

Friends of the brain injured

The first of a series of profiles on the Snow Foundation's support for individuals and organisations in the Canberra community.

"The assistance the Snow Foundation gives us means we are not alone, someone cares. There needs to be more understanding like this." Libby Steeper, Friends of the Brain Injured.

Libby Steeper knows first hand the challenges and frustrations of finding the right support for brain-injured children. Libby is the Secretary of 'Friends of the Brain Injured' a Canberra based charity. She is also grandmother to 4-year-old Fiona who was born with acute cerebral palsy.

An average week for Fiona requires a never ending round of intensive therapies - acupuncture, physiotherapy, yoga massage and manipulation. Fiona also needs to visit a naturopath, a speech therapist and spend some time with a playgroup that is designed to develop her physical and mental abilities.

The cost, both financial and in carers time, is enormous. Helping Fiona has been a full time commitment for both her parents and grandmother. The Snow Foundation's sponsorship of Fiona meets the costs of acupuncture and part of the wages of a conductive therapist.

Fiona's conductive therapist comes from Hungary; a country most advanced in the treatment of cerebral palsy.

There is a shortage of such specialists in Australia. The Friends of the Brain Injured were elated when the Therapist decided to make Canberra her home.

Because of the commitment of her parents, her grandmother and the support of the Snow Foundation, Fiona is now walking with the assistance of crutches, starting speech therapy and is about to enter school only two years behind her peers - a Herculean effort by her family and friends.



Fiona - "Catching up with life"
For further information regarding the Snow Foundation please contact Barbara Mullaney 02 6275 2222

Snow Foundation dishes up a healthy serve

Long time Canberra businessman, Terry Snow, has decided to personally donate a further \$1 million to the Snow Foundation.

He announced the decision on Thursday 10 February after helping to serve breakfast to children at the Ainslie Primary School Breakfast Club, an innovative idea organised by St John's Care and established with funding from the Snow Foundation.

Operating since 1999, the Breakfast Club provides a hearty meal for primary school children aged 7 to 13 every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of the school year.

"Around 60 students and some of their parents attend the Breakfast Club at any one time," says Sue Jordan Manager of St John's Care. "It has proved invaluable to their health and provided the children with an opportunity to interact with each other, the staff and parents. As a result of the breakfast we are seeing improved concentration and happier healthy kids," she says.

Not only does the Snow Foundation fund the breakfast but it has also provided the tables and chairs for the breakfasts.



"Many families are short on time and don't always have the opportunity to prepare and sit down to breakfast with their children. This initiative is designed to assist parents and provide children with the chance to enjoy each others company informally before the school day starts," Terry Snow said.

Snow says that Government's are overwhelmed by community expectations to solve all societies ills. Clearly this an unrealistic expectation.

"There is a role the private sector can play in working with Government to improve opportunities for those who need help," Snow says. "It gives me great pleasure to see how the foundation is contributing at

Terry Snow serves breakfast at the Ainslie Primary School's Breakfast Club

the local level. I am in awe of the tireless efforts of the many local volunteers who work around-the-clock to help those in need".

Established in 1990 by brothers Terry and George Snow, the Snow Foundation began its work with an initial contribution of \$1 million. They added a further \$500,000 in 1997. This contribution brings the total donations to \$2.5 million. In the 15 years since it was established, the Snow Foundation has assisted more than 80 organisations and individuals.



Airport rolls out \$300 million expansion plan



Airport's Master Plan identifies a whole new world of destinations for Canberra Photos Sam Chui

Inside this issue of The Hub

Ozjet Flies Into Canberra
Business class travel at economy prices.

Cancer Council Calls Fairbairn Home
Airport welcomes Cancer Council to its growing family.

Snow Foundation Dishes Up A Healthy Serve
\$1 million dollar boost for Snow Foundation's work.

"This high level of investment reflects our robust confidence in the future of the Airport and our region."



- Stephen Byron, Managing Director

The Federal Government has approved the second Master Plan for Canberra International Airport, which will guide its growth until 2010.

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Transport, John Anderson said Canberra International Airport made a significant contribution to the capital's regional economy, directly employing 3,100 people and handling almost 2.3 million passengers a year.

Canberra International Airport welcomes Government approval of its new Master Plan, which will provide a planning framework for the Airport's future development and follows a wide-ranging 90-day round of public consultation.

Ministerial endorsement gives the green light to a massive new \$300 million works program that will transform the Airport into Australia's most modern and efficient transport hub within the next five years, the Managing Director of Canberra International Airport, Stephen Byron said.

The works program includes construction of a new terminal capable of handling the expected doubling of passenger numbers to around 5 million by 2024 and a runway upgrade that will make longer direct flights possible from Canberra. (The Federal Government approved the runway upgrade plans on 18 November last year.)

The new Master Plan also clears the way for the growth of aviation traffic through:

- Maintenance of Canberra Airport's curfew-free status

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Canberra International Airport - the site of the \$300 million infrastructure upgrade

- Early introduction of scheduled international services within the next 12 to 18 months
- Creation of a 24 hour domestic and trans-Tasman freight hub and,
- An aviation related training and maintenance centre at Fairbairn.

"This high level of investment reflects our robust confidence in the future of the Airport and the region," Byron said. "It is also absolutely essential if we are to meet the increasing demand for cheaper airfares and more direct services from Canberra, both domestic and international."

The introduction of cheaper fares and direct flights to Brisbane and Adelaide had led to spectacular passenger growth on both these routes, he said. "We will continue to work with the airlines to encourage them in every way we can to offer direct services to all of Australia's capital cities." Direct international services from Canberra to the Pacific, New Zealand and Asia would attract around 250,000 passengers each year within the life of the new Master Plan. "We confidently expect the introduction of a twice-weekly service to New Zealand within the next 12 to 18 months." Direct services to Asian and Middle East hubs – Singapore, Bangkok and Dubai – would follow within a 5 to 10 year time frame.

Canberra was well placed to take advantage of the steady growth in airfreight, Byron said.

"Because of our close proximity to Sydney, we are actively exploring the possibility of establishing a Trans-Tasman freight centre." The Master Plan's approval confirms the Airport's curfew free status and 24 hour operational capability.

It also recognises the Airport as one of the region's most significant economic growth engines, generating new jobs, new businesses and contributing to the local economy.

Over the last 5 years, the number of airport-related businesses has grown from 70 to 115 and the number of jobs has almost doubled from 1,660 to 3,100. At the same time, the Airport has invested more than \$220 million and engaged the services of more than 950 businesses, the majority of them local, in the ongoing redevelopment of the Airport as a national and international gateway.

Canberra International Airport appreciated the support and feedback it received from the community for its new Master Plan, Byron said. "Our commitment to do everything we can to minimise the impact of aircraft noise on the community is absolute and we will continue to oppose short-sighted, opportunistic attempts by developers to build homes under our flight paths. This will inevitably lead to noise sharing for Canberra and Queanbeyan. Because of sensible planning, more than 99.5% of our community has been free from the adverse affects of aircraft noise for the last decade. We will work with the community to keep it that way."

OzJet flies into Canberra

A new airline, OzJet has unveiled plans to commence services to Canberra by mid 2005.

OzJet will operate a fleet of four Boeing 737's and six BAE146 whisper jet aircraft all configured to allow comfortable business class travel at economy prices.

The first OzJet aircraft, fully fitted with 60 business-style seats, arrived in Adelaide on the 22 February to embark on an introductory launch program.

Managing Director of Canberra International Airport, Stephen Byron, welcomed the arrival of the boutique airline saying it would stimulate business opportunities for the Canberra economy.

"Every time we see a new airline come to the market, we see additional travel, we see growth in hotel rooms and restaurants and certainly activity and jobs at the Airport as well. So all of these things are very good news," he said.

Based at Adelaide Airport, with a maintenance facility in Melbourne, OzJet will service Canberra, Melbourne, Sydney and Adelaide.

OzJet is the brainchild of owner and Australian businessman, Paul Stoddart, and promises to deliver a new style of service to domestic business travellers.

The new domestic carrier plans to run a business style travel service that will run on time, offer great customer service, business facilities and excellent catering.

The airline aims to deliver business class facilities at economy prices and hopes to attract business passengers from both Qantas and Virgin Blue.



Paul Stoddart - Proud OzJet owner

Qantas Invests \$200 million in regional fleet

Faster, further, quieter - Introducing the new big brother of the Dash 8 fleet.

Qantas has purchased 7 new Bombardier Q400 Aircraft for use by QantasLink on its regional routes. The airline has also taken purchase rights over an additional ten aircraft.

The largest ever investment by Qantas in its regional turboprop fleet would mean a new era in passenger comfort, jet like speed and lower operating costs says Executive General Manager Regional Airlines, Narendra Kumar.

"The 72-seat Bombardier delivers a 44% increase in capacity over QantasLink's existing fleet of 50-seat Dash 8 Q300's. They will enable QantasLink to grow capacity efficiently on key regional routes while maintaining frequency," he said. The Bombardier can fly at 360 knots giving it the potential to operate additional services.

The aircraft are due for delivery in early 2006.



The "dash" to Sydney has never been quicker and quieter.

Cancer Council calls Fairbairn home

The ACT Cancer Council has new and bigger offices at Fairbairn. The Council is among the first to establish a presence in what was a RAAF base for more than 60 years.

The newly refurbished building, opened by ACT Chief Minister, Jon Stanhope, on World Cancer Day, Friday 4 February, will better accommodate the Council's expanding services.

Approached by the Cancer Council last year, Executive Chairman of Canberra International Airport, Terry Snow, offered to refurbish the ex military hospital as a new headquarters for the Cancer Council.

"I was happy to play a role," Snow said. There is significant pressure on Government to provide solutions for the many organisations that dedicate themselves to social good in our community. I believe that the private and corporate sectors should play a role and assist these organisations where it can. We are very good at building, providing and maintaining office accommodation and this is what we have done for the Cancer Council," he said.

ACT Chief Minister, Jon Stanhope said the new premises would enable the Cancer Council to continue its work as a major support service to cancer patients and their families in the ACT.



Left - The official opening of the Cancer Council ACT headquarters - Canberra International Airport Executive Chairman, Terry Snow with ACT Chief Minister, Jon Stanhope.

Above - Terry Snow with a delighted Dr Kevin White, Chairman ACT Cancer Council