

Introducing the AKA'S new Patron

For some time, AKA members have reflected on the desirability of instating a Patron. After careful consideration we are delighted to announce that the Committee has chosen a very worthy person to that position.

Following the Committee's decision, we would like to formally introduce Professor Simon Chapman as the Australian Koi Associations' first Patron.

- He is Professor of Health at the University of Sydney.
- He was a nominee in a very recent "The Power Index" listing of the top "23 most powerful figures in NSW", (alongside Alan Jones, Barry O'Farrell, Cardinal George Pell, Cate Blanchett, David Gonski, Paul Keating, to name but a few).
- He was a former nominee as NSW Person of the Year.
- He is the driving force behind the banning of smoking in public places, starting back with the then Bob Carr's Government and continuing on with the health warning wrapping of cigarettes. Today, he now heads the lobbying for plain-packaging legislation of cigarettes, against the might of the Tobacco Companies. Indeed, in this role Simon is a leading spokesman on the world stage for the campaign. He sits on the expert advisory panel for Tobacco & Health,

representing the World Health Organisation.

- He is a regular spokesman on radio and television re "the debate around cigarettes" and more recently the "Alko-Pop issue".
- He is a regular writer, having articles published in the influential UK *Guardian*, *Good Weekend* and the *Sun-Herald*.
- He is a very keen koi hobbyist with a beautiful Japanese style pond.
- He gave strong support to the AKA and all koi hobbyists, when we were facing the Federal Government's enquiry into the rights to keep koi. He lobbied the *Sydney Morning Herald*, stating our case, with the outcome of an article being published, depicting Gerard McDonald and his yamabuki ogon on the *SMH* front-page.
- Simon also contributed advice directly to the combined koi clubs' formal submission to the Federal Government's "Ornamental Fish Enquiry".
- Finally, Simon is a member of the AKA and we believe will be a great advocate, spokesperson and ambassador for the rights to keep koi should the need ever arise in the future.

Please welcome Professor Simon Chapman as our Patron.

