



See page 3 for a display of Carinya's creativity. Penny Kritikos stands beside her artwork, on show at Bundoora Homestead.

Carinya Community Newsletter

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Kelson Annexe Renovation

The Kelson Annexe renovation has been in planning for over 12 months and we are very excited to be getting close to commencement. Originally planned as an isolated but essential accessible bathroom renovation, the plans have now resulted in a full building renovation in the vicinity of \$200,000.

The essential renovation will ensure the building is fully equipped for participants of all abilities and means a greater number of participants can use the building each day. We still require critical funding from individuals, trust and foundations.

The renovation plans are finished and a tender for the works has commenced. Once the tender process is complete, submissions to council will occur. We would all like the project to start during 2016.

Many of you have generously donated to the renovation fund. We truly thank you for your support. Without the support of so many generous individuals, this project would not have been possible. We would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you for your generosity. We would also like to thank the following Trusts, Foundations and businesses for their support of the project: **Carinya Foundation, Collier Charitable Fund, Moreland Glass, Nelson Alexander Foundation, The Heating and Cooling Company, The Holy Trinity Op Shop, The Marian & E.H Flack Trust, The William Angliss Charitable Fund and Total Trade Management.**



The Nelson Alexander Coburg Team presenting a cheque to Debbie Mitchell and Philippa Hunt of Carinya Society.

Reflection

From the CEO

Welcome to the first edition of the Carinya Community.

In line with our 3 year Strategic Plan, the team have been preparing for the implementation of the National Disability Insurance Scheme in the NEMA region which commenced in July this year.

Although the rollout may continue to change as we go along, Carinya is ready for the transition with nearly one third of our day service participants moving to the scheme.

The significance of this change cannot be underestimated and will continue to impact Carinya during the 3 year roll out period. We have upgraded our participant database Carelink + to manage structural changes to our funding and our staff have been working very closely with families to ensure they feel comfortable and confident in working through the NDIS assessment process. We have invested heavily in educating our staff about the changes and how they are vital to the

success of the implementation and Carinya’s sustainability. Together everyone continues to strengthen our systems and processes and this has enabled us to maintain our DHHS and ISO certification with a clean bill of health for the next 12 months.

Carinya is a fantastic service that delivers tailored support to our participants and residents and the feedback from our families earlier this year is testament to this. So enjoy our first edition of Carinya Community, a newsletter which celebrates our great service, our wonderful participants, families and staff as well as our kind local community and loyal supporters.



CEO Debbie Mitchell

Debbie Mitchell

Chief Executive Officer

Day Program

The Lost Dogs Home Program

Every second Tuesday for the last 4 years, participants at Carinya Society have been volunteering at The Lost Dogs Home in North Melbourne.

“It is fantastic to see each individual participant’s face light up when they see the dogs and cats,” comments Fiona Carter, Carinya Instructor.

This wonderful partnership enables Carinya participants to be involved with volunteering in the local community. Together with their Carinya Instructor, participants walk to Coburg train station, and travel by train to the Lost Dogs Home.

The program provides some sensory time, the opportunity to be a part of the community and the opportunity to give animals in need some much needed love and attention. Carinya participants are able to walk them within the courtyard area, feed treats and provide lots of love and care. The program is invaluable for so many and a definite highlight for the participants involved.

Bruce Morrison caring for a beautiful dog at the Lost Dogs Home.



In Focus

Presenting Carinya's Creativity

Participants of Carinya's Friday Art class are officially exhibitors at the renowned Bundoora Homestead Art Salon.

Running from 27 August through to 2 October, the works of 5 creative participants are being displayed alongside hundreds of local artists at the exhibition.

Ann Vassallo, the art programs instructor is thrilled to be able to assist the budding artists achieve their goals. There are very few limitations placed on participants in the art class. They can choose from mediums such as mosaics, painting, drawing – anything that helps them to express themselves creatively.

The unique work of Penny, Mariza, Antonella, Neville and David are the result of weeks of hard work and dedication. Each Friday the team meets and works on their piece. The joy in the room is immeasurable. Each participant is excited to see the end result, and what they have achieved after weeks or often months of hard work is amazing. Ann says "each week you can feel the excitement in the room. When they arrive at art class, they set themselves up straight away and get straight to work. They are an amazing group of people, who love what they are doing. Sometimes they are serious, concentrating on their pieces and other times they are a jovial group. All the time it is a pleasure to be able to assist them."

Ann is there for guidance, and also help them achieve their goals. Ann found out about the Art Salon through an email. The

group would love to organise their own art exhibition, and Ann wanted to find a space for them to do this. Unfortunately, budget would not allow the group the space alone, but the opportunity arose for their best works to be submitted.

The participants' works needed to be framed. Without the budget to be able to have this done professionally, Ann set to work sourcing second hand frames from Op Shops such as the Salvos in Niddrie. Some needed to be repaired, so Ann did this herself, determined that each piece should have the best possible chance to shine.

The result is wonderful, and we would encourage you to visit the Darebin Art Salon at Bundoora Homestead Art Centre before 2 October to show your support.

If you would like to make a difference in the art program, we are always seeking framing, materials, canvas, pens, paints, pencils and other mediums. Please contact our Fundraising Manager Philippa Hunt on pip.hunt@carinyasociety.org.au or phone (03) 9354 3337 for more information.

Artists with their finished pieces



Mariza Berretta



Antonella Calvano



Neville Duncan



David Balzarín



Penny Kritikos



Worksafe corporate volunteers making a difference alongside with Carinya Staff.

Volunteering

We were thrilled to have a wonderful team from Worksafe work alongside the staff at Carinya to paint the entire administration buildings walls. Without the hardworking Worksafe team, we could not have completed this much needed refresh.

We have many different opportunities for volunteering at Carinya. Whether that be through Workplace Volunteering or as an individual we would love to have you on board.

If you would like to make a difference and impact the lives of many, please contact us on (03) 9354 3337 or email admin@carinyasociety.org.au for more information.

What's New

Community Fundraising:

There are so many ways that you can help us make a difference at Carinya. Holding your own fundraiser is a great way to get together with friends, and support Carinya Society. For example, have a girls/boys night in. Ask your friends to bring a dish and donate what money would have been spent on a night out. Enter a fun run and ask friends and family to sponsor you. Organise a casual clothes day at your school or work for a gold coin donation.

If this sounds interesting please email our Fundraising Manager Pip Hunt: Pip.hunt@carinyasociety.org.au for more information and to obtain a letter to fundraise for Carinya.

Performing Arts:

Recently Carinya Society participants have had the opportunity to participate in a Performing Arts group. Every Monday, a group of 14 participants meet at Carinya to express themselves through the Performing Arts. They build their skills in acting, expression and working together. The group will be performing at the Public Meeting in October and also at their end of year function.

Client Committee:

In July this year our Carinya Client Committee was formed. Comprising of Carinya participants, the team meets weekly to discuss important and relevant issues relating to services within Carinya. The committee provides information and feedback to Carinya Management from a participants perspective.



Client committee: Toni Thatcher, Melanie Drew and Hayley McGann. Absent: Hayley Wilkes and Caitlin Caruso.

Get Social

Have you checked out our Facebook page? Don't forget to like Carinya Society's official Facebook page to stay up to date with the latest news and events.

www.facebook.com/carinyasociety



Upcoming Events

Darebin Art Salon

Date: August 27 - October 2

Venue: Bundoora Homestead Arts Centre
7-27 Snake Gully Drive,
Bundoora

Displaying artwork by some of Carinya's participants

Carinya Public Meeting

Date: Tuesday 11 October

Time: 1.15pm

Venue: Barry Waters Hall
10 Bellevue St, Coburg

Catering by Carinya's Catering participants
RSVP: Cheryle on 03 9354 3337 before Wednesday 5 October.

Parent and Carer Meeting

Date: Monday 17 October

Time: 10.30am

Venue: 10 Bellevue St, Coburg