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Tony Negri OAM (Chairman)

Peter Fischer

Sally Harrop

Andrea Heffernan

Peter Phillips

Paul Hardy-Smith

David Wansbrough

Paul Williams

Management Team

Gail Foster

Chief Executive Officer

Nicole Williams

Manager Client Support

Lisa Wilson

Manager Human Resources

Lisa Owen

Coordinator Community Support

Donna Hope

Coordinator – Residential

Suzanne Fary

Coordinator – Residential

Sally Gibbins

Coordinator – Residential

Lauren Carew

Coordinator – Outreach

Deanne Ray

Coordinator - Behavioural Support

Annette Sipthorpe

Coordinator – Quality

Cassandra Quinlan

Family Liaison Worker

Bernadette Adams

Community Nurse

Adam Watson

O,H & S Manager

Lynn Price

Asset & Property Manager

FROM THE CEO ...

On Friday 21st June, From Vision to Reality The Kindilan Story 1972 to 2012, was launched by the Hon Martin Dixon, Member for Nepean. We could not have wished for a better day, the brilliant sun shining through the vines made the day and the setting perfect to launch this eagerly anticipated history of Kindilan. After almost two years of hard work the book was printed and ready to be revealed.

Everyone in attendance at this important event had a wonderful afternoon catching up with old friends and reminiscing over the book.

To ensure that everyone can enjoy the genial atmosphere of the day I have decided to include excerpts from my speech, along with photographs taken on the day.

"This book, that has been written to acknowledge the history of Kindilan; has been such an inspiring process, to learn of the struggles and the achievements of a small group of parents, determined to create what they needed for their families, when there was little else available to them. It has certainly put the changes of today into perspective.

You will all be aware that agreement has been reached and the legislation to implement the NDIS now known as Disabilitycare has passed through Parliament. On 29th March this year the NDIS, became a reality for all people with a disability. Who would have believed, when this small group of parents first met in 1970, that 40 short years later the Disability Sector would go from parents having to raise the money to create the services they needed, to Disabilitycare, where all people with a significant and permanent disability will have a lifetime of certainty as well as choice and control over the care and support they require.

As we embrace the inevitable changes this will bring, it is fitting we reflect on those early years and thank the people that laid the very solid foundations that Kindilan has been built on.

Throughout the early years there was one man who pushed on and never gave up, with the support of other parents, but particularly Alan Steele, it was Tony Negri who created the Kindilan of today. His vision and his dedication has been the backbone of the organisation for more than 40 years. Tony continues to this day as Chairman of the Board, he continues to be the driving force behind organisational decision making. It was Tony who led that group of families, travelled world-wide looking for appropriate models of service and negotiated – at times begged – for funding to ensure the dream became a reality. It is fitting that this book is dedicated to him and his many years of hard work.

The book tells the story of the many struggles they faced to establish a small residential school for their children, there were disagreements along the way over land and staffing, concerns about how to raise the capital and a fight for recognition and funding. In spite of all this they established a sound business model that saw the organisation invest wisely and grow. The strong foundations that we continue to benefit from; were established right from the

beginning. We cannot celebrate the history of Kindilan without acknowledging Peter Brookhouse; he is the man who steered the ship so admirably for 30 of those 40 years. Peter arrived in 1980 to find a small organisation in crisis. The committee had achieved their goal of purchasing land and building the school, but it continued to be largely unfunded, there were issues with staffing and the majority of cottages remained ready but empty.

It was Peter who streamlined the management systems and created the vision for the future. Within two years of his appointment the Board were already looking forward and purchasing houses in the community to increase the capacity of the organisation. The partnership between Tony and Peter has been enduring and we have all reaped the benefit from it.

We thank the authors Dr Fay Woodhouse and Ms Kylie Hughes, and also Andrea Heffernan who managed the project on behalf of the Board. Andrea put in many, many hours to make sure the book came to fruition.

Fay and Kylie commenced the project with nothing but a few boxes of dusty old letters and minutes of meetings; somehow they have produced a truly enthralling story of fortitude and hard work by a few very determined people, who all worked hard to create the organisation we see today. We thank them both for their ability to extract the sentiment from those old papers and bring the story to life. Thanks must also go to those who told their story to Fay and Kylie; it is your memories that have given the story such heart.

The Kindilan School Society as it was initially known is now trading as 'focus' Individualised Support Services, it is a large and diverse service and is no doubt very different from the small service the that those original families envisaged, however throughout the growth and many changes to legislation, the organisation has always remained true to the initial goals of the founding members, that is : 'to provide a range of quality services to those members of our community who have a disability.'

The person with a disability always has been and continues to be central to everything we do, this story reflects how the organisation has achieved that over 40 years."

The book is available at the Dromana Office or the Opportunity Shop for \$25.00

Gail Foster
Chief Executive Officer

The Kindilan Story 1972 to 2012

From
Vision
to
Reality



Tony and Hon Martin Dixon

The Kindilan Story 1972 to 2012



The Minister launches the book



Peter Brookhouse

From
Vision
to
Reality



Families
catching up



Terry Guest MC for the Day

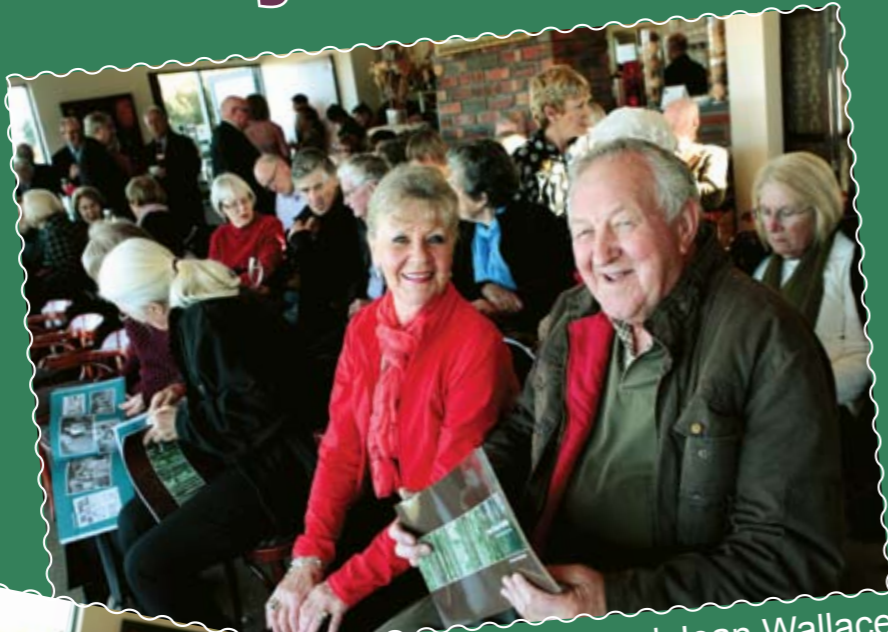


Andrea Heffernan

The Kindilan Story 1972 to 2012



Kylie Hughes



Fred and Joan Wallace



**From
Vision
to
Reality**



Fay Woodhouse

Tony Negri



Tony Negri and Peter Hardy-Smith

AROUND THE HOUSES

BALCOMBE

Everyone from Balcombe decided they would like to go to Melbourne to visit the Aquarium.

We boarded the bus right outside the house and went to Frankston, where we jumped on a train. Bruce loves to be on a train and watch the world go by.

We got off the train at Flinders St and wandered down to South Bank for lunch. All enjoyed a stroll along The Yarra River to the aquarium.



We saw Penguins first which everyone liked especially Bruce and Marian. There was a special section to view a Sea Horse, that was spectacular. Catherine really liked this section. Julia loved the frogs, crabs and lizards. Marcus and Chris were in awe when they saw the huge tank full of sharks, massive fish and stingrays.

Everyone agreed it was a fabulous afternoon and decided it would be nice to come back later in the year after they have completed the renovations at The Melbourne Aquarium.



BALCOMBE HOUSE

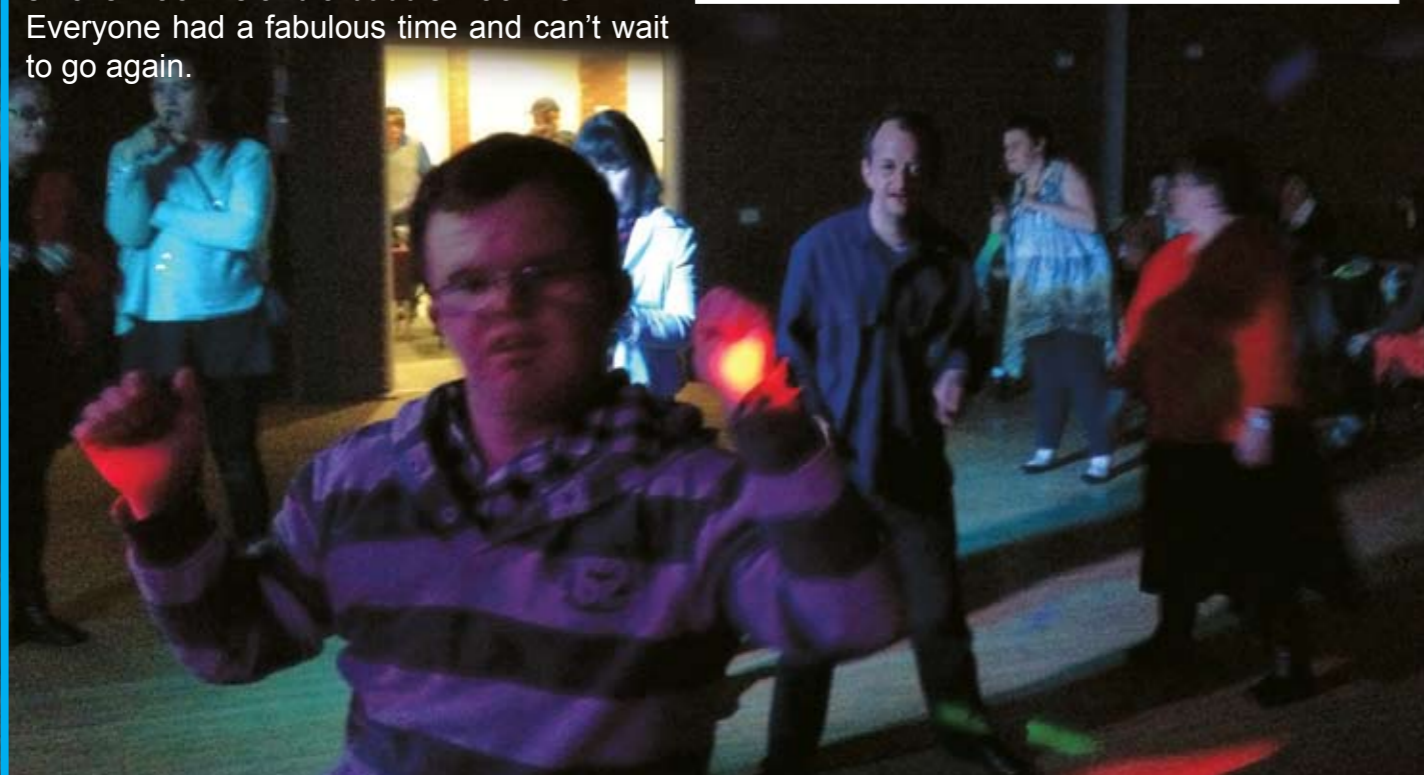
BALCOMBE WESLEY DISCO

Everyone from Balcombe came home from work on Friday and got spruced up to go the Wesley disco at Patterson Lakes.

First stop was Bungower to pick up Stephen, as he enjoys music, dancing and flashing lights, we invited him to come along.

Everyone had a ball and danced and sang to most of the songs, Bruce especially liked the songs by John Farnham and ABBA. Christopher enjoyed chatting to the other patrons at the Disco. Julia danced and laughed and had a great time. Marian and Catherine enjoyed the dancing. They had great lights, a smoke machine and a bubble machine.

Everyone had a fabulous time and can't wait to go again.



BONDI HOUSE

BONDI HOUSE gets some CULTURE

The guys at Bondi house have discovered the world of Comedy, taking advantage of the recent Melbourne Comedy Festival and the joy it has to offer.

Cade went to see the comedy gala show at Frankston Cultural Centre, Cade says he laughed all the way through the whole show. It was a fantastic night and Cade could not pick a favorite as all the performers were so funny.

Alistair headed off to see David Strassman showing at the Frankston Cultural Centre. Alistair loves a bit of comedy and found this comedian hilarious, earlier he had experienced the wonderful comedic talents of Steven K Amos also at



DINNER AT BALCOMBE HOUSE

We had a busy weekend at Balcombe. Marcus invited Mary over for dinner and Catherine invited Tim over as well.

Catherine, Tim, Marcus and Mary enjoyed a glass of wine outside before dinner, and chatted and laughed together. Everyone enjoyed a yummy slow cooked lamb curry with naan bread. Everyone helped with the clearing up, and then watched the football.

What a great evening.

The Bruce was very excited on Sunday as he was invited out to lunch with Fiona. He was picked up at 12 and they went to the Dava for lunch, they had a fabulous few hours together chatting and catching up.



BONDI HOUSE gets some CULTURE continued

Frankston Cultural Centre.

The new found interest in Comedy has stimulated us to look out for more shows and we are presenting information at client meetings and have joined several mailing lists.

Renee headed out to see Cinderella, an old fairy tale that she thoroughly enjoyed. Renee related well to the story and was a wonderful link to her past she didn't stop talking about it for some time afterwards.

Megan headed out to the production of "Food" she really enjoyed this play and would love to go and see more she appreciated the humor and pointed out that there was a spunky male lead.

Next time she pointed out she would like to indulge in a glass of wine during interval

David doesn't really like to go out to shows; but made an effort and headed off to the trots meeting his Uncle and an old friend at Cranbourne Race Track. They are both trainers and David had a great experience, unfortunately neither of the horses won and it was good David's not a gambling man because he could have lost a packet.

AROUND THE HOUSES



CHEERING THE DROMANA TIGERS AND COLLINGWOOD TO VICTORY

Ben has enjoyed going to two games of football in the last month. The first was local footy, Dromana Tigers v Rye at Dromana Oval.

The Tigers have very kindly offer free membership to a number of people who currently live at 'focus', including Ben. On the day, the atmosphere at the ground was wonderful and Ben joined in whole heartedly with cheers for the home team who had a resounding victory. Go the Tigers!



The next game was on a bigger stage – the home of football – the MCG. Collingwood v Melbourne. A block-buster for the Queen's birthday. Ben cheered for the Pies with devotion and vigour and enjoyed the atmosphere created by the 50,000+ people in attendance. Collingwood won the game and Ben left the ground extremely pleased with what he had experienced. Go the Pies!

BERRY HOUSE

We have had a very busy couple of months at Berry House.

Simon and Deb have become members of Dromana football club. They are working with the volunteers there selling raffle tickets at all of the home games.

Mandy has been shopping with her key worker

Bianca
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wardrobe of clothes that she is enjoying showing off around the place.

We have had feature walls painted in Alex, Rob, Angela, Mark and Mandy's rooms. The next project on the agenda is a wall unit for Simon which he wants to paint navy blue and red. That was great fun, we went to Masters for everyone to be able to choose their colors and the bedrooms look great. A couple of the residents have also been out to choose new linen to match.

Rob enjoys our monthly Pub Lunch. This is an outing that we do especially for him. He loves to go for a counter meal and a beer with the fellas.

We had a fantastic trip to Philip Island on the long weekend where Bruce in particular really enjoyed having fish and chips for lunch



AROUND THE HOUSES

CHITTY CHITTY BANG BANG

In April, Jeanette and Robert from Hartigan Court attended the musical "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang" at Her Majesty's Theatre in Melbourne.

Robert was thrilled to see this musical production live on stage, as he had loved the movie version for many years.

On arrival, we began the day by having lunch at the Theatre cafe and Jeanette and Robert carefully chose what they wanted to eat from the delicious menu.

After lunch, we entered the Theatre and Robert and Jeanette decided on purchasing a souvenir program. The Foyer was packed with hundreds of people but we eventually made our way to our great seats, which gave us a magnificent close view of the stage.

The music and songs put a big smile on Robert's face and Jeanette was entranced by all the costumes and special effects. The highlight was when that magical car lifted and hovered above the stage..... Robert's eyes suggested that it was one of the most special moments that he would remember for the rest of his life. Jeanette was amazed and was busy evaluating on just how they got that car to fly?!

On the journey back, Robert fell asleep but.....he was clutching on the souvenir program with a vice like grip!



BERRY HOUSE continued

on the beachfront. The weather could not have been better for this time of the year.

We have had lots of activities on offer including, a pub lunch, a trip to the city, a trip to Belgrave Lake Park, a trip to St Kilda Marina, a trip to Emerald to feed the cockies and a visit to the zoo.

Mark, Mandy, Deb and Simon attended the Wesley Disco on Friday night. Mark won a trophy for the best dancer and even though it was a little trophy, he was delighted. We have lots of things planned for the next couple of months and as we have a new camera there will be many more photos!

Alex has continued with his cooking

programme which has been a great success.

Angela went out on Sunday and brought a cube for storage in her room. Everyone's rooms are now quite individual and personalized. The residents are all very happy with the choices they have made.





'focus' ART GROUP

The 'focus' art group has been doing some amazing work. They have been making hand painted costumes for the big production; you will all be amazed when you see their work up in lights on the stage.

The group has finished a special mosaic wall hanging to be presented to our local MP Martin Dixon who will be launching 'From Vision to Reality' The History of Kindilan 1972-2012. When the weather improves we will be having a stall at the Mornington market to sell a



huge variety of our crafts including hand made jewellery, hand painted silk scarves, mosaic topped coffee tables, framed paintings, hand marbled paper and cards. Tie dyed T shirts and sarongs and much more.

If you cannot wait until the market stall, come on over to 16 Beach Street and have a look to see if there is something you want. All are welcome.



GARDEN PROJECT



RED HILL GARDEN PROJECT

The first crop of lettuce, snow peas, radish, beet root, cauliflower, broccoli, parsley and coriander has now been sown in the garden and it is looking great!

The Bunnings team have done a tremendous job kick starting the project, with generous use of their time and sharing of their knowledge and skills. Bunnings supplied all the sleepers and the seeds that are the beginning of our first crops. Program participants sowed these alongside the Bunnings crew in May. John and Brian of the maintenance division have done a wonderful job of preparing and constructing the site. Peter and Michael have been the first to really get involved, making good use of the new watering cans to help the seedlings get a start. It is hoped that their enthusiasm will



be catching and more people will start to get involved as the project and our food grows.

The shed next to the garden had been disused for several years but it has now undergone a clean up and has once again become a working site and a great facility that will serve many purposes. It will hold all the garden equipment, as well as serving as a site for art, healthy cooking of produce grown in the garden, and of course, tea and coffee to warm the gardeners after their hard work.

Our aim is for this area to become a bright, productive and creative area. As the project grows, we are encouraging more and more people to become involved and enjoy this facility and learn new skills.

Our dream is for the area to be a positive influence for everyone and a space where all can learn, relax and enjoy, and flourish as the garden itself does.

OH&S COMMITTEE

The OHS Committee at 'focus' currently has six Health and Safety Representatives (HSR) that represent six designated work groups across all areas of the organisation. There are also five employer representatives.

The committee members are:

Andy Zammit (HSR)

Donna Hope (Employer Rep)

Colleen McFarlane (HSR)

Suzanne Fary (Employer Rep)

Karen Moore (HSR)

Lisa Owen (Employer Rep)

Lauren Carew (Employer Rep)

Lynn Price (HSR; Administration)

John Scott (HSR; Maintenance)

Sue Fairclough (Safety Officer)

Adam Watson (OHS Manager)

HSRs play a vital role to ensure employees are represented appropriately, and can offer valuable input into decisions and policies that promote safer work practices over time by using their working knowledge of specific equipment and work environments.

In the OHS Regulations (2007) the two key concepts for HSRs are to "provide for the involvement of workers and their representatives in health and safety decisions" and for "outlining a process for how health and safety issues must be resolved".

Having completed the relevant WorkSafe approved 5-day training course, the employee understands the scope, powers and responsibilities of the HSR can include inspection of a workplace following a serious incident, accompanying a WorkSafe inspector during a visit, establishing a health and safety interview with the employer, seeking assistance about OHS issues from people within the organisation, or from external bodies such as WorkSafe, representing a broad group of workers (when necessary), issuing a provisional improvement notice and directing work to stop.

In consultation with the Committee, the OHS Department has recently developed an improved system of data tracking for internal near miss and injury reports. Early in 2013 a tool was developed to improve the quality of report submissions and was introduced to all employees responsible for the provision of direct support, as well as Team Leaders, ancillary staff and Coordinators.

The OHS Committee has also taken action on a wide range of issues from hazard management, information distribution, carrying out worksite inspections, reviewing general repair work and publishing a range of safe work procedures. The safe work procedures initiative is ongoing.

In the past year, I have been impressed with the level of input and commitment from the members on the OHS Committee, and I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge their great work.

Although it is a voluntary role, all HSRs find some value too by being on the OHS Committee. I encourage you all to find out more about what HSRs do by identifying someone you know on the list above and talking to them about what it is like to be a HSR, the steps to take if you would like to know more about becoming a HSR, or even what sorts of OHS issues you would like raised at the Committee meetings.

Adam Watson
OHS Manager

NEWS FROM KINGSLEY

It's been another busy, fun filled term with many exciting things happening.

Dolphins group has now proudly taken the new room name of Kingsley. Our new title is focused on the discoveries, the exploration and achievements of Mary Henrietta Kingsley, London, died 1900, infamous for travels and explorations of West and Central Africa, and nursing during the Boer War.

Many of us at Kingsley are really getting into and enjoying our new music program with Scott on Wednesday mornings, much singing and dancing and lots of fun is had by all.



This is followed by our cooking program with some delicious and healthy new menus.

Sailing unfortunately has come to an end for this summer season, all at Kingsley thoroughly enjoy our day out at the Mornington Pier with some great sailing skills being achieved. We

forward to recommencing later in the year.

In the mean time Kingsley Group will be busy with some new

and exciting programs being introduced in the new term like our new Art (Redhill) and Garden Art programs.



BALLOON FOOTBALL LEAGUE KICKS GOALS

This term our Balloon Football League has had the privilege of working with 23 Year 11 VCAL students from Mt Eliza Secondary College. The students are participating in the Scope Young Ambassadors Program and have volunteered their time to assist us each Thursday with our matches.



This has been a great opportunity for the students to get to know and work alongside people with a disability and it has raised their awareness of the day to day challenges often faced. It has also allowed the students to gain confidence, build new relationships and assist our players with their goal of playing a sport.

Our Balloon Football League currently has two teams competing in it. There is a team from 'focus' which consists of Linda, Olivia, Flynn, Dale, Luke, Geoff G, Sarah and Jessica. The other team is from Konnections with players coming from both their Rosebud and Mornington day program sites. All of the students and players took part in a skills training session earlier in the term so that everyone could learn the Balloon Football rules, values of the game and court positions. Both teams are very enthusiast and competitive and hope to one day see more teams competing in our League.

The Mt Eliza Secondary College students have been invaluable and have assisted us to take our Balloon Football League to the next level. Their involvement has allowed our players the opportunity to play the game at a high standard each week, increase their knowledge of the game, fine tune their skills and be part

of a team. Each week the students support our players 1:1 on court by pushing their wheelchairs during the game, umpiring and scoring.

We look forward to continuing this fantastic relationship with Mt Eliza Secondary College. We are confident that both the students and players have gained a lot out of working together and above all have had a lot of fun!



ASCOT SIGN SHOT

Well the production is almost here, and we have all been working very hard to get everything complete over here at 16 Beach!! Here we have Robbie, Andrew and Bruce helping Dave make a frame for our giant Ascot sign which is going to be in one of the scenes in the show!! You should come on down and see it for real.

Thanks boys!! Great job!!



RABBITS

We would like to welcome Casper and Houdini the rabbits as our newest members to our Dromana 'focus' family! These fury little fellas have settled in quite well and are happy to call Dromana their home. We would like to thank everyone for their creative name entries into our rabbit naming competition and have gone for these two names as they feel rather fitting. Casper the friendly rabbit and Houdini our little escape artist.



WAR MEMORIAL MUSEUM

Some of the guys at 16 Beach St went on an excursion to the old War Memorial Museum at the Cerberus Navel Base. We were given a personal tour and everyone seemed very interested in the stories the tour guide was telling us about our fighting fathers and the history of the local community. It was so popular Jenny wants us to go for a return visit.

BIG MORNING TEA

On Friday 24th of May we held a BIG Afternoon Tea to support the Cancer Councils "Big Morning Tea". We used this day as an excuse to wear our pajamas to work as well as having an afternoon tea. All the staff and clients at Dromana got into the act of wearing their pajamas and a lot of laughter ensued; as there were some really interesting pajama's on display. The great news was that between the McAlister site who spearheaded the initiative, Dromana and Red Hill we raised over \$420 at the time of this article. Unfortunately no one wanted to have a photo taken in their pajamas in case they got into the wrong hands so you will just have to imagine the sights we saw.

THE MCALISTER REPORT

It has been a busy few months at McAlister. **'focus'** was proud to take part in The Australia's Biggest Morning (and Afternoon) Tea, which is a Cancer Council initiative to raise funds for cancer research and patient support. McAlister kicked it off in grand style, wearing PJs for the day and enjoying a cuppa and sweet treats. They started the ball rolling on an impressive \$420 raised by donations from participants across the whole of Community Support over two days of fun and feasting. The team at McAlister were helped along in their goal with generous donations from RNJ Cakes in Beach Street, Frankston; The Cheesecake Shop in Karingal; and Baker's Delight in Beach Street, Frankston. A huge thank you for all your support!

It has not been all morning teas! We have also been very busy getting ready for the **'focus'** Production and practicing for our moment in the limelight. Thank you to Bunnings in Frankston, and Lynn in particular, for the donation of mirrors for our props.

The garden has been growing splendidly, with a lot of hard work from the McAlister group and with the chooks on bug-catching duty. We were happy to have several groups from the other Community Support sites visit and see how the garden was set up and is being managed, and we are very proud that our efforts and ideas have helped spark an enthusiasm for gardening at other sites. The produce has been incorporated into cooking and any peelings are going back into the compost or as feed for the chickens. It has been wonderful to see our efforts translate directly into great food we have made right here in our kitchen. Good, growing, giving stuff!

FLINDERS NEWS

At the end of this very cold and wet term, the Flinders group, formally known as The Ship, went on a train trip.

The whole group, except for Michael, who was the smart one and stayed out of the cold, traveled from Stony Point to Baxter on the Stony Point line. Everyone was very excited. Brett was greeting everyone with a "good morning" as we got on the train. Everyone one sat in silence and enjoyed the scenery along the line.

A bus met the group at the Baxter shops, and we then went to The Briars to cook a sausage sizzle. Although it was drizzling, everyone was very keen for some warm food in their belly.

There were smiles all round for the rest of the day.

Wishing everyone a safe holiday.



FRIDAY'S HEALTHY COOKING

Friday mornings are so much fun in Dromana with the amazing cooking group. The members of the group are Jenny, Melissa, Amanda C, Holly and Marcus W, Julie Dennis and Hollie Smith.

Every week they sit around the table and discuss what they would like to cook. Once we have decided what lovely healthy meal we are going to tackle we write up a shopping list and it is off to the shops.

Amanda and Holly love to be the shoppers looking for bargains. As soon as the shoppers return it is time for the fun to start. Everyone participates in some way when it comes to the food preparation, cooking and cleaning

although the cleaning up is the least favourite task.

You should smell the food coming out of the kitchen, everyone who visits remarks how wonderful it all smells and they wish they could join in. Every week the group is finding more challenging and tasty meals to try. Some of the recipes the group has tried this term are: Spiced pumpkin soup with garlic Turkish bread, savory dill and salmon muffins, Asian stir fry with coconut rice and chicken and avocado gnocchi.

Wait until you see what we prepare next term!



NEWS FROM LAWSON GROUP.(STARFISH)

This term we welcome Camille to our group. Camille appears to have enjoyed being in Lawson Group.

We have been involved in Meals On Wheels, Swimming at Casey Race, Music with Stuart at Hastings, Sailing, Horse Riding, Balloon Football, Cooking and Yoga.

Next term the group has the opportunity to participate in Well Being and Pottery. The group will also be learning to use iPads. Over the last couple of months Olivia has been very unwell. On behalf of Flynn, Maria, Linda, Mark, Bruce, Elliot, Camille, Saraha, Michael, Karina, Jacqui and Mei Ling, we wish Livvy a speedy recovery and look forward to Olivia returning in Term 3.



COOLART EXHIBITION AT THE RYE WINE LOUNGE

The Outreach Respite Art Group artists worked hard to prepare and complete of their art works for the exhibition opening night Friday 17th May held at the Rye Wine Lounge.

Among the art works exhibited and sold were paintings, prints, sculptures on canvas, paint and coloured plaster on wood, mixed media on canvas, clay sculpture, timber sculpture, mosaic art and free standing mixed media, to name a few.

Thanks to all the artists, friends and families for making it a very successful and enjoyable evening, and to those who purchased art on the night. There was much lively conversation about the art displayed and people got to meet the artists and learn what their art means to them.

An inspiring evening for all who attended.



YMCA CAMP (MT EVELYN)

The time had come again for Toby to catch up with all his friends and enjoy a weekend of fun and interactive activities on another YMCA camp at Mount Evelyn. When picked up, Toby was his usual chirpy self and couldn't wait to get to the camp, so we set off. We arrived a little before the bus did, but helped set up, but when the bus did arrive, Toby was ecstatic to see all the familiar campers and leaders alike to pile out of the bus. That night was all about catching up and making our fuzzy bags, and finally watching the camp themed movie of 'The Cat in the Hat' before we all retired to bed.

The next day, Saturday, held a whole variety of fun activities in store. After breakfast we painted eggs, played basketball, saw the pet snake at the camp, did some art and craft and wrote our fuzzies. After lunch, Toby braved it, and went on the giant swing. He was hesitant at first, but once realized how much fun it was, you couldn't wipe the smile off his face if you tried. After dinner we had the Fire of Friendship ritual, and inducted all the new campers and leaders in a special ceremony. That night we held the disco and dress up party. Toby had a great time dancing, and being silly with all the dress ups, choosing a pirates eye patch, hat and scarf to be his costume for the night.

On the final day, Sunday, we enjoyed another morning full of sports and making some final fuzzies, before going to the flying fox. Again, Toby had the time of his life flying up and down the flying fox. After lunch it was time to pack the car, and bid the rest of the camp farewell until next time.

ELIZABETH AND THE DISCO

For the past three months on a Friday night Elizabeth has been attending the Wesley Disco Inferno at Patterson Lakes Community Centre.

She has been having an absolute ball at these outings, and as one of her greatest passions is dancing she spends the whole two hours dancing non stop!

The previous month Elizabeth was joined by Elly, Leanne, Jacqui and Nicole who all had a wonderful time.

At the disco last week Elizabeth was presented with a trophy and a prize for being the best dancer of the night! She was very proud.

She is looking forward to returning once again next month to dance the night away!



WORKING IN DISABILITY

The views of a Team leader

In the 20 years I have worked in the disability industry I have seen many changes, most of them improvements, some, not so much. The good and long over due improvements include client choice in all aspects of care and daily life choices, the not so thought out, "one size fits all" change is the same, client choice. This is a concept that can enrich people's lives, giving them opportunities that they have previously not been afforded. One person's interpretation of a fulfilling, enriched life can vary greatly between people therefore will not suit all walks of life. Clients have been placed under the one disability umbrella, using person centred approach where as all clients irrespective of disability, are often forced to go to a placement, live with others, or socialise with people they don't necessarily have anything in common with. The point is pushed due to political correctness, boxes to tick to complete the required paperwork and because "this is





better for them". I think legislation should be a little more flexible obviously with clear boundaries and guidelines, but allowing for each person to be individual and live life the way they want not someone else's perception on what makes for a good fulfilling life.

That being said I have had the honour and privilege to meet and care for some extraordinary people who have enriched my life simply by having met them. The courage, strength and determination of some

clients I have cared for have at times left me awestruck and remind me why I do what I do.

Being a carer is not something you do for the money, it's a select few who have the natural ability to display empathy, guidance and ongoing commitments to those you support, not a career path taken by those who wish to become rich. I can not envision doing anything else and am forever grateful that I chose to take the career path into disability, although some days you do ask yourself have I done the right thing, but 20 years on I guess the good far out ways the bad. Disability care is more of a calling than a career path and this will become apparent as you pave your way in disability or any caring role.

Knowing you have made a small difference, on a daily basis to a person life is a reward on its own that money can't buy.

'From Vision to Reality'

The Kindilan Story 1972 to 2012

Books for Sale

\$25.00