

Victorian school students raise thousands for life-transforming surgery

Brave face for Kensy

LUCIE VAN DEN BERG
MEDICAL REPORTER

WITHOUT an operation to remodel her face Kensy Nighty, 3, would have struggled to lead a normal life.

But thanks to Victorian school students who have raised thousands of dollars to fly her out from the Solomon Islands for surgery to correct her birth defect, she now has new hope.

And last week Kensy got the chance to meet the generous sponsors who made possible radical surgery at Adelaide's Women's and Children's Hospital to resculpt her face, by constructing a nose and removing nostrils from her forehead.

Students from St Monica's College and St Peter's Primary School in Epping raised \$5000 to pay for Kensy's flights.

Glenda Day, co-ordinator of community development at St Monica's College, said



Kensy before surgery.

Kensy was the third child the school had helped under the Children First Foundation's Miracle sMiles program.

"The nurses, doctors and hospitals all donate their time," Ms Day said.

"What we do is a small part in a huge wheel — but it's one that we are very proud of."

The students' involvement started when they began collecting long-life milk for children staying at the foundation's Kilmore farm.

The farm was set up in 1999 as a home away from home for

young patients from overseas to prepare for and recover from surgery unavailable to them in their home countries.

Ms Day said: "I took a group of students to the farm to show them where the milk went, and they came back and said: 'What else can we do? Milk is not enough'."

They began raising money by holding fundraising dinners and selling cupcakes.

Ms Day said meeting the children at the farm had had a great impact on the students.

"It makes a great difference. By the time they got back in the bus, they were so enthusiastic they wanted to know how we could raise the next \$5000 quickly," she said.

Kensy is due to return home tomorrow, but she may require further surgery when she is older.

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Katia, 17, and Shivon, 11, with Kensy, 3, at the Children First farm. Picture: SARAH MATRAY

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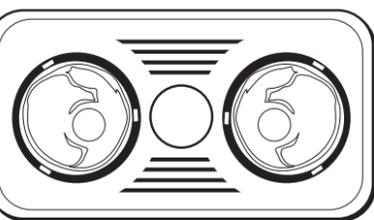


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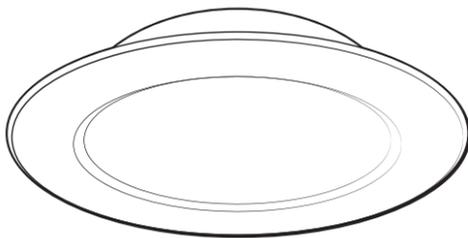
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No work, no pay in remote jobs scheme

NEDA VANOVAC

THE Federal Government has conceded its remote jobs program is failing and has announced a series of changes designed to reverse what it calls a "sit-down money" culture.

About 60 per cent of remote jobseekers had left the program for passive welfare, Indigenous Affairs Minister Nigel Scullion said.

Senator Scullion announced a rebranding of the Remote Jobs and Communities Program at a conference in Darwin yesterday.

"Everyone accepts there

were some perverse outcomes that were never anticipated and not accepted (under RJCP), so this is a readjustment of those policies and programs," he said.

Under the new model, a "no work, no pay" system will be instituted, and participants will answer to their service providers rather than to Centrelink.

If they don't turn up, their Centrelink payments will immediately be suspended.

They will have to work five hours a day, five days a week.



EDDIE JOINS POTTER FILM

OSCAR winner Eddie Redmayne (above) has joined the Harry Potter franchise in a spin-off series.

The star will play the lead in *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*, which is set 70 years before the *Potter* series. It centres on an author named Newton Artemis Fido Scamander.



PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA

INQUIRY INTO DANGEROUS DOGS LEGISLATION HAVE YOUR SAY - CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Do the current laws and regulations relating to dangerous and restricted breed dogs encourage responsible dog ownership and protect the environment and the community?

The Legislative Council's Economy and Infrastructure Committee has commenced an inquiry into the current legislative and regulatory arrangements governing dangerous and restricted breed dogs in Victoria.

The Committee invites submissions from individuals, groups or organisations with an interest in this important issue. All submissions are public documents unless confidentiality is requested and granted by the Committee.

Submissions must be relevant to the inquiries Terms of Reference which can be found at www.parliament.vic.gov.au/eic

When making a submission please advise the Committee if you also wish to appear at a public hearing.

Please send submissions (electronic (word) documents are preferred) via:

Email: eic@parliament.vic.gov.au

eSubmission: www.parliament.vic.gov.au/eic

Post: Michael Baker, Secretary, Economy & Infrastructure Committee
Parliament House, Spring Street, Melbourne VIC 3002

Closing date for submissions: 10 July 2015.

For further information please visit www.parliament.vic.gov.au/eic or phone the Committee Secretariat on (03) 8682 2817.

MR JOSHUA MORRIS MLC

CHAIR

ECONOMY AND INFRASTRUCTURE STANDING COMMITTEE

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