

# MEDIA RELEASE



The Hon **David Hawker** MP  
Federal Member for Wannon



9 September 2009

## HAWKER URGES LOCAL MEN TO BECOME EDUCATED ABOUT PROSTATE CANCER

Federal Member for Wannon David Hawker today joined the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia (PCFA) to officially launch Prostate Cancer Awareness Month and their new awareness campaign "*The Difference is You*".

The campaign will serve as a reminder to people of the significant difference they can make in reducing the impact of prostate cancer by helping support ongoing research into new treatments.

"Prostate cancer has a heavy burden on our country, reaching beyond the victims and their families," Mr Hawker said.

"In 2010 it is estimated that approximately 130 Western Victorian men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer, so I urge local men their families and loved ones to learn more about this disease and the steps they can take to help prevent it."

The Chief Executive Officer of the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia, Mr Andrew Giles, said he appreciates the support the campaign has received from MPs such as Mr Hawker, as well as the general public.

"We thank David Hawker for his support this September of our new awareness campaign as it empowers each individual to consider how they can make a difference. It demonstrates the impact prostate cancer has on Australian families and shows just how easy it is for each individual to make a difference. With the support from Members of Parliament, we look forward to raising as much awareness as possible in Canberra and across Australia," said Mr Giles.

Mr Giles is also hopeful that the new campaign will raise much needed funds to support community initiatives and research projects.

"PCFA is dedicated to raising community awareness about prostate cancer and funding essential research projects. It is only through these generous contributions that we are able to back such promising projects each year. This September we are urging everyone to support the cause the best way they can."

The latest data shows that in 2010 almost 20,000 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer. Tragically more than 3,300 men will die annually as a direct cause of prostate cancer.<sup>1</sup>

In the early stages there are few symptoms of prostate cancer. However, if detected early, prostate cancer is often treatable and curable.

To make a donation, please visit [www.prostate.org.au](http://www.prostate.org.au) or call 1800 220 099.

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