
**GREETINGS FROM THE CAMPAIGN FOR A ROYAL COMMISSION OF
INQUIRY INTO THE CSL AND AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS BLOOD SCANDAL.**



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If you are interested in making a contribution or would like to share your story in our next newsletter.

Please contact Charles MacKenzie:
cjm@infectedbloodaustralia.com

I REST MY CASE BY CHARLES MACKENZIE



I have been fighting tainted blood in one form or another since a child in the 1980s. My first knowledge of HIV/AIDS came like many other Australians in 1985. The news media went into overdrive and the fear ramped up. Things became even more worrying with the news that a boy called Martin Hatch who attended St. Andrew's Cathedral school in Sydney at the same time as I did, had also developed AIDS, as a consequence of receiving contaminated blood.

"IT WAS AN OPEN AND DELIBERATE DISPLAY OF CALLOUSNESS BY A GOVERNMENT AND A SUPPOSED HUMANITARIAN AGENCY, THE AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS LEVIED AT A DYING CHILD!".

There was nothing they could do, there was no test then.

This was something I caught my confused self repeating about Martin's situation at the time. We had all been led to believe that it was an inevitable infection, as HIV, the virus that caused AIDS, had caught the blood banks that the Australian Red Cross Blood Service ran by surprise and apparently had 'come out of nowhere'.

But then something changed in the way I would see things.

AIDS was a very frightening and challenging proposition for a boy in the 1980s and naturally being Martin's age I felt a profound empathy for his situation. So you can imagine how horrified I was when I learned that Martin was having difficulties accessing care and that authorities were proving to be most unhelpful. Martin's parents were in financial trouble trying to get the kind of assistance necessary for Martin and were even forced to sue to try and get help.

My experience of Australia, up until that point, had shown me that Australians were among the most generous people on earth, but the way Martin and his family were being treated by authorities seemed very different. This was out of keeping with the Australia I knew...

I would be forever changed by it.

In 1988 I fell ill with bone marrow failure, Severe Aplastic Anaemia, the same disease made famous a decade prior by a made for TV movie starring the actor John Travolta called 'The Boy in the Plastic Bubble'. Like Travolta's character, I had no functioning immune system and I was also unable to produce blood (red cells, white cells, platelets) and so in what felt like great irony given my interest in Martin's case, I became dependent on blood and blood products. I strongly suspected therefore, that I would be infected with something.



Why did I think that?

Because of how Martin had been treated. I believed that any authority that would treat a child the way they had done was up to something and were not to be trusted.

I remember the day in 1989 my mum came and told me Martin had passed away, "I'll get them for this!" It's not how I'd choose to say it today, but that's how I said it thirty-two years ago.

I began reading and investigating blood. And early on in the picture I realised something. There was a lot more to contaminated blood than authorities were letting on. There was this other virus for example, Non A, Non B, Hepatitis (Hepatitis C) that was far more widespread than HIV and it was in the blood supply too.

The Australian government, the Australian Red Cross Blood Service, and the Commonwealth Serum Laboratories were only too keen to write thousands of infections off as an unavoidable accident. Part of the 'wider tragedy of AIDS'. But I have always been unhappy with this assessment. Authorities raced to tell the public that the whole thing was tragic, and sought to convey a sense of inevitability about a situation that had impacted thousands of lives.

"WHAT DO YOU THINK?"

Can Australia's deadliest medical scandal be just written off as a tragic and unavoidable event without even having had a proper legal investigation?"

How could such a determination be made without some kind of independent legal review?

Investigations aren't always about 'blame games' or finding fault, they can also be necessary as ways of explaining precisely what went wrong and why. But there was none of that. Incredibly, unlike so many other countries that investigated their own contaminated blood supplies, Australia has never had a proper judge led investigation into our nations deadliest medical scandal which affected thousands of Australian families.

For decades I have been fighting for the only kind of investigation that will do, a Royal Commission of inquiry into the contamination of Australia's blood supply. Over the course of the years I have campaigned alone and at other times with others. I have spent years chasing evidence, trying to get to the bottom of things and authorities have fought tooth and nail to prevent me. Eighteen years ago that even saw the Australian Red Cross act with malicious intent when they sought to have me jailed with a trumped up and dishonest charge of contempt of court

<https://www.smh.com.au/national/blood-inquiry-witness-faces-court-action-20030403-gdgje9.html>

I was completely innocent and the case was dropped.

My friends, it's time for me to rest my case.

On the question of whether Australia's contaminated blood scandal was an 'unavoidable accident', I rest my case with the evidence I have managed to obtain over many years.

What do you think? Can Australia's deadliest medical scandal be just written off as a tragic and unavoidable event without even having had a proper legal investigation?

Over the course of the next twelve months the full details of what my investigations have uncovered will be published starting with this never before released Australian Red Cross/CSL timeline of blood donors.

And publication of my statement to the UK's largest ever public inquiry, the Infected Blood Inquiry, is also set to happen sometime between now and 2022.

I write this just as my own health has started to leave me. I will have to make adjustments to my life and there is no way around that. We will need more help for this group if we are to fight on, the good news is that you will meet some of our new campaigners in this newsletter.

I dedicate my decades long campaign to get answers to the long suffering and never properly acknowledged Australian tainted blood victims and their loved ones, special mention must also go to the memory of Martin Hatch the boy from my school.

I'd also like to give a mention to my friend Jay Franklin who passed away in 2017, Jay had the happiest, warmest persona, his picture sits on my desk, a reminder of all that is kind and decent in this life.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS / CSL
TIMELINE OF BLOOD DONORS

1943 **BEST BLOOD INSIDE PRISON WALLS**
"IT WOULD BE RICHER THAN OUTSIDE CIVILIANS BLOOD"
GOVERNMENT MEDICAL OFFICE
MRS BOURNE - If prisoners in Pentridge Gaol gave blood to the Red Cross transfusion service, it would be richer than outside prisoners' blood said the Government Medical Officer, Dr R. [unclear]
[unclear] report that due to a mangled throat, convicts living in a balanced diet had a regular living blood given to them in a uniform was given to [unclear] few prisoners.
[unclear] prisoners were in very poor condition they became [unclear] there was a [unclear]

1945 **RETURNED POW IS BLOOD DONOR**
A returned POW from GERMANY volunteers as a donor to the Perth transfusion centre
[unclear] gave his blood 4 times in [unclear] near to the Perth Transfusion [unclear]
[unclear] was a medical [unclear] to [unclear] who [unclear] [unclear]

1950 **RED CROSS MOBILE BLOOD BANK**
When a Red Cross Blood Bank's mobile unit visited a penitentiary recently, the nurses were startled to find that many of the prisoners' arms were covered with adhesive tape. Victims of an epidemic of skin disease or of medieval prison punishment flashed through their minds, and finally one of them asked an inmate about it.
"Well, mate," the prisoner explained sheepishly, "most of the fellows have [unclear]"

PRISON BLOOD DONORS
THE RED CROSS BLOOD BANK MOBILE SERVICE VISITS PENITENTIARY
[unclear] [unclear] [unclear]

MY STORY

BY SUSANNE WALTERS

Hello, My name is Susanne Walters. I contracted Hepatitis C following surgery in 1987. I became aware I had Hep C after donating blood in 1998. The Red Cross tells me I was only given Plasma-Lyte during surgery. As I have never used drugs, had tattoos or done anything to put my health at risk, the only probable source of infection was the surgery. From 2004 onwards my health declined and I had to give up a job I loved.

Since then I was given compassionate access to two rounds of the AbbVie Viekira Pak treatment in 2015 prior to its approval by the TGA. It has now become the standard treatment for Hep C in Australia.

I am determined to force the government to hold a Royal Commission into the contaminated blood scandal. The Red Cross and CSL knowingly infected innocent Australians and someone must be held to account. If a soft drink contained harmful chemicals that killed or injured people then the manufacturer would be sued. There is absolutely no difference in the case of infected blood - it is a product liability case and someone is criminally responsible.

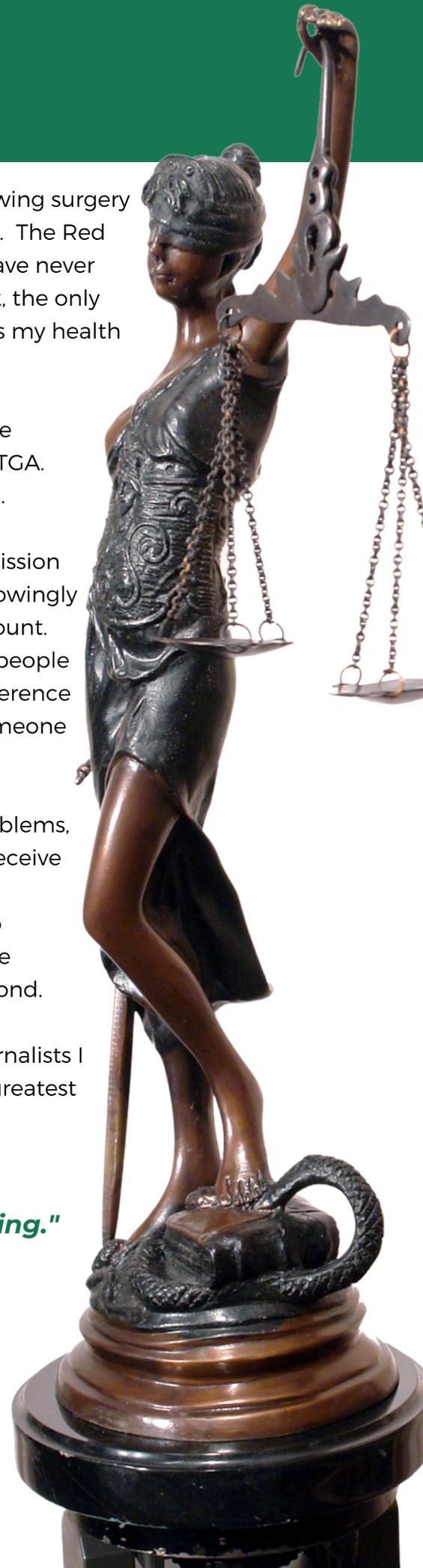
As I can no longer work and suffer a myriad of chronic health problems, I am devoting my time to ensure that victims and their families receive justice and compensation. I have lobbied both Greg Hunt and Mark Butler to introduce financial assistance like that provided to victims in the UK but their silence on the issue is deafening. Prime Minister Scott Morrison and many other politicians refuse to respond.

The same can be said for over thirty media organisations and journalists I contacted who do not have the courage to report on Australia's greatest medical scandal.

*To each any every one of them I said,
"Shame on you if you know about this and do nothing."*

**This is a David and Goliath battle but rest assured,
in the end David won.**

Susanne Walters
alburysue@gmail.com





WE DESPERATLY NEED YOUR HELP!!!

MASS EMAIL DAY



We ask for your support by simply emailing our health & shadow health ministers, calling for a Royal Commission into the infected blood scandal in Australia. Victims and their families deserve answers

greg.hunt.MP@aph.gov.au

**DAY OF ACTION
26TH MAY**

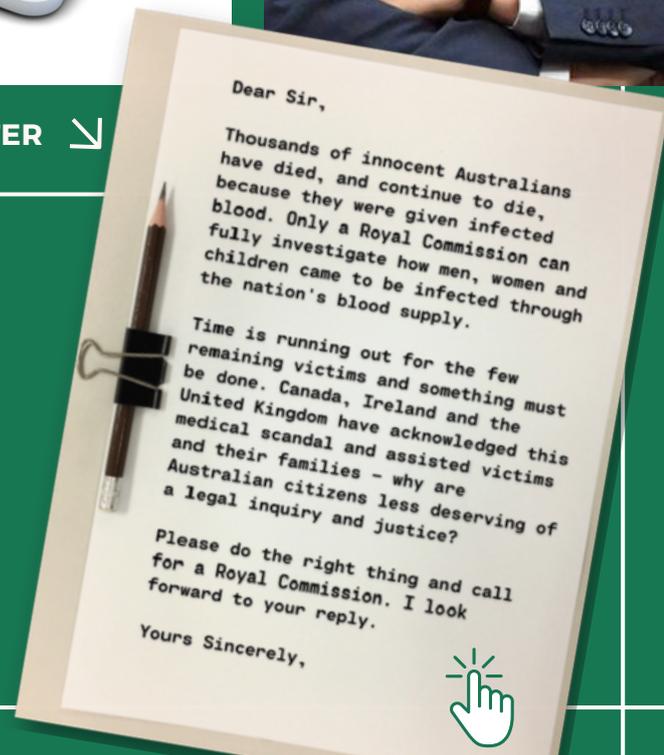
mark.butler.MP@aph.gov.au



∨ **SAMPLE LETTER** ∨

✉ **LETTER BLITZ** ✉

We plan to inundate our Health & Shadow Health Ministers above, help us by using the email letter template provided - please make any additions or amendments that reflect your personal view



THE BUSH FIRE FUNDS DEBACLE EXPOSED THE RED CROSS AS GREEDY

BY CHRIS GREEN

Hi I'm Chris Green - Founder of Red Hot Charity Fraud,

Last years devastating bushfires caught the attention of millions worldwide who opened their wallets and gave generously to assist the victims who had lost everything. The kindness was overwhelming and inspired hope amongst the devastation until the Australian Red Cross, who were the largest recipients of these funds, decided they were going to drip-feed the funds to fire ravaged communities through tailored programs with cash grants at intervals.

I was lost for words and developed a strong mistrust towards the Red Cross, an organisation I knew very little about at the time. My feelings of mistrust inspired me to start a FB group and a page dedicated to ensuring that all the funds were dispersed to the victims. I aptly named my group - Red 'hot' Cross Funding Thieves.

The plan was to close the group down once the donated funds were fully allocated, however upon learning of the contaminated blood scandal, my group became a campaign against the Red Cross itself - an organisation that boasts empty, meaningless slogans of humanity.

I have since discovered countless articles of disturbing acts committed by the Red Cross worldwide, from corruption and mismanagement to being seen burying people alive.

When Charles MacKenzie reached out to my group, I was so excited to be given an opportunity to work with him, assisting him with research and creating the odd meme for his campaign.

We have forged a good friendship from our shared beliefs and genuine care for all of humanity, our love of Australia and our strong disliking for the Red Cross.

I am fully committed to standing with all who have been affected with contaminated blood for as long as it takes to get justice, acknowledgement and fair compensation..

Chris Green
redhotcross@mail.com



WALL OF SHAME

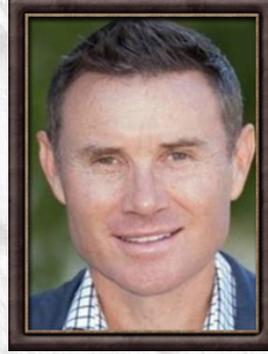
"WE PLEADED FOR THEIR HELP..."



SCOTT MORRISON



GREG HUNT



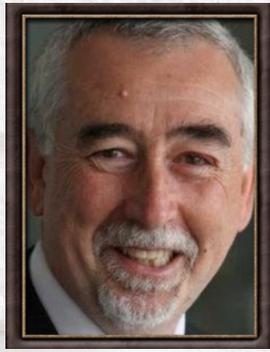
ANDREW LAMING



SUSSAN LEY



JAN MCLUCAS



GARY HUMPHRIES



SUE KNOWLES



JACQUI LAMBIE



CLAIRE MOORE



BRAD HAZZARD



TONY ABBOT



SHAYNE NEUMANN



IT'S TIME FOR AUSTRALIA'S VERY OWN INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

BY CHARLES MACKENZIE

Historically the big problem, the inescapable frustration for anyone of the tens of thousands infected or affected by Australia's deadliest medical scandal, contaminated blood, has been the denial of answers by authorities as to what went so wrong with Australia's blood supply in the decades before the 2000s.

Legal investigations into contaminated blood supplies in Canada, Ireland and now the United Kingdom have all exposed massive wrongdoing. Recently the chair of the British Infected Blood Inquiry, Sir Brian Langstaff, even went as far as describing how blood recipients had essentially been treated like 'guinea pigs'.

Authorities say so very little about Australia's deadliest medical scandal. You will see no official figures anywhere on just how many patients received contaminated blood transfusions or infusions. The whole thing has made into a mystery that no one was supposed to go near.

Developments overseas have blown apart government lies about this scandal being wholly accidental.

In recognition of this, the British government have indicated that they now accept liability and the expectation is that they will award billions of pounds for victims and families of the United Kingdom's worst ever-medical atrocity.

Finally, British authorities admit to what we investigators and campaigners have known for decades, that the contamination of blood supplies and the distribution of tainted blood transfusions/infusions could and should have been avoided and that terrible decisions were made and criminal cover-ups were entered into.

From the very outset, given the criminal nature of the evidence, we at Infected Blood Australia have strongly been of the view that Australia must have its own legal investigation into what went so wrong here. This is now of even greater urgency when consideration is given to the fact that so much of what went wrong here was the result of imported British protocols and policies on blood, and regrettably also a British culture of denial and secrecy, that like in the UK, led to a 30 year plus cover-up here in Australia also.



**THE HON.
MR
JUSTICE
LANGSTAFF**

**Infected
Blood
Inquiry**





THE EVIDENCE THEY DON'T WANT YOU TO SEE



Excerpts from submissions by infected blood victims to the 2004 Senate inquiry into Hepatitis C and blood supply in Australia. The full submissions have never been published online despite promises from the Senate in 2004 that they would do so. This is a coverup and it ends now! All of the brave submissions by those infected & affected will be viewable at ([link](#)). Come and see what the Senate tried to keep hidden from Australia.

Diane submission

"I did not learn till well after twelve months and ongoing health problems that I had contracted HepC. I had lost the baby so was devastated to also find out that I had a disease as well. I was never given an apology from the Red Cross and 7 years of stress and litigation and thousands of dollars have not got anywhere."

Carmel Submission

I believe there is evidence that earlier screening of donated blood for HepC could have prevented me from being contaminated: and that this virus had been identified overseas and the information was available to Red Cross. This is very distressing.



Susie submission

I feel there is a stigma attached to Hepatitis C and it makes me feel inferior and "dirty". It has impacted very much on my social life as once again the tiredness is a problem and I fear "Getting close to people" as I may have to tell them. I did try the combined therapy of interferon for some months but it had a severe effect on my body and as I had no support and I was battling the effects all alone I had to give it up.

OUR CAMPAIGN FOR JUSTICE IS ACTIVE ON SOCIAL MEDIA.

We need you to join the conversation with us on [Facebook](#), or to comment on events as they happen via [Twitter](#).

Or how about joining our 1,225 followers on [Instagram](#)?

Our [Youtube](#) channel is a must visit if you want to check out the TV programs that our campaign has been featured in, some of them are decades old. You'll also be able to view special announcements made especially for those infected & affected by Australia's deadliest medical scandal.



**THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
SUPPORT**

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