

THE BULLETIN

ISSN 1321-0599

NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN VOLUNTARY EUTHANASIA SOCIETY INC. (SAVES)

Vol 26 No 2. 'No price is too great for the privilege of owning yourself' July 2009
Rudyard Kipling

Take charge – be an '81%' activist!

As reported in the March 2009 *VE Bulletin*, both the *Voluntary Euthanasia Bill 2008* ('Such Bill') and the *Consent to Medical Treatment and Palliative Care (Voluntary Euthanasia) Amendment Bill* ('Parnell Bill') are before SA parliament. The Such Bill is in the House of Assembly (Lower House) and the Parnell Bill is in the Legislative Council (Upper House). The aim of each Bill is to allow a competent adult to receive medical help for a peaceful death under carefully controlled circumstances.

It is intended that these bills will be called to a vote this year prior to the March 2010 election. It will be the last chance in this parliamentary term, as next year will be a frenzy of 'election hype'.

Despite the fact that a Newspoll survey in 2007 showed 81% of South Australians want voluntary euthanasia to be legal, many members of parliament refuse to face the facts pointing to the need for law reform. They are intent on imposing their own personal values.

SAVES is not affiliated with Exit International / Dr Philip Nitschke and opposes the public availability of a 'peaceful pill'.

This powerful, unrepresentative minority have worked against the five voluntary euthanasia Bills that have been in our parliament since 1995 and will continue to deny your right to choose a quick and peaceful death in face of unbearable and unrelievable suffering from a hopeless illness. What right do they have to deny you the dignity of choice? You are condemned to a prolonged existence of suffering under the current law unless you take charge.

Write to your state member and ask if they support legalization. If your member signifies support please write affirming their common sense, compassion and courage. **If your member is opposed or hides their stance by not answering your question it is important that you write again asking the following questions.**

1) Reports show voluntary euthanasia laws to be working responsibly in Oregon, the Netherlands and Belgium. Why do you think such a law will not work in Australia? What makes us different?

Inside

Acknowledging supportive MPs	2
President's Report and Guest speaker AGM	3
Christians Supporting Choice for VE	4
Momentum gathers in WA and Tasmania	4
SAVES' new patron	5
Global news	5, 6
SAVES at Victor Harbor	7
World Federation Conference 2010	7
Committee changes	7
Auditor's report	8
Membership form Christians Supporting Choice ..	9
Financial Statement	10
Next meeting, Membership and Committee ..	11, 12

2) If you consider that safeguards in voluntary euthanasia bills proposed to protect vulnerable members of society are inadequate, what further safeguards do you recommend?

3) It is an indisputable fact, widely acknowledged, that palliative care cannot help all hopelessly ill patients, so what do you suggest is the solution? Alternatively, are you content that these patients should simply be forced against their will to suffer until they die?

You can also point out that you will be looking for candidates who support legalizing voluntary euthanasia in the State election next year. It is essential that your letter be used to maximum effect – just send it to us and we will arrange copying and dispatch to all MPs. To find the name of your local member contact the Electoral Office on 8401 4300 or www.seo.sa.gov.au.

Take charge for your right to make your own decision!

Acknowledging supportive MPs

It is time to again acknowledge the courage, commitment and hard work of those members of parliament who currently support SAVES primary aims (and therefore 81% of their constituents). They do so even when challenged by entrenched and powerful institutions that seek to maintain the status quo on the manner in which we currently must die. They of course follow in the footsteps of supportive past parliamentary members mentioned below who worked tirelessly to get voluntary euthanasia bills into parliament.

Hansard (15th November 2007p.1676) states that the Hon Stephanie Key detailed her support for law reform when discussing SAVES'

aims and SA legislative history in parliament, including the pro-active MPs that have gone before. These include the Hon John Quirke and his 1995 Bill, the Hon Anne Levy and her 1996 Bill, as well as the *Dignity in Dying* Bill in 2000 introduced into both houses in November that year by Hon Sandra Kanck and Hon Dr Bob Such.

At the time Hon Sandra Kanck gave an inspiring introductory speech stating that it was her 'proudest moment' in over seven years in parliament, and 'arguably the foremost social issue facing us as politicians'. She cited Dr Michael Irwin, a former Medical Director of the United Nations who claimed that the doctrine of 'double effect' is society's 'wink' to euthanasia and, while a help, is steeped in hypocrisy. The Hon Dr Bob Such, in reintroducing the *Voluntary Euthanasia* Bill on 16th October 2008, gave clear indications of the level of public support saying 'I ask members for their support. If we can save one person from having an agonising death, then I think we can all be justly proud of that. I commend the bill to the house'.

One month after the introduction of the Such Bill, Hon Mark Parnell (Greens) introduced his Bill. In a radio interview (5AA 13th Nov 2008) he stated that he had never personally experienced watching the dreadful death of a loved one but said

'I do bring an emotional attachment to the extent ... when you hear the stories it's very hard not to be touched by them, but to a certain extent it does give me that little bit of extra distance ... with my background as a lawyer I'm always looking for ... checks and balances, working out ... what are the boundaries of human rights ...'

SAVES is grateful for the courage of these members and will monitor and report on the passage of the two current bills.

President's report: March 2009 meeting

SAVES' president Frances Coombe welcomed approximately forty people to the March 2009 Annual General Meeting, and invited honorary treasurer Hamish Claxton to present the financial report. Frances reminded members that it was her eighth year as president, that she gained great reward from her important work, and that she has been told that she is not allowed to retire until a VE Bill is enacted!

Frances sincerely thanked SAVES new website manager, Ken Hauser, also her committee and task force members for their outstanding work and dedication. In providing an overview of the

Bequests to SAVES

A bequest to SAVES is one way to make a significant gift to further the aim of the society which is to achieve law reform to allow choice for voluntary euthanasia.

The appropriate wording for the gift of a specific sum is *I bequeath to the South Australian Voluntary Euthanasia Society Inc. the sum of \$....*

In the unlikely event that you wish to leave your entire estate to SAVES it would read *I give, devise and bequeath the whole of my real and personal estate to the South Australian Voluntary Euthanasia Society Inc.*

two Bills currently before parliament, Frances stated that these would not have been possible without the previous 'strong and steadfast' work of Hon Sandra Kanck and other courageous and supportive members of parliament, including Hon Stephanie Key, who also addressed the meeting around her visit to The Netherlands.

Guest speaker: Dr Libby Wilson

What is it like being a doctor for ten months in Africa, with minimal sanitation, equipment, staffing, and sometimes little more than your wits and the will to do some good? Guest speaker at the March meeting, Dr Libby Wilson, knows. Shortly after a friend had introduced her to the Voluntary Euthanasia Society of Scotland, she accepted a post in Sierra Leone, for which she was paid a 'pittance'. In her subsequent book *Unexpected Always Happen*, she tells the tale of her adventure there. It took her back, in some ways, to 1946, when she was studying in a Kings College Hospital, London, where medicine was practiced just as it had been for 200 years." In those years end-of-life decisions just didn't happen: people either lived or died".

Dr Wilson is Convenor and Honorary Medical Advisor to Friends at the End (FATE) Scotland. Her talk was entitled '*Facilitating Choices with particular reference to Dignitas*'. The role of the group is befriending, giving advice on living wills and powers of attorney. Between 2006 and 2008 the group received over 550 enquiries with a surprising mix of people across all age groups, and a ratio of women to men of 3:2. Many of the enquiries relate to membership, but approximately 200 callers sought the group's publication '*The UK Guide to Dignitas*' as part of a range of information on end-of-life choices.

Scotland is the most sought after source of information on end of life choices. FATE often makes headlines in the media, and they are frequently asked for comment. Although the group is relatively small with less than 500 members and no paid staff, they 'punch above their weight'. Dr Wilson stated that being a doctor is an advantage, with the ability to give advice in regard to eligibility

criteria for approaching Dignitas for assistance to die. She argued that many callers are in desperate situations with cancer and neurological conditions, and that it does help to talk about their plight. The media are generally supportive and brave in their reporting of issues. Accessing the assistance of Dignitas involves procedural steps including two medical reports over a specified period and medical fees. Dr Wilson stated that it is obviously a decision embarked on by desperate people as their only option. SAVES was pleased that Libby agreed to address the meeting and her insightful talk raised many questions from the audience.

Christians supporting choice for voluntary euthanasia

The group *Christians Supporting Choice for Voluntary Euthanasia* was profiled in the previous edition of *The VE Bulletin*. Convenor of the group, Ian Wood, has provided the following update on the group's activities:

"We have had a good response from an advertisement in the May edition of the 'Senior' Newspaper for SA. We would really appreciate hearing from all SAVES members and would welcome them as "signatories". Please remember that although we are a Christian group lobbying our MPs for legal VE, non-Christians are certainly welcome to join us. It costs nothing to take part. Every name will be important on our next group letter to Parliament. We have encouraged our members to vote and comment on recent VE articles in *The Advertiser*. Christians Supporting Choice for Voluntary Euthanasia and SAVES will have a display at the Disability and Aged Expo, Wayville Showgrounds, Friday 14th August, and we hope to see you there".

(See page 9 for a membership form)

Momentum gathers in Western Australia and Tasmania

The West Australian newspaper has reported that the bid to legalise choice for voluntary euthanasia for the terminally ill in Western Australia appears to be gaining momentum ('Right to die law gains support', 24th April 2009). In-principle support has been given by fourteen Upper House MPs, while eight have stated their opposition. Of the thirty six Upper House MPs another five remained undecided and four were unable to be contacted. Greens-elect member Robin Chapple, who has drafted the proposal, will be seeking a co-sponsor for the Bill. WA Premier Colin Barnett has previously indicated his opposition to voluntary euthanasia law reform.

The ABC News (22nd May 2009) reported that Tasmanian political lines will be blurred with the impending introduction of voluntary euthanasia legislation to State Parliament. The three political parties have committed to a conscience vote, which Opposition Leader, Will Hodgman, claims appropriate, as 'members of the Liberal Party have a diverse range of views'. The *Dying with Dignity* Bill, including a range of safeguards, and only relating to terminally ill Tasmanians, will be introduced by Greens Leader, Nick McKim. He stated 'people are often forced to die in agonising pain and humiliating circumstances'.

In flagging opposition by the Catholic Church, the Archbishop of Tasmania, Adrian Doyle, will lobby against the legislation which he states is 'immoral'. He stated that the church is totally opposed to anything that would provide for the direct intervention on the part of another person to terminate the life of a human being'.

SAVES' new Patron

SAVES is delighted to welcome Emeritus Professor John Willoughby as a patron. Prof Willoughby joins Emeritus Professors Jim Richardson and Graham Nerlich who support the society's primary aims.

Professor Willoughby is Adelaide educated, and studied medicine at University of Adelaide, trained in Neurology in Adelaide (RAH), and London (Hammersmith Hospital), and did postgraduate training in neuroscience in Montreal (McGill University). He has been at Flinders University and Medical Centre all his professional life, and still conducts research and pro-bono teaching. His principal research interest is epilepsy, and his 'recreational' interest is in understanding how the brain works. Also for fun, he builds or rebuilds wooden boats at Goolwa.

The stimulus for his membership of SAVES was that his father died with Alzheimer's disease and Prof Willoughby states that he would not want to exist in the situation his father faced in his final years, and assumes many others feel the same. Options are limited for avoiding such a situation, even for a medical practitioner 'in the know'. Prof Willoughby states that 'having a legal voluntary euthanasia option seems important as well as being an intrinsic human right, 'whatever a right is'.

SAVES welcomes a long and fruitful relationship with Dr Willoughby and thanks him for his support.

Global news

Washington

Linda Fleming, a 66 year old woman with terminal cancer, has become the first person electing to use Washington State's new assisted dying law, *'Death with Dignity'*.

The advocacy group 'Compassion and Choices' stated that 'the pain became unbearable, and it was only going to get worse'. Ms Fleming died at home with her family, her dog and her physician at her bedside. The new law was approved in November and is based on a 1997 Oregon measure, under which about 400 people have ended their lives.

Reference:

Rachel Da Corte, Associated Press Writer
Associated Press May 22nd 2009.

United Kingdom

An Independent Nurse survey has revealed that 64 per cent of the 108 survey respondents stated that they believed assisted dying should be legalized. Further, 67 per cent believed that clinicians should be able to assist terminally ill patients who are in chronic pain to die. The nurses supported clear guidelines being drafted, but despite majority support for law change, only 46 per cent stated that they would be willing to assist. This in-principle support by nurses is shared by the SA Nursing Federation which has a policy position of lobbying politicians in support of the decriminalization of voluntary euthanasia.

Reference:

Healthcare Republic 20th April 2009
'Nurse backing for assisted suicide'

In further news from the UK, eight hundred Britons suffering from terminal illnesses are taking the first steps towards ending their lives when faced with unbearable suffering by becoming members of Dignitas. There are 34 men and women at the critical stage ready to make the trip to Zurich. The increasing numbers of Britons joining the society raises questions around the law banning assisted dying in Britain. An influential group of peers, led by two former

ministers in Tony Blair's cabinet, Lord Falconer and Baroness Jay, will lobby to end what they argue to be the 'outdated and inhumane situation' in which relatives or friends risk up to 14 years imprisonment if they accompany a loved one undertaking assisted -dying overseas.

Reference:

Denis Campbell, '800 Britons on waiting list for Swiss suicide clinic' *The Observer* 31st May 2009

Korea

Seoul National University (SNU) Hospital's decision to honor terminally ill cancer patients' self-determination by stopping 'meaningless and excessive treatment' is expected to rekindle a debate over end- of -life options. The move has significant implications, as patients will be able to decide on how they die. Hospital files of 656 terminal-cancer patients, who died in 2007, show that doctors accepted decisions by 436 or 85 per cent of the patients' requests to stop futile 'life-extension' treatment.

The SNU hospital has introduced a 'Do Not Resuscitate' (DNR) statement so that terminally ill cancer patients or their family members can decide on their own fate. Voluntary euthanasia is illegal but there are growing calls to allow withdrawal of treatment for patients in a non-responsive state or diagnosed with brain death. *The Advertiser* newspaper (23/5/09) reported on this landmark ruling acknowledging the shift in sentiment in Korea. The nation's highest court has ordered a hospital to accede to a family's request to cease life support for a comatose woman aged 76. Korea's important move towards greater patient choice is also a reminder of the differences between the levels of patient choice in the various jurisdictions.

Reference:

'Right to Die With Dignity- SNU Hospital's Bold Step to Influence Top Court Ruling', *The Korea Times* 19th May 2009

Advance Health Directives

If you have not already completed an Advance Directive please do so to ensure that your end-of-life wishes are respected. You can choose from the:

Consent to Medical Treatment and Palliative Care Act 1995, forms available for downloading from www.dh.sa.gov.au/consent and from the Office of the Public Advocate.

OR

Guardianship and Administration Act 1993.

There is a link to the Office of the Public Advocate from the above website for completing an *Enduring Power of Guardianship* under this Act or call (08) 8269 7575 (freecall on 1800 066 969).

Either directive form can also be obtained via (08) 8269 7575 or by country free call on 1800 066 969, or contact the Palliative Care Council of SA on (08) 8291 4137.

Czechoslovakia

The number of Czechs who agree with choice for voluntary euthanasia has risen in the past three years with 62 per cent of those polled saying they would agree to voluntary euthanasia for incurably ill persons. This is an increase from 58 per cent of those polled in 2007. The legalisation of voluntary euthanasia is opposed by 27 percent of Czechs, while three years ago it was 28 percent. Roman Catholics disagree with euthanasia more often than followers of other churches or of atheists, according to the CVVM poll.

SAVES warmly welcomed at Victor Harbor

Three members of SAVES executive travelled to Victor Harbor on April 25th for a public meeting, providing information on the 'state of play' on concepts of voluntary euthanasia and law reform. Inclement weather precluded the hosting of SAVES display at the Victor Harbor markets the following day. This initiative was in recognition both of the reach of SAVES membership and general public interest in the issue. A sincere thank you goes to Jenny who most efficiently organized the venue, and publicity, also to Dr Rosie Jones who generously hosted our overnight stay.

From the journals

A recent study (1) reveals that a majority of British doctors do not support the legalization of assisted dying, either by voluntary euthanasia or physician-assisted dying. This differs from surveys of the general population. Amongst the range of findings are that the strongest opponents are palliative medicine specialists as well as specialists in the care for the elderly. The report also noted that 'strength of religiosity' is a factor in medical practitioners' views. Those supporting choice for assisted dying stress the need for safeguards and availability of palliative care. Findings may help inform further debate on this issue.

Reference:

(1) Seale, C. 'Legalisation of euthanasia or physician-assisted suicide: survey of doctors' attitudes', *Palliative Medicine* (2009); 23: 205-212

World Federation Conference: Melbourne 2010

SAVES congratulates *Dying With Dignity Victoria* which has been selected by the Board of the *World Federation of Right to Die Societies* to be hosts of the 2010 conference. It will be held in Melbourne during 7-10 October 2010. Leslie Martin of

Dignity NZ Trust is also organizing a three day conference in Wellington, New Zealand after the Melbourne conference. Further information will be provided as it comes to hand.

Committee changes

SAVES honorary administrative secretary, Jan Seaman is unable to continue in the position, stating 'Although not nominating for re-election as Administration Secretary for SAVES I look forward to continuing in the work the committee has set for me during the time I have had the privilege of being involved with committee members. I look forward to continuing my voluntary work visiting doctors' surgeries to offer information pamphlets from SAVES to be kept in surgeries, and arranging displays in public libraries'.

Thank you sincerely Jan for your ongoing work for SAVES.

Frances Coombe

Saves also welcomes two new committee members. Dianne Lake has taken on the role of Minutes Secretary and Victoria Pollifrone Administrative Officer. We look forward to a long, productive relationship with both new members. Victoria has given us a little insight into her background, and writes:

'I was living in Darwin in 1995 and was a great supporter of Marshall Perron's *Rights of the Terminally Ill Act 1995* (NT), which allowed for medically assisted voluntary euthanasia at the request of a terminally ill person. Like many others, I was bitterly disappointed that the religious right in the Federal Parliament made *Rights of the Terminally Ill Act 1995* (NT) inoperative by amending the *Federal Parliament of the Northern Territory (Self-Government) Act 1978* (Cth).

Since then I have lost three friends and a close family member in the most horrific and cruel circumstances, as they languished in their terminal illness without a pain free end- of- life option. I have worked in politics for the past 5 years both in Electorate offices (Casuarina NT, Adelaide and Florey SA) and at the Ministerial level (Hon Jennifer Rankine – Consumer Affairs, Ageing, Disability).

I am currently working for the State Member for Florey, and saw Frances Coombe's recent email plea for support for the SAVES committee. I finally decided to step up and offer my support in a practical way.

Electronic subscription

SAVES treasurer requests that members sending subscriptions through electronic means show the identification as requested on the membership form. Please make sure you:

-record your name where possible on your actual funds transfer form AND

-send the membership form to the SAVES address

Only by doing so will proper identification of your membership be assured.

Thankyou

I have two teenaged children, one at University and one in Year 11, and a partner with a chronic heart condition, so my life is pretty busy. However I am delighted to come onboard with SAVES and I hope to make a contribution, however small, to the great work of this organisation.

I am optimistic that medically assisted, voluntary euthanasia WILL become an end of life option in my lifetime, and that my children will look back and wonder at the

lack of humanity of these times and the absurdity of how our law makers allow themselves to be hijacked by vocal minorities blinkered by religious beliefs in an otherwise secular society.

Auditors report

SAVES auditor, Warwick Koster has provided the society with the audited statement to 28th February 2009. Dated 6th May 2009 this states:

'I have audited the Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year ended 28th February 2009 of the South Australian Voluntary Euthanasia Society Incorporated. It is not practicable for the South Australian Voluntary Euthanasia Society Incorporated to establish accounting controls over all sources of income.

Accordingly it was not practicable for my examination of this area to extend beyond the amounts recorded in the Accounting records of the South Australian Voluntary Euthanasia Society Incorporated.

Subject to this reservation, the financial statements in my opinion present fairly the financial position of the South Australian Voluntary Euthanasia Society Incorporated and are in accordance with book vouchers produced and certify them to be in accordance herewith'.

The end of life is not the time to take away a person's freedom. No-one should have the right to take away the freedom to work with your doctor to shape an end of life that honors the beliefs and values of a lifetime.

*Barbara Coombs Lee, President
Compassion in Dying USA*



I WANT THE CHOICE OF A PEACEFUL DEATH!

I consider myself to be a Christian and wish to join Christians Supporting Choice for Voluntary Euthanasia in their campaign to have Voluntary Euthanasia legalised in South Australia as an option for people suffering unbearably from a hopeless or terminal illness.

Such legislation would include stringent safeguards against abuse.

Name

Denomination (optional)

Address

Email

I wish to join as a "signatory" Please send more information

OPTION I am not a Christian, but wish to support the Group

Post to: Christians Supporting Choice for Voluntary Euthanasia,
429 Anzac Road, Port Pirie, SA 5540.

Or email your details to ChristiansforVE@westnet.com.au

Your response will remain confidential – except to include your name with all others at the foot of Group letters going to Members of Parliament.

**Membership is free – we need your name – not your money!
But donations towards advertising are welcome!**



Christians who believe that, as a demonstration of love and compassion, those with a terminal or hopeless illness should have the option of a pain-free, peaceful and dignified death with legal voluntary euthanasia.

Approved by Rev. Trevor Bensch and fellow Christian, Ian Wood.

Website: www.saves.asn.au/resources/archive/Christians/index.php

1919086

SA Voluntary Euthanasia Society Incorporated – Statement of Receipts and Payments 1/3/08-28/2/09

Opening balance 1st March 2008 \$6,719.02

Receipts

Donations received	\$ 3,800.80	
Interest received	\$ 3,743.14	
Sundry item	\$ 399.00	
Member subscriptions	\$ 8,475.00	
Bequests	\$22,770.76	
Transfer from Cash Management	\$25,000.00	<u>\$64,188.70</u>
		<u>\$70,907.72</u>

Payments

Advertising	\$ 3,233.97	
Bank charges	\$ 20.00	
Bulletin Postage	\$ 1,311.98	
Bulletin Print	\$ 2,854.50	
Equipment and asset purchases	\$ 1,509.00	
Equipment hire	\$ 242.00	
Gifts to speakers	\$ 613.57	
Income Tax	\$ 1,143.60	
Insurance	\$ 1,625.53	
Internet Expenses	\$ 80.60	
Motor Vehicle Expenses	\$ 82.84	
Parking	\$ 282.25	
Photocopying	\$ 15.00	
Postage	\$ 996.00	
Printing and Stationery	\$ 2,525.97	
Purchases- promotional items	\$ 133.50	
Rent	\$ 848.00	
Repairs and maintenance	\$ 220.00	
Subscriptions	\$ 708.82	
Sundry Expenses	\$ 35.50	
Telephone	\$ 190.00	
Transfer to Term Deposit	\$ 40,000.00	
Travel Expenses	\$ 505.90	
		<u>\$59,187.53</u>
<u>Closing Balance – 28th February 2009</u>		<u>\$11,720.19</u>

CBA Cash Management Trust

Opening Balance – 1 st March 2008		<u>\$32,280.44</u>
Interest Received		<u>\$ 1,353.10</u>
		<u>\$ 33,633.54</u>

Term Deposit

Opening Balance – 1 st March 2008		<u>\$15,000.00</u>
Transfer from Working Account		\$40,000.00
Closing Balance – 28 th February 2009		<u>\$55,000.00</u>

NOTICE OF A GENERAL MEETING

Of the SA Voluntary Euthanasia Society Inc. (SAVES) at
The Disability Information and Resource Centre (DIRC), 195 Gilles St, Adelaide.

2.15 pm Sunday July 26th 2009

Guest Speaker will be **Dr Roger Hunt**, palliative care specialist, who will speak on the topic

'The Best of Palliative Care'

Tea/coffee and biscuits will be available at the conclusion of the meeting.

Bring your friends. All welcome.

Final public meeting for 2009: Sunday November 22nd

South Australian Voluntary Euthanasia Society Inc. (SAVES)

Annual Membership Fees: Single \$ 25.00 (concession \$ 10.00) Double \$ 30.00 (concession \$ 15.00)

Life Membership: Single \$ 200.00, Double \$ 300.00

Annual Fees fall due at the end of February. Payment for two years or more reduces handling and costs.

Mr/Mrs/Ms/Other Date

Address

. Postcode

<u>Office use</u>	
Database	Treasurer
Changes	Letter

Email address if you want to be advised of SAVES activities

Date of birth (optional) **Membership fees for years \$-----**

Make cheque or money order payable to SAVES and send to:

SAVES Membership Officer, PO Box 2151, Kent Town SA 5071 **Donation \$-----**

Or pay by Electronic Funds Transfer (please quote name and type of payment) to: **TOTAL \$-----**

Commonwealth Bank BSB 065 129 account number 00901742

Please send this membership form to the above address when paying by electronic means, to ensure proper identification of your membership.

SAVES members support the Society's primary objective which is a change in the law, so that in appropriate circumstances and with defined safeguards, death may be brought about as an option of last resort in medical practice. These circumstances include the free and informed request of the patient and the free exercise of professional judgement and conscience of the doctor.

SAVES IS NOT ABLE TO HELP PEOPLE END THEIR LIVES

SAVES' Primary Objective:

A change to the law in South Australia so that in appropriate circumstances, and with defined safeguards, death may be brought about as an option of last resort in medical practice. These circumstances include the free and informed request of the patient and the free exercise of professional medical judgment and conscience of the doctor.



Committee:

President
Vice Presidents

Frances Coombe
Julia Anaf
Mary Gallnor

Hon. Secretary
Hon Treasurer
Administrative Secretary
Minutes Secretary

Anne Hirsch
Hamish Claxton
Victoria Pollifrone
Dianne Lake

Patrons

Emeritus Professor J.A. Richardson
Emeritus Professor Graham Nerlich
Emeritus Professor John Willoughby

Telephone

8379 3421(prefixes: interstate 08, international +61 8)

Internet

www.saves.asn.au

The VE Bulletin is published three times a year by the SA Voluntary Euthanasia Society Inc. (SAVES). Letters, articles and other material for possible publication are welcome and should be sent to *The VE Bulletin Editor, SAVES, PO Box 2151, Kent Town SA 5071.*

The statements and views expressed by contributors do not necessarily represent SAVES official policy. Material in this publication may be freely reproduced provided it is in context and given appropriate acknowledgement.

Editor: Julia Anaf