

Off you go: NKF board of directors chairman Datuk Dr Zaki Morad Mohd Zaher and Chua joined the secretariat staff in flagging off the Volkswagen Beetles convoy.



All ears: A couple listening to a National Transplant Resource Centre personnel talk about organ donation.

WITH the support from Volkswagen Beetles Club Malaysia, the National Kidney Foundation of Malaysia (NKF) sent its LifeCheck Mobile Health Screening bus, Direct Debit Donor Programme truck and secretariat cars to selected locations in Johor Baru, Malacca, Seremban and the Klang Valley to promote organ donation, which is the theme for this year's World Kidney Day celebrations.

In Johor Baru, 342 people attended the free health screening at Hospital Sultanah Aminah (HSA). The programme was launched by Johor health director Dr Mohd Khairi Yakub, along with HSA consultant nephrologist Dr Hooi Lai Seong and NKF chief executive officer Chua Hong Wee.

Supported by about 10 VW Beetles and their owners, the convoy went to Plaza Angsana in the afternoon to reach out to local shoppers.

In Malacca, Pantai Hospital Ayer Keroh senior operations manager Tan Yew Aik welcomed NKF and the convoy team to the hospital as he encouraged the public to attend health screening routine. The hospital staff and nephrologists cheered the convoy which flagged off from the hospital to Dataran Pahlawan in a shower of bright confetti and WKD mini flags.

In Seremban, 16 VW Beetles joined the NKF convoy and managed to make heads turn in

Worthwhile pledge

NKF goes on road tour to promote organ donation

Seremban town. Health screening counters, health and organ donation exhibitions, games session and children's colouring contests were organised by Hospital Tuanku Jaafar Seremban, NKF and National Transplant Resource Centre at Seremban Parkson Parade.

The NKF convoy then reached the Klang Valley, where VW Beetles Club members joined the final flag-off to Tropicana City Mall and 1Utama shopping complex.

Shoppers at both malls were given freebies and goodie bags upon signing up as an organ pledger or upon completion of quiz and puzzles related to the campaign's theme.

The convoy aims to get members of the public to come forward and pledge as an organ donor, and to raise their awareness on the positive outcomes of kidney transplantation to patients with end-stage kidney failure.

This year's World Kidney Day theme is, "Donate Kidneys for Life Receive".

Chua said, "This is one of the ways we reach out to the community to come forward and support our cause. Currently, there are over 15,000 patients in the national waiting list for

kidney transplant and we hope our campaign can give hope to these patients suffering from end-stage kidney failure so that their lives can be saved and enriched."