



▲ **NEVUS SUFFERERS GATHER:**

Brenda Twigden with her four month old baby Aden, Abbie Barnado, Danielle Sibbons, Kirsty Watson of Victor Harbor with Coen Watson, and Noah Quinn from Wollongong. They were all here to support each other at an inaugural Nevus support meeting.

# Support group for 'Nevus' sufferers

**VICTOR HARBOR-** Children suffering a skin marking known as Congenital Melanocytic Naevus have enjoyed a day trip to Victor Harbor with parents and friends.

The complaint is commonly known as Nevus.

A non financial support group is attempting to fundraise in a bid to help research into the disorder that affects one in 20,000 newborn children in Australia.

The colouring is composed of special pigment producing cells which are related to the normal pigment producing cells found in skin called melanocytes.

They exist on any part of the body and grow with body growth.

Kirsty Watson with her child Coen hosted people from around Australia that came to the south coast to meet each other after communicating on a website.

"It's really good for everyone to meet up and we hope we can make contact with other people through this article," Kirsty said.

Drizzly weather met the group that arrived on two buses on Tuesday.

They all were in Victor to have a look at the sights and have a break with their children who suffer from

## Nevus fact file ...

- ▶ Affects 1 in 20,000 children and 1 in 500,000 in a serious form.
- ▶ Can exist on any part of the body.
- ▶ Most are brown or black with skin often dry or fragile.
- ▶ Removal methods are surgical, abrasion, curettage, grafting, lasers and chemical peels.
- ▶ No known genetic link to Nevus and no known prevention.
- ▶ Some other associations include club foot, Spina Bifida and Dandy Walker Syndrome.
- ▶ Same cells can develop and can form in central nervous system.

the skin disorder.

The support group provides on-line and telephone support service to members and brings together individuals and families affected by CMN.

The group is also raising public awareness and encourages public research into the skin disorder.

Anyone wishing to make contact with the group can phone Michelle 8298 3080.

Other useful sites are [www.nevus-support.com](http://www.nevus-support.com) and [www.nevus.org](http://www.nevus.org).