



## Change is Constant

*From the Desk  
of the Executive Director*

In this edition of *Nadrasca News*, you will read about the constant changes occurring at Nadrasca; whether it's compliance, government policy, a more person-centred approach, different models of service delivery, training on new policies and procedures, traffic management, recreation & leisure, new artwork programmes, new courses/programmes or new staff, employees and people entering our services.

The saying 'constant change is best practice' sums up the purpose of a Quality Management System. It's about continuous and never-ending improvement in the way we operate, review and deliver services. The status quo is not an option in today's world; in fact, status quo essentially means you are going backwards.

We not only see change at a people and organisational level, but at a Government level. In the near future the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) will launch pilot projects around Australia and the Australian Charities and Not-For-Profits Commission (ACNC) will be introduced. Both of these will impact the way Nadrasca operates and reports.

### The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

Consultation on the NDIS design continues in the lead up to the pilot scheme on 1 July 2013, and a consultation paper has been released on the NDIS rules. The rules include criteria about eligibility and determination of a person's impairment; outline reasonable and necessary supports; and set the criteria for service providers to meet different levels of support. The Government has also released the NDIS Regulation Impact Statement. These documents and additional information are available on the NDIS website – [www.ndis.gov.au](http://www.ndis.gov.au)

### The Australian Charities and Not-For-Profits Commission (ACNC)

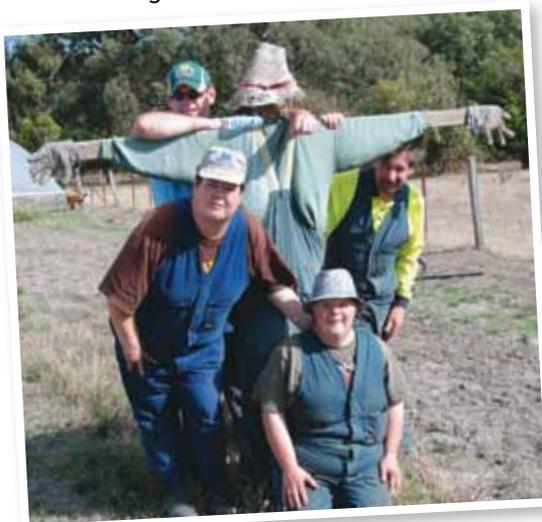
The ACNC has recently been established by the Commonwealth Government and is the independent national regulator of charities. The ACNC has been set up to achieve the following objects:

- maintain, protect and enhance public trust and confidence in the sector through increased accountability and transparency
- support and sustain a robust, vibrant, independent and innovative not-for-profit sector
- promote the reduction of unnecessary regulatory obligations on the sector

To achieve its objects, the ACNC:

- registers organisations as charities
- helps charities understand and meet their obligations through information, guidance, advice and other support
- maintains a free and searchable public register so that anyone can look up information about registered charities
- is working with state and territory governments (as well as individual federal, state and territory government agencies) to develop a 'report-once, use-often' reporting framework for charities.

The ACNC is established under section 105-5 of the ACNC Act. More information is available on their website – [www.acnc.gov.au](http://www.acnc.gov.au)



The last *Nadrasca News* editorial focussed on the Nadrasca Farm. Thank you to all those who assisted with the 'Save the Farm' petition. Further details are in the Nadrasca Community article in this newsletter.

**Gus Koedyk**  
Executive Director



Easter 2013 Issue 30

### IN THIS ISSUE

- Page 2** Nadrasca Community News – Farm News
- Page 3** Nadrasca Community News – Accommodation News – Witt Street News – High Street News – Seniors News
- Page 4** Nadrasca Industry News – People News

### Nadrasca Bookshop



Please remember the Nadrasca Bookshop located at 16 Chapel Street, Blackburn. There are lots of great books to read; or just drop in for a chat.

### New Website

We are pleased to announce the launch of our new website, which we hope you find helpful. You can access this issue of Nadrasca News on the website and there are also a number of useful links to government departments and organisations in the disability field. Check it out on [www.nadrasca.com.au](http://www.nadrasca.com.au)



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

**Thank you for your support for the two 'Save The Farm' petitions.** Prior to Christmas, Friends of the Healesville Freeway Reserve presented over 4,000 signatures to Neil Angus, MP for Forest Hill, which he tabled in Parliament. At the first 2013 sitting of Parliament, Shaun Leane, MP for Eastern Metropolitan Region, tabled the second petition. The high profile of *The Farm* has drawn wonderful support. We will keep you informed of developments. Please continue to send in petitions.

January 2013 marked 20 years since High Street changed from a school to a Day Service. The following have been there throughout that time: Vicki Mitchell, Louisa Hanna, Emma Jennings, Jane Riordan, Suzie Azzam, Sam Barry, Narelle Caddaye, Peter Hasslinger, Steve Hutchison, Jane McLeod, Steven Morbioli, Darren Paterson, Maria Psihountakis, Allan Spittle and Riechelle Turton.

On 17 January, the Nadrasca Community team participated in DHS 'One Standard' training. In a subsequent planning review, the high importance of Individual Plans was reiterated. Meghan Coulter and Jodie Blobel led great discussions on how we, as a service provider,

can create better Plans and consider a more flexible service provision. Rayce Coyte, Paulette Kelly and Maryanne Harding shared success stories of flexi-days in our new service delivery. Paula Euthimiou (Seniors Programme) shared the value of task analysis. During 2013, I will be further reviewing service delivery and facilitating a more individual approach in preparation for a National Disability Insurance Scheme.

In partnership with Nadrasca, the Oakleigh Centre's Rec-Line offers organised group, community-based activities and holidays. Rec-Line can also provide specialised individual support to persons with a disability for community-based recreation and leisure, or for holidays. Rec-Line will provide a no-obligation quote for individualised services. Contact (03) 9564 0989 – ask for Yvonne Skoda.

Yvonne has addressed Industry employees on three occasions and attended Client Committees at High Street, Wood Street and Witt Street. She will also address forums for Community Options and Residential Services. The first Parent/Carers information forum on 15 February was attended by over 40 people and there was positive feedback.

We would like to thank the following organisations for their support of Nadrasca Community:

- **FDC Construction & Fitout Pty Ltd** for donation of a hoist to Community Options, giving people with physical needs easy access to the Witt Street swimming pool. Thank you Caitlin Clarke from FDC. FDC is an Australian-wide building company. Its motto, 'It's all about cause and effect' fits beautifully with our philosophy.
- **PepsiCo Smith's Snackfood Company** provided a wonderful day on 22 November, when 19 of their staff volunteered to work on projects at Day Services sites. Projects included: cleaning up Witt Street's new evacuation area, weeding/mulching at Wood Street and filling raised garden beds at High Street, together with the Men's Shed. There was much excitement, goodwill and enjoyment.

*A reminder: If a person moves home and changes addresses, their phone number changes or their emergency contacts change, it is vital that you let us know so we can update our records accordingly.*

**Raeoni Turner**  
General Manager  
Nadrasca Community



## Farm News

It's been a hot couple of months at *The Farm* but the farmers were up for the challenge! The Farmers and a group from Melba planted pumpkins and tomatoes late last year and we have had a good harvest. The sheep have been shorn for another year, thanks to Dave the Shearer and Jarrod who came in during his holidays to get the job done.

The gardening crew participated in Movember late last year – eight people from the Farm and Witt Street grew moustaches and raised \$480 for research into men's health issues.

If you're in the area, please come and visit us – everybody is welcome at the Farm!

**The Farmers**

## Accommodation News

Over Christmas, groups of residents attended different Christmas events. A small group attended the Wagga@ Christmas Recreation Camp. Another group enjoyed the entertainment and activities at the inaugural Blackburn Football Club Christmas Luncheon on Christmas Day, organised by Dee Ryall, MP for Mitcham District. Santa travelled from Blackburn to Wagga in one afternoon! Many other residents attended Christmas functions with family or friends, and participated in holiday camps over the January period.

Thank you again to the Nadrasca Parents and Friends Group and the Mahjong Ladies for fulfilling the 'wish lists' of residents with limited family contact. A huge thank you to FDC Construction & Fitout Pty Ltd which provided each group home with a Christmas hamper (pictured right). We look forward to continuing this relationship.

Farewell and best wishes to Colleen Bloomer who has worked at Nadrasca



Accommodation for 10 years. Colleen has been a valued employee and has recently provided support to the Woodcrest Road residents. Thank you to Alicia Ellard who has supported the Glenwood Drive residents. Alicia will continue working as a casual. Best wishes to staff who have taken up further studies this year in the areas of disability and nutrition. Further study is a huge undertaking and I wish you all the very best.

Happy Easter everyone!

**Meghan Coulter**  
Accommodation Services Manager

## Witt Street News

On 17 January staff attended a joint Community Services training day with the theme, 'Quality Plans and Champion Stories'. It was great to hear good stories about people's lives. The journey towards quality Individual Plans continues, helping us provide a service which meets individual goals, dreams and aspirations.

Everyone has returned from their long holiday, is settling into their activities and catching up with friends.

We welcomed two new people in February – Sharon and Maria. We hope their stay with us will be fulfilling and adventurous.

**Betty Hamilton**  
Manager Community Options

## High Street News

After a nice, long break, everyone at High Street has settled back into their routine. We are looking forward to an exciting 2013. We said farewell to Linda Williams who is on maternity leave. Staff are busy coordinating and reviewing 'My Plans'.

Mark is accessing a 'Computer Course', while Stephanie, Shari,

Mark & Vicki have enrolled in the 'Introduction to Hospitality (Kitchen Operations)' course – both at KYM (Knox, Yarra Ranges & Maroondah). They are excited about the course and take pride in wearing their uniforms (pictured left), which make them look very professional.

**Hema Kumble**  
Manager Community Options



## Seniors News

The Seniors finished 2012 on an absolute high – we were asked to submit work to Senator Mitch Fifield, the Shadow Minister for Disabilities, Carers and the Voluntary Sector, for possible inclusion in his 2012 Christmas cards. All five paintings were accepted! Congratulations to Bernie Milne (his piece pictured below), Dare Harrex, Judith Costa, Sarah Gibson and David Rogers. Thanks to Roger Alcock of Nadrasca Industry for overseeing this project.



Some of the artists' mosaics currently exhibited at Rooks Road Head Office were sold within days of being displayed – some for far more than the original asking price. Artist Bill Daniel said he was overwhelmed with pride that people were prepared to pay for his art.



The Seniors Service Arts Exhibition in December 2012 at the Box Hill Community Arts Centre went well. Present on the opening night was the Mayor of the City of Whitehorse, Cr Andrew Munroe (pictured above), who was impressed by the quality and variety of the media exhibited. Thank you to everyone for your support and for making it a fabulous event for our artists.

**Paula Euthimiou**  
Seniors Service Manager

# Nadrasca Industry News

## Nadrasca Industry Service Awards

On 21 December 2012, Mr Keith Kilner, Deputy Chairman of the Board of Directors, awarded a number of Nadrasca Industry Service Awards to the following employees:

### 35 Years (Certificate)

Elizabeth Sherar

### 25 Years (Certificate and watch)

Narelle Copeland    Cameron McAleese

### 20 Years (Certificate)

Jason McKenzie    Raymond Fung

### 10 Years (Certificate)

John Enderby    Kerry Doorey

## Christmas

The Nadrasca Industry Christmas function was held at the Manhattan Hotel on 14 December. It was a great night of dining and dancing. The last working day of the year included a catered Christmas lunch for all employees and staff at Rooks Road. As in previous years, the day was supported by PepsiCo Smith's Snackfood Company and the ever-popular Nadrasca Santa distributed gifts to all attendees.

## Nadrasca Business

The business climate in Victoria is still quite dim. Nadrasca Industry continues to work hard to provide quality services to our existing and new customers. With the ongoing support and hard work of Nadrasca Industry Employees, Staff, Parents and Carers, we will ensure our customers' continued patronage during the challenging times ahead.

## New Employees

A big welcome to all new employees and those doing work experience with Nadrasca Industry. These are exciting times for employment at Nadrasca Industry, with a more innovative approach to employment terms, conditions and job options.

## Road Safety Campaign

During 2012 Nadrasca Industry undertook a Road Safety training programme. During the course of the year, regular Safety Meetings were held with Nadrasca Industry employees. The programme concentrated on safe pedestrian practice when interacting with general road traffic. An inaugural award was



made to **Matthew Cutting** (pictured above) as 'The Most Improved Road Safety Focused Employee'.

## Internal Traffic Management

We have recently completed a restructuring of the Nadrasca Industry work environment. This restructure brings industry best practice to Nadrasca, and has separated all heavy material-handling traffic from pedestrian traffic to reduce the risk of potential injury.

**Chris Bourke**  
General Manager  
Nadrasca Industry



## PEOPLE NEWS

### VALID 'Having a Say' Conference (Geelong)

On 6-8 February, people from the High Street and the Witt Street Self-Advocacy Group represented their peers at this conference. **Rayce** and **Agnes** supported **Jarrold**, **Caitlyn**, **Amara**, **Gary**, **Vicki** and **Clifford**. They had fun taking part in lots of different activities and meeting new people. They will share the information gained, with their peers.

### Congratulations to:

- **Karen Brindley** and **Maryanne Weir** on 20 years of service with Nadrasca
- **Mark Di Stefano** and **Mandy Ellis** on 25 years of service and receiving a watch to commemorate this wonderful milestone.
- **Maryanne Harding** on the birth of her first grandson, **Patrick William**
- **Maureen Pausic** on the birth of her granddaughter, **Tayla Jade**
- **Bev Gatehouse** on the birth of her granddaughter, **Jasmine**.
- **Daniel Read** on his engagement to **Claire Baker**.



### Triple Celebrations and Congratulations to Sharon Morse

On 1-2 December 2012, **Sharon Morse** played tennis in the Victorian Tennis Championships for players with an intellectual disability, held at Kooyong. Sharon won the Ladies Singles event and was runner-up in the Ladies Double with her partner, Fiona from Victoria.

On 23-26 January 2013, Sharon played in the Australian Tennis Championships for players with an intellectual disability, held at Melbourne Park. Sharon was runner-up in the Ladies Singles and won the Ladies Doubles with her partner, Kelley from NSW. What an achievement! Congratulations to Sharon, who also turned 50 on 7 January, 2013 – what a way to celebrate this milestone! Sharon is pictured above receiving her trophy from Wally Masur.



Nadrasca News is a regular publication.

Contributions or ideas for future editions are welcome. Please contact Dina Tanphanich on 03 8872 5715.

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