

The New Link

St George Association
For People with Physical Disabilities Incorporated

"Capabilities Conquer Disabilities"

Vol. 64 No.40

October 2008

Future Programmes

Oct	4	Sat	10.30 am	Book Club	Belgreen
Oct	4	Sat	2.00 pm	Royal Doulton Bunnykins	Belgreen
Oct	8	Wed	10.30 am	Wednesday Group	Belgreen
Oct	18	Sat	8.00 am	Stall – Lions Festival	Oatley
Oct	21	Tues	7.00 pm	Management Committee	Belgreen
Oct	25	Sat	10.30 am	Embroidery Group	Belgreen
Nov	1	Sat	10.30 am	Book Club	Belgreen
Nov	1	Sat	12 noon	Maude Chin	Belgreen
Nov	12	Wed	10.30 am	Wednesday Group	Belgreen
Nov	16	Sun	12.30 pm	Tuscany Café	Kingsgrove
Nov	18	Tues	7.00 pm	Management Committee	Belgreen
Nov	22	Sat	10.30 am	Embroidery Group	Belgreen
Dec	7	Sun	12 noon	Christmas Luncheon	Kogarah

News from Sutherland Shire Community Care Forum Weekly Snippets

5/9/08 & 12/9/08

NATIONAL DISABILITY COUNCIL MEETS FOR THE FIRST TIME

A new national advisory council providing advice to the Australian Government on the needs of people with disability, their families and carers is meeting for the first time in Canberra on 2 September.

The 28 members of the National People with Disabilities and Carers Council (NPWDACC) were announced by the Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, Jenny Macklin, and Parliamentary Secretary for Disabilities and Children's Services, Bill Shorten. They include people with disability, carers, advocates and representatives from the disability sector....

(Source: press release)

HACC RESTRUCTURE PROPOSAL

In The Age on the 2 September 2008 it was announced that:

“Aged Care would become completely the Federal Government’s responsibility and the disabled would come wholly under the states in a sweeping revamp of roles proposed by the Rudd Government.

...The home-based services for the elderly that the Federal Government would assume direct responsibility for include meals on wheels, nursing care, personal care and domestic assistance, home maintenance, transport and assessment.

...The current proposal, which involves dividing up the Home and Community Care Program, is being developed as part of the Council of Australian Governments reform agenda.

...The proposed date for the takeover of the other aged services is July 1, 2009.”

(Michelle Grattan, The Age, Sept 2, 2008)

The split of Home and Community Care Services (HACC) between the Federal Government, (older people) and the States (people with disabilities), is not a new idea. It was previously proposed in 2005. At that time, the NSW Aged Care Alliance, developed a report outlining its position about the proposed split. This report outlines the advantages/disadvantages of splitting or not splitting HACC. Click this link to access this report. <http://www.ncoss.org.au/hot/20080905-Aged-Care-Alliance-Response-COAG-proposed-spli-HACC.doc>

The NSW Aged Care Alliance recommended that any change to the existing arrangements must deliver guaranteed qualitative and quantitative improvements to the provision of services and supports to older people, people with disabilities and carers across Australia and in NSW in particular, before a re-distribution of funding and program responsibilities between Commonwealth and state jurisdictions is implemented. Consequently, the Alliance’s position was that until improvements could be guaranteed, both Commonwealth and state levels of government should maintain joint responsibility and accountability for the provision of aged care and community care programs and services.

A decision about this proposal will be made at the next Coalition of Australian Government (COAG) meeting on 2nd October.

News from the Older Women’s Network, re **Law Access NSW**, a free government telephone service that provides legal information, advice and referrals for people who have a legal problem in NSW. It is an initiative of the NSW Attorney General’s Department, Legal Aid, Law Society and the Bar Association. They can be contacted on 1300 888 529 Monday to Friday excluding public holidays. If you have a hearing or speech impairment you can call on 1300 889 529.

If you wish to contact the Older Women’s Network ring (02) 9247 7046.

Just as a matter of interest, how accessible was your polling booth for the recent Council Elections??

Districts vary greatly as to whether the venue is accessible or not. It is important that polling booths be accessible to the entire community. People with a disability need to have access, and be visible – it is not the answer to reply on postal voting as a substitute for voting at your local polling venue.

If you have any information you would like to share on this topic, please let me know. The Physical Disability Council of NSW is also extremely interested in your experiences in this respect.

Patricia Byrne

Future Programmes

Book Club

**Saturday Oct 4th and Nov 1st 10.30 a.m.
Belgreen 40-42 Chalmers St, Belmore**

The Book Club continues to gather and share experiences of what has been a good read.

Following are a couple of reviews.

“Fragrant Harbour” by John Lanchester. This book traces the lives of 4 people over a period of some 70 years beginning in 1930’s.

It shows the way fate can deal people strange hands in life and how life-paths can cross and re-cross over a period of time.

All characters have some connection with Hong Kong. The book traces the life of the colony from colonial times through the Japanese occupation of World War II and continues on through to the hand-over of the city to the Chinese.

Personally, I found the story a little slow moving, but nonetheless interesting.

“Lost for Words” by Hugh Lunn. This is a fun read for anyone over the age of approximately 55 years.

A 342 page book with no storyline, I found it a good read, which brought back a lot of memories.

The book is a tribute to the rich and colourful language of Australia during 1940’s, 50’s and 60’s. Expressions that are rarely heard now, largely as a result of American television shows and the internet.

If you are old enough to remember blue-bags in the washing water to whiten clothes or being told “children should be seen and not heard” you will probably enjoy this entertaining book.

Anne Buchanan

An invitation is always there for you to come along. Bring your lunch – tea/coffee available at Belgreen. Enquiries can be directed to **Maura Outterside 9718 5803**.

Following the Book Club will be our afternoon meeting -

**Saturday October 4th 2.00 p.m.
Belgreen 40-42 Chalmers St, Belmore**

Deidre & Colin Beacroft from Canterbury District Historical Society are attending as guest speakers, on the subject of Royal Doulton Bunnykins china – it’s history and design.

As mentioned last month, I’m sure Bunnykins is a favourite of many, and it should be most interesting.

Perhaps you may have family or a friend you would like to bring – they are most welcome.

**Wednesday Group Oct 8 and Nov 12
10.30 a.m. – 2.00 p.m.
Belgreen 40-42 Chalmers St, Belmore**

As previously reported members (with Jenny Chin’s guidance) are making the Christmas table decorations. So apart from this creativity you can enjoy a chat, bring your lunch and spend a few hours together.

Any enquiries can be directed to Co-ordinator, Daphne Berger **9718 3678**.

OATLEY VILLAGE FESTIVAL organised by the **Lions Club of Oatley**
Saturday from 8.00 am October 18

The Association will once again be having a stall at the Festival. This is made possible by the support of our fund raising team. There is always a fine display of goods for sale, representing many hours of work and effort. It is a great day with a variety of stalls, interest and activities.

Keep your fingers crossed the weather is kind to us.

Our site will be at the same location outside the Commonwealth Bank in Frederick Street.

There will be limited parking for drivers with disability near the Clock Tower.

The Lions Club does a fantastic job in arranging this annual event and their efforts contribute greatly to the community. Tell your family, friends, neighbours – it's a fun day!

Any enquiries can be directed to **Betty Alwin 9579 4600**.

**Tuesday 7.00 p.m. Oct 21 and Nov 18
Management Committee Meeting
Belgreen 40-42 Chalmers St, Belmore**

**Saturday Oct 25 and Nov 22
Embroidery Group
10.30 a.m. – 3.00 p.m.
Belgreen 40-42 Chalmers St, Belmore**

The Embroidery Group will once again gather, as we look forward to working on our particular projects.

Coralie Lewin (Co-ordinator) adds her expertise to the day, which is always well received by members.

You may care to come along – it is an opportunity to learn new skills, or gain new ideas.

Bring your lunch – tea/coffee available at Belgreen.

Following the Book Club -

**Saturday November 1 12 noon
Belgreen 40-42 Chalmers St, Belmore**

Maude Chin will be once again visiting Belgreen. Members know well Maude's skills and expertise in creating some wonderful Asian food.

Maude will be preparing some food to share over the lunch period.

Hope you will be able to join us and spend a very pleasant time together. It's always interesting to hear of Maude's activities during the past year.

If you intend coming, please let me know as it assists with the catering. I need to let Maude know beforehand how many people will be attending. **Please ring Patricia Byrne 9150 5512.**

**Tuscany Café (Gardens R Us)
Moorefields Road, Kingsgrove
Sunday 12.30 pm November 16**

This is a very pleasant venue, with good food and the added nursery to wander in if you feel so inclined.

If you have not been before there is plenty off-street parking. The only thing to be aware of is they do not have a designated disability toilet.

Please let me know if you are coming so we can book a table. **Please ring Patricia Byrne 9150 5512.**

**Christmas lunch Mahogany Room, St.
George Leagues Club
Sunday December 7 from 12 noon**

It's hard to believe how fast the year is going – it will not be long before our Christmas lunch.

Once again, please confirm your intention to come by ringing **Patricia Byrne 9150 5512, and send your payment of \$30.00 per head to Jenny Chin before the day. I will need to confirm numbers one (1) week beforehand.**

This is a time when we catch up with some people we may not have seen all year, so do hope you will be able to attend.

Program report

Unfortunately, I was not able to be there on the 6th September when **John Chate** attended from Lions Club of Oatley to talk about **Hearing Dogs**.

I'm told it was a most interesting afternoon and everyone enjoyed John's talk and learning about the work of Hearing Dogs and how they assist people throughout Australia, who are hearing impaired.

If anyone is interested in more information Lions Hearing Dogs Inc. can be contacted by writing to PO Box 164 HAHNDORF SA 5245 or ringing 08 8388 7836, or fax 08 8388 1299. TTY 08 8388 1297.

Vale

It's with sadness I report the recent deaths of the following people.

Alan Rainnie had been experiencing health problems over the last few years and following a more recent illness died peacefully on 14th September. Alan had been a member of the Association for many, many years and had been one of the early Presidents.

Alan's wife, Alix is also a long time member. They are both well known to our members, and we have seen their family grow into fine adults and been thrilled to hear about their grandchildren.

One of Alan's passions was "books" – he was an avid reader and had an amazing collection, which unfortunately he had to disperse when they moved in recent years, to a retirement complex on the south coast. Another of his interests was photography, which involved a variety of work over a number of years.

Some weeks ago Alan moved into the Nursing Home (on site) as he was unable to manage any longer at home.

Our special thoughts and prayers are offered to Alix and her family at this sad time.

We have also recently learnt of the death of **Reuben McGuirk**. Reuben (in past years) had been a member of the St.

George & Sutherland Master Plumbers & Mechanical Contractors Association, and one of the voluntary drivers, who use to pick up our members and bring them to meetings. He and his wife (Pat) were long time supporters.

I understand Reuben had been battling health problems for some time and died on 26th August. We do extend our sympathy to Pat and her family.

Lastly, I'm saddened to record the death of **Bronwyn Moye**. Whilst Bronwyn was not a member of St. George Association, she would be known to some of our members through her work and dedication to the "disability movement".

Bronwyn had quadriplegia and has been a great advocate and activist within the sector. She was involved in a number of organisations and committees (both non-government and government), and worked tirelessly raising the various issues that concern people with physical disability.

She will be a great loss. Personally I pay tribute to her for the contribution she has made over many years. Our sympathy is offered to her husband, Richard and family.

Personal Pars

Recently **Bev Kreger** spent some time in St. George Hospital recovering from a serious illness – the good news, she is now home. Bev still has a few problems to overcome - hope things continue to improve for you, Bev.

I must have been "in sympathy" – I have also just come home from the same hospital having spent 8 days there (unexpectedly). Likewise it is good to be home.

Jack Nolan has not been the best lately and is to have some follow up tests. We send our best wishes, Jack and hope you feel better soon!

Something to ponder!

Great friends are hard to find, difficult to leave, and impossible to forget.

Management Committee 2006 –2007

All Correspondence: Hon Secretary 6a Oatley St., KINGSGROVE NSW 2208
All Financial matters to: Hon Treasurer 2 Salerwong Place, RYDE NSW 2112

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Maura Outterside	02 9718 5803	Bob Tonazzi	02 9311 2555
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Welfare Officer: Elizabeth McDonald 02 9747 6268

Patrons: Presidents of –
St. George Master Plumbers & Mechanical Contractors Association
Five Dock RSL Sub Branch
Lions Club of Oatley.

Telephone - Belgreen Meeting Room (at meeting times only) 02 9759 9061

Website: Stgeorgeassociation.org.au