



A National Disability Insurance Scheme

From the Desk of the Executive Director

For many years Nadrasca has worked with parents, carers and people with a disability in a system that is crisis-driven, fragmented and extremely underfunded.

We are constantly contacted by people in crisis seeking accommodation, respite, therapy, counselling and in-home support. The system is unfair and decisions are often driven by who has the greatest need at a particular point in time. Staff at Nadrasca can quote numerous examples of people in crisis: ageing parents with ageing children who become co-dependent because of inadequate support services; parents who make the soul-destroying decision to abandon their children because they can't cope; clients and employees who age early with no support for them or their carers. They have to deal with a system that is difficult to navigate and essentially broken.

The final report of the Productivity Commission Inquiry into Disability Care and Support was released by the Gillard Government on 10 August (available on www.pc.gov.au/projects/inquiry/disability-support/report).

The Gillard Labor Government announced on 10 August in a media release: ...that it will start work immediately with states and territories on measures that will build the foundations for a National Disability Insurance Scheme, following the release of the Productivity Commission's final report into the matter.

The main recommendations of the Productivity Commission are:



- A National Disability Insurance Scheme should be created to provide all Australians with insurance for the costs of support if they or a family member acquire a disability. The scheme will provide individually tailored care and support to around 410,000 people with significant disabilities.
- A National Injury Insurance Scheme should be created to provide no fault insurance for anyone who suffers a catastrophic injury.

The Productivity Commission's report finds that it would take at least seven years to transform disability services.

The Australian Government supports the Productivity Commission's vision for a system that provides individuals with the support they need over the course of their lifetime, and wants reform of disability services that is financially sustainable.

The Productivity Commission outlines the creation of these schemes would ensure that every Australian can have confidence that they will receive the care and support they need if they acquire or are born with a disability.

This reform requires a bipartisan approach and collaborative engagement with the states to become a reality. This is why it's important for all of us to support and advocate for the Every Australian Counts campaign (see <http://everyaustraliancounts.com.au/>).

This campaign is designed to create awareness and the political will to bring about the changes recommended by the Productivity Commission. Nadrasca sponsored a **DisabiliTea** on 2 August to promote the cause for a National Disability Insurance Scheme. The Shadow Minister for Disabilities, Carers and the Voluntary Sector, Senator Mitch Fifield, attended and addressed the audience on a National Disability Insurance Scheme. (Photo above left).

How can you support the campaign?

1. **Join the campaign:** 100,000 supporters are required by December 2011 (currently over 70,000).
2. **Spread the word:** ask friends and colleagues to sign up on the Every Australian Counts website.
3. **Talk to your MP:** visit, ring or write to your Federal MP.



People with disability shouldn't just have an 'Eligibility' for services; they should have an 'Entitlement' to services. Your support can make a National Disability Insurance Scheme a reality.

Gus Koedyk
Executive Director

IN THIS ISSUE...

- Page 2 Nadrasca Industry Mike Symon visit
- Page 3 Nadrasca Community Happenings at High Street News from Witt Street Seniors@Nadrasca Accommodation Services Farm News
- Page 4 People News

DIARY DATES

Nadrasca AGM

27 September 2011

7.00pm at Head Office (Rooks Rd)

Speaker: Mr James O'Brien
(State Campaign Coordinator, NDIS Victoria & Tasmania)



52-62 Rooks Road
Nunawading Vic 3131
PO Box 3874
Nunawading 3131
Tel 03 9873 1111
Fax 03 9873 2270
www.nadrasca.com.au
A Disability Service Organisation
ABN 90 125 235 047
ACN 125 235 047



The new ERC representatives: Cathy, Trevor, Mandy, Kim (back row) and Patty, Peter (front row)

Nadrasca Industry had another exceptional result for the financial year ending 30 June 2011. Sales revenue has doubled in the last 5 years, which is extremely pleasing given the continuing global financial challenges. This result, coupled with another better than budget surplus, has contributed to ongoing security for Nadrasca employees. All employees were presented with a Coles-Myer gift voucher in recognition of their contribution to this excellent result.

The first 6 months up to Christmas are showing strong commitments from our customers and continued growth is anticipated.

In May 2011, Nadrasca Industry underwent a **FaHCSIA Compliance Audit**. The audit verified that Nadrasca's management system continues to comply with the requirements of the Disability Service Standards for the Standards audited at the time.

Timber Closedown

We are extremely disappointed to announce the closure of Timber Manufacture at Nadrasca. Increased competitiveness and a decreasing customer base has made the operation unviable. All staff and employees currently working in the timber department will be re-allocated into the Contract Services area.

Over many years, timber has struggled to meet its budgeted targets and has not grown at the same rate as other parts of the business. It is expected to cease operation in September this year. We congratulate all those working in timber for the quality and service provided to customers, and we share their disappointment at its closing.

The timber area will be refurbished and expanded to provide increased warehousing facilities which will allow Contract Services to expand into other areas of operation.

Work on the northern extension has been undertaken to provide secure additional space for our despatch area and free up space inside the existing building to enable further expansion of our operations.



Employee Survey

We recently conducted an anonymous employee survey to determine how our employees perceive the Nadrasca Industry operation. Respondents were assisted by an independent facilitator.

Whilst not fully analysed, some of the initial results are as follows:

- 36% of our employees have been at Nadrasca for over 20 years
- 60% travel to work by public transport
- 54% are male, 46% female
- 98% say they are generally happy at work
- 98% believe the work and support provided by Nadrasca is Good or OK.

Industry Service Awards

The following service awards were presented at the Employee Meeting on 5 August 2011. Each employee was presented with a Certificate commending them on their years of service:

- 10 years: Monica Nyenbrink
- 15 years: Shane Henry
Catherine Fennessy
Paul Turner
- 20 years: Lee Finlayson
- 25 years: Darren Reid
(Certificate and gold watch)
- 30 years: Patricia Slattery
Carol Norman
- 35 years: Toni Pentland



Peter Ray presents Darren Reid with his certificate and gold watch

New ERC Representatives

Congratulations to the new Employee Representative Committee, elected in March by Nadrasca Industry employees. The 2011-2013 representatives are:

Reds team:	Trevor Sutton
Blues team:	Kim Owen
Greens team:	Peter Forsythe
Yellows team:	Patty Slattery
Purples team:	Mandy Hood
Whites team:	Cathy Fennessy

Welcome New Starters

Kerry Duligall	Nathan Harrison
Kayla Jones	Paw Lan Kaw Dei
Nick Paterra	Andrew Teunissen
John Varelas	



Gus Koedyk, Anne Clark, Mike Symon, Debbie Cochrane & Keith Kilner

Visit by Mike Symon, Federal Member for Deakin

On 12 August, Mike Symon visited our Rooks Road Head Office and was taken on a tour of Nadrasca Industry operations.

Mike said he 'enjoyed the tour of the facilities and meeting the friendly workers who make Nadrasca such a special place'... 'I believe that all Australians deserve care and support if they acquire or are born with a disability. Nadrasca is a great example of an organisation that supports both the needs and the aspirations of those with a disability.'

Peter Ray
General Manager, Nadrasca Industry

The Good Guys Nunawading are happy to support Nadrasca for the great contribution they make to our community

Home HQ
372-394 Whitehorse Road
Ph: 9264 7464



For many years, in Accommodation Services and Community Options Day Services, Nadrasca has and will continue to break down the barriers of inclusion. In writing our quality plan to help achieve this, we have implemented the following initiatives:

- Employment in March of Jodie Blobel as a part-time Facilitator of Active Support and Advocacy. Jodie has worked for many organisations, has a huge wealth of knowledge, and is a true believer in the individual's rights and responsibilities. Her role is to provide advocacy training to people who access our services.
- We have completed a survey in the areas of active support, quality management/quality framework, industry standards, Disability Act, Support Worker Role and the 16 Life Areas among Nadrasca staff, seeking their contribution and input.
- A Service-User Satisfaction Survey is in the process of being completed, using internal independent facilitators.
- A survey for Parents and Carers will also be conducted soon. To ensure you have the opportunity to be anonymous, we have commissioned an external consulting firm (Level Consulting) to implement it.

Raeoni Turner

General Manager, Nadrasca Community

Happenings at High Street

On 6 May, the Sensory Room at High Street was formally launched. Representatives of the Blackburn South Community Bank of Bendigo Bank, who contributed \$30,000 towards the Sensory Room project, attended. Our sincere thanks and appreciation go to this community-minded bank. The room has been put to great use by clients from both sites and visitors from the community.

In June, the High Street team welcomed **Tarah Chaplin** and two new clients, **Angie Kuddithamby** and **Craig Weston**. The clients especially enjoy Tarah playing guitar in the 'Noise Works' program.

Wendy Dawson is our budding artist. One of her drawings won a prize and is now being used as a label for Margaret River Wines. Congratulations Wendy!

Three students have done their placement: **Bethany Salisbury**, **Ranjeeta Ghosh** and **Helen McNichol**. Bethany and Ranjeeta are doing their Certificate IV in Disability, while



Peter Grierson Manager of Blackburn South Community Bank & Gus Koedyk at the Sensory Room Launch

Helen is doing a Masters in Social Work.

Clients **Heather Monteau**, **Rose Marie Marsh**, **Paula Hilliard**, **Steven Morbioli**, **Jane McLeod** and **Shari Moore** are volunteering at Animal Aid in Coldstream. Their job involves taking the dogs for a walk, grooming and cleaning.

Rhonda Hussey is busy organising a 'Trivia Night' (as a part of fundraising for the 'Music Theatre'), which will take place sometime later this year.

Hema Kumble

Manager Community Options

News from Witt Street

After my wonderful trip I am hard at work on the Quality Framework, Outcome Standards and the 16 Life Areas for people of all abilities. Staff are busy working to document contributions to improved individual outcomes for all in Nadrasca Community Options, and attending Personal Planning Meetings. The popular, hard-working Clients Self-Advocacy Group, begun earlier this year, has successfully recruited more people to learn about self-advocacy. The Group meets weekly and will attend monthly VALID meetings in Ringwood.

Betty Hamilton

Manager Community Options

Seniors@Nadrasca

Robyn Weston's mother passed away this month; Mrs Weston was very much respected and liked within our community. Our condolences go to Robyn and her family.

The Seniors attended an exhibition of **Anton Buehl's** photography on 29 June and were inspired to include photography in their 2012 exhibition. **Training Unlimited** has asked to display art by the seniors at their three sites. Representatives met the artists at work at Witt Street, choosing a number of pieces for display.

Paula Euthimiou

Seniors Service Manager



Farm News

Despite the recent cold and wet weather, the farmers have been very busy. A new 24,000 litre water tank has been installed in the top paddock next to the Farmers Room. Thanks to the City of Whitehorse Community Chest who contributed to its purchase. We have planted out a fruit tree garden bed in the south paddock in conjunction with the Melba Group, which donated 12 different types of fruit trees. The farm is open to everyone. Come for a visit – there's a heater in the barn!

Rodney, Glen and the Farmers



Accommodation Services

The bathroom at High Street has received an upgrade, and wardrobes and a storage cupboard were installed. Thank you to the DHS Minor Works and Equipment Grant, and the Whitehorse Charity Golf Day for making it possible for us to improve the residents' home environment. See articles on their exciting holidays overleaf.

Meghan Coulter

Accommodation Services Manager



Ocean Grove Holiday

We thoroughly enjoyed our time in Ocean Grove. We did many things, including walking on the beach, visiting the Chocolate Mill, and touring the Winchelsea Dahlia Gardens. We returned fully relaxed and were delighted by the wonderful renovations!

Emma Jennings, Darren Kilner, Catherine Wakefield and Jennifer White



Tracey's Perth Trip

The much anticipated day finally arrived and we found ourselves on the Overland train to Adelaide where we caught the Indian Pacific train and headed for Perth across the Nullarbor Plain. On the way the train stopped at Cook (one building and ten million flies) and Kalgoorlie, a large city with a huge gold mine.

We saw and did many wonderful things in WA, including visiting the Freemantle Gaol, swimming at Cottesloe Beach, tearing up and down the Swan River on a jet boat, seeing Perth from a hot air balloon and visiting the Margaret River Chocolate Factory! We returned to a renovated house which was a great way to come home. Thanks to all involved.

Tracey Clark

'Diversity in Disability'

...the 2011 Disability Sport & Recreation Festival

Friday, 2 December 2011

at Federation Square, 7am to 2pm

Register or find further information from Disability Sport and Recreation via email at info@dsr.org.au or phone 03 9473 0133.

SPORT



Congratulations to Peter Forsythe of Nadrasca Industry...

... whose team won Bronze in Softball (Division 1) at the recent Summer Games of the Special Olympics in Athens, which featured 7,500 athletes from 185 countries. 130 Australian athletes with an intellectual disability participating in 11 sports did us proud on the world stage. Peter says, 'The experience was fantastic and I wore the Aussie colours with pride.'



Mike Poole, Matthew & Gus Koedyk, Brian Hayes

Whitehorse Charity Golf Day

In March, Nadrasca again participated in the annual Whitehorse Charity Golf Day, a fundraising project of the Rotary Club of Box Hill Central. Nadrasca received a share of the money raised. Nadrasca thanks the Rotary Club of Box Hill Central and sponsors for their continued support.



Congratulations to Robbie Wright of Nadrasca Industry...

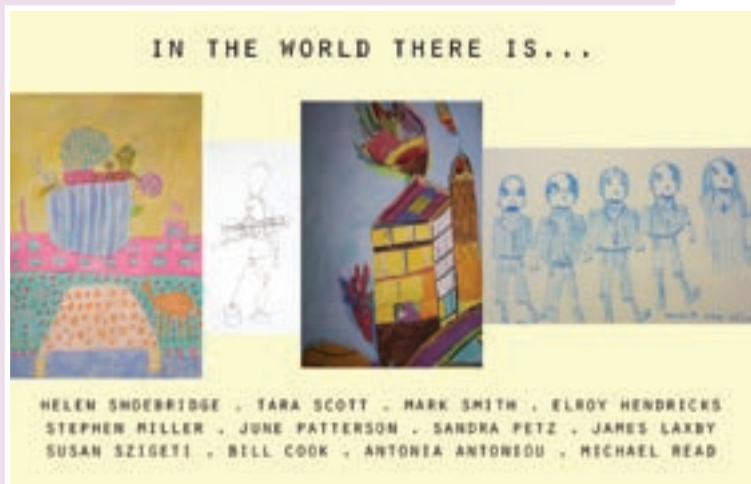
... who was recently awarded 'Sportsman of the Year 2011' by the Melbourne Inner East Region of the Special Olympics, for his outstanding contribution and dedication, his helpfulness towards other athletes, his attitude to life and his skilful bowling at both Regional and State games.

ARTS

Art Exhibitions Galore

Congratulations to Community Options clients **Suzie Szigeti, Sarah Gibson** and **Jessica Ebert** who were selected to have their work exhibited at the annual Rob McNamara Exhibition in August 2011 at the Collingwood Gallery.

Nadrasca, in conjunction with Alkira, will be holding its own exhibition of paintings and drawings by our clients who are artists in their own right. It will be held from **29 September to 12 October** at Chapel on Station Gallery (Cnr Station St & Ellingworth Pde, Box Hill). The theme is: 'In the World There is...'



Mark these dates in your diary.