



Nadrasca News

Dignity. Diversity. Community. Industry.

Summer 2007 Issue 14



The staff and management of Nadrasca would like to wish you all Season's Greetings and Happy Holidays! We look forward to a busy and prosperous 2008...



The official opening of the refurbished Jolimont Road facility - a joint venture of Nadrasca & Alkira, was held on 7 December 2007.

Warwick Robinson (President, Alkira, Committee of Management), two of Alkira's clients and Keith Kilner (Deputy Chairman, Nadrasca, Board of Directors)

Executive Director's Report - December 2007

We live in a time of constant change - change which is more rapid than ever before.

Part of this change comes from government policy, direction and accountability, whether it comes from the introduction of legislation (such as the Disability Act 2006) or increasing compliance regimes through quality frameworks and independent auditing which ensure that services comply with Government Disability Standards. At the same time, consumer aspirations and expectations relating to service delivery continue to increase - expectations which necessitate enhancement of the services provided and ultimate improvements in the quality of life for people with a disability.

While some may feel that this compliance and regulation is a burden, it helps us to stay focused. It also forces us to reflect and review our purpose as an organisation - 'To Establish and Develop a Range of Services for People with a Disability'. The words 'Establish' and 'Develop' go far beyond merely starting up a service. They involve the constant development

of better services which improve the social, community and economic lives of the people who rely on us. As a result continual change is inevitable.

As I reflect on the past year, I see many changes. Nadrasca migrated from an association known as Nadrasca Incorporated to Nadrasca Ltd, and we celebrated the past with a 40 year function and the launch of our 40 year history book in July. The Board of Directors chose the new entity as the best legal structure for the future of Nadrasca, despite the fact that the association structure had served us well for the last 20 years. At the same time we re-branded Nadrasca - yet another change. Our new logo/s, maintain a consistent theme, yet distinguish between our community services and industry services.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you for your support over the past year. We wish you Season's Greeting and a Happy and Prosperous New Year in 2008.



Gus Koedyk
Executive Director

See page 2 for some of the action from the Nadrasca Family Picnic Day!

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WHAT'S ON...

Nadrasca Industry Services

Friday 21 December - Last working day (finish at 1.30pm)
Monday 21 January - Return to work 2008

2008 Easter Holidays

21 March Good Friday and 24 March Easter Monday

Nadrasca Industry Services

23 - 27 June Half Crew working
30 June to 4 July Half Crew working

Nadrasca

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52-62 Rooks Road
Nunawading Vic 3131
PO Box 3874
Nunawading 3131
Tel (03) 9873 1111
Fax (03) 9873 2270

A Disability Service Organisation
ABN 90 125 235 047
ACN 125 235 047



Nadrasca Family Picnic Day

On Saturday 20 October Nadrasca held a family picnic day at Cruden Farm, the Langwarrin home of Dame Elisabeth Murdoch AC, DBE. A few hundred members of the Nadrasca community enjoyed the ideal weather conditions for a picnic and stroll through Dame Elisabeth's garden. The highlight for many was a flight in one of the two hot air balloons tethered beside the lake. The photos taken on the day show the joy and absolute thrill of those who experienced the ride. Events like this confirm the ease with which we can add value, and change people's lives in small ways. We are extremely grateful to Dame Elisabeth for the generous provision of her home, Cruden Farm, for this wonderful day.

My awesome balloon ride!

On Saturday morning I went for a balloon ride at Cruden Farm in Langwarrin. I got up at 9.00am and was very excited about my coming adventure. We went by bus and I enjoyed the ride. When we got there the people who ran the balloon ride explained to me what I could expect.

I got myself into the basket, but I had to lift my legs very high to get in. When they were filling the balloon with air it sounded very loud, like a lawn mower, and I was a little unsure of the sound. When the balloon lifted off I hardly felt it move as we went up into the air. I was so excited that I really can't remember much about it, but I do know that I enjoyed every minute of it and I would like to do it again as soon as possible.

I think that everyone should have the chance to go up in a balloon like I did.

I think that this event was awesome.

*Tracy Clarke
High Street House*

A Spot of History

Time flies!!

It is now four years since the introduction of a regular newsletter to keep you informed of life at Nadrasca. We trust you enjoy reading about the various activities and people stories.

If you have any suggested input you are welcome to submit them to Brian Parr.





Nadrasca Industry Services

Industry Services Year in Review

Again another year has flashed by with our business continuing to grow in all areas. It is interesting to note that none of our 'Top 5' customers from three years ago are in our current 'Top 5' - an indication of changes in our market and the work required by all staff to grow the business. The game remains the same - find new and exciting work for our employees - work which challenges their abilities and provides a profitable outcome for the organisation. Once again a gentle reminder that we will promptly follow up any work opportunities, so if any of our readers know of a need please give us a call.

In mid-year we underwent a re-accreditation to the Disability Service Standards and passed with flying colours - an excellent result.

The process of employee IEP's and Annual Wage Assessments has bedded down and the Training and Support Coordinators have done an excellent job managing this process.

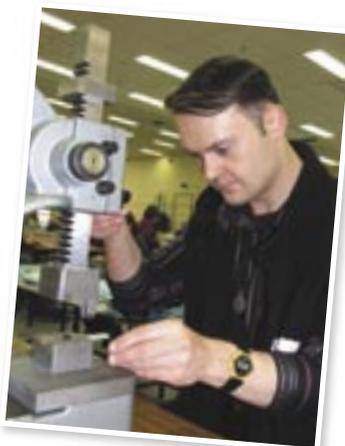
The 2008 Annual Leave, Public Holiday and RDO Roster has been circulated to all employees.

Community Options / Industry Services Program

We have continued to develop the program of Community Options clients attending Rooks Road to further develop their work skills. This program has now expanded from one day to four days per week, and is proving most popular and beneficial for those who attend.

On behalf of Industry Services Management and Staff I wish the Nadrasca family Seasons Greetings and a Happy and Safe New Year.

Peter Ray
Manager
Nadrasca Industry Services



Community Services

Jack Furze and Ron Chivers, both very active members of the Nadrasca Parents and Friends Association, have passed away since our last edition. They will both be sadly missed.

Jack and Ron were unstinting in their support of our accommodation service and their sons. Jack was the founder and inaugural President of the P&F Association. His efforts enabled the group to raise substantial funds which particularly supported residents without family support. Well into their eighties Jack and Ron willingly gave of their time and effort. They were amongst the first to nominate, contribute and donate.

Major refurbishment has taken place at our High Street home. Three small rooms have been converted into two sizeable bedrooms and the exterior has been painted. Consideration is being given to other improvements.

As foreshadowed in our last edition, we are working on the development of residential statements for all residents in our Shared Supported Accommodation Service. These will be completed shortly and distributed to all residents by the end of January 2008.

The Alkira/Nadrasca joint facility at Jolimont Road, Forest Hill, was officially opened on Friday 7 December. While Nadrasca's operational involvement in this facility is currently limited, there is no doubt that we will become more actively involved as clients continue to age and begin to show early signs of dementia.

A safe and happy Christmas/ New Year holiday from all in Community Services.

Brian Parr
Manager
Nadrasca Community Services

Community Options

ExxonMobil

On the 23 October ExxonMobil Australia employees swapped their normal work duties for a day volunteering in the community. ExxonMobil operates in Australia as Esso Australia and Mobil Oil Australia. Fourteen staff joined ten of our guys at the farm and planted 800 native shrubs and trees. What a fantastic day we had.

The teams were led by Raelene Olsen from Exxon Mobile and Keith Jenkins. Hard work and wonderful team spirit made the day a great success, with a fantastic lunch organised by Margeurite and the 'Farming Group'.

The Good Guys

Robert Finch, the proprietor of the Good Guys Nunawading, and his team have accepted a wonderful project at the Farm - renovating an old shed to be a toilet facility, accessible to people who use wheelchairs. The facility will also incorporate a shower and change room.



The Good Guys Nunawading will donate 20 cents from every transaction at the store and hope to raise over \$11,000 in 12 months via this wonderful partnership.

Sports Day 17 October

The Community Options team participated in the Annual Sports Day held between Monkami (the host organisation), Oakleigh Services, Harrison and Onemda.

Great fun was had by all. Anne Lee took some wonderful action shots. If you're passing, just drop in and take a look.

2007 has been another wonderful year, full of exciting events and memorable moments. The implementation of the new Disability Act and its requirements have certainly kept us very busy. 2008 will, as always, be full of challenges and change.

On behalf of the Community Options team I wish everyone a Happy Christmas and a Safe Holiday.

Raeoni Turner
Manager
Nadrasca Community Options



Did you know???

Chocaholics Delight

This year we again packed product for Cadbury's Christmas range. Over 5 million individual chocolates were packed this year, with the total requirement being completed in front of schedule. What a chocaholics delight! Well done to those doing this job.

Special Olympics World Summer Games, Shanghai - October 2007

Fiona Taylor competed in Tennis and won a Silver medal in doubles and a Bronze Medal in singles. Congratulations Fiona!

PEOPLE NEWS!

Welcome!

We welcomed three permanent staff members recruited since our last edition: Rhonda Cook (Finance and Administration), Craig Hubbard and Natalie Mulartschuk (Industry Services). We are glad to have you on board!



Weddings Weddings Weddings

Congratulations to Elise Brown and Scott Suhle who were married on the 6 October. Elise is an Instructor at our Witt Street Site.

Congratulations to Amy Newdick and Scott Burton who were also married recently. Amy is a Residential Support Worker.

But wait there's more...

Congratulations to John Finlayson (Timber) and Leanne Gorrie (Contract Services) who were married on 10 November.

Congratulations to you all, and best wishes for a long and happy life together.

A New Lead Tenant House

Following the relocation of residents to our new house in Gardenia Street, Blackburn, our property at Almondsbury Court, Blackburn, has been refurbished and converted to a Lead Tenancy for Ben Dowling, Cameron McAleese and David Lorizzo. Even though Ben, Cameron and David have come from different accommodation situations, they have settled in well together and are enjoying their new surroundings.

It's Holiday Time!

The following holidays have been organised for our clients and employees.

- A 'Different Queensland' is the title of the Austours fifteen day bus tour for thirty Nadrasca Industry employees. Departing on 4 January, the tour heads north along the inland route to Longreach. After sightseeing it returns home along the coast - with visits to Great Keppel and Fraser Islands - then back to work!
- Another group are off to Cairns and the Gold Coast.
- Three groups are attending Axton Ridge Farm between 23 December and 17 January 2008.

We look forward to some photos and news in our next edition!

Hello everyone! My name is 'Dart'. I am a Norwegian Forester cat (sounds posh I know!) and I am very fluffy and gorgeous. Holly brought me to my new house in Kilsyth a few months ago, after the sad death of our previous cat 'Tara'.



I was a bit nervous when I first arrived, but I have settled in well. Christine knitted me a blanket which is on

my chair in the sunroom, but I only sleep there when I feel like it. I sometimes prefer to sit on Matt's lap or on Len's bed. I also like to sit on the staff desk while they are working! I have sent in this photo with my friend Len. I feel so loved - what a life!!

Dart



Showboat

When it all comes true... just the way you planned!

On 29 November The Whitehorse Centre curtain went up, revealing a beautiful showboat - 'The Cotton Blossom'. Stage lights caught the shimmer of the Mississippi, as coloured gals (from our local Sudanese community) sang on the levee. Suddenly NADDS (Nadrasca Amateur Dance Drama and Song) burst into life and SHOWBOAT was launched.

With an abundance of support from local performing arts students, scouts, church groups and friends, NADDS gave it all they had! As in all NADDS productions there were skipped lines, lost costumes, missing characters and impromptu lines but, like Ol Man River we just kept rollin' along!

It was a wonderful night.

Heather Cook
NADDS Coordinator

VALE



John Minogue

30/8/1956
to 15/9/2007

John started with Nadrasca at Mitcham on 16 February 1977 just 6 months before his 21st birthday, after a brief time as an apprentice butcher. In July this year he received his 30 year service Certificate from Nadrasca.

John's versatility meant that he contributed to Nadrasca in a variety of ways, including working in printing, timber and the bookshop at Mitcham. John eventually moved to our Blackburn facility, carrying out general administration and office duties. Customers appreciated his friendly attitude, and constantly commented on his pleasant telephone manner and attention to detail.

John met his wife Sandy while both were working at Mitcham and they were married for over 20 years. John made many friends through work and bowling. He loved word puzzles, and enjoyed reading and working on computers. Most of all John relished a good chat!

Although sometimes stricken with illness, John never complained and always maintained a positive attitude to life.

John will be sadly missed and fondly remembered by all who knew him.

WANTED

Two young adult women are seeking a third to share a three-bedroom unit in Blackburn North. It is expected that the ideal applicant would be capable of living independently and be in full time employment. The unit is close to shops, and transport. Contact Graeme or Bev Churchward 9877 5265.

Nadrasca NEWS is a regular publication.

Contributions or ideas for future editions are welcome. Please contact A1Admin Pty Ltd on 03 9877 0369.

Editorial team: Brian Parr, Richard Copeland & A1Admin

Printed by: Nadrasca Commercial Printing

Need something printed?

Call Jessie at Nadrasca on 03 9873 1111