

WALK AWARE.... Would you like to know for certain if a bite from a tick in Australia could lead to a serious long term illness such as Lyme Disease?



My name is Michelle. Doctors in Australia have diagnosed me with CFS (chronic fatigue syndrome) and Fibromyalgia. I was constantly deteriorating with these extremely painful & debilitating conditions. I have not been able to work since January 2012 and started using a wheelchair. My husband (Steve) became a full-time carer. Prior to this, Steve and I were very active. We loved the great outdoors & were involved in hiking and cycling. We both worked full-time. Recently, I suspected that I may have Lyme Disease. Australian testing indicated no infections. However, testing in America has shown 3 possible Lyme related tick borne infections. **The existence of these conditions in Australia remains controversial and testing methods in each of these countries are disputed.** In October 2012 we decided to trial the antibiotic therapy recommended for these infections..... Nine weeks on and I have had some good results. I still have a long and expensive road ahead.



We are now very passionate about raising awareness & getting answers for these conditions. There seems to be controversy about the existence of Lyme disease and tick infections in Australia but also about the idea that chronic manifestations of these infections can occur. The reason given is that there is no medical evidence. While this sounds like a fair call, we have to ask if this is because there has not been a lot of research? **Cases of a very similar debilitating illness in Australia seem to be growing and we feel these conditions warrant more investigation...** So Steve and I are walking from Sorrento to Melbourne on 9th – 13th April 2013. We will be asking the Australian public to consider donating to the Karl McManus Foundation (KMMF). This foundation works as an access point for Lyme education & research here in Australia.

For more information on Walk Aware, the KMMF or to make a donation visit our website:

<http://www.walkaware.weebly.com>



www.facebook.com/WALKAWARE