

ISSUE 14

Newsletter



August 2013

Message from the Service Manager

Seeking interested people

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

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Dear Readers,

Thank you to all who have completed or assisted someone to complete and return the Service User Satisfaction Survey. The Survey is a requirement of the new Human Service Quality Framework Standards. The Survey is also intended to provide you with an opportunity to feedback to Leisure Connections any concerns you may have or suggestions for improvements. If you have yet to return your completed Survey we would appreciate if you could get it back to the office by **August 30th**.

The Quality Audit is scheduled to be conducted on the 25th, 26th & 27th of November. Service Users and Support Staff will be given the opportunity to participate. You will be receiving more information on this closer to the date.

Our AGM is also coming up on the 3rd of October (AGM mail will be sent in Sept). Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend. We have had a great turn out in previous years and it would be great to see you there this year.

It has already been a big year for Leisure Connections as we have all been working hard on diversifying the service to provide community access support and lifestyle support to people with their own packages. If you would like any further information about these changes please do not hesitate to contact me for a chat.

I hope that you are all enjoying your activities and support.

Leo Brunker
Service Manager



My Story with Leisure Connections



My name is Lindsay and I've been with Leisure connections for years and years. I work at the Cairns City library and I've been there a very long long long time. I am a big fan of the Broncos Football team - Go Broncos!! I like playing on my iPad and I go out with friends weekly and I like shopping for food, cds, dvds and books. My favourite food is lasagna and my favourite drink is ice tea. Sunday is my favourite day because I go to church. I like Mel Gibson, ABBA and Boney M. The other day when I was on an outing with my Support Person I touched my first crocodile; it was a few years old and a female crocodile. The skin was very rough. I was excited because I haven't been so close to a crocodile before. I love all the support staff and they're my friends and some are very good friends. I like Tenille and Leo too.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Over the past few months we have slowly diversified to include Lifestyle Support. The vast amount of the support we provide is still recreation and leisure as we believe it is a very important part of our lives. It is a continuing challenge for us to convince departmental staff who are continually having to find funds for emergency situations.

All lifestyle support will be provided under the same values and vision which drive our recreational component. All support will be provided on a one on one basis. Many years of experience has shown us that when support is provided in this way that people learn to gain confidence in their ability and stand tall. We have found that, as people gain confidence in one area, support can be directed to another area and so enrich their lives. We will be striving to help the people we serve to live a life similar to everyone else in the community.

We are fortunate that our Service Manager, Coordinator and Quality Officer all have experience in providing lifestyle support – all having worked with our sister service – Real Living Options. Gradually over the next few years we hope to keep expanding this area of service delivery so that we are ready when Disability Care (formerly National Disability Insurance Scheme) becomes a reality.

There is an interesting workshop being held in Cairns on 29th August from 9.30AM to 2.30PM at Cairns City Library by Pave the Way. This is a Brisbane based organisation which does a lot of work with families in regional areas. Pave the Way have the same values and vision as Leisure Connections. Full details are contained in the flyer enclosed with this newsletter. I am sure that anyone who attends would find it very useful.

Regards to you all.

Colleen Frances Dolan OAM.

FREE Bicycle Event



The Cairns City Council is now putting on a Free Bicycle Event on the second Sunday of every month. If this is an activity in which you would be interested in participating you can call the office for more information or you can call the Councils Active Travel Officer on 0459 999 082. Bikes are available for hire for free as well – to make a bike booking email s.gosling@cairns.qld.gov.au or phone 0459 999 082.

Reminder of the New Public Holiday

The Labour Day Public Holiday is now on Monday the 7th October. The office will be closed on this date. If you receive support on this date Leo or Tenille will be in contact with you shortly.



The Annual General Meeting is coming up on the 3rd October 2013. You will be receiving a letter in the mail shortly providing you with the details for the evening. We encourage all Members, family members/advocates and staff to attend.

There will be Finger Food before the meeting so please don't forget to RSVP for catering purposes by the 26th September.

NDS – National Disability Services

As a part of the Sector Readiness and Workforce Capacity Initiative, National Disability Services is delivering a range of training and skill development opportunities. There is a workshop for people with a disability, families and carers, host providers and other funded non-government disability service providers that is designed to support people in preparing for self-directed support under Your Life Your Choice in readiness for Disability Care Australia.

When: Wednesday 21st August 2013 10am-2pm

Where: Seville Mercy Conference Centre, 35 Bauhinia Ave, Earlville

RSVP: Return Registration Form to Lynda.aslop@nds.org.au by Monday the 19th August.

Enquiries: Lisa Fraser, Project Manager 07 38289415 or lisa.fraser@nds.org.au

No act of kindness
no matter
how small is
ever
wasted.

***What's On
Cairns Festival 2013
August 24th – 1st Sep***

FREE EVENTS

- James Cook University Grand Parade
Saturday 24th Aug 5:30pm
- Fireworks Saturday - Esplanade 24th Aug
7:30pm
- SKA-B-Q Sunday – Esplanade 25th Aug 1-
6pm
- Song and Story Sunday 25th Aug and
Monday 26th Aug 6:30-8:30pm
- Movie – Nim's Island – Esplanade
Wednesday 28th Aug 7pm
- Tropolympics – Esplanade Sat 24th & Sun
25th Aug 11am-3pm
- One Kilometre Picnic – Esplanade Sun 25th
Aug 11am – 6pm
- Sounds of Austronesia – Esplanade Thurs
29th Aug 5-6:15pm
- Friday Night Fire Show – Esplanade Fri 30th
Aug 7-8pm
- Fluent – Esplanade Sat 31st Aug 11am-
9pm
- Carnival on Collins – Collins Avenue Sun
1st Sep 9am-3pm

If you would like any information about the above activities please contact the office for more information on 40356444

Support Staff

As you will be aware the Cairns Festival is fast approaching. Some Service Users may like to change their activity for the week to attend an event occurring at the festival. There are brochures available in the office or you can pick one up from the Cairns City Council, Major shopping Centres or visit

<http://www.cairns.qld.gov.au/festival>

Useful Contact Numbers

Disability Services

*Complaints: 0732247179
Enquiries: 1800177120(Toll Free)
40489 900(Cairns)*

Disability Discrimination Legal Service

1300 882 872

Ostara Employment

40 410 022

Rights in Action

40 317 377

Centrelink

13 27 17

CONTACT DETAILS

Service Manager

PH: 40 356 771

Email: servicemanager@leisureconnections.com.au

Coordinator

PH: 40 356 444

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