

**Director:**  
Professor Bryan Williams

**Centre Directors:**  
Professor David Healy  
Professor Paul Hertzog  
Professor Justin St. John  
Professor Euan Wallace

**Patrons:**  
Right Hon Sir Zelman Cowen AK, GCMG, GCVO  
Professor Richard Larkins AO

Dr Robert & Mrs Khush de Rose  
2 Dulong Court  
ENDEAVOUR HILLS VIC 3802

20 May 2012

Dear Rob and Khush,

**Re: The Isabella and Marcus Paediatric Brainstem Tumour Research Fund**

Thank you for meeting with me to explain the reasons why you are both so passionate about raising funds to endow a Professorship in Paediatric Neurological Cancer Research at the University of Melbourne and the Royal Childrens Hospital.

Your visit brought home to me what a precious gift we have in our children and grandchildren. Your journey with Isabella through her illness and subsequent death is one filled with love and tinged with the tragedy of having to standby when all avenues of treatment fail to halt the progress of a tumour. When this happens to one so young as Isabella, one is left with the memories of her life with you and the unfulfilled dreams of what her life could have been.

It is only through research that, with time, treatments can be found that will prevent other families having to endure the sadness that you have experienced.

I congratulate you on your commitment to raise the money, together with the family of Marcus who died from a similar tumour, to enhance the research effort that is needed.

I commend your appeal to the community and to your friends to assist your efforts in raising the money to ensure that other families can be spared the challenges that you have faced.

Sincerely



Professor David de Kretser AC