Good nose for winning causes

HER husband may be on the nose in the polls, but Therese Rein is still winning votes with her charity work.

The wife of Prime Minister Kevin Rudd was snapped yesterday complete with a Red Nose, all in the name of a worthy cause.

Red Nose Day has now been operating for almost a quarter of a century, helping to raise awareness about sudden infant death syndrome.

The SIDS and Kids charity is dedicated to saving the lives of babies and children during pregnancy, birth, infancy and childhood and to supporting bereaved families.

"Red Nose Day has always held a special place in my heart and it is a great privilege to be participating in this year's campaign," Ms Rein said.

"While there have been major reductions in the number of SIDS deaths, the cause is still not known."

FACE VALUE: The wife of the Prime Minister, Therese Rein, joins Health Minister Nicola Roxon promoting Red Nose Day in Canberra.

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A very heavy price to pay

Three Diggers killed in Afghanistan

Stefanie Balogh
Emma Chalmers

WITH tears not yet dry, the nation is grieving for three Diggers killed in two days who yesterday made the ultimate sacrifice in Afghanistan.

In Australia's darkest day in a conflict zone since the Vietnam War, three Special Operations Task Group commandos were killed when their helicopter crashed in northern Kandahar.

It brings to five the number of Diggers lost in Australia's bloodiest fortnight since the Afghanistan conflict began in 2001.

The crash, at 3.39pm local time, was not due to enemy action and the 15 coalition troops on the flight were on their way to an operation. Seven other Australians were injured, two seriously. An American soldier also died.

The Australians are from the Sydney-based Second Commando Regiment and they were all on their third tour. "This is a very heavy price to pay, particularly for the families," Prime Minister Kevin Rudd told Federal Parliament yesterday.

Their deaths came two weeks after Queenslanders, Sappers Jacob Moorland, 21, and Darren Smith, 26, were killed along with their explosives sniffer dog when a homemade bomb exploded in the notorious Tarin Kowt region.

Continued P2 »

Family hopes for miracle

TALBOT SEARCH CONTINUES »NEWS P4-5

WEATHER REPORT

Cairns	Mostly fine	22°	
Townsville	Mostly fine	23°	
Rockhampton	Mostly fine	20°	
Toowoomba	Fine	15°	
Gold Coast	Shower or two	22°	
Sunshine Coast	Showers	22°	

Brisbane Mostly fine 21°

WEATHER REPORT »P20