



Nadrasca Farm remains at Morack Road

*From the Desk
of the Executive Director*

In September the Hon. Terry Mulder MP, Minister for Public Transport and Roads, announced that VicRoads and Nadrasca have renewed and signed a long term 10-year License Agreement for the Nadrasca Farm to remain at its current location in Morack Road in Vermont South.

Negotiations and compromise were required to achieve this outcome. Consequently the vacant land on the north side of the property has been excluded from the new lease. All the area that includes infrastructure and buildings is part of the new lease, including the Sensory Garden at the western edge of the property.

This decision is the result of a lengthy consultation process in relation to the use and future use of the area known as the Healesville Freeway Reserve.

Nadrasca would like to express its gratitude to the Minister and VicRoads for this announcement.

Nadrasca would also like to thank all its supporters and those who signed the petition, including but not limited to, the Nadrasca Community including parents and carers, the Friends of the Healesville Freeway Reserve, local politicians, the media, the local councillors for the Morack Ward, other disability service providers, community

organisations, corporate sponsors, our local neighbours at Morack Road, and the general community.

Many of these people signed the Petition to *Save the Farm*, wrote letters to the editor of the local papers and/or the daily newspapers or attended the Open Day in support of the Farm.

The Nadrasca Farm will allow the people we support and the people supported by other organisations that access the Farm regularly, the opportunity to enjoy the experience of an open space in the middle of suburbia; a site and environment that is rarely seen or experienced in Melbourne today.

The decision will also relieve the angst and anxiety of the people who access the Farm daily, as it is such an important part of their lives. It will help improve the quality of their lives, as well as allowing Nadrasca to fulfil its purpose 'To Establish and Develop a Range of Services for People with a Disability'.

Key dates for 2014 (particularly leave and RDO dates) are enclosed in this Nadrasca News for 2014. As another year draws to a close, Nadrasca's Board and Management would like to wish you Season's Greetings and best wishes for 2014.

Gus Koedyk
Executive Director



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Holiday Dates

The Rooks Road Head Office is closed from midday Monday, 23rd December 2013 to Wednesday 1st January 2014 inclusive.

Community Options (Witt Street, High Street & Seniors) is closed from midday Monday, 23rd December 2013 to Friday, 17th January 2014 inclusive.

Nadrasca Industry is closed from Monday, 23rd December 2013 to Friday 10th January 2014 inclusive. (Christmas Early Return Crew only returns on Monday, 6th January 2014).



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2013 will go down in Nadrasca Community's history as a year full of challenges and success.

I was at a 'Belonging Matters' conference recently where I purchased a bookmark with a painting on it by Scott Nye (a local Warrandyte artist) and a quote: "The poorest person in the world is not the person without money – it's the person without a dream". Wow, what a saying!

We often talk about dreams and our aspirations. So what do we really mean? It is working with Oakleigh's Rec-Line to create the possibility of travelling to Austria to see where the Sound of Music was made. It is a young woman planning and creating the best possible celebration for her 40th Birthday. It is working together to 'Save the Farm'. It is working full-time and getting your Learner's Permit to drive a car. It is learning to travel independently to a course in Belgrave and gaining the confidence to travel home from the Royal Horticultural Show. Sometimes dreams occur quickly and sometimes we need to really plan and develop our dreams, and sometimes we need to delve into what our dreams mean. What is your dream?

Yvonne Skoda from Oakleigh's Rec-Line provided the possibility for Recreation and Leisure dreams to occur. If you haven't yet registered to receive the Oakleigh Rec-Line pamphlet, I urge you to do so. They create an amazing array of different activities and holidays. Yvonne's number is 9564 0989 and her email is yskoda@oakleighcentre.org

In 2013 we organised two Parent Respite forums which explored the following issues: taking care of yourself; making plans for the future; and developing strategies and the confidence to negotiate services and advocate effectively. These forums have been well received, with positive feedback. We are in the process of organising another forum in 2014 and will keep you informed.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy and safe festive season and to thank everyone who helped Nadrasca Community to achieve so much this year.

Raeoni Turner
General Manager
Nadrasca Community



Accommodation News

On 9th September, Christine Wilson went to the premiere of *The House Cleaner*, a film by Tim Spanos (pictured here with Christine). Tim's films have a following here within Australia and overseas. Christine had a small part in the film, which was shown at The Melbourne Underground Film Festival and won the Critics Award. *The House Cleaner* will be available on DVD in the near future. Christine co-starred with Carla Bonner from *Neighbours*, Raylene Peace and Maxine Kilbingaitis from the 70's *Prisoner* series. Christine had a great night at the cast party before the screening; she loved "mixing with the stars" as she puts it. So watch out Hollywood, Christine Wilson is coming your way!

Meghan Coulter
Manager, Accommodation Services

Seniors News

Staff have always endeavoured to meet and support the needs of the resident artists, assisting them to achieve their objectives, as well as promoting their talent.

Bernie Milne requested staff to purchase a large canvas to enable him to paint his contemporary theme of a tree (pictured below). Bernie plans on hanging his painting in the hallway of his home, so that all can admire and enjoy it. Congratulations to Bernie's empowerment through expression.



Respect, mutual admiration and caring for one another are the key factors in nurturing each other. On 11th August, the Seniors Service held a Memorial Day for Margaret Harvey. Margaret's sisters and her peers met to celebrate the wonderful memories

shared by all. Margaret touched many hearts and will be remembered with great love and joy. Sue Harvey and Joan Bull (pictured right) planted an olive tree (signifying peace) in memory of their sister.

Paula Euthimiou
Manager,
Seniors Service





High Street News

We welcomed **Antoinette Gordijn** and **Stephen Alexander** to the team at High Street in September. They are settling in very well, getting to know the people. Antoinette has been in Accommodation Services with DHS for 22 years and this is her first stint at Day services. Stephen has worked in this field for 17 years and had a break for 10 years working in IT.

David Weston now works full-time at High Street while **Rayce Coyte** has moved to Witt Street full-time.

Melanie Kelly, who was with us for 4 years, has resigned and will be working as a Social Support Coordinator for Wesley Mission.

Shari Moore is turning 40, with a big party on 25th October.

David Weston and his friend **Freddie Taylor** put on a concert on 11th October (pictured above). Everyone had a great time listening and dancing to music, followed by a lovely BBQ lunch.

Congratulations to **Paula Hilliard** on the recent marriage of her daughter **Kyla** to **Ashley**. A proud Paula gave the bride away.

Hema Kumble
Manager
Community Options



From left: **Janette MacDonald**, **Andrea Marchetti**, **Mandy Ellis**, **Antonia Antoniou**, **Elroy Hendricks**, **June Patterson** and **Sandra Petz**.

Witt Street News

The combined Nadrasca and Alkira (Alrassa) Annual Art Exhibition went off really well under the guidance and support of **Lucy** and **Rayce**. Congratulations to all the artists involved (see photo above). It was wonderful to see the artists enjoy the exhibition and the opening night, which the local MP **Neil Angus** attended. Seven of the artists have since sold their paintings. The next exhibition of Nadrasca artists will be at the Art Ability Exhibition opening, in early December, as part of the International Day for People with Disability.

There have been changes for some people in regard to their key support people and they are settling into their new groups. People have been busy with lots of activities and visits to places – the Melbourne Show, live theatre shows and Self-Advocacy meetings. The Drama Group put on a live multicultural performance at the September monthly meeting, which featured a traditional Sri Lankan song.

A group of people have started to do preparation work for Certificate I in Workplace Education each Wednesday at Rooks Road. People's plans have also been updated and reviewed. Our Christmas party will be held at the Lilydale International on 19th December.

Have a very happy and safe Christmas and here's to a great 2014.

Betty Hamilton
Manager, Community Options

Farm News

On 10th September, Nadrasca signed a new 10-year lease with VicRoads to stay at the Morack Road site. This is a great relief to all of us at The Farm as we can get on with all of the projects that have been on hold for the past 18 months. We have rotary-hoed the North paddock in preparation for planting of summer vegetables, installed new gates at the entrance to the top paddock and purchased a new 6x3 toilet block to service the ever-expanding crew and groups accessing The Farm.

On a sad note, one of our sheep (Apple) died earlier this month and is missed by all of us here.

If you're in the area, come down and visit us; everybody is welcome at The Farm.

The Farmers

Service Awards

Nadrasca Industry Service Awards are presented periodically during the year to people to recognise their years of service. The list of individuals and their extended period of service is outstanding, and shows the consistency and commitment Nadrasca employees have to their most valuable work. Congratulations to the following people on their respective years of service:

| | |
|-------------------|----------|
| Vincent Deany | 35 years |
| Greg Brown | 35 years |
| Merryn Ware | 35 years |
| Pamela Martin | 30 years |
| Anthony Maassen | 20 years |
| Robyn Poole | 20 years |
| Jonathan Stewart | 20 years |
| Kathryn Enderby | 10 years |
| Helen Campbell | 10 years |
| Jacinta Miot | 10 years |
| Emmalene Hescroff | 10 years |
| Vaughan Abbott | 10 years |



The new graduates of Certificate I in Workplace Education – (L-R) Kerry Forsythe, Dean Pietz, Ricky Everard, Christopher Holdsworth, Melissa Lock-Berry, Emily O'Brien and Cody Roughton-Priestley. Absent from photo: Cyle Sweet, Adam Johnson and Terence Russell.

Employee Training

Over the last six months, Nadrasca employees have enjoyed significant training and educational growth:

- Two employees successfully obtained their Forklift Licences;
- Ten employees completed their Certificate I in Workplace Education (see photo below left);
- Ten employees underwent Drivers Licence Learners Permit Training – our employees achieved a 70% pass rate, which is a fantastic result;
- Twenty employees commenced their Certificate I in Workplace Education.



External Traffic Management (Rooks Road)

Nadrasca's Rooks Road facility has completed a change in external traffic management. These changes are driven by improved mobility, assisted access to the site, improved parking, and improved pedestrian safety.

The changes to the external traffic management are well signposted and very obvious on entry to the site. Please

ensure that whilst onsite at Rooks Road, signage and traffic rules are observed.

Traffic safety and patience is the highest priority, especially at pick up time; where up to 170 people are attempting to exit the facility at the same time.



Stop Press

Nadrasca Industry has recently acquired a modern 4-colour Shinohara printing press, which will greatly enhance and expedite the numerous and diverse printing projects Nadrasca is commissioned to supply to the market. The person responsible for the procurement, installation and ongoing management of this beautiful machine is our proud master printer, **Peter Stevenson**. It is also planned that the acquisition of this machine will be part of Nadrasca's developing RTO, offering an advanced training programme to supported employees.

Chris Bourke
General Manager
Nadrasca Industry



PEOPLE NEWS

Vale

Narelle Caddaye sadly passed away on 31st October, after her battle with cancer. Narelle was one of the original people who transferred across to Nadrasca over 21 years ago, when the 18 plus programme was established, at High Street. Narelle was a very gentle person and will be greatly missed by all her friends and staff at Nadrasca. We extend our condolences to her family and her support staff at her home.

Farewell Pretty Boy

After 13 happy years together, **Dale McDonald** has had to say a tearful farewell to her budgie Pretty Boy. He will be sadly missed.

Introducing...

Juliet Haines, the Quality and OH&S Coordinator, is the newest staff member at Nadrasca. Juliet comes to us with a wealth of knowledge in this area and has already settled into her new role. You may see her darting across all our sites reviewing all our procedures and policies in line with our best practice and accreditation process. Juliet recently organised the installation of the new car park and Traffic Management Plan at Rooks Road.



We welcome **Rachel Zhang** to the Nadrasca Rooks Road Office. She came to us with high praise from her previous employer, a Queensland-based not-for-profit community organisation with services similar to ours. Rachel has very quickly become an integral member of the Administration Team. She stated that her reason for moving to Melbourne was for a "change of weather", and true to form, Melbourne has been able to deliver!