



NadrascaNews

Dignity. Diversity. Community. Industry.

September 2014 – Issue 35



Pictured (left) are some of the Certificate I in Work Education participants at the Farm:

(L-R): Jordan Green, Danielle Phillips, Brandon Stoer, Peter Forsythe and Teghan Darmanin-Roberts.

Nadrasca Training Services

There is great excitement in the Training Room!

The first intake of Nadrasca/Ashton College trainees has successfully completed their Certificate I in Work Education. It was great to see the personal growth in the participants, their enthusiasm in attending classes and their hunger to go on to further learning. Well done to all trainees.

Our Friday class (which began their learning experience in January) had a successful and enjoyable vocational taster experience at the Farm where they planted seedlings which had started out as seeds planted by our recent

graduates. It was a very different working experience to that at Nadrasca Industry.

It is always lovely to see all our students arriving bright and early to class, keen to begin a new day of learning.

The much-sought-after Learner Permit Licence training programme was suggested by the people Nadrasca supports. A total of 13 people eagerly participated in the five-day programme. On 18 July everyone went for their Learner test and eight were successful. Some others were very close, missing out by only one or two points! Everyone had a go, learnt a great deal and can try again.

Nadrasca Industry at Risk

From the Desk of the Executive Director:

There have been issues surrounding the Business Services Wage Assessment Tool (BSWAT) used by Australian Disability Enterprises (ADEs) in recent times, which could have an impact on Nadrasca Industry in the future. Please read about it in the attached flyer and we encourage you to access the website www.ade.org.au for further information and to show your support.



Thank You

We would like to say a big 'Thank You' to everyone who generously responded to our Annual Appeal this year.

Diary Date

Nadrasca AGM

**Tuesday
23 September
2014**
at 3.00pm
52-62 Rooks Rd,
Nunawading



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Tel 9873 1111
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A Disability Service Organisation
ABN 90 125 235 047 ACN 125 235 047

Nadrasca Community News

Over the past year, Bronwyn Jones, a speech pathologist with the Eastern Region Communication Access Network, has been helping some Nadrasca staff become Communication Champions. Areas covered included:

- Social Networks
- Communication Rights/Human Rights Advocacy
- Supported Decision-Making
- Positive Behaviour Support
- Sensory Assessment and Creating Optimum Environments
- Personal Gesture Dictionaries and Keyword Signing
- Social Stories
- Assessment of Communication Needs (including Tools and Aids)
- Strategies for Stimulating Communication and Increased Interaction

When you visit any of the Community sites, you will notice a very strong commitment to communication systems. If you would like to develop your communication skills or receive help with a communication system, please contact your Key Worker. Communication is a vital component in the transition to an individual service in preparation for the NDIS.

If you are interested in living independently and participating in the Uniting Care Harrison 'Independent Living' course (20 weeks' duration), please contact either Susan Dobbie, Nadrasca Outreach Worker, on 9872 3922 or Raeoni on 9873 1111.

Raeoni Turner

General Manager, Nadrasca Community



(L-R) Rotarian Stan Harper, President Bill Marsh and Gus Koedyk

Farm News

It has been a cold couple of months at the Farm, but work has gone full steam ahead. The top paddock has been modified to allow tractor access to the back of the packing shed, and a new sheep pen built so the sheep can stay out of the weather.

Mazenod College students, as part of their Community Connections programme, have helped us clear the back of the packing shed, and we can now better use this area to store timber and tractor implements. A big 'thank you' to the students.

The Rotary Club of Forest Hill has kindly donated funds towards the installation of solar power panels on the roof of the barn. We have a 2KW system with a 5KW inverter installed to allow a future upgrade. We extend our sincere thanks to the Rotary Club of Forest Hill.

The Farmers



Julianne and Cary. Right: a sample of the cards.

My Life, My Future

Early in the year we introduced ourselves to our friendly shop neighbours in Nunawading, meeting Julianne, who works at *Posies and Pressies*. We asked if she would be interested in selling some of our cards. Julianne was very excited about the idea. Over the next few days we collected leaves and flowers from our backyard and the park next door. We then pressed the leaves and flowers and left them for a week. Then we purchased materials, made our 'nature' cards and laid them out to dry. When the cards were finished, Cary, Mitch and Sharon presented our cards to Julianne on everyone's behalf. Julianne loved our cards and appreciated our hard work. Our cards are now selling at *Posies and Pressies* on Station Street, Nunawading. Feel free to pop in and see our great work and maybe buy a few cards or flowers!

Maryanne Weir

*Coordinator My Life, My Future
with Maria Cascanis and Cary Andrews*

Accommodation News

James Pattison, Rosemarie Marsh and Ruth Kendall have had some major health concerns in the recent past. We offer them our best and look forward to their return to good health very soon. Thank you to all staff and residents who have shared their thoughts and prayers for their recovery.

Roger and Sarah have been participating in Nadrasca's Certificate I in Work Education course. Sarah has completed the course and Roger will finish later this year. Congratulations, Sarah, on your achievement. Keep up the good work, Roger and we look forward to your success.

Most of the residents have enjoyed their mid-year break, participating in local and city events and activities. We wish Christine of Mt Dandenong well on her holiday to Bali, and Matt to San Francisco and Disneyland. At Glenwood, Andrew, Brian and Chris have been busy this football season attending local and AFL games, watching their teams defeat one another! They are also trying some new activities – in discos, exercise programmes and African drumming.

I would like to acknowledge all Accommodation staff for attending, participating in and implementing the new Client Information Management System. It has been a pleasure to see your team effort and to hear your positive feedback.

Congratulations to Alessandra Prisco on her 25 years with Nadrasca. She was presented with a gold watch recently, in front of her peers.

Meghan Coulter

Manager Accommodation Services

High Street News

Exciting things have been occurring at High Street Community Options. The Advocacy Committee hosted the 'Biggest Morning Tea' on 26 May, raising \$150 for Cancer Research. Congratulations to the Committee and to all participants. The Advocacy Committee also invited Zoe Broadway from VALID to talk on 'Rights & Responsibilities', which everyone enjoyed. The Committee's picture is in the latest VALID newsletter.



Shuoxian and Deanna (pictured above) are now working at Nadrasca Industry on Mondays for half a day with support from Heather Monteau. Shuoxian is saving the money he is earning to buy an iPad.

Louisa came up with the idea of having a Chill Out Zone where people can have 'Me Time'. They can listen to music or just sit there until they want to join their chosen activity. Louisa spoke to Barry Phillips from Men's Shed and had a sign made for the room. People liked the idea and have started using it.

Year 9 students from Our Lady of Sion College (as part of their Curriculum) have done a week's 'Community Services Work' at High Street. Karla, Olivia & Dominique enjoyed their placement.

In April we farewelled Jane Riordan, Jane McLeod and Richard Saikaly who have left Nadrasca.

Hema Kumble
Manager, Community Options

Witt Street News

A variety of activities at Witt Street, including pamphlet deliveries and car washing, have given people the opportunity to exercise and also earn money.

The Alrassa Art Group held their annual exhibition at the Box Hill Community Art Centre from 8-13 July. The opening night was well attended and the artists discussed their work with the community.

A group of people also attended the live show 'Stardust' at the Drum Theatre. 'Stardust' features the story and music of Natalie and Nat King Cole.

In June we enjoyed a very successful day working alongside a group of students from Mazenod College. We had a major de-clutter day, getting rid of a lot of junk from the large shed. We weeded and mulched the front garden, and planted small shrubs. The day would not have been such a success without the teamwork of staff, students and the people we support. We are now planning another Working Bee on 5 October 2014.

Two students from Our Lady of Sion College in Box Hill are doing their Year 9 Community Services with us.

The Advocacy Group does fantastic work and attends the monthly VALID meetings in Ringwood. The Group organised a forum at Witt Street with a presentation by the Education and Engagement Team from the Victorian Electoral Commission, explaining the responsibilities of people living with a disability to enrol and vote. A range of resources were available. If you would like further information on the supports available at polling booths on Election Day, contact the Advocacy Group at Witt Street on 9872 3922.

Michelle Kayne has resigned after four years as Administration Assistant. We wish Michelle all the best for the future.

Betty Hamilton
Manager, Community Options

Seniors News

The Seniors Service Arts Programme's bi-Annual Exhibition on 19-25 May was an exciting and busy time. A strong show of support ensured that the exhibition was a great success. The artists were thrilled to share their beautiful and imaginative artwork with family, friends and residential staff. The artists received great praise and encouragement, and some pieces were quickly sold.

We are currently working on a sculpture project (in conjunction with the Farm) called *My Life, My Future*. It is anticipated that this will be completed by November and we look forward to its official unveiling.

We welcome Samantha Baroni to the Seniors Service. Samantha has an Arts background and has already shared many ideas with us.

Congratulations to David Rogers who was elected Chairman of the OH&S Committee for a second term. Congratulations to Bernie Milne on the purchase of a new scooter in a metallic blue, which he aptly named 'Albert'.

Paula Euthimiou
Manager, Seniors Service



The artists at the Exhibition



Disability: A Jigsaw Puzzle (David Rogers)



New Truck

Nadrasca Industry took delivery of a 10 pallet Tautliner truck during April – the initial step in a transport market opportunity. Nadrasca plans to offer transport services to its existing customer base and then expand into the broader transport market. License and safety training will be immediately offered to Supported Employees, with opportunity for Certificate Level training in Transport/Logistics through Nadrasca Training Services.

Certificate II in Warehousing

Nadrasca is offering Certificate II in Warehousing to complement its state-of-the-art supply chain/warehouse facility. Ten employees who successfully completed their Certificate I in Work Education last year are enrolled in the

course. Currently their studies include: using product knowledge to complete work operations; checking and assessing operational capacities of equipment; scanning devices; warehouse safety; and forklift safety.

Service Awards

Congratulations to 10 employees who recently reached significant milestones and received Service Awards!

10 Years	Jocelyn Binding Nicholas Marsh John Soles
15 Years	Andrew Blight
20 Years	Roland Douglas
30 Years	Meredith Armitage Helen Baker Christine Box Carol Pappin
35 Years	Paul Sheridan

New Production Manager



Jeyadeva Retnam commenced as Nadrasca Industry's Production Manager in February 2014. Jeya is a qualified Mechanical Engineer with

extensive production management experience. Jeya's skills and commitment to Nadrasca's vision will further the organisation's business and vocational opportunities. Welcome to the team, Jeya.

Special Olympics

A group of Nadrasca Industry employees took part in the Special Olympics on 5-6 July. They all received medals and/or ribbons for team and individual ten pin bowling. Congratulations to our special 'Special Olympics' team!



Back: Jarome Hart, Catherine Fennessy and Peter Forsythe. Front: Kerrie Forsythe, Kim Owen, Jenny Chen and Robbie Wright.

Chris Bourke
General Manager
Nadrasca Industry



PEOPLE NEWS



Growing Old 'Dis'gracefully

Roland Douglas turned 60 in May and celebrated with a ride up through the Mount Dandenong hills – what a way to celebrate your 60th!

Whitehorse Charity Golf Day (WCGD)

In March Nadrasca fielded three teams in the WCGD. There were 80 players on the day and 120 people attended the Charity Auction Dinner. Nadrasca is one of four beneficiaries along with

Alkira, The Box Hill Institute and Taralye. Nadrasca received a donation of \$4,000 from the organisers, the Rotary Club of Box Hill Central. We extend to them our sincere thanks.



Gus and Roger turn 10

Gus Koedyk and Roger Alcock both started at Nadrasca on 1 July 2004 and on 1 July 2014 completed 10 years of service. Gus has been involved with Nadrasca for 22 years, starting in 1992 when he joined the then Committee of Management.

Farewell

Debbie Cochrane began work on 7 February 1977 and retired on 14 March 2014 after nearly 37 years of service as a valued member of Nadrasca Industry. We bade her farewell at a special morning tea. We wish Debbie all the best in her next life adventure.

Vale

On 4 April, Ann Parrott passed away after a short illness. Ann had attended Witt Street since 1983 and her father Dennis was one of the first members of Nadrasca's Committee of Management in 1967. Our condolences are extended to Ann's family on the loss of their daughter and sister. Ann was always such a happy person.

Debra Broughton passed away at Edward Street Nursing Home on 10 May after a long struggle with Alzheimer's, Parkinson's Disease and epilepsy. Debra commenced work at Nadrasca Industry aged 16 in July 1984. In early 2011, Debra's health deteriorated to the point where she could no longer work or live independently. She returned home and attended the Witt Street Day Service. As her condition deteriorated further, Debra was admitted to the Edward Street Nursing Home. In 2005 Debra's parents, Brian and Betty, published *Letting Go* – the story of Debbie, Down Syndrome and her life. We extend our condolences to Debra's parents and family.