



NOVEMBER 2016

UP & ACTIVE! Thursday morning circuit group at the Old Castlemaine Gaol

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The NDIS is coming!

Windarring's Jane Dawson has started working with all the participants and their families and carers who have indicated they would like support getting their plans ready for NDIS. Jane has organised the following informal NDIS Info sessions:

Castlemaine – Monday 28 November

CoHoots, 1/40 Forest Street, 9.30am-11.00am,

Kyneton – Friday 2 December

Baynton Street, 9.30am-11.00am,

Gisborne – Monday 5 December

Windarring Gisborne, 9.30am-11.00am,

NDIS are also running their own information sessions.

Kyneton – Wednesday 30 November

Kyneton Bowling Club, 61 Mollison Street
10:00am-11.30am

Castlemaine – Wednesday 30 November

Castlemaine Town Hall, 25 Lyttleton Street
1:30pm-3:00pm

Bendigo – Thursday 1 December

Quality Resort All Seasons, 171-183 Mclvor Hwy
Session 1: 10:30am-12:00pm
Session 2: 6:00pm-7:30pm

See ndis.gov.au for more info and to RSVP.

Our AGM

Thank you for those who attended the AGM. There was a great turn out!

Congratulations to both Peter Hird and Marlene Jeffrey for being awarded the John Knight Memorial Award. Both very deserving recipients who were acknowledged at the AGM for their support and service to others.

Congratulations also to the staff and volunteers who received recognition for their many years of service. If you did not attend the AGM, we will also have a brief formal recognition 'ceremony' at the Staff Christmas Party.

The board members after our AGM are:

- Henry (Chinka) Steel – Chair
- Brenda Rooney – Treasurer
- Tony Trounson – Secretary
- Bette Sartore
- Mike Rowland
- Chris Chaplin
- Cheryl Neilson

It was also passed at the AGM that we would change the legal status of Windarring from an association to a Company limited by guarantee. The main reason for this is because the NDIS is a federal system and associations are a state based system, the company status, which is federal, may allow us to operate more easily with NDIS. This will not affect our services or our tax status as a Deductible Gift Recipient.

Castlemaine Dance Group Performance

The Castlemaine Dance Group has been rehearsing for their upcoming show. Invitations will go out next week.

When: Saturday 10th December 2016

Where: St Marys Hall, Corner of Hargraves & Lyttleton Streets, Castlemaine.

Time: 12:30pm–1:30pm

Cost: Gold coin donation. Children Free.

Everyone is invited.

Thanks Ian!

Ian Blunck has retired from the board.

We thank him for his many years of support and hard work. Now we have Board vacancies. If you know of someone who would be suitable, and may be interested, please contact Chris O'Connor or Chinka Steel.

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

Kyneton

Courses for 2017

An information session was held on 9th November for course options for 2017. We had a lot of interest in Hospitality Skills, Garden Maintenance, Digital Literacy, Course in initial literacy and Numeracy, Cert 1 in Literacy and Numeracy and Cert 1 in Transitional Education. Many thanks to Kyneton Community and Learning Centre and Access skills Training for their course outlines for 2017.

For more information contact Kathryn Kew on 54227 001 prior to Monday 5th December.

Castlemaine

Overnight Stay

Twelve participants enjoyed a sleepover at the centre. They went to the local hotel for a meal and met up with four other participants who stayed for the meal only. One of these participants is a friend of the group who lives in Bendigo and he came along with a support worker to join in the fun. After the meal those staying the night spent the evening socialising and watching movies. In the morning everyone prepared their own healthy breakfast before packing up their bedding and clothes. The participants were supported by Kim Stevens and volunteer Lisa O'Grady.

Gisborne

Gisborne Concert

CONGRATULATIONS to all involved in a very successful concert. Critics have hailed it as the 'best ever!'



Everywhere

Staff Christmas Party Friday 25th November

Promises to be a great evening where we can relax and spend time with each other as friends and colleagues.

- The Kyneton course options mentioned are available for all participants regardless of location. For more information contact Kathryn Kew on 54227 001 prior to Monday 5th December.

A word or two from our CEO



I think the new normal is busy and change. Get on board and lets keep going full steam ahead with all the opportunity and fun that comes with this new world order!

Bendigo Services!

It is looking increasingly likely that we will be setting up some services in Bendigo. There has been a great deal of work done in creating these new opportunities for participants in Bendigo.

As we finalise these details there may be staffing opportunities available, so if you are interested stay tuned or have a discussion with Peter Young, our man in Bendigo.

Staff Christmas Party this Friday night!

I'm looking forward to the Christmas party on Friday 25th November.

It promises to be a great evening where we can relax and spend time with each other as friends and colleagues.

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

Rod: going going, ...

Unfortunately for Rod Brady, there has been a few complications with his leave, and therefore he hasn't really started it yet, but hopefully all things will happen soon, so Rod will be away possibly for the next month. If there are any queries in the area of Supported Living please refer them to John Forster.

Update on the Lab

The two mentors Phil and Matthew plan to setup at least one Lab session before Christmas. The window of opportunity is probably in the next four weeks before Christmas takes over.

When a session date and time is set, Windarring will send out an invitation to those registered on <https://register.thelab.org.au/dashboard>.

After this session we will start organising a full-term of the Lab for the start of 2017.

Maintenance

A few people have expressed an interest in taking on the role of maintenance and working with Mark (who will hopefully return to work very soon). This will hopefully be finalised by mid this week.

In the meantime, if you have any maintenance issues can you please log them with Danielle and we will start developing a plan to have them seen to very soon.

Victorian Premier flags disability workforce accreditation scheme

Victorian Premier Daniel Andrews told delegates at the ALP State Conference that the Victorian Government would "remain a service provider in some form".

He went on to announce that the Victorian Government "will deliver a legislated registration and accreditation scheme for specialist disability services."

The Victorian Government has since issued a media release entitled, 'Delivering a Fair and High Quality NDIS,' committing to "...establishing an independent, legislated Victorian registration and accreditation scheme for the state's disability workforce."

The media release also makes reference to the Andrews Government remaining a service provider under the NDIS, and that it would "continue to work to genuinely explore options for the continued delivery of public sector disability services."

NDS does not support a Victorian mandatory accreditation scheme. This is not regarded as appropriate for the NDIS environment, particularly as it is a national scheme which is introducing a national quality and safeguards framework. A mandatory accreditation scheme would restrict choice of workers for people with disability. It would also create barriers to workforce supply with the sector competing for workforce with other sectors that do not ask their workers to go through the effort and expense of accreditation. Furthermore, NDIS pricing does not support a stratified workforce.

Rather than a mandatory accreditation scheme, NDS advocates a mandatory national staff screening system. This would play a critical role in a safeguarding framework for disability services. NDS has previously provided advice to the Minister and Department of Premier and Cabinet on the implications of our position on mandatory accreditation.

In light of recent union protests in Victoria about the 'privatisation' of disability services by the State Government, NDS's Victorian State Manager David Moody has been actively advocating for the provision of non-government provided disability services, including via a published letter to the editor of the Herald Sun on 18 October 2016.

NDS will be seeking further clarification on these matters from the Victorian Government as a matter of priority and will provide members with an update on the implications of this announcement shortly.

Source: Media Release



Supported Living Caroline Chisholm Drive Crew Sue, Gabrielle, Emma and Jamie.



Laurie Ianotti and Robbie Folwell having some down time in the bean bag.

Windarriving in pictures



Left to right: Wendy Phypers, Peter Hird, William Morris, George Harvey and Helen Barnes in Kyneton.



Kate Healey preparing and plating spaghetti bolognese for dinner.



Mary ellen watering the garden.



Cassie O'Neill making Christmas cards for sale at WISP Castlemaine.



Jamie learning new skills digging up grass in preparation for creating a veggie garden bed in the backyard.



Supported Living Piper Street Crew Chris, Dion and Tim.



Ross and his cat Trevor relaxing in his backyard after planting a row of greenery.

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.



Registration Issues

Well over a thousand providers are experiencing delays with their registration application to provide supports under the NDIS.

Most of these are new registrations (i.e., they are from providers not yet working within the NDIS), with a smaller group trying to extend their existing registration to provide new supports.



Some of the creative work in the backyard in Gisborne.

NDIS Failing to Meet Enrolment Targets

A disability advocacy group and the federal opposition claim the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is failing to meet its enrolment targets despite reporting a high participant satisfaction rate with the scheme.

The latest quarterly report on the NDIS shows the scheme failed to meet its projected target with just 7,440 participants having an approved plan - far fewer than the first target of 20,264 set for the quarter starting 1 July 2016.

The report showed that the NDIS rollout also failed to meet its revised goal of 10,529 new participants.

"There is a huge gap between the number of people approved and the most recent target," CEO of Disability Advocacy Network Australia (DANA) Mary Mallett told Pro Bono Australia News.

"That number of 7,440 is significantly lower than what we would have expected in the last financial year.

<https://www.ndis.gov.au/medias/documents/h60/hc1/8799138349086/Quarterly-Report-2016-17-Q1.pdf>

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

Investing in Blockbuster in a Netflix World

Traditional models of employment, management, leadership and service delivery are often expensive, time-consuming, not participant-driven and counter-productive to creating the outcomes that the NDIA wants for clients. At DSC we've seen many different approaches to service design, various ways of cost cutting and methods of utilising technology to achieve organisational goals.

Some of these approaches are fantastic - innovative, flexible, and forward-thinking. Other approaches we've seen haven't been so fantastic - they've seemed out of touch, using old data & tools to make new decisions, and focused on shaving cents rather than creating efficiencies. Last week I heard a local politician use the phrase "investing in Blockbuster in a Netflix world" to describe committing money to outdated forms of public infrastructure. This was the best description I've heard for those not-so-fantastic approaches to NDIS readiness and transformation.

http://disabilityservicesconsulting.com.au/blockbuster-netflix-world/?utm_source=DSC+Contacts&utm_campaign=a4b2b8efd2-SA_article_ad_210_25_2016&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_153f43591e-a4b2b8efd2-23558671

Source: disabilityservicesconsulting.com.au

2016 NDIS supporter survey

The NDIS will more than double the funding bucket for disability support in Australia. Since it began there have been some great experiences, and some issues. But it's just the beginning of the journey.

This is your NDIS. It needs to work for you. That means letting our decision makers know what's working and what needs to be done to make the NDIS the best it can be for the people who fought so hard to make it happen. That's for everyone who is in now and for those who will start their NDIS journey in the next few years.

We've put together a short online survey so Every Australian Counts supporters like you can let governments and the National Disability Insurance Agency know what's working and what's not with the NDIS. They're simple but important questions, like: If you are in the NDIS, are you receiving better supports than you were before?

If you're still waiting for the NDIS how do you feel about it?

If you're a disability support worker do you have enough of the right kind of information to help you make the transition and provide the best possible support for your clients?

<http://www.everyaustraliancounts.com.au/survey>

Source: [Every Australian Counts](http://www.everyaustraliancounts.com.au)



Meet a member of our Windarring Family



George (Georgina) Harvey

George completed her student placement in 2013 and began working with Windarring in Kyneton in 2014. She says it's lots of fun and that she enjoys the variety of activities.

George loves to watch anything that will make her laugh. As for food it's cheese that she'll always go for, and during her down time she loves reading, listening to music and shopping.

Her last holiday destination was Airlie Beach in far north Queensland, but her dream destination would be Europe.

George has a dog (Marli) and two cats (Bear and Gigi). Finally, George barracks for Geelong in the AFL.

Funding – open for application

The Australian Government is inviting organisations and individuals representing volunteer based community groups to apply for Volunteer Grants 2016 funding.

These grants aim to support the efforts of Australia's volunteers. They provide small amounts of money that organisations and community groups can use to help their volunteers. They are part of the Government's work to support the volunteers who help disadvantaged Australian communities and encourage inclusion of vulnerable people in community life. The funding will help volunteers to do their important work, and the grants of between \$1,000 and \$5,000 each will allow organisations to buy much needed equipment, such as computers, or help with training volunteers, fuel costs or undertaking background security checks.

Applications close at 2:00pm AEDT Tuesday, 20 December 2016.

<https://www.dss.gov.au/grants/open-for-application>



What's On

NDIS Information Sessions

Run by Windarring

Castlemaine – Monday 28 November

CoHoots, 1/40 Forest Street, 9.30am-11.00am,

Kyneton – Friday 2 December

Baynton Street, 9.30am-11.00am,

Gisborne – Monday 5 December

Windarring Gisborne, 9.30am-11.00am,

Run by NDIS

Kyneton – Wednesday 30 November

Kyneton Bowling Club, 61 Mollison Street
10:00am-11.30am

Castlemaine – Wednesday 30 November

Castlemaine Town Hall, 25 Lyttleton Street
1:30pm-3:00pm

Bendigo – Thursday 1 December

Quality Resort All Seasons, 171-183 Mclvor Hwy

Session 1: 10:30am-12:00pm

Session 2: 6:00pm-7:30pm

International Day for People with Disabilities Dinner Dance

Saturday 3rd December

The date of Saturday 3rd December has been set and the band has been booked. With only 120 issued it will be first in. We encourage all participants, family, carers, staff and friends to attend both if possible to support these opportunities in our local community.

Castlemaine Dance Group Performance

Saturday 10th December

St Marys Hall, 12:30-1:30pm

Gold coin donation. Children Free.



Term dates

Term 4

Monday 3 October - Thursday 22 December

Closed: Friday 23 December

Public holidays during Term 4

Christmas Day Sunday 25 December

Boxing Day Monday 26 December

Public Holiday for Christmas Day Tuesday 27 December

JOHN KNIGHT MEMORIAL AWARD 2016



Congratulations to Peter Hird and Marlene Jeffrey on their John Knight Memorial Award.

Farewell to Glenda

Glenda has announced she will be retiring at the end of the year. Congratulations and a big thank you to Glenda for many years of wonderful service.

We have advertised for a Full-Time Area Manager to take on the role. Applications close on Monday 28th November and we hope to interview the following week. If it all goes to plan we aim to have the successful applicant spend some time with Glenda for a handover before Christmas, and Glenda goes to live by the sea and enjoys the next exciting phase of her life.

We will be organising an afternoon tea or something else similar to properly farewell Glenda closer to the end of the year.



December Birthdays

- 1 Bradley Young
- 2 Hudson Henry
- 3 Mason Henry
- 4 John McQueen
- 7 Grace Trounson
- 7 Sarah McPherson
- 8 Natasha Kennett
- 8 Emma Norton
- 10 Finley Trotter
- 10 Luke Wren
- 10 Todd Briggs
- 11 Emma Tarantello
- 11 Kerry Fisk
- 12 Linda Newton
- 12 Kate Healy
- 16 Rodney Diacono
- 17 Kim Stevens
- 18 Janice Rushbrook
- 18 Raychel Ward
- 19 Dion Pethybridge
- 19 Jane Robinson
- 20 Tim Kelly
- 21 George McQuiggan
- 22 Deanna Norris
- 23 Ingrid VanDerMolen
- 25 Mary Rozynski
- 26 Glyn Prosser
- 27 Joseph Settineri
- 27 Phil Tunzi
- 29 Emma Goodwin
- 30 Chris Palamountain
- 31 Jake Bull



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 dspiteri@windarring.org.au – the more content the better your newsletter will be!