

Parent and Family Newsletter Spring 2022 Edition

NDIS Mission Critical NDIS 2:0 A New Hope

The Government has launched an Independent Review into the NDIS to improve the wellbeing of Australians with disability and ensure the Scheme's sustainability. The NDIS Review will work with clients, their families and carers, as well as providers and workers to put people with disability back at the centre of the NDIS.

The Independent Review Panel comprises of Co-Chairs Professor Bruce Bonyhady AM and Ms Lisa Paul AO PSM and Panel Members Mr Kevin Cocks AM, Ms Judy Brewer AO, Dr Stephen King, Mr Dougie Herd and Ms Kirsten Deane OAM.

Part 1 of the NDIS Review, which will be led by Dr Bruce Bonyhady AM, will examine the design, operation and sustainability of the Scheme.

Part 2 of the NDIS Review, which will be led by Ms Lisa Paul AO, will analyse ways to build a more responsive, supportive, and sustainable market and workforce.

Find more information and the full Terms of Reference at <https://www.ndisreview.gov.au/>.

Commonwealth Bank C-POS

The NDIA and Commonwealth Bank have announced a partnership to build a new "claims at point of support channel" (C-POS) for the NDIS. The new C-POS channel aims to enable clients to make NDIS claims quickly, accessibly, and securely.

Commonwealth Bank says the new C-POS channel will improve the payment process, alleviating the need for clients to pay upfront using their own funds while also reducing administrative burdens for providers.

The NDIA says it will also support ongoing efforts to reduce fraud in the NDIS. This new channel will not replace the way providers and participants make claims but will be available in addition to current claims channels.

New Leadership at the NDIA

The NDIA has announced new leadership for the NDIS. There are now five people with disability on the NDIA Board, including current board members Leah van Poppel and Meredith Allan, the largest number in its history. The new appointments are as follows:

NDIA Chair: Kurt Fearnley AO

Board Member: Dr Graeme Innes AM

Board Member: Maryanne Diamond AO

Returning Board Member: Dr Denis Napthine AO (formerly Chair)

NDIA CEO: Rebecca Falkingham PSM



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Simon Hill joined Windarring in July 2022 as our new Chief Operations Officer responsible for centre based activities, supported living, community living and respite, and school leavers employment support.

Simon has previously worked in a range of community service environments including disability, public housing, homelessness, and family violence, most recently working for the National Disability Insurance Agency.

Simon has brought a wealth of disability and organisational management knowledge to Windarring and has initially focussed on driving improved services for our clients.

Cate has recently joined our team in a newly created role of Practice Lead – Behaviour Support. Cate is a NDIS registered Behaviour Support Practitioner at proficient level, with 2 years' experience delivering Positive Behaviour Support to participants with complex needs and challenging behaviour, and a proven record in achieving best outcomes.



Cate is passionate about supporting children, young people and adults of all abilities and backgrounds to overcome challenges, live safe and fulfilling lives and be active members of their community. Her professional background is welfare, with qualifications in Community Welfare and Counselling, and is registered with the Australian Counsellors Association. She has specialist skills in trauma and therapeutics gained through extensive training and nearly twenty years working in the Out of Home Care, Child, Youth and Family and Disability sectors.

Cate is committed to person centred, strength based, collaborative and inclusive practice. All voices are heard, all contributions are acknowledged, and the rights of participants are upheld to increase quality of life, reduce behaviours of concern and achieve NDIS goals. Families and care teams are equally supported through the journey of change. Cate has lived in Trentham for 15 years and enjoys connecting with nature, walking her dogs, music and crafts. She is a singer/songwriter who supports self expression and recovery from adverse experiences through music, writing and creative arts.

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As Lead Practitioner, Cate will promote Positive Behaviour Support (PBS) across the organisation and ensure Windarring staff implement best practice when working with participants who attend Windarring programs through the provision of training, advice and guidance in the application of PBS. The Lead Practitioner will provide advice and guidance in contemporary communication and engagement strategies to enhance the experiences of Windarring program participants, particularly those with high level ASD, are non-verbal and with complex needs.

Windarring is in the process of registering with the NDIS to deliver Specialist Behaviour Support, and Cate is setting up the required documents and templates. Upon registration, will step into a role of Senior Behaviour Support Practitioner, to deliver Behaviour Support Services to participants within the Windarring catchment area.

Realising a Dream

Scott Maltese has worked at the Rohs Road recycling centre for about 5 years. During that time, he has become a valued supported employee because he is willing to learn new skills and he enjoys showing his colleagues how to do things. Scott has a driver's license therefore he can drive the work vehicles and clean out the clothing bins. He is also an expert at reversing trailers!

Scott is a valuable leader. He takes on the role of leading other employees with the daily operations of the job. This assists them to develop their skills and gain confidence in their role.

A few months ago, Scott said he wanted to talk about his dream job. He said he had always wanted to be a Disability Support Worker. Shae Desmond the ADE Team Leader has made it her mission to help Scott realise his dream.

Scott was supported to enrol at Bendigo TAFE to study Certificate 4 in Disability Support. He commenced his course at the end of September. Scott continues to work at Rohs Road.



Dreams can come true at Windarring

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Windarring SLES (School Leavers) Program

Leaving school can be overwhelming, especially when you don't know what you want to do or where you want to go. Windarring are now offering a new NDIS School Leavers Employment Support (SLES) program to current students and recent school leavers with a disability to develop their skills, confidence and independence.

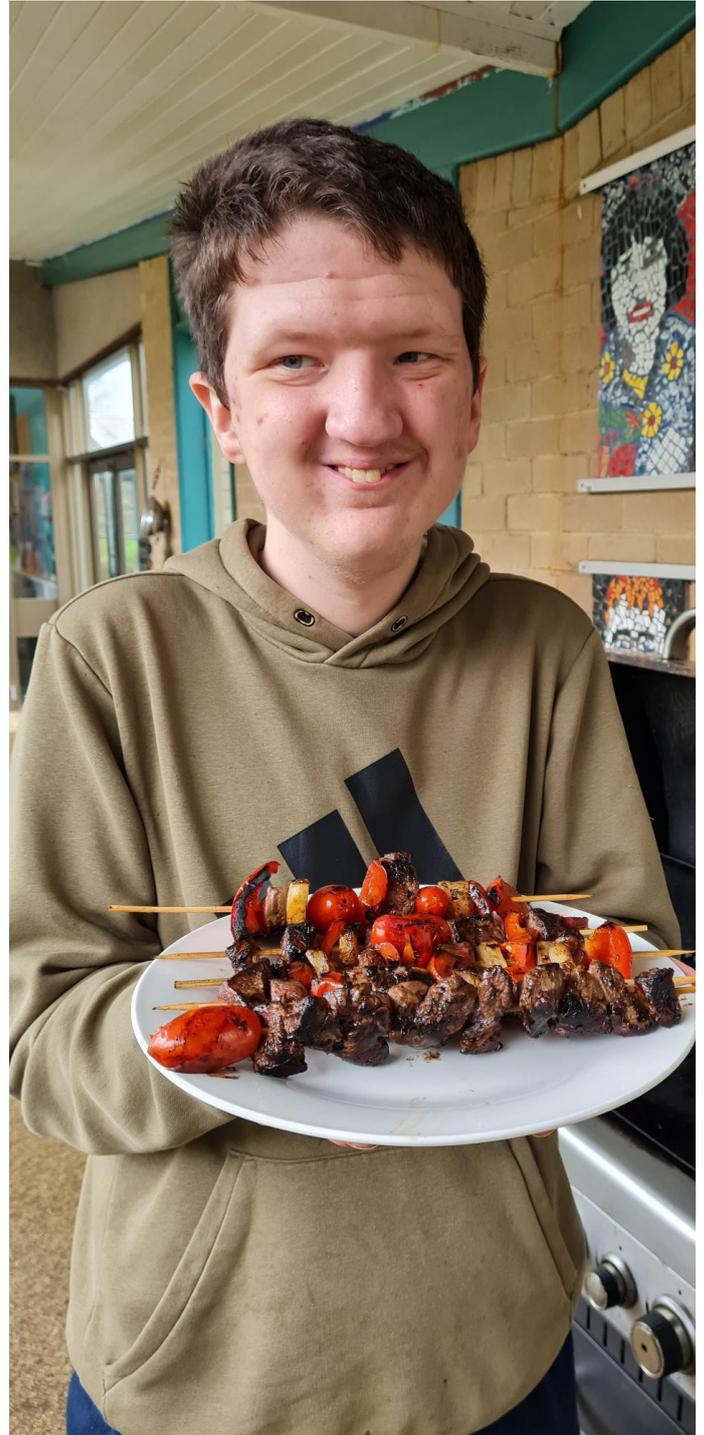
This program is flexible and individualised, as each client will have a different career journey. Some clients may know exactly what they want to do and just need assistance with the steps to get there and other clients' journeys will be about discovering their career options and trialing different jobs to find the right fit.

At Windarring, we have already established ADE (Australian Disability Enterprise) businesses to explore career opportunities in a safe and supported environment, as well as utilising our community partnerships and thinking outside the box when it comes to employment.

Our SLES program is based on the principles of customised employment and focuses on getting to know our clients on a personal level while also liaising with family and other supports to tailor a plan that is person-centered and unique to the individual. These support plans are flexible and rely on our client's freedom to make choices about their life's direction. We focus on the modernity and progression of employment to embrace our clients as individuals and help them to find valuable careers.

We have a large range of modules that are adaptable to the client and flexible across different learning styles, using new initiatives such as video resumes and informational interviewing our program intends to support our clients across all avenues of their employment journey and ensure we are finding the best fit.

If you or someone you know is looking for support on where to direct their employment goals after school or if you are a business who is interested in supporting this program by offering work placements/experience and skills training, please get in contact with us at.



Email: admin@windarring.org

Jayden enjoying his SLES program
Article written by: Tobi Kelly

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Windarring Yoga

Windarring clients at Kyneton have been engaging in and enjoying the benefits of yoga for quite some time now. We feel it would be a good to share the yoga journey with parents, families and carers.

We are very lucky to have renown yoga teacher, mentor and therapeutic specialist Jahne Hope-Williams. Jahne skilfully manages to seamlessly incorporate multiple levels of capability into each session so to meet the needs of all clients. Her person-centred approach notes individual development and builds upon progress to ensure each person grows from week to week. The atmosphere is calm, relaxed and includes lots of smiles and laughter. Jahne also restores and cleans teddy bears that she rescues from op shops and passes on the love. These therapeutic “yoga bears” provide comfort to people with trauma and sensory needs. All our clients have been offered a bear.

The NDIA recognises that yoga provides both physical and mental health training and supports emotional regulation. It is fast becoming a popular choice of clients and a highly recommended therapy in NDIS plans. The focus on breathing, movement and mindfulness unlocks possibilities for physio diverse and neuro diverse people to learn new ways in strengthening muscle tone, managing strong emotions and reducing stress and anxiety for improved well-being and quality of life.

Yoga is offered twice a week. If you would like to know more, please contact Cate cevans@windarring.org.au

