



NATIONAL TWIN LOSS SUPPORT NEWSLETTER

Summer Edition
Editor: Lynne Schulz

Vol.1

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Welcome

Welcome to our very first newsletter! Membership has now started to increase so it is a good time to establish a regular form of communication between members. If you would like to have some input into our newsletters which will be published quarterly during Summer, Winter, Autumn and Spring, please send your articles, photos, letters, comments, etc to: twinloss@internode.on.net and type the words "newsletter contribution" into the subject box. I hope you all enjoy hearing about what our organisation is up to! Yours in bereavement care, Lynne Schulz.

Happy 16th Birthday!

National Twin Loss Support was founded in October 1992 under the name of Murraylands Lutheran Stillborn Infant

Support Service, and I am very proud that the organisation, (which was also known as Murraylands Twin Loss for several years), is still here and is turning 'sweet 16'.

Over the years I have seen a number of bereavement care organisations come and go, so it is satisfying indeed to be still here and going strong.

Many thanks to Dr Jane Warland PhD who created the very first website. Her kindness and generosity towards this organisation has always been appreciated.

So join me in raising a glass of your favourite concoction and say, "Happy Sweet 16 National Twin Loss Support"!



Pregnancy Loss Remembrance Day

October 15 is Pregnancy Loss Remembrance Day, a special day which was started by two ladies in the United States and which has now been acknowledged and passed through US Congress. There is a link to the Founders' website on the links page. I recall a few years ago being asked to write a letter to the US Congress to show support for this. Like the many other people around the world who too wrote letters of support, I am pleased to feel that in some small way, I was a part of this day becoming a reality for those who fought so long and hard for it.

Organisations around the world are starting to get on board and are holding special events and ceremonies to acknowledge their deceased children on this day.

Book

Re-Launch

This was the major event for October 2008 that didn't happen.

Unfortunately due to a lack of interest within my local community, the book relaunch for my first book, "The Diary", which is celebrating its 10th anniversary during 2008, was cancelled.

I had chosen the South Australian rural town of Meningie for this special event and was surprised with the lack of support for something that seemed to be generating a bit of excitement within the town.

What was most disappointing was that bereavement care colleagues Dr Jane Warland PhD of Uni SA, and Julie Bryant of OzMOST, had kindly agreed to be guest speakers.

The book re-launch was going to help raise some funding for the twin loss project currently underway. Now that the book re-launch hasn't happened, I have been busily trying to think of other ways to generate some much needed funds – besides of course, constantly pushing book sales.

Oh, well, let's just think of it as a very big learning curve and move on.

What's in this edition?

- Welcome
- Happy 16th Birthday
- Book Re-Launch
- Pregnancy Loss Remembrance Day
- Promotion in the Media
- Project '08



*It's not much...
It's only a thought ...*

Just a little memory,

*For someone who'll
always be loved,*

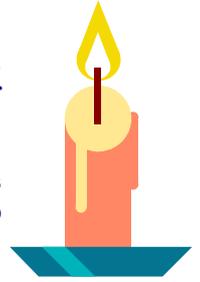
Just a little memory

Lynne Schulz

Pregnancy Loss Remembrance Day continued...

People are asked to light a candle at 7pm (in their local time zone) and it is hoped that by doing this, bereaved families will be united in remembering their special children. So on Wednesday 15th October at 7pm, if you do nothing else, light a candle and reflect upon the reasons behind it all.

Maybe as our membership increases we may decide to hold a special event for National Twin Loss Support. Perhaps next year we could hold a candle lighting ceremony in a local park to try and help increase awareness of multiple birth loss issues.



Promotion in the Media

This organisation has battled for years to try and get the media to support our work. Some of the excuses by media bodies received to date have been, “You’re not high profile enough”, “It’s not the right time of year”, or “We’ve just done something like that”, when you know very well they haven’t!



How on Earth do some of these other bereavement care groups get the amount of publicity they do? The only support we get is from the local Murray Valley Standard in Murray Bridge, South Australia, which of course has been greatly appreciated during the years.

So, a challenge to all you good people out there – if you have any useful contacts in the media, please, please, please let us know!! “**Frustration**” doesn’t even begin to describe how we feel about publicity!

**Do not run away; let go.
Do not seek, for it will
come when least expected.**

Bruce Lee

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Project ‘08

Some members may be wondering what this ‘project 08’ is all about? Why such a strange and secretive name?

Because the first major project undertaken by this organisation under its former name of Murraylands Twin Loss during 2002-2006, (that is the Apex Australia Twin Loss Awareness Kit) had almost been stolen out of our hands by another multiple birth support organisation, we realised how valuable our work was and the importance of protecting it.

For many years this organisation has worked hard to create original information, and approach multiple birth loss issues a bit differently to everyone else around the world.

Although we didn’t create the idea of a ‘kit’ for example, that idea came from our good friends at Multiple Births Canada, we did create, (with the support of our Canadian counterparts), an Australian specific version of a kit. So when our overseas colleagues discovered that another group was trying to take our work and pass it off under another name, not only did the Canadians get upset, but we Aussies did too!



If you want to know more about the Project 08, there is a link to an information letter on the front page of the our website. If you would like to participate, or you know of someone who would be interested, please encourage them to do so. Afterall, we need as many people as possible to help us with our research so that we can continue to improve multiple birth loss care right around the world.

