

Only you can make the decision

Hello you mob!
Awungana? (Hello, and how are you?)

My name is Victor and I am from the Tiwi Islands which is situated about 80km north of Darwin. I was educated on Bathurst Island and also at a Catholic College in Country Victoria where I was boarding. I did not like boarding school at the time but now I am really glad that I went there and I thank my mother and sister for making sure I got a good education.

My first real job was working with Power & Water where I did an apprenticeship. Later I became a School Teacher and taught on the Islands for eighteen years.

Suddenly everything changed and I had to stop working due to kidney disease. My wife and I had to move to Darwin so I could have dialysis treatment three times a week and we have been here ever since.

After nine years of dialysis I received the gift of a kidney transplant. I had to quickly travel to South Australia for the operation and my missus came with me to support me while I recovered.

My aim now is to help people understand about kidney disease and organ donation.

After the transplant I feel much better. I work for the Aboriginal Interpreter Service and I have been doing casual work for them for nearly five years.

I would like you mob to know that the best way to look after your body is to drink plenty of water and to exercise and take care of yourself. Only you can make the decision to do that.

Mana Nimpangi! (Goodbye for now!)

Victor



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