



20 November 2007



BELIEVE it or not Dunsborough resident Gordon Black will celebrate his 3rd birthday this month.

Gordon was given a second chance at life when he became the first person in Western Australia to receive a single right lung transplant.

On the 29th of November 2007 Gordon will celebrate the third anniversary of his transplant.

Long gone are the days of struggling for breathe after contracting Legionnaire's disease, getting dust in his lungs from working as a farmer in the Wheatbelt and smoking.

Gordon is fit, healthy and very active and together with his wife, Rona the couple are making the most of their second chance.

The couple are members and enthusiastic supporters of the Heart & Lung Transplant Foundation WA Inc which played a pivotal role in the establishment of the Lung Transplant Unit at Royal Perth Hospital in 1994, where Gordon received his transplant.

Throughout the year Gordon and Rona canvas businesses in the south-west promoting the work of the Foundation and gathering auction items for the annual Gala Ball. Plus they coordinate the Dunsborough Easter Fair each year with proceeds donated to the Foundation.

The couple are members of the Lung Transplant Support Group in Perth which meets each fortnight and provides support, advice and a place for transplant recipients to share their experiences.

More recently their work with JMW Real Estate in Dunsborough has kept them on their toes. Gordon says its one of the best jobs he has ever had. "We love it," he said. "We do everything from tree pruning and property cleaning to odd jobs and general maintenance."

Gordon really is a shining example of what is possible after organ transplantation.

RELEASE ENDS

FACTS: There have been just 15 organ and 35 tissue donations in WA between 1 January and 31 October 2007

For media enquiries call Heart & Lung Transplant Foundation WA Inc Communications Coordinator, Kim Ball on 0433 191 333 or kb@gulibiru.com

NOTE: Gordon & Rona will be in Perth from Sunday 25 November to Tuesday 27 November for interview and photograph opportunities.