

ISSUE 10

Newsletter



March 2012

Seeking interested people

Would you consider joining our dedicated team on the Management Committee?
Please contact the office.

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Message from the Service Manager

Dear Readers

Welcome to the 10th issue of the Leisure Connections newsletter. This newsletter is compiled quarterly to keep you informed of any changes, what's going on in the community and any other information you would like to know. If you come across anything you think would be good to include in this newsletter or anything you would like us to research for you please let us at the office know so we can get it into the next edition.

Leisure Connections is heading into very uncertain times. You can expect a letter from the Management Committee soon informing you of the current financial difficulties Leisure Connections is experiencing due to significant wage increases and no additional funds to meet these costs. This is of great concern to us and we are doing everything in our power to ensure Leisure Connections can continue to deliver the quality service you are used to. We will be lobbying the government in the attempt to secure funds to meet these costs. Any support you feel you could offer would be very well received (please refer to the Committee News section of this newsletter for further information).

Tenille or I will be in touch following the letter from the Management Committee to discuss if and how this may affect you. Your understanding through this difficult period is greatly appreciated.

Leo Bruncker
Service Manager



COMMITTEE MEMBER PROFILE

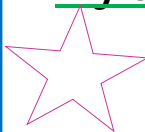
Jenni Brittain

When I moved to Cairns in 1989 with my husband (John) and 3 children I began looking for new contacts for activities that would help to occupy my eldest son Mathew, then 14 years old. Matty has no sight and an intellectual disability and had become a bit of a handful in his teens. I came across Colleen and Maggie, a tireless twosome who were just beginning to set up a service to help people access sporting and social activities which already existed in the community – and is now Leisure Connections.

Although, with 2 other younger children and a need to work, I was not ever able to commit a lot of time to helping with the day to day running of the service. I have been a member of the Management Committee since it began. I enjoy being a part of the committee and find that any contribution is greatly appreciated and never measured.

Matty still requires 24/7 care but has become a much more content man who enjoys the company of his brother, sister and their partners who all live locally.

My Story with Leisure Connections



If you would like to tell your story please contact the Service Manager or Coordinator

Service Users and Support Staff Memo

If you have any unwanted or old documents in relation to Leisure Connections that you no longer need please return these items to Leisure Connections so that they can be disposed of.

Support Staff Memo

Appraisals- When Support Staff are having a Support Person Activity Review and Performance Appraisal please remember to bring in your Support Person Induction Kit to the office to make sure it is up to date.

Correspondence- Tenille will be sending out an e-mail asking Support Staff how they would like to receive their correspondence. Could you please ensure you reply to the e-mail.

Pays - Anzac Day falls on a Wednesday this year, which is a pay day. I would like to remind staff that timesheets are to be handed in by 12pm Monday the 23rd April as pays will be processed on Tuesday the 24th April.



COMMITTEE COMMENTS

UNFORTUNATELY I AM THE BEARER OF BAD NEWS!!!

People who attended the Annual General Meeting in October 2011 may remember that I mentioned then that the future of Leisure Connections looked uncertain unless we are successful in obtaining more funding. Wages for both support staff and the office staff have increased dramatically since 2009 and our funding has not kept pace. We were expecting increases but nothing like what has happened! Our wages bill has gone up by \$105,320 per annum. The State Government has given us \$25,312 per annum towards this but we have not received anything from the Federal Government. We received news this week that we also have another rise to contend with.

After the election we will start to lobby both the state and federal politicians for more funding. We would appreciate support from anyone who wishes to support us. In the meantime I am afraid I have to inform you that we will have to do a lot of cost cutting to survive. The Committee will be meeting next week to work on several suggestions on how we do this. We will advise you immediately once decisions are made and Leo and Tenille will follow this up. As the Management Committee is composed mainly of parents receiving support from Leisure Connections we understand the impact this action will have but we have no option. We must cut costs or close up shop. We trust that we can all work through this difficult period together.

Anzac Day Wednesday 25th April

Dawn Service

The Esplanade (opposite RSL) 5:30am

Trinity Beach Esplanade 6:00am

Martyn Street Cemetery 3:30am

Anzac Parades

Trinity Beach Esplanade 6:30am

Stratford (Post Office- Magazine St) 6:50am

City (Fogarty Park- Munro Martin Park) 9:15am

Ceremonies

Munro Martin Park 9:30am

Norman Park – Gordonvale 9:00am

Fuller Park – Edmonton 9:00am



Remember our
Diggers



25th April

Useful Contact Numbers

Disability Services

Complaints:

0732247179

Enquiries:

1800177120(Toll Free)

40489 900(Cairns)

Disability Discrimination Legal Service

1300 882 872

Direct Employment Services

40 314 816

Rights in Action

40 317 377

Whats On

Cairns Local Markets

Cairns Mud Markets	every Sat & Sun 9am to 1pm	Pier / Lagoon
Cairns Night Markets	every Night from 5pm	Esplanade
Cairns Rusty's Markets	every Fri, Sat, Sun	Grafton St (under Gilligans)
Gordonvale	1st Saturday of the month	Norman Park
Holloways Beach	2nd Sunday of the month 8am to 1pm	Main beachfront area

Zumba 2xs

In various locations around Cairns
2xs.com.au/zumba

What characteristics arise from Community Participation through Leisure and Recreation?

- Belonging to and being part of the community
- Adventure and Challenge
- Companionship , increased social networks, new and stronger friendships
- Interdependence with community
- Sense of freedom
- Control and Power over own lifestyle
- Improved self Image through achievement of goals
- Hope and enthusiasm for the future
- Good health/mental health
- Achievement.

Management Committee and Support Staff Memo

When the 10.1 Criminal History Screening Renewal form gets sent out to you, please fill out the form and return it to Leisure Connections as soon as possible. When bringing this form into the office please ensure you bring in the relevant identification documents for us to sight and copy for your file.

**No act of Kindness,
no matter how
small is ever
wasted.**

Reminder

The Office will be **CLOSED** on the following dates over the Easter Period.
Friday the **6th** and Monday the **9th** of April.
The Office will also be closed on Anzac Day, Wednesday the **25th** of April and Labour Day Monday the **7th** May.





Its Easter Time!!



Leo or Tenille will be in contact with you to discuss your support if your activity falls on the following public holidays Friday the 6th, Saturday the 7th or Monday the 9th of April.

Also a reminder that this year Anzac Day falls on Wednesday the 25th April and Labour Day falls on Monday the 7th May, Leo and Tenille will also be in contact with you to discuss any changes for these days.

*HAPPY EASTER FROM THE MANAGEMENT
COMMITTEE AND OFFICE STAFF OF
LEISURE CONNECTIONS*



Hop-hop-hoppy Easter

CONTACT DETAILS

Service Manager

PH: 40 356 771

Email: servicemanager@leisureconnections.com.au

Coordinator

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Incorporated

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