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FROM THE CEO ...

Welcome to another exciting edition of the **focus** newsletter. Despite the cooler weather people have certainly been out and about enjoying themselves.

I hope that by now all of our families have been contacted, at some level, to discuss their NDIS Plan. I know the **focus Support Planners** have been working incredibly hard to support as many families as possible to develop a good plan that will meet their family's needs. We know it is a new and different experience for everyone, but please don't hesitate to invite us to support you through this major change. The **focus Support Planners** have all done a lot of work to learn how to ask for exactly what you will need.

I know that some families now have their plans in place and we are able to claim their support funds from the NDIA, however not all families are in this position yet; and as a result we, at **focus**, are working in two completely different systems. It is difficult and I am asking for your patience over the next few months while we transition everyone to the NDIS.

Please be understanding of our staff, we will make mistakes and things may not be entirely correct immediately, like all of you, we too are still learning what we need to do.

If everyone could grant us a little latitude for the rest of this year, by the New Year, when everyone is in the NDIS, we will be able to take some time to see what is working well and what still has to change.

This is a significant change that requires new systems and new ways of doing everything, what we need more than anything is for all our families to be understanding of the immense task that we are undertaking over the next few months, if things are not right let us know and we will fix them.

On another note, the **focus** Family Satisfaction Survey will once again be conducted later this year, through a telephone interview with every family. We are scheduled to begin around September but we will send everyone a letter explaining what to do and when it will happen, closer to the date.

The **focus Support Planners** can be contacted on (03) 5989 4113. They are available to assist every family through the NDIS process.

Gail Foster
Chief Executive Officer

AROUND THE HOUSES



ASH HOUSE

BRETT TURNS 52

Brett enjoyed having happy birthday sung to him and then he enjoyed some cake.



DINNER AT THE MORNINGTON RACECOURSE

Bruce and Fiona had dinner together at the Mornington Racecourse to celebrate Fiona's 55th birthday.



HELPING AT HOME

Fiona enjoys helping out with tasks around the home, Fiona recently helped staff prepare dinner for everyone.



WEEKEND OUTING TO LOCAL PARK

John, Brett and Fiona all enjoyed an outing to the Craige Road Park in Mornington.



AROUND THE HOUSES

BALCOMBE

BALCOMBE ACTIVITIES

It has been another very busy few months at Balcombe, we enjoyed a Sunday morning brunch before visiting Karingal Cinema to see the Peter Rabbit Movie

Julia and Marian visited local Café after completing the weekly Grocery shopping.

We were all very excited to celebrate the Royal wedding. Crowns were made and party food was enjoyed, as we all eagerly watched Harry marry Meghan.

Congratulations to Marcus who achieved his 9th Kyu red and white belt at Kenshin Karate class during his program with The Factory. Well Done Marcus!!!



AROUND THE HOUSES



BANKSIA

VACUUMING BANKSIA LOUNGE

Brendan decides to lend a hand, vacuuming the lounge room at Banksia House. Good job Brendan.



COOKING

Enthusiastic about tonight's dinner, Brendan decided to get involved and help out with the cooking at Banksia House. His housemates were certainly pretty happy with his efforts.



BERRY HOUSE

THE OLIVE TREE

Simon has been watering the same olive tree at Dromana Community Garden regularly over the last six months. See how much it has grown. Good job Simon!



AROUND THE HOUSES

CENTURY

BEN EXPLORES THE PENINSULA BY FERRY

Ben explored the Peninsula via Ferry over the last months. He loves boat rides and simply can't get enough of it. He took Jacob on an adventure to French Island where they went bushwalking and had lunch. Ben also took the ferry over to Queenscliff and back. He is already planning more boat trips next month.



OAK

FOLLOW THE YELLOW BRICK ROAD.....AND THEY DID!

Jamie and Anita were part of a small group who headed off to the big smoke to see the amazing Wizard of Oz live show recently!

Much planning and discussion prior to the event, even down to what restaurant meals they fancied (fish and steak) – excitement building!

They both loved the show with Anita saying her favourite was Dorothy. They are very proud of their programs. They are certainly looking forward to their next musical event but for now...it's back to Kansas.....



AROUND THE HOUSES



OAK

ME? OF COURSE I AM GREAT!

Bruce having a pensive moment when being told he is now a GREAT Uncle to baby Jackson William Hinton.

Congratulations to all the family!



PINE

OUT FOR LUNCH

Here's Steve having lunch at the Kings Creek Hotel, Hastings. After lunch Steve enjoyed watching Footy and motor sports in the bar.



THE RISE

DEB ENJOYED DOING THE SHOPPING

Deb was supported to do shopping for the house. She enjoyed looking for the freshest fruit and vegetables. Then she accidentally found colouring sheets; she has happily taken a few to colour at home.



AROUND THE HOUSES

KARINGAL SHOPPING CENTRE

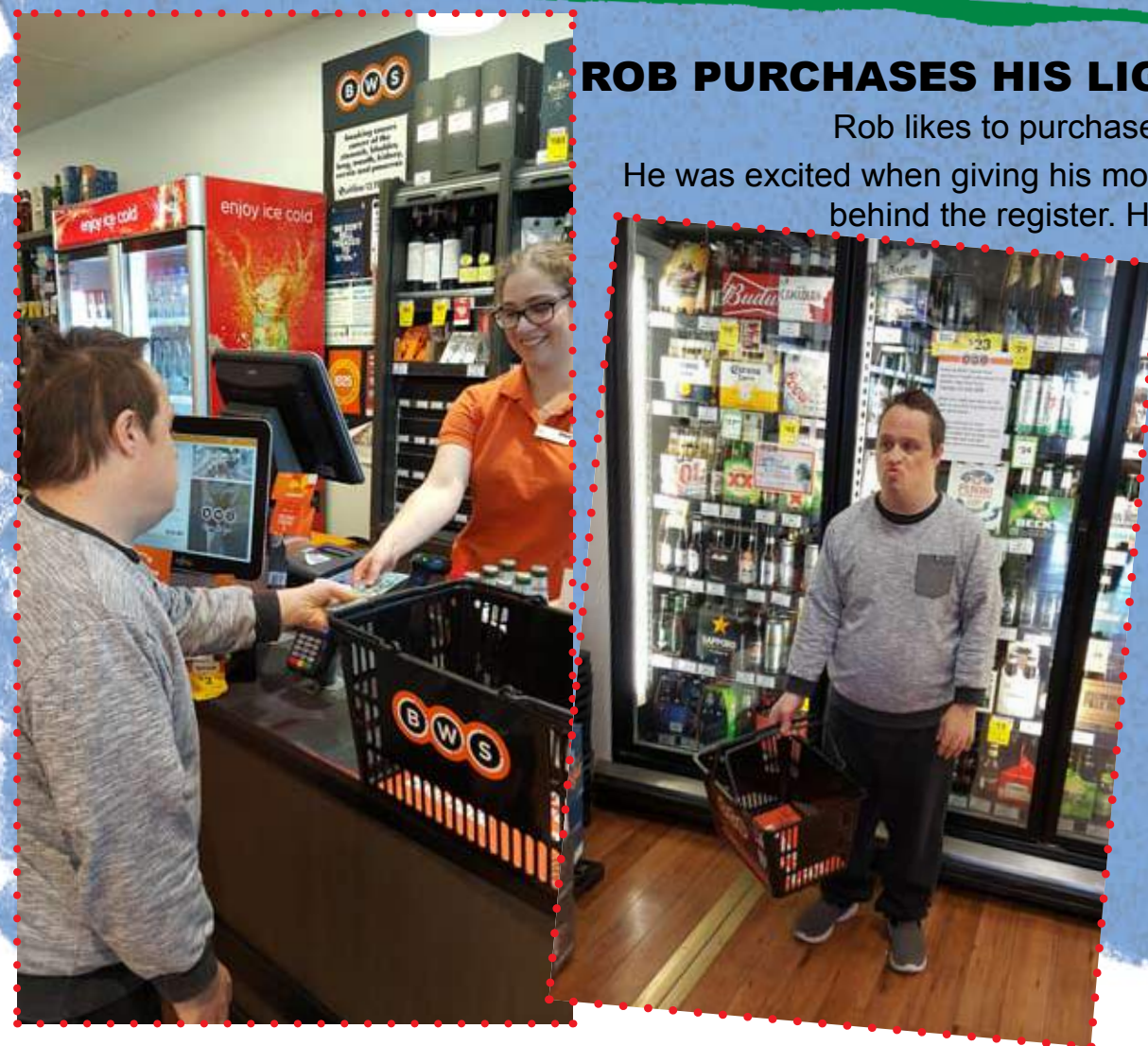
Robert was supported to visit Karingal Shopping Centre. He enjoyed watching a little puppy at the Pet Shop we visited. He also ordered his lunch and a drink and paid for it too.

After lunch Robert placed an order for his favourite cappuccino, before taking a walk through the centre.



ROB PURCHASES HIS LIGHT BEER

Rob likes to purchase his own beer! He was excited when giving his money to the lady behind the register. He also enjoyed looking for his favourite brand throughout the shop.



THE RISE

WENDY VISITED KARINGAL HUB

Wendy was supported to see the Celebrating Education Week gallery at Karingal Hub. She enjoyed looking at the primary school art.

Then Wendy went to a coffee shop and purchased a small cheese cake and a cup of her favourite cappuccino. She paid the order herself. Well done Wendy!



BUNGOWER

DIXIE CELEBRATES HER 65TH BIRTHDAY

Dixie's family visited to join in celebrating Dixie's 65th Birthday

She also celebrated with a party attended by her house mates and a cake to capped off her evening.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



BUNGOWER

MOTHER'S DAY

Julie enjoyed afternoon tea with her mum and Aunty to celebrate Mother's Day.



A WALK IN FRANKSTON

Dixie, Phil, Kylie and Julie bought lunch. As they were eating, the seagulls came to join in; Kylie loved feeding them scraps near Dixie so Dixie had to battle with the gulls. Later all went for a stroll out on the pier.



MELINDA

Melinda went to the Frankston Arts Centre, to attend Beauty and The Beast. She clapped, laughed and cried at all the appropriate moments and really enjoy the live show.

Melinda also went to visit the RSPCA Pearcedale and met a "kitty cat" which is her favourite animal.



AROUND THE HOUSES



BUNGOWER

PHIL INVITES A FRIEND TO DINNER

Philip wanted to catch up with his friend Bruce and did so by inviting him to dinner.



POTTERY EXHIBITION

Philip chose to go to the Dromana pottery exhibition and submitted his vote for the best one!



CEDAR

CLIENT MEETING

At Cedar House we take choice seriously with all clients participating in regular household meetings including making menu choices and options for the weeks ahead.

Lindy loves the process and enjoys the chat – not only about the food but also about photos of Chefs!



HAPPY 30TH BIRTHDAY DALE

Dale had a fantastic day flying over Red Hill in a helicopter before heading home to a great birthday party with his housemates.



AROUND THE HOUSES

CEDAR

WITH FRIENDS AT THE DISCO

Camille and Dale were excited to get dressed up on a Saturday night with their disco shoes on. They met up with Jenny, Anita and Jamie to drive to Mornington and dance the night away. The Shire put on a great All Abilities disco that was well attended. Dale was on the dance floor, close to the action, while Camille said hello to so many people, before taking a break on a sofa and watching. Jenny had a catch up with Lisa and thought it was a hoot having a photo with her old housemate. Anita and Jamie both had big smiles and enjoyed the dancing and music too.



ROCKIN' AT A DISCO

Janene enjoys music and, though she prefers to sit rather than cut up the dance floor, still grooves in her own way to regular musical events and disco. Way to go Janene!



STEPPIN' OUT

Janene loves her daily walks around the Red Hill property and has welcomed Fiona to join her some nights.

Steppin' out and being active in beautiful surrounds - keep it up ladies.



AROUND THE HOUSES



HARTIGAN

GRANT AND ROBERT

Two old mates happily enjoying a drink and swing together on a sunny day in the back garden.



GRANT BOWLING

Grant went on his weekly 1:1 outing to Karingal bowling and scored two strikes. Grant enjoyed his day out



ROB TURNS 60!!!

Robert was excited when he saw the decorations and cake for his 60th Birthday at Hartigan house, Robert had fun blowing out his candles and receiving all his cards from friends and family, but most of all he enjoyed his cake making lots of sounds of enjoyment whilst eating it.



JEANETTE AT THE ART GALLERY

Jeanettespentthedaychecking out some very creative work at the gallery. She found some of the exhibits very interesting.



AROUND THE HOUSES

SEAVIEW

JAMES

It was a nice sunny day when James decided to visit Ace-hi ranch in Cape Schanck. James was very excited to see the horses and thoroughly enjoyed getting to pat one of them.



ENJOYING TIME TOGETHER

Mary-Anne, Kath and Sandra decided to try out a local cafe and warm up with a yummy hot drink. Kath enjoyed her delicious coffee, whilst Sandra and Mary-Anne enjoyed checking out somewhere new!



AROUND THE HOUSES



OLSEN

MINESTRONE SOUP

Holly has a 1:1 cooking program each Sunday afternoon, which she thoroughly enjoys. She then has the meals for her lunches during the week.



NICOLE

Nic loved her Easter gift, a bunny to add to her collection.



INDEPENDENT TRAVEL

Marie enjoys being out in the community independently, this time on a train.



OAK FLAT

BARBER'S SHOP

Changed days! Ty actually looking as though he's enjoying his experience at the hairdressers.



INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT

BOOMERANG BAGS

Rex is busy creating artistic decorations on the Dromana Boomerang bags project. He is very enthusiastic and enjoys this project. For those unsure of what a Boomerang bag is, it is a volunteer driven community project, designed for all members of the community to use for shopping etc. Retailers have these available for people to take and return when they no longer require them. All materials are recycled textiles, saving the environment by recycling and reduce plastic bag usage.



BEE-ILTON HOTEL

Participants in woodwork, seed to seed and community involvement, at Dromana have over the past few months created a bee/insect hotel for the Dromana Community Garden. This has now been installed and is "open for business" to attract bees and beneficial insects to do their magic in the garden.



INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT



HEALTHY COOKING

Dromana Healthy Cooking group have been busy pickling the produce of the Dromana garden. Not only do they try to use the produce to create scrumptious healthy meals, but when there has been an abundance of the crop they have taken to pickling. It has been an exciting experience going through the process of pickling peppers, making green tomato chutney and lemon butter. They have handed out bottles to the gardening group and others of their produce has been tremendously rewarding.



WOODWORK

Over the past few weeks Ezza, Jenny and Koochie have constructed an LED Lantern in woodwork. Using a hot glue gun the pieces of timber were assembled and wrapped with fabric. Here is the finished product...very proud ladies!



INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT



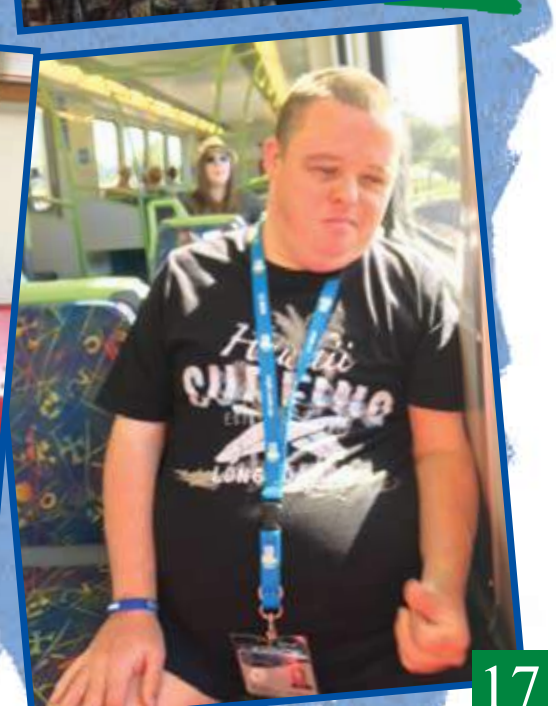
FRANKSTON ART CENTRE

Participants from Dromana, in the "What's On In My Community" recently went to Frankston Art Centre to watch the music performance "Songs From The Wars". A great luncheon was enjoyed by all after the show.



OUT AND ABOUT

Sam loves our travel training program; he is doing well, confidently using and topping up his myki card and accessing public transport. On the train or bus Sam lights up with a big smile and gives us a thumbs up. He also enjoys Dave's disco where he gets to catch up with friends and always enjoys using a woodwind instrument to drum along to the beat.



INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT >>>>>

PARC BIGGEST MORNING TEA

Jane, Pip and Sue attended Peninsula Aquatic Recreation Centre in May, to support Take a Break for Cancer, a local Peninsula Health initiative to help raise vital funds for local cancer services. We thoroughly enjoyed a delicious morning tea before our Friday morning Yin Yoga class.



THE GIPPSLAND MODEL ENGINEERING SOCIETY'S 40TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS



Chris was very excited to attend the 40th Birthday Celebrations of the Gippsland Model Engineering Society, in Traralgon. Chris had been researching steam and model trains on the computer and IPAD leading up to this, as it is one of his goals. He was able to go on a ride after purchasing a ticket. The train goes on a small track around Victory Park taking approximately 7 minutes to complete the trip. He was then able



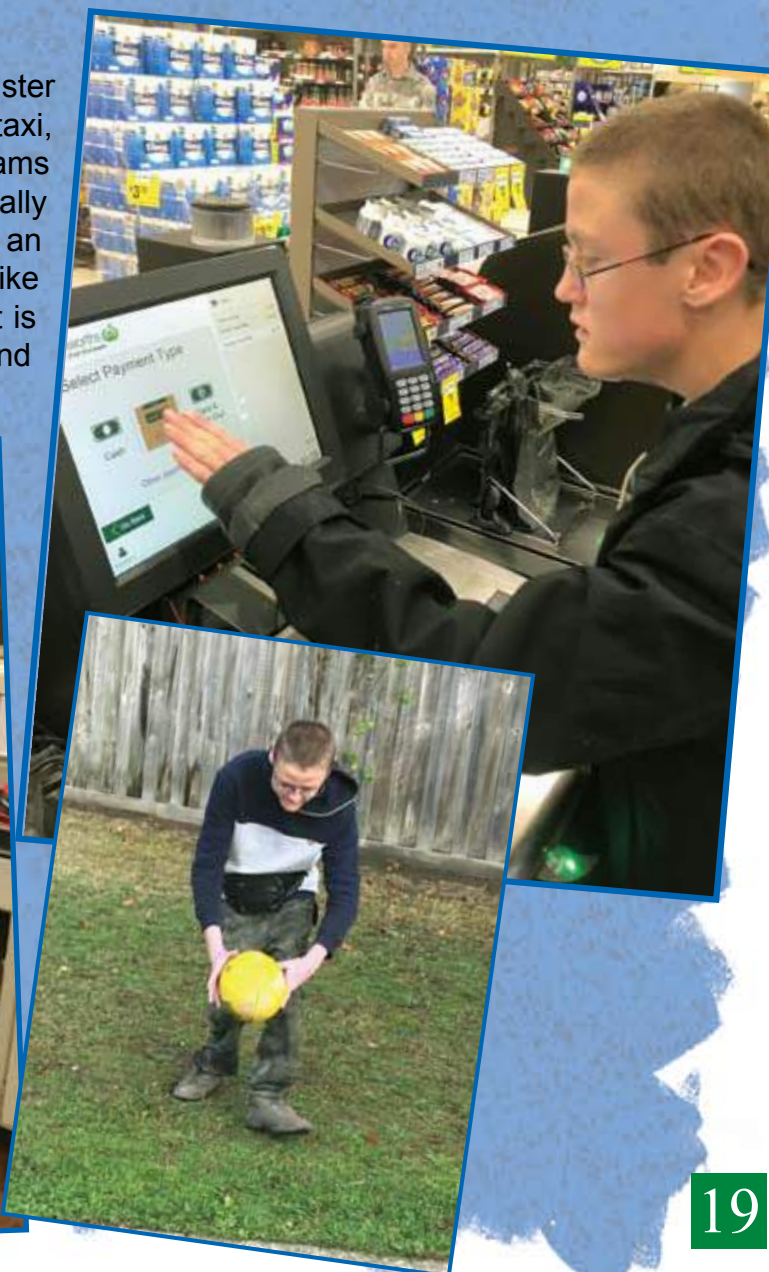
INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT <<<<<

to see how they fuel these trains using both petrol and coal to power them. Chris then had fish and chips for lunch at the Grand Junction Hotel before a walk along the Traralgon creek before catching a V-line back to Dandenong.



TRANSITION TO FOCUS

Robert has transitioned really well to McAlister Street, Frankston. He is independently getting a taxi, to and from the service and is enjoying programs such as healthy cooking, gym, swimming, he really looks forward to the disco, always requesting an Elvis song and doing Elvis moves (dancing like Elvis), meals on wheels, travel training. Robert is very social and has made friendships quickly and loves talking about the Mighty Hawks.



INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT



SIMON - ANIMAL HELPER!!!

Simon is very enthusiastic about his Animal helpers program. Some weeks he goes to Rain Hayne & Shine where he gets to feed the calves and go on hay bale rides. He also looks at all the other animals such as the pigs and rats and dogs. Others in the group like Deb, Julia and Andrew also enjoy patting and checking out all the different animals.

Other weeks Simon helps to drop off food supplies to a wildlife shelter. Sometimes he gets to look at the animals that are being cared for. Mostly Simon has seen possums and sugar gliders. Simon loves possums and is always talking about them!



BENNY THE THERAPY DOG

Every Monday, Benny the therapy dog and his owner Suzanne come to Red Hill to spend a couple of hours with the Animal Helpers group. Everyone loves to give Benny a pat or a kiss and some are practicing taking him for a walk. Andrew loves kissing Benny and Benny seems to enjoy it as well. Julia and John love looking at Benny and just hanging out near him. Simon also loves having Benny around and is very proud when it's his turn to take Benny for a walk.



A huge THANK YOU to Dorothy Tagg who made this happen - we are all so grateful to you!



INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT



COMMUNITY OP SHOP

Deb visited the local Op Shop in search of vases to make flower arrangements that we take to a local respite centre. She was a great help. Deb had a chat to the ladies and found the vases to buy.



A VISIT TO PT LEO SCULPTURE PARK

The group chose to visit the new Sculpture park at Point Leo Estate, it was a lovely day and all enjoyed being out in the fresh air and viewing the wonderful works of art.



INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT



OUT AND ABOUT

Chris was happy to be getting out enjoying a break from the rainy weather at Red Hill.



LUNCH AT RSL

What an awesome day, having lunch at the Rosebud RSL.

Justin's laughing after having his beer said it all. James polished off his beer and Roast Pork. Flynn must have been very, very hungry to eat all his Flounder and chip, as the meal size was very large.

Great to see our guys out and about in their local community!



INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT

TRAIN TRAVEL

Melinda fed the Pelicans at Crib Point before boarding the train.



HIKE ABILITY

When the waves and wind proved too much for SailAbility Elly and Elliot made use of some great walking tracks in the hills of the Mornington Peninsula.

Here they are walking and enjoying the Old Rail Road Track and park area in Red Hill.



HEALTHY COOKING

These girls love to cook up a storm each week at the Community Centre in Mornington. They take it in turns to select what they will cook for lunch each week and then purchase the ingredients. They not only learn about healthy options but also food preparation and different cooking methods.

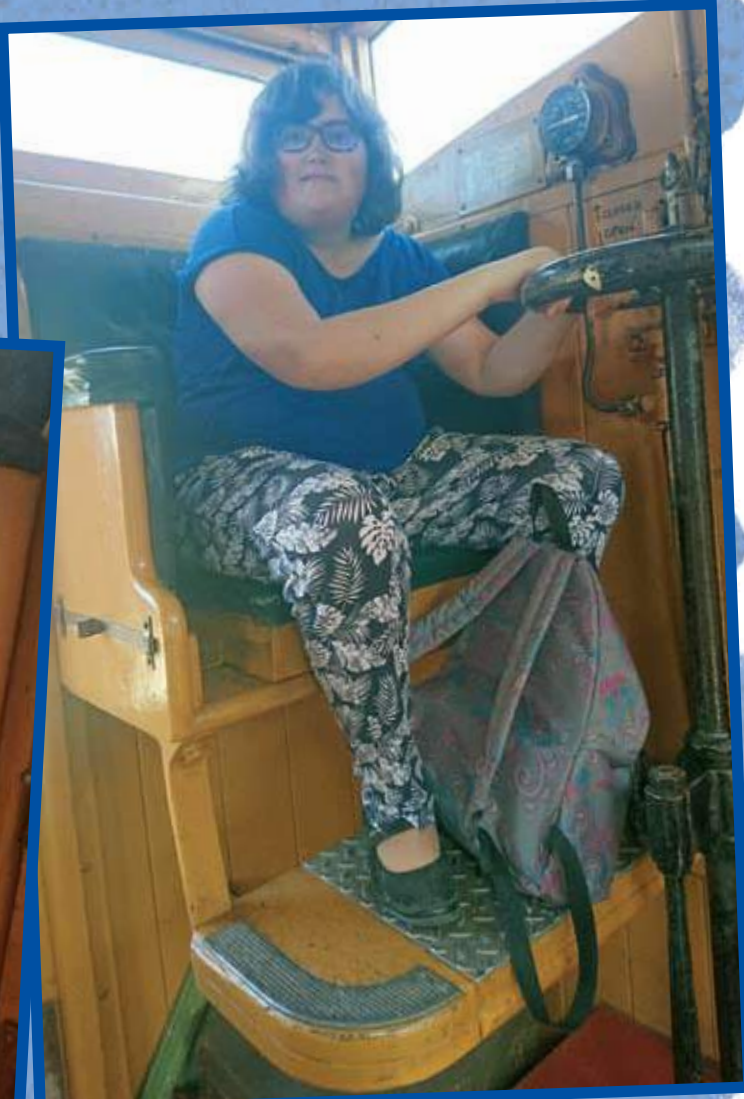


INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT



MORNINGTON HISTORIC RAILWAY

On a recent visit to Mt Eliza Regional Park one of our clients, Elly asked if we could organise a BBQ lunch and a train ride with the Mornington Historic Railway. Just 2 weeks later all of our clients enjoyed a fantastic day at a great park and got to ride the carriages of a heritage listed train and cart.



FOCUS ON SPORTS

Each Monday afternoon the Factory embarks on local ovals and sports areas to take part in some fun exercise and socialising around a sport. Recently we ran a 6 week session on AFL football. On Wednesday's the people from the Factory get to enjoy a full day Civic Reserve in Mornington at Fit & Fun.



INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT

From basketball & soccer, to BAM Dance, break out discussion rooms, table tennis and gym work outs. Clients such as Marcus (boxing), Timara (table tennis) and Stephany (sparing) can spend their Wednesday enjoying the variety of activities in 1 location.



WELCOME TO THE FACTORY

This month we had Grant (staff) join our team at the Factory along with 3 other fantastic blokes who go by the names of Philip, Bruce and Stephen. They have all transferred from Dromana. The Team at the Factory would just like to give them a BIG welcome and we hope you enjoy all that we do here.



INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT >>>>>

RHYS IS LEAVING!!!

It was with some regret that I informed all the staff and his friends that Rhys has moved to another service closer to home. I'm sure everybody will miss his infectious smile and attitude to life in general. And what's more who is going to remind us as to what bin to put out; and find out what home made meal we were going to eat that night, or in fact what we had for tea at anytime. He certainly will be missed by all the clients and the staff, and the **focus** personal at all levels and sites. We wish him all the best at Wallara and hope he makes just as many friends there as he did at focus.



<< OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY

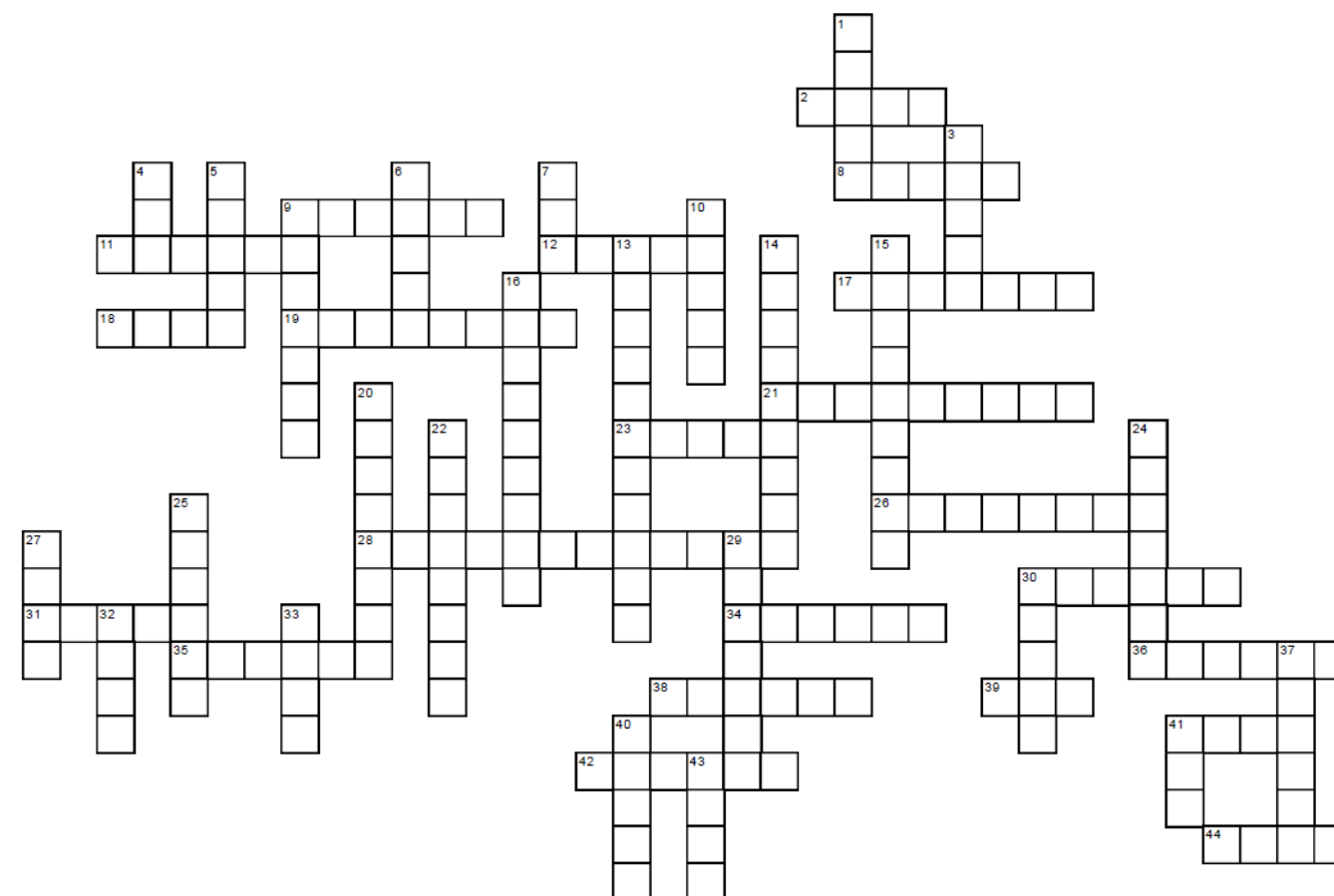
SAFETY AROUND THE HOME

There are 10 safety hazards in the picture below, can you find them all?



MAINTENANCE >>>>>

An Autumnal challenge
courtesy of Maintenance



ACROSS

- 2 the sound a dog makes
- 8 name of the hall at Red Hill
- 9 Queen Elizabeth, the
- 11 a baby swan
- 12 the common name for H₂O
- 17 there are 7 colours in them during sunshine with rain
- 18 hot cross
- 19 baker's dozen
- 21 we live on the Mornington
- 23 Mickey
- 26 2017 AFL premiers
- 28 used to put out small fires
- 30 months in a year
- 31 morning, noon and
- 34 used to stand on to elevate us
- 35 the name of the night train that use to run between Melbourne and Sydney was the Southern
- 36 diamonds, spades, clubs and

DOWN

- 1 Nullarbor
- 3 the colour of Kermit the frog
- 4 when pigs
- 5 grapes grow on them
- 6 used to cut the grass, a lawn
- 7 a chain
- 9 Flinders Street
- 10 scones, with jam and
- 13 main airport in Melbourne
- 14 fixes a blunt pencil
- 15 the tropic of
- 16 a communication device
- 20 Australia's capital city
- 22 the old Melbourne trains were known as red
- 24 the red nosed reindeer
- 25 bricks and
- 27 home to a fish
- 29 a solar or a lunar
- 30 the Eiffel
- 32 old Melbourne
- 33 found in period style homes, a ceiling
- 37 walkie
- 40 white picket
- 41 we use to purchase milk and groceries at a milk
- 43 Coober



ART SKILLS

Jacqui is working on her Art Skills at Tuesday mornings Art Class in Dromana. She is also working on her independent living skills by preparing her lunch.



ROSEBUD ARCADE

Jacqui strolled along the Painted Arcade while out shopping.



LES AND SHIRLEY

Les and Shirley visited the Frankston library and Arts centre.
Shirley also enjoyed visiting the Hairdresser for a new style cut which is easy for her to manage.



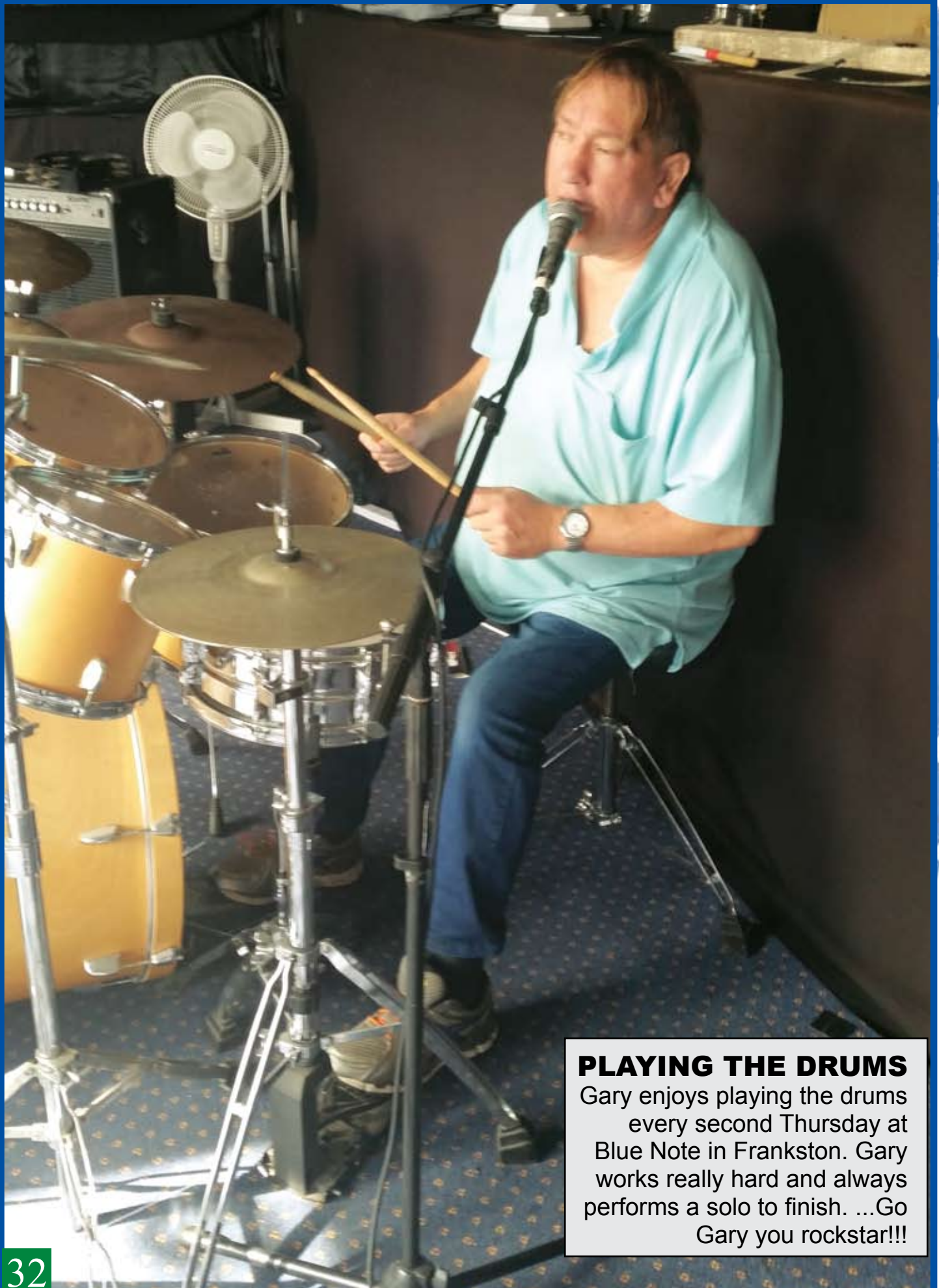
MYUNA FARM

Irene enjoyed a day out at Myuna Farm seeing the animals getting up close and personal with Claire the sheep!!

PLAYING FOOTY

Gary was a skilled footballer when he was younger and took up his passion to play football again joining Reclink Rosebud every 2nd Wednesday to participate in playing a game of footy...The local Lyons Club provide a sausage sizzle at the end of training. Gary has made some new friends and looks forward to catching up with the team





PLAYING THE DRUMS

Gary enjoys playing the drums every second Thursday at Blue Note in Frankston. Gary works really hard and always performs a solo to finish. ...Go Gary you rockstar!!!