burnside

30th Sep -2nd Oct - New Families Camp- Corop (Goulburn Valley Region)

11th to 13th Nov-New Families Camp- Burnside

Social Events

7th of August - Inflatable World- South Geelong

TBA October - Fairy Park- Anakie

2022-2023 Corporate Sponsors/Donors



Thank You 2022-2023

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