

## Seasons greetings

This year has been a year of change and consolidation at Kidsafe Queensland. We have introduced new programs, updated our displays, increased our house tours and increased the number of community consultations and outreach programs. We have forged new alliances and partnerships as well as reinvigorated our existing relationships.

Thank you to all of our friends, clients and partners for your continued support and advocacy. 2011 will be even busier with many projects and plans reaching fruition. To a large degree our success relies on each and every one of us making a conscious effort to be a part of the solution – no matter how big or small that contribution, but if it means less children spending time in hospital next year and more time with friends and family then it's a small price for us all to pay!

The team at Kidsafe Queensland wish you a safe, healthy and happy holiday season and leave you with this thought:

*"Forget about all the reasons why something may not work. You only need to find one good reason why it will."*

Dr. Robert Anthony



## Hot cars can kill

Babies and small children are at risk of injury or death within minutes of being left in locked cars this summer. Leaving children unsupervised in a vehicle at any time is dangerous, and in some circumstances illegal, but the arrival of hot summer conditions highlights the need to warn parents of the risks.

Research data from the Royal Automobile Club of Queensland (RACQ) reveal that temperatures inside a car left in the sun can rise to dangerous levels within a few minutes. It makes little difference if the vehicles are light or dark in colour, or whether they have sunshades or window-tinting.

In one RACQ test, the temperature inside a vehicle left in the sun rose from around 19°C to more than 30°C in just 1½ minutes, reaching 40°C within eight minutes and then rising to a maximum temperature of more than 60°C. In some circumstances, temperatures inside cars can exceed 70°C.

Young children cannot regulate their body temperature as well as adults and will soon suffer distress in a hot environment. They will lose fluid quickly,

become dehydrated and suffer from heatstroke – the younger they are, the faster this occurs. Heatstroke occurs once body temperature exceeds 40°C and not only damages a child's organs but can soon be fatal.

The RACQ typically responds to 150 to 200 calls a month for babies or young children locked in cars, with as many as 10 incidents reported a day.

We advise parents, or anyone who observes children left in a locked car, to remain calm and assess the situation by first checking if the children appear distressed. If the key-holder is not within sight, they should immediately contact both the RACQ and emergency services.

In these circumstances, it may help to provide some shade for the vehicle, such as umbrellas, or to cool the car using a hose, while awaiting professional assistance. If the situation is judged to be critical, it may be necessary to break a window to gain access, keeping in mind that the key concern is the safety of the children.

The golden rule is simply to never leave children alone in a car, even if you're just ducking into the shops or

paying for your petrol purchase. Besides the heat risk, cars have cigarette lighters, gear levers and parking brakes that can be tempting playthings to a child.

If you're going out in the car with your children, always plan your trip so that they will never be placed at risk. Remember to take water for everyone, and if you're getting out of the car along the way, take your children with you.

*Kidsafe Queensland gratefully acknowledges the assistance of the RACQ in compiling this information.*

If you would like to order an outdoor metal sign for your carpark @ \$95 each call Kidsafe on 3854 1829 or email [gld@kidsafeqld.com.au](mailto:gld@kidsafeqld.com.au)



## Eye injuries from lasers

Lecturers and presenters often use handheld laser pointers. Be aware that some high-powered lasers available over the internet can cause severe damage to the retina. There has been a case of a child pointing a handheld laser into a mirror and suffering substantial vision loss.

Source: *New England Journal of Medicine*

## Product recalls

If you have purchased a product or seen a product for sale that you think may be incorrectly labelled or pose a danger to babies or children, contact the Office of Fair Trading on 13 13 04 or lodge an [online complaint](#). In most cases products may be returned to the retailer for a full refund or replacement. See the recalls below.

### 6" Shrek Forever After Sir Squeakles Plush Toy

Some of the toys have been found to have parts inadequately stitched in place. [More info](#)

### Keptin-Jr Comforter Chain Rabby Red & Doggo Blue

The head may become detached from the body of the rabbit on this pacifier. [More info](#)

### "Tinkers" wooden pull along dog and pull along snake

Dog: small parts may pose a choking hazard. Snake: incorrect labelling. [More info](#)

### Wahu Funky Lounge (Aquatic

Bean Bag used in swimming pools) — Young children may be able to open the bean bag. [More info](#)

### Lanka Kade Wooden Car Jigsaw

— This product poses a risk of choking. [More info](#)

**Blue Noosa Bear** — The tail of the bear may be poorly attached and come away, resulting in a choking hazard. [More info](#)

**Sanbrook baby dummy** investigation. If you purchased a Sanbrook dummy immediately cease using it. [More info](#)

### Junior Bean Bag Covers

The bean bag cover is missing a warning label required on all bean bags sold in Australia. [More info](#)

**Wiggles Toy Clock** (free in The Wiggles magazine) — Small parts may become detached and pose a choking hazard. [More info](#)

### Cotton On Kids Pty Ltd—Girls Short Sleeve Pyjamas (Sequin Butterfly, Bunny, Burst, Heart) and Nicki Short Sleeve Nightie

The garments were labelled with a low fire danger fire hazard. Tests have shown that the flammability of the garments pose a serious safety risk. [More info](#)

### Wooden Toy Train Set with 6 Cars

— The small, red carriage tow bar (peg) may come loose and present a choking hazard for small children. [More info](#)

### Generic Submarine (blue) & Generic Princess (pink) Flotation Rashysuits

— The label warning does not comply with the mandatory Australian standard and may lead to improper use. [More info](#)

## New products from the Kidsafe one-stop-safety shop



TV straps to stop your flat-screen TV from toppling onto your child. The straps can be screwed into a stud in the wall or onto a solid TV cabinet. RRP \$22.95



Safe-n-Sound Compaq convertible child restraint. Birth to 4 years (0 — 18kg). Compact design, baby insert, stabilising bar, multi-position harness. Kidsafe price \$280

## Price increase

Kidsafe has increased the price of a capsule hire by \$5. Six-month hire of the Safe-n-Sound capsule is now \$70 with a \$65 refundable deposit. Hire of the One-Safe Infant Carrier remains \$75 for a six-month hire period and a \$75 refundable deposit. Short-term hire of child restraints has increased to \$35 for the first week with a \$65 refundable deposit. Each subsequent week is \$10 per week or part thereof.

## Restraint checks, installation and hire now at the Wesley Hospital

From 10am to 2pm on the second Wednesday of every month beginning January 12, a qualified Kidsafe child restraint installer will conduct child restraint checks, installations and hire of baby capsules. Bookings are essential on 3854 1829. For inquiries and pricing, [email](#) or phone Kidsafe on 3854 1829.

## Easter Raffle

With the generous support of Northside Emergency Services and Springfree Trampolines, Kidsafe Queensland is raffling a large Springfree Trampoline. Proceeds will go towards purchasing a vehicle for Kidsafe Queensland's community outreach program. Tickets are on sale now at Kidsafe House @ \$5 a ticket or 5 for \$20! The winner will be drawn on 31 March 2011. Winners will be notified by telephone and email. For more information email [Kidsafe](#).

## Kidsafe's tweet

Become a fan of Kidsafe Qld on *Facebook* or follow us on *Twitter* for safety updates and news.

## Mobile service

Kidsafe has a mobile service for hiring capsules and child restraints, as well as checking and installation of child restraints. We will come to your home from as far north as Caboolture, south to the Gold Coast, east to Wynnum and west to Ipswich and Karana Downs. Installation of the restraint is \$50. If you wish to purchase a restraint from Kidsafe we will deliver it, explain how to use it and install it.



## From the desk of the community development officer

Dear supporters and friends,

As another year comes to a close I find myself reflecting on what this year might be remembered for.

The dreaded 'GFC', confirmation of a royal marriage, our troops continued presence in Afghanistan and Australia's first female Prime Minister spring immediately to mind. This led me to another question –if, heaven-forbid –this had been **my** last year, what would I be remembered for?

Whilst this newsletter is not necessarily the best forum to answer this, it does lead nicely to the sensitive, yet fundamental concept of bequests. Making a bequest to Kidsafe Queensland is a generous and wonderful way of acknowledging the vital services we provide to the community as well as leaving **your legacy of compassion** in an organisation that you believe in.

Kidsafe Queensland has created a bequest information sheet which will soon be on our website: [www.kidsafeqld.com.au](http://www.kidsafeqld.com.au). Of course you can call me for a confidential discussion.

With the New Year nearly here, Kidsafe Queensland has been carefully developing a plan for introducing new and relevant safe and healthy

campaigns for 2011. Many of our plans have been inspired by, you, our supporters and are in line with your concerns and questions over the past year.

Throughout 2010 we have received many inquiries regarding the new pool legislations, creating safe play areas both at home and at school, the new child restraint rules as well as an increased interest in hiring capsules and car seats.

Whilst Kidsafe Queensland is not short on projects and ideas designed to keep children safe and healthy, finding the funding to carry them out is another matter. Therefore, 2011 will also be designated the **'Year of Giving'** and we will be working hard to create a range of options for you, our supporters, to help us achieve our goals.

Supporting Kidsafe Queensland shouldn't be a financial burden or a chore so we've created just a few suggestions on how you can make a vital difference to a child's life!

\* Donate office equipment or supplies – computers, cameras, photocopiers, copy paper or general stationery.

(The less money Kidsafe needs to outlay on these items, more goes into increasing our core services in preventing childhood injury and injury death.)

\* Become a capsule sponsor – donate the funds to purchase more capsules and car restraints and have your organisation or family name engraved on the product in acknowledgment.

\* Donate one day a year to come in and provide support, services or to mentor our staff and volunteers. Consider assisting us in sanitising and cleaning baby capsules and child restraints.

\* Nominate Kidsafe Queensland to be your work's charity of choice or recipient of payroll giving.

\* Hold a work-place raffle or BBQ with a gold coin donation for Kidsafe Queensland.

For \$50.00 you could fund a tour of Kidsafe House for 10 refugees or migrants, enabling them access to vital child safety information.

For \$70.00 you could hire a baby capsule for a financially disadvantaged family.

For \$85.00 you could fund a first aid instruction and house tour for an individual whose family is classified 'at-risk' for childhood injuries.

Email [heather@kidsafeqld.com.au](mailto:heather@kidsafeqld.com.au) or call me on 3854 1829. Safe holidays!

**Heather Kolar**  
Community Development Officer

## Kidsafe Day in King George Square



Photography Tobias Gartham

A great day in King George Square! Join us next year on 25 October. Thanks to all the exhibitors: 96.5fm and Romeo, Queensland emergency vehicles, Playgroup Queensland, St John Ambulance, Preventit, First Aid Demonstrations, Little Green Thumbs, Northside Emergency, Office of Fair Trading, Springfree Trampolines, Royal Life Saving Society, Julian and his Big RED box of Magic and NRMA for sponsoring the BBQ (superbly cooked by Bill Parks from the Salvation Army) and child restraint checking.