



Santa came to town.
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Carinya Community Newsletter

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Creativity takes courage

Over the last few months we have been raising funds to assist our artists and photographers at Carinya Society. Because of your support this Christmas we can give participants the best chance at success and encourage that sense of accomplishment they feel when they see their work hanging on display. Your generous gifts this Christmas will mean that we can all look forward to framing artwork with pride and displaying the works at many of our up and coming events.

Participation and engagement in community based art exhibitions is core to Carinya's mission to connect and empower our participants as valuable members of their community.

Thank you for empowering Carinya participants creativity! We look forward to showing you the results!



CREATIVITY TAKES COURAGE

Carinya Society Art Program

- HENRI MATISSE

Donate
Now



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Reflection

From the CEO

As we welcome in the New Year, I reflect on both the challenges and opportunities we face at Carinya. The past 6 months have been very exciting with Carinya participating in and hosting several community events.

Now we are bracing for the coming 6 months in which the majority of our participants will transition to the NDIS.

Our focus is to ensure our parents and carers are supported throughout this process and that we transition individuals with some ease and efficiency.

Whilst we know many aspects of the transition are out of our control, we encourage families to keep us informed about each step in the process as the NDIS planning process unveils. Please if you have any questions or concerns about your transition, call the office and one of the managers will do their best to assist you.

We look forward to another great year at Carinya.

Warm regards

Chief Executive Officer



CEO Debbie Mitchell

2017

The year that was 2017



Carinya is proud to work alongside over 118 adults with disabilities.

During 2017 we experienced many highlights including: The Carinya Exclusive Diversity Art Exhibition and Opening Night at Darebin Arts and Entertainment Centre, the launch of our new website and digital communications, featuring on mainstream media - Channel 9 News with the success of the Ride Together Program, the opening of our new Kelson Annexe Art Space including kitchen and accessible bathroom renovations and successfully transitioning around one third of participants into the NDIS.

When we asked some of our participants the best part of their year, we were heartened to hear the mix of responses. Thanks to your support, along with the hard work of our staff and Board, Carinya will continue to be a leading service provider for adults with disabilities in 2018.

In Focus

Moreland Carols by the Lake

Carinya Society were invited to be part of the 2017 Annual Moreland Carols by the Lake on Saturday 9 December. Thanks partly to a grant provided by the City of Moreland, we were able to design and display with pride our new Carinya marquee. We were thrilled to be invited to take part in the event, and we were overwhelmed by the generosity of our amazing Carinya Community. Cakes, slices and biscuits continued to arrive throughout the day prior. Thanks to your support we raised more than \$700, which was put straight back into programs and services at Carinya. A special thank you to everyone who baked, helped to set up and pack down, sell cakes and supported us on the day.



A very festive season

On Friday 15 December, we hosted our Annual Christmas BBQ in conjunction with Coburg Rotary. This is a special relationship, going back more than 40 years and one that we all value greatly. A huge thank you to Coburg Rotary Club. This wonderful Annual Christmas BBQ would not be possible without you, and is a date that is eagerly anticipated by all.



The driving forces of Carinya



Everyday our dedicated team of Carinya Bus Drivers travel nearly 300 kilometres between them from Heidelberg Heights to Keilor Park to transport more than 50 Carinya Participants from their homes to Carinya's Day Service and then back to their homes at the end of the day. The team includes (left to right) John, Husen, Stan, Bev and Julie. (Absent Bernie.)

Ranging between 6 months and 20 years of service to Carinya, this is an experienced and dedicated team.

Bus driver Julie says, "Being a driver at Carinya is a very rewarding job. It allows me to get to know the participants on a personal level, as well as connecting, supporting and understanding their families."

What's New Swinging in style

As part of the ongoing Sensory Garden Upgrade, and with special thanks to Coburg Rotary Club, we are proudly making full use of our new swinging chair. To compliment the tree seat in the sensory garden, the swinging chair is complete with soft fall surfacing as well as absorbing shock pad and premium synthetic grass. We are very grateful to everyone who helped make this possible.



NDIS Information session

On Monday 22 January, we held an information session at Carinya Society to help provide information to participants, families and carers of individuals who are going to be funded under the NDIS.

Presented by Valid, the session was well attended and very beneficial. If you would like further information, please contact Skye Hardman on 03 9354 3337.

Upcoming Events

Parent and Carer Meetings:

Date: Monday 26 March
Date: Monday 28 May
Date: Monday 23 July

Time: 10.30am
Venue: 10 Bellevue Street, Coburg

Please RSVP to Cheryle Ph: 9354 3337
or email admin@carinyasociety.org.au