



Certificate I In Transition Education students: Back left to right: William, Dion, Chris & Sue. Centre left to right: Tiffany & Tim. Front left to right: Marlene & Melissa

Independent living
Page 1

The water tank has moved
Page 2

Baking Day
Page 2

Round the traps
Page 2

Copy Centre closures
Page 3

A word from our CEO
Page 4

Un-wired for sound
Page 4

Where is the Intereach iVan?
Page 4

Windarring in pictures
Page 5

Disability sector on the www
Page 8

Term dates for 2017
Page 9

June Birthdays
Page 10

Independent living



Sue Jones makes cottage pie.



Emma Tarantello makes tuna pasta bake.



Gabrielle Garrigan with her baked mince.

The supported living team encourage cooking skills. Sue, Emma and Gabrielle live independently and these are some of the varied meals they prepare at home for the evening meals on any given day.



Kate Healey making sure all is under control whilst John is away at the Gold Coast

The water tank has been moved.



The watertank from Baynton St has been relocated to Hutton Street and so has the redgum stand upon which it was sitting has been relocated also. The tank was craned in on the 22nd May.



Everyone loves a parma!



Emma with a beautiful blanket that she knitted at work



Parma night at the Kyneton RSL. Chris Palamanco, Kate Healey, Emma Tarantello, Marlene Jeffrey, Susan Retalick, Jason Sturt, Dion, and Brenton Mcreadie.

Baking day

All students had the opportunity to bake scones. This learning activity was to demonstrate the students planning skills, along with reading & following a scone recipe and learning how to measure out ingredients. Everyone worked well as a team and the scones were delicious!

Round the traps **What's been happening here and there?**

Castlemaine and Gisborne Copy Centres



Everyone will know by now that the Castlemaine and Gisborne Copy Centres will close at the end of the year. The state ABC news came to Castlemaine to meet the Copy Centre employees and to interview our CEO Chris O'Connor about the closures. There has been a lot of active discussion on Facebook – especially Castlemainia.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-05-10/ndis-being-partly-blamed-for-closure-of-copy-centres/8514192>

Bendigo

- There was a trip to Melbourne DFO for all participants and then they checked out Melbourne Airport.
- We set up HEALTHY CHOICE DAY were all participants go for a walk then help prepare a healthy lunch.

THANK YOU

Thank you for supporting Windarring to provide employment for people with disabilities.

We're closing at the end of December 2017.

Windarring has made this difficult decision for reasons of financial viability. The printing industry has changed dramatically over the past 25 years. What used to be able to be printed only at businesses like ours can now be printed at home or read on screens. Our centres no longer provide an essential service and the same level of meaningful employment to people with disabilities is not evident.

The entire funding for disability services has completely changed with the introduction of the NDIS. We can no longer afford to subsidise our copy centres. They are no longer financially viable and we need to ensure the longevity of our essential services such as Community Participation, Supported Living, and Pathways to Skills and Employment.

The Kyneton Copy Centre, along with Amaze N Homewares and Gifts and Cafe Baxter will continue to operate.

We will provide opportunities to people with disabilities through a range of other avenues, including the new and growing business of collecting, packing and maintaining the Southern Cross Recycling Bins throughout Central and Northern Victoria.

We have employed Mark Castle as the Manager of Pathways to Skills and Employment to help the current employees of our copy centres to transition into other work. Mark would love to talk to local businesses about the benefits in providing employment to people with a disabilities.

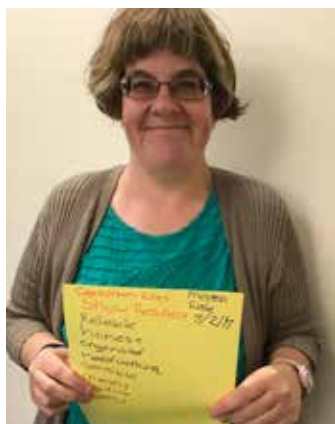
Could you provide a job for a person with a disability?



67 Baynton Street, Kyneton
(03) 5422 7001
admin@windarring.org.au

Windarring is a people centred, community based organisation committed to eliminating barriers to participation, inclusion and acceptance for people with disabilities in their local community.

This is a copy of the flyer we are handing out to the public to explain the closures.



Melissa Gale showing her knowledge of the rules in the classroom.



Brend Olsen watering his garden at Mill End.

Kyneton

- **Art Hub** - The Old Auction Room is being converted to Artist studios and exhibition spaces. Windarring have leased a studio for six months to be utilised by people with disabilities who would like to learn art skills. This will be offered to existing participants and new ones. It's an exciting community based project that we hope will have some very positive outcomes for all.
- **Boomerang Bags** - Community driven activity that involves making and sewing bags that can be used and returned from supporting businesses.
- **Training Hub** - We've purchased a 65 inch interactive LCD touch screen. This has been part funded by Access Skills Training and will arrive in about a month.

Castlemaine



We at Windarring Castlemaine announce with sadness the loss of a dear friend Cassie O'Neill on the 13th May 2017. Cass had been a member of the Windarring community for over 14 years. She will be dearly missed.

Gisborne

- **Gisborne Olde Time Markets Sunday 4th June 2017** Gisborne Mechanics Institute. The market has over 250 stalls offering a large range of products. Food and wine, fresh produce, quality handmade items, arts and crafts, clothing, accessories, jewellery, books, plants and fresh flowers.
- Windarring staff and participants were busy cooking for **The Biggest Morning Tea** which was held at Macedon Ranges Further Education Centre, 29th-31st of May.
- Windarring participants have their art work displayed at **Gisborne Library** till the end of June.

A word or two from our CEO



The Copy Centres in Castlemaine and Gisborne will be closing in December this year.

Kyneton will remain open.

This has been a very difficult but necessary decision to make. Refer to page 2 for a copy of the flyer that we will be providing to customers. This document explains the reasons behind the decision and also the future plans for supporting our staff and supported employees.

We have begun conducting meetings with staff and supported employees to go through the issues involved with this decision.

Some of our supported employees may choose through their NDIS plans to not pursue work into the future and therefore may join community participation options. However, whatever, individuals choose we want to support them through this difficult time.

If you have any questions, concerns or ideas about this, please let me know. We will continue to provide you with relevant and appropriate information about the closures and changes that happen.

Thanks.

Cheers,
Chris O'Connor, CEO
coconnor@
windarring.org.au



Un-wired for sound

MEANWHILE IN KYNETON: Jill is listening to music through our wireless headphones that have been purchased this month. There were some difficulties with the initial connection but once they were operational, there's no stopping people from wanting to use them. They're a great initiative and many thanks to Kathryn Kew for arranging them. We have also installed ten iPads in the training hub for registered use.

Sue, Tim, Todd, Josh, Jason, Rodney and David. We all went around and checked out the local garage sales held one weekend in Woodend. Then later had lunch at Bourkies bakery.

Where is the Intereach iVan?

Want to know more about the NDIS? General information sessions about the NDIS are being delivered across the area. These are "NDIS 101 sessions" and they are aimed at people who haven't attended an information session before or could do with a refresher now that we are actually rolling out the NDIS in our area. Upcoming NDIS 101 sessions will be held:

MARYBOROUGH

Date: Friday 23 June

Time: 10.30am to midday

Address: Maryborough Community Hub, 48 Burns Street

BENDIGO

Date: Friday 2 June

Time: 10.30am to midday

Address: 384 Hargreaves Street, Bendigo

ECHUCA

Date: Friday 16 June

Time: 10.30am to midday

Address: 205 Hare Street, Echuca

CASTLEMAINE

Date: Friday 16 June

Time: 1pm to 3pm

Address: Castlemaine Community Health, 13 Mostyn Street

To find out more about these sessions, or to RSVP, phone 1300 968 140 or email lac_loddon@intereach.com.au.





Sharron (left) & Jen (right) being creative in Daylesford.



Preparing newspapers for delivery. Left to right: Susan, Fritz, Malcolm, Mathew, Brian and Brigitte.

Want to be in the newsletter? Send us your photos.

Windarrng in pictures



Graham looking closely at the underground mural that the art group has been working on. It is a work in motion and will develop each week with more marine life and colour.



Dion was involved in Work Experience at A maze n giftwares as part of his Certificate 1 in Transitional Education run by AST training. During the day, Dion made draught stoppers, served customers and helped with the general cleaning of our wonderful giftshop.

Todd and Josh's farewell dinner.



Sue Jones, Josh Dixon, Todd Briggs, Chris Palamountain, Kate Healey, Dion, Jason Sturt, Brenton Mcreadie Marlene Jeffrey.



We recently began a gym program on Fridays in Daylesford. Vidan (on the bike) and Sam (pushing the sled) are both really enjoying themselves.



Josh's proud mum Sue, Windarrang CEO Chris O'Connor, carer Andrea, Todd's mum Leonie and Windarrang participants Josh and Todd are pictured in their new home last week.

A home of our own

Lisa Dennis

Two local Windarrang participants are blazing a trail for local people with disabilities, having recently made the successful transition into their own unit in Castlemaine.

Todd and Josh, both of Maldon, moved into Windarrang's Millend independent living facility in Kyneton 12 months ago in an important first step away from living at home.

The transitional housing facility, which features half a dozen units and onsite support 24 hours a day, enabled the friends to develop the skills and the confidence to live independently in a safe and supported environment.

After 12 successful months at Millend, Todd and Josh have recently made the move back into their own community in Castlemaine into their own two-bedroom unit.

Their mums Leonie and Sue couldn't be more proud.

"We actually met through a sewing group and formed a friendship, so the boys have been friends for years. We had thought about the possibility of putting them into a unit, but it's a big undertaking, bond, rent etc. and we didn't know how they would get along and if they could live together," Sue said.

"Millend is fantastic as it enabled them to experience independent living with support and see if it could work," she said.

Leonie said she was surprised by just how well Todd adjusted.

"I thought he would find it really difficult leaving home but he has really embraced the opportunity and thrived. Josh has proven to be good in the kitchen and

Todd is good at taking care of the housework. Now we aim to encourage them to share these skills with each other," she said.

As their new unit is local in the CBD, the pair have access to train services to attend courses at Windarrang Kyneton and can also walk to all their appointments at Windarrang Castlemaine, the supermarket, doctors etc. They also have a carer visit for two hours a day to assist with making dinner and other jobs.

Leonie said that while it was daunting at first to let go, it had been fantastic to see them happy and confident in their new home and it had actually improved their relationships with their sons.

"We can now enjoy quality time together," she said.

Windarrang CEO Chris O'Connor said the pair were the first to be placed into independent housing in Castlemaine.

"They are real champions! We have undertaken similar placements in Kyneton and we hope to branch out to Gisborne too.

"Millend is a great first step. We focus on the mechanics of living independently, but also on the joy of living and social inclusiveness.

"We also aim to get Josh and Todd into work placements and really see them integrate back into their local community," he said.

Chris said there were a lot of parents out there who were still caring for their son/daughter and worrying about what the future held for them.

"We want to make them aware that there is help out there to assist their son/daughter to live a full life in their local community with support," he said.

There's so much written about disability and NDIS – it's impossible to read everything!

Below are some excerpts from articles we think are worth a read. If you're reading this as a PDF the underlined words are hyperlinks so you can just click on them to be taken to the webpage the article was sourced from. The full link is also included.



Understanding your plan and supports

NDIS participants can choose how to manage the funding for the supports in their plan.

When speaking with an NDIS planner to develop a plan, you will need to decide which plan management option is right for you. You may even discuss self-managing budgets in your plan. No matter which option is chosen for the payment of providers, you remain in control of which providers you select and when and how your supports are delivered.

For comprehensive information about managing your plan, download the Understanding your NDIS plan document, which is available on the NDIS website. Understanding your NDIS plan document gives information about understanding and self-directing your NDIS plan:

- understanding and self-directing your NDIS plan
- understanding the supports in your NDIS plan
- funded support budgets
- purchasing general funded supports
- purchasing stated funded supports
- managing and paying for your supports
- choosing your providers
- making agreements with your chosen providers

<https://www.ndis.gov.au/participants/understanding-your-plan-and-supports.html>

Source: [ndis.gov.au](https://www.ndis.gov.au)

Self-managing budgets in your plan

Self-managing any part of your NDIS funding or budget gives you choice and control over the people that you pay to support you. Self-management means you are responsible for requesting and paying the invoices related to the supports you have received through your NDIS plan.

Self-managing gives you the opportunity to purchase supports from suppliers that have not registered with the NDIA. This can include any type of support provided if these supports have been incorporated in your NDIS Plan. In your discussion with the NDIS you will have talked about whether you would like to self-manage the support budgets in your plan.

Your responsibility
If you choose to self-manage any part of your NDIS Budget, you will be responsible for:

- choosing and arranging your own supports, including your own support workers
- ensuring that the relevant invoices for your supports are paid on time
- keeping appropriate records and receipts for supports provided, claimed and paid
- reporting to the NDIA on the amount used and funds spent on the self-managed items of your NDIS plan.

<http://www.smh.com.au/federal-politics/political-news/warning-watch-out-for-dodgy-operators-in-ndis-20170413-gvk6xu.html>

Source: [ndis.gov.au](https://www.ndis.gov.au)

Carers – Staying well to continue your caring role

Caring for someone can be a valuable and rewarding experience. It can also be stressful, hard work and may leave you feeling emotionally or physically tired.

Carers can be family members or friends. They can be parents, children, siblings, grandparents or neighbours and can come from any background. The good news is that we can support you, whether it is to represent your interests, help you take a break, stay fit and healthy or connect you with others.

Source: [ndis.gov.au](https://www.ndis.gov.au)



Rodney and Brendon helped pick up some manure to put on the garden at Millend. Here's Rodney thanking Sookie for her contribution

Protecting your personal details

The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) is aware of a potential scam involving people claiming to be from NDIA attempting to collect personal details via telephone.

The NDIA contacts people by phone for the purpose of completing a verbal access request to become a participant in the NDIS. Where this occurs, the NDIA will ask for certain personal information over the phone, but will only request this information after explaining the purpose of asking for it and seeking your consent to proceed.

If you are already a participant in the NDIS, the NDIA may contact you directly by phone or email to advise you that we required additional information or to update our records. In these instances we will explain the purpose of asking for this information and ask that you either:

- Visit your nearest NDIA office
- Contact the 1800 800 110 number

The NDIA will never require you to provide personal information or threaten to cancel your NDIS plan unless you provide personal details by phone.

<https://www.ndis.gov.au/news/Protecting-your-personal-details.html>

Source: [ndis.gov.au](https://www.ndis.gov.au)



Term dates for 2017

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TERM 1

Monday 23rd January 2017 – Friday 7th April

Centre Closed: Monday 10th April – Monday 17th April (includes Easter)

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS FOR TERM 1

- New Year’s Day: Monday 2nd January in lieu of Sunday
- Australia Day: Thursday 26th January
- Labour Day: Monday 13th March
- Good Friday: 14th April
- Easter Monday: 17th April

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TERM 2

Tuesday 18th April 2017 – Friday 7th July 2017

Centre Closed: Monday 10th July – Friday 14th July

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS FOR TERM 2

- Anzac Day: April 25th April
- Queen’s Birthday: Monday 12th June

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TERM 3

Monday 17th July 2017 – Thursday 21st September 2017

Centre Closed: Friday 22nd September – Friday 29th September

PUBLIC HOLIDAY FOR TERM 3

- Grand Final Friday: Friday 29th September

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TERM 4

Monday 2nd October 2017 – Friday 22nd December 2017

Centre Closed: Monday 25th December

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS FOR TERM 4

- Melbourne Cup: Tuesday 7th November (Gisborne & Castlemaine)
- Kyneton Cup: Wednesday 8th November (Kyneton)
- Christmas Day: Monday 25th December
- Boxing Day: Tuesday 26th December



End of term lunch



All students participated in this activity learning social skills, money handling skills and to celebrate the end of a fantastic first term 1 in Certificate I In Transition Education.

Our students are currently working on their learning goals and exploring their options in participating in the local community. Students have researched & planned for their up-coming work experience, at Amaze N Homewares and Gifts.

David has exotic tastes



David Robison and Kat went and had yum cha in Footscray. Super tasty and really good value. David is a real foodie and enjoys great food.

Next they went and had a fabulous meal of Japanese food in Richmond.

June Birthdays

- 9 Helen Barnes
- 9 Georgina Harvey
- 9 Narelle Jenkin
- 9 Phillip Walsh
- 10 Christopher Wilson
- 14 Anthony Smith
- 14 Kelvin Green
- 15 Gabrielle Garrigan,
- 15 Brenton Macreadie
- 18 Jane Dawson
- 18 Robert Wanke
- 20 Sarah Bradley
- 21 Raymond Bransgrove
- 22 Jayanthi Singaram
- 24 Kristen Dennis
- 24 Maryann Thomas
- 26 Rod Brady
- 26 Melissa Gale
- 29 Karyn Aumont
- 29 Simon Adolph



Windarring is a people centred, community based organisation committed to eliminating barriers to participation, inclusion and acceptance for people with disabilities in their local community.

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Send your newsletter content to jmoss@windarring.org.au – the more content the better your newsletter will be!