

Senator Peter Cooke

My name is Brenda Gaskell and I was diagnosed last July with a brain tumour. I had 6 weeks of radiation therapy and then decided to go to The Gawler Foundation on a 10 day retreat. The staff there are wonderful caring and 'knowledgeable about cancer' people. I found the experience to be very uplifting. It gave me the courage to dare to hope that I will live to see my granddaughter growing up. The staff who talked to us about food and nutrition were very helpful. They also talked about supplements. I believe there is still much to learn about vitamins and minerals; I found it confusing at times as there seemed to be differing opinions on this topic. Also the way we are filling our food full of chemicals - fertilizers etc - is frightening. I fear it will be too late when the penny finally drops. The Gawler are doing their best to feed the residents from the land on which the Foundation stands; when needed they buy in organic. They are a dedicated bunch of people but the facility is not very big. I'm sure it only scratches the surface when it comes to servicing all those needing and wanting to go there.

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Think carefully. It is devastating to hear your doctor say - Bad news. It's malignant. Life was wonderful. I could not have asked for more or better and then in the space of a few seconds it's all gone to h . . .

I will follow the inquiry with great interest