

ALMOST 20 per cent of Australian adults are still smoking and more than 2 million are considering quitting or are trying to.

Research shows that those trying to quit find it helpful if others know and that making a public declaration to quit can

have a significant impact.

Research commissioned by Nicorette Inhaler shows that although more than 50 per cent of smokers feel judged, ostracised or excluded by society,

reacting this way is not helpful for more than half of those who are quitting. Action and Smoking on Health chairman Matthew Peters said smokers perceived a need for support of

those around them when they decided to quit and that being open with friends or colleagues could be an important component of the quitting process.

“Fully internalising the chal-

lenge of quitting has the potential to jeopardise quit success,” Professor Peters said.

The research also shows that women feel disproportionately judged and are less likely to declare their attempts to quit.

Article from The Leader

Blowing smoke

PREMIER LAUNCHES SYDNEY PRODUCTION OF HAPPY FEET 2

Premier Kristina Keneally launched the Sydney production of Happy Feet 2, the latest film from the Academy Award-winning team of George Miller and Doug Mitchell, supporting more than 500 jobs over three years. Ms Keneally and Minister for the Arts, Virginia Judge, were officially at Fox Studios to welcome actors Robin Williams, Elijah Wood and the rest of the cast to Sydney.

“Happy Feet was a worldwide box office hit, and I welcome the fact that the sequel is being produced right here in Sydney,” Ms Keneally said.

The original Happy Feet was released in the fall of 2006, and earned around \$US384.3 million worldwide. It won the Oscar for Best Animated Feature Film in 2006.

“Major screen productions such as Happy Feet 2 support jobs and generate business across the entire NSW economy,” Ms Keneally said.

“Here in NSW we have great locations, a strong creative workforce and the best film infrastructure in Australia.

“The NSW Government firmly backs NSW as the place to produce,



promote and present films.”

The NSW screen industry already plays an important part in the state economy, and is subject to targeted investment by the NSW Government:

- The screen industry contributes more than \$430 million to the NSW economy each year

- In the final six months of 2009, the NSW Government invested \$5.7 million in 34 local film or television projects, generating \$69 million in expenditure

- The production of Happy Feet 2, alone, is expected to create more than

500 jobs over its three-year production period.

Minister for the Arts, Virginia Judge, said today's announcement was good news for NSW.

“The NSW Government recognises the significant economic and cultural benefits that flow from a healthy local film industry,” Ms Judge said.

“We support and encourage the local film industry, and in turn we get a great return on State investment in major film projects.

“I am sure that Happy Feet 2 will follow in the footsteps of the original, and become another NSW-produced film classic.”

Ms Judge said that in 2008, the NSW Government introduced a Screen Strategy to support local films and film production. This supports:

- Production investment, from script development through to loans, with \$5.6 million allocated to date this financial year;

- Industry incentives to attract major international and Australian productions to NSW, including the NSW Film and Television Industry Attraction Fund (FIAT) and Regional Filming Fund (RFF);

- Investment in skills, through the VFX Placement Scheme: which has placed 64 trainees in fields such as film, television, and digital and visual effects; and the Emerging Filmmakers Fund, which has supported 119 projects from young filmmakers; and

- Industry and audience development, including tours, film festivals, public screenings, conferences, seminars and mentoring programs



CELEBRATION OF TSIKNOPEMPTI

Tsiknopempti is an annual rite in Greece, which has gained increasing popularity recently in light of Apokries, whose origin is lost through the centuries. It basically is a day of meat eating before lent and fasting begin. The word Tsiknopempti comes from two other words 'tsikna' (the smell of burnt and grilled meat) and 'Pempti' (Thursday in Greek) and is celebrated on the Thursday, which is 11 days before Clean Monday. Traditionally, everyone must cook meat so that the smoke fills the air and everybody knows it's a feast-day.

On Tsiknopempti the first masqueraders make their appearance and the first carnival parties are held. It is common for many men to dress as woman on this day. (Nice sight eh!)

The festivities continue into the third week (Cheese Week), where people can eat dairy products and fish but not meat.

Safely Dispose of Household Chemicals Chemical Clean Out Day – 13 February

The Mayor of the City of Canterbury, Cr Robert Furolo MP, is encouraging residents to safely dispose of unused chemicals on Saturday 13 February, 2010 at our FREE Chemical Clean Out Day.

“Many households have countless chemicals which they no longer have any use for,” Mayor Furolo said.

“We all understand the importance of storing chemicals in a safe place in our homes, out of reach of children, but what we don't think about, are the hazards of disposing of chemicals. “If chemicals are thrown in the bin, they will go to landfill and can be very toxic and dangerous for workers, our waterways and our environment.

“By disposing of chemicals properly, we can help protect our environment.

“The chemicals disposed at our Chemical Clean Out day, will be safely disposed and some may be even be recycled.

“Common items which are always handed in at our Chemical Clean Out days include paint, car oils, garden pesticides and household cleaning chemicals, but we also accept car batteries, fire extinguishers, gas bottles and fluorescent globes.

“Last year over 23 tonnes of unwanted chemicals were handed in from 715 residents.

“I encourage residents to take advantage of our free Household Chemical Clean Out and dispose of their unwanted chemicals safely, to help protect our environment,” Mayor Furolo said.

The collections will occur on one day only, and residents must deliver their household chemicals by vehicle in a secure and labelled box. Pedestrian deliveries will not be accepted.

Please note, only household quantities will be accepted - 20kg or 20L maximum.

The City of Canterbury Household Chemical Clean Out is an initiative of the City of Canterbury Council; NSW Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water; and Chemsal. Chemicals can be dropped off at our Administration Centre Carpark in Shakespeare St, Campsie on Saturday 13 February, 2010 between 9.00am and 3.30pm. For more information on which substances and materials will be accepted or how to transport your chemicals safely, call the Clean Out Hotline on 1300 787 870.