



NADRASCA NEWS

Spring 2005 Issue 7

Welcome to the Spring edition of NADRASCA News!

The CEO Reports...

Gus Koedyk
Chief Executive Officer



In the last two Newsletters I spoke of the work undertaken by the Committee of Management in relation to the Strategic Plan. The Business Services, Business Plan and Marketing Plan are currently in draft and will be completed by the time this Newsletter is published.

Part of the Strategic Plan included the formation of sub-committees to assist NADRASCA's continuing strategic development which will report to the Committee of Management. The sub-committees are:

- Marketing & Communications
 - Aged & Welfare
 - Property Review

These committees are in addition to the current Finance, Audit & Risk Committee and have had their first meeting and identified their objectives, scope and deliverables. The issue of unmet need is one constantly raised, both by the Committee of Management and the community. All committees will conduct research and analysis to determine the current and future needs of the NADRASCA community.

In this Newsletter you will note the expression of interest for parents, siblings and carers to attend a one day forum on the 10 October 2005. During Carers' Week last year I attended a morning tea and a number of attendees felt that these events were beneficial. I would encourage you to attend this forum as it will provide an opportunity for carers to discuss the issues they have in providing support and services to people with a disability.

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WHAT'S ON

2005 AGM
Wed 19 October
8pm
Rooks Road

Day Forum
10 October
Rooks Rd

ATSS
On holiday for one week
from
17 October

NADDS
Sound of Music
15 December



Congratulations all round!

This time last year NADRASCA Business Services was struggling for sales revenue. We had just appointed an Operations Manager and, late last year, a Business Development Manager was appointed. Over this time we have reviewed our operations, determined strategies and target markets, and introduced a number of processes to measure our performance.

We are pleased to report that, for the first two months of this financial year, we have exceeded budgeted sales revenue. Even more importantly we have exceeded last year's revenue by 20%. This was achieved through the hard work and determination of all management, staff and employees.

We would like to thank all our customers for supporting the organisation and providing work for people with a disability.



NADRASCA INCORPORATED
A Community Based
Disability Service Organisation

Our mission is to provide or assist
in the provision of services to
people with disabilities.

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Tel (03) 9873 1111 Fax (03) 9873 2270
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Over the last three months NADRASCA organised two meetings for parents and carers interested in exploring residential options. NADRASCA owns a large block of land in Vermont which could accommodate a number of dwellings. A survey identified the highest area of need as shared supported accommodation in a staffed house. In addition, almost 50% of respondents were seeking accommodation in either shared independent living or independent living arrangements with some outreach support. This analysis will be passed on to the Property Review sub-committee and the Committee of Management to determine the future development of this site.

Progress at the aged care-dementia unit in Jolimont Road is moving slowly. We have obtained quotes from builders to install a bathroom. This, along with permit applications, takes time however we expect renovations to be completed prior to Christmas.



Gus Koedyk
Chief
Executive
Officer

NADRASCA Business Services 30th Birthday

On the June 24th Business Services achieved a significant milestone, celebrating its 30th anniversary of operation with an afternoon tea for staff and employees.



Commencing in 1975 Business Services first operated for a short time from the Apex Club Rooms and then moved to premises in Columbo Street, Mitcham. As the business expanded in the mid 1980's we rented a portion of the Blue Moon Cool Stores at Blackburn, a building we eventually purchased and ran as the Blackburn operation, undertaking contract packaging work. Timber processing, assembly and printing remained at Mitcham.

In the late 1980's printing required larger premises and the Richard Street premises were leased to cater for this need. In 2001 NADRASCA purchased the Australia Post Eastern Mail Centre building in Rooks Road, Nunawading and relocated all its Business Services operations to this site from January 2002.



30 Years

Chris Chambers
Margaret Harvey
Suzanne Lees

20 Years

Kaye Balcombe
Stephen Williams
Adam Marchant
Christine Davis
Marcus Hall

15 Years

Lindsay Anstey
Phillip Brown
Barbara Streiff
Thomas De-Ryk
Kim Mahony

15 Years

Jason Lees
Sharlene Allen
Dare Harrex
Karen Whitely
Daniel Kennedy

Three current employees, **Chris Chambers**, **Margaret Harvey** and **Suzanne Lees**, have been with NADRASCA Business Services since its inception. They, along with other employees who had 15 and 20 years service were presented with certificates by Gus Koedyk at the afternoon tea in recognition of their achievement. Congratulations to all.

Closure of Aluminium 'Cash For Cans' Recycling

As from Friday 26 August 2005 the NADRASCA Incorporated **Cash for Cans** recycling operation ceased operations.

After 19 years of operation the changes in recycled waste collection had made the business unviable. As part of the closure process we have ensured that all groups that have supported us over so many years continue to be looked after. They have transferred to National Metal at Hallam who will continue the operation as part of their normal business.

We would like to thank all who have supported us over so many years and wish them well for the future.

Meet Julie

I'm sitting in a waiting room at the Eye and Ear Hospital and its 7.00am. I'm with a client who is here for minor surgery. My day has begun early which is unusual for me. It generally starts at midday in the office and then I'm out visiting the lead tenant houses.



in NADRASCA Residential Services working in various positions, as a support worker, a House Supervisor and a Lead Tenant for some eight years in two households.

One of the many things I like about my work with NADRASCA is the clients.

Appointments of various kinds filling up my diary – medical, podiatry and dental appointments, opening a unit for home help, delivering a meal to another, dropping off Webster packs, assisting with shopping, arranging meetings for General Service Plans, liaising with professionals, families and friends of the Lead Tenant clients, sorting out problems that may come at a minute's notice. It might sound exhausting but it's not really. Challenging – yes!

I come to this position with plenty of hands-on experience and over nine years

They have taught me so much about myself and how I perceive the world around me and them. I've learnt a lot about tolerance, patience and unconditional love, which I sometimes feel is sadly lacking in this world. I try to always remind myself that I'm working for our clients and that their needs are my primary concern.

I'm looking forward to the different challenges that will be coming my way.

Julie Winther
NADRASCA Outreach Worker

New Resi Vehicles!

Mitsubishi seven-seater vehicles have been purchased for both Panorama and Glenwood residentials.

In addition to staff having permanent access to a car for client health-related appointments, the vehicles have greatly assisted in the continual improvement of lifestyle options for our residents in terms of recreational activities and social events.



A SPOT OF HISTORY

Fundraising

Fundraising has and will always be an important source of income for organisations such as NADRASCA.

NADRASCA's first major fundraising event took place 36 years ago when in October 1969 a **Walkathon** organised by Bill Tozer raised the impressive amount of \$15,000.

Special thanks to Keith Kilner who prepares our Spot of History column.

AN UPDATE...

Business Services

The financial year ended on a lower note than we would have liked, with June being a little quiet in all areas of Business Services. However the 2005/6 financial year has started exceedingly well with the sales for July and August being significantly better than budget.



On Friday 8 July we again had the combined staff / employee training day at Rooks Road. Staff and employees within Business Services, which included both the Book Shop and Recycling departments, enjoyed a range of activities in the morning. The team led by Mark Hiney – *Marks Magic* – were winners of the day. The afternoon was lunch followed by a Disco with music arranged by Kirsty Dinsdale and Don Lawas. A highlight of the day was a demonstration dance performed by *Little Donny Lawas* and *Jumping Jessie Logan*.

The day was an exceptional success and thanks go to Jessie Logan and Linda Leonard for their organisation and to all supervisors for the part they played as team leaders.

During June we said farewell to John Geros, a supervisor in Contract Services for the past 12 months. John has left to set up his own business in the catering area. We wish him well for the future.

During July we welcomed Geoffrey Tripconi as a new supervisor in Contract Services.

Geoffrey comes from a varied background which ranges from being an orchard manager to working in an abattoir. He originally comes from Swan Hill and was most recently working in the aged care area, selling and servicing equipment used in aged care services. We welcome Geoffrey to the team.

Peter Ray

Residential Services

The National ACROD Ageing and Disability two day conference, *Passion, Power, Practice*, was held in Hobart in July. Presentations were based on issues surrounding future expectations and current realities for people with a disability, accommodation providers, families and carers. Presentations were delivered on a range of emerging issues and discussions, including: Down Syndrome and dementia as a dual diagnosis, planning with people who have a disability and are ageing, Personal Care Plans, Occupational Health and Safety, duty of care and informed consent, and the impact and management of hearing loss for the elderly.

The implementation of a new service model, Person-Centred Planning, is underway in Residential Services. We, among many other service providers, are broadening our focus to assist each individual to achieve their aspirations and wishes, as well as continuing with the learning and maintaining of skill development.

NADRASCA Residential Services has recently increased its casual staff register to ensure stability and consistency of staffing in our houses. Furthermore, new linen, beds, kitchenware, and DVD/video players were purchased for residences that required them.



Five residents enjoyed a four day holiday at Mt Martha during the ATSS closures in July. Highlights included: the Arthurs Seat chair lift, a ferry ride from Sorrento to Queenscliff and an exploration of the Maritime sculptures. An exciting and fulfilling break was experienced by another resident who ventured to Kakadu, Darwin, and Central Australia for 16 days.

Recreation One2one have completed their second cluster of successful weekend programs for NADRASCA consumers. These unique activities held on Saturdays have received much enthusiasm and positive feedback from participants and families. The leisure programs have included a Safari Tour, Werribee Mansion, Indoor Rock Climbing, William Ricketts Sanctuary, a Southbank River Cruise, Ashcombe Maze and a Bike Tour.

Thank you to those who attended the final session of Saturday Art and Dance for 2005. The art exhibition and dance performance was thoroughly enjoyed by all and greatly benefited the NADRASCA community.

The Three Amigos performed yet another successful concert, live at NADRASCA.

Preparations for Christmas and New Year are currently being finalised. Many in residential services will be attending the holiday at Coonawarra Farm Resort from the 7 – 11 January, 2006.

Holly Arnold-Lester

Day Services

It's that time of year in the ATSS – the beginning of spring – Individual Program Plans time. The starting process for the year 2006.

Spring is a time for new beginnings.

- The external painting at Witt Street is completed.
- High Street has wonderful new windows.
- We are receiving several enquiries from schools where the Futures for Young Adults projects are gearing up for 2006.
- Our Morack Road project is still moving along and early next year we will have to have an open garden day.

Raeoni Turner

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Attention Parents, Siblings and Carers of people who attend a NADRASCA service...
NADRASCA invites you to attend a day forum

Monday 10th October 2005 between 9.30am-2.30pm at Rooks Road

The forum is an opportunity to determine the type of support/networking arrangements you would like to see within the organisation. The forum will be coordinated by Sue Watts of the Parents and Carers Support Group, Benalla and she will explain how the 'networking system' operates in the Hume region. **Christine Scott** will talk about the role of VALID in supporting Parent groups. **Mark Riches** will facilitate the day. The day will be informative and provide an opportunity for you to talk about the issues we all face – looking after a person with a disability.

RSVP: Janet at Witt St. 9872 3922 or Jenny at High St. 9877 4444

Lunch will be provided so please confirm your attendance for catering purposes.

Raeoni Turner, Marguerite Shaw, Marie Campbell





NADRASCA Footy Tipping

Once again this year NADRASCA Business Services ran an AFL football tipping competition. Coming to the final round six people were in contention to win. The four leaders at this point each selected seven winners for the round and finished equal on 116 for the year. Congratulations go to Shari Moore, Trevor Sutton, Ken Bedford and Brian Parr for winning this year's competition.

*Shari Moore, Trevor Sutton & Ken Bedford.
Brian Parr is overseas*

Don't Forget

The Annual General Meeting will be held at Rooks Road on Wednesday 19 October at 8pm.

Cooking Lessons

There are two places available for the after hours cooking lessons. To enrol contact Tracey Forbes (9873 1111).

Reminder!

The ATSS, Witt Street and High Street will be:

- open on Wednesday 2 November
- closed on Wednesday 9 November on holidays for one week from 17 October

Day Services continued...

High Street

We have had a busy few months as usual and with spring arriving any day now, we are happy to report that we have all survived the cold winter days. There is also some exciting news. We are pleased to have our own physiotherapist again - welcome Jamin!

Over the past eighteen months we needed to ask **Scope** to assist in the purchase of new wheelchairs for two of our clients. Under the guidance of the **Scope** physiotherapist and with input from staff, carers and parents we now have two very happy and comfortable clients sitting tall in their new chairs. Thank you **Scope**.

Betty Hamilton

Programme Manager



Witt Street

The past year has been exciting for us here at Witt St with the new farm coming along and the Music Theatre production of the Sound of Music in December 2005.

Two new programs have been introduced this year, Human Relations and Certificate 1 in Numeracy & Literacy:

- Human Relations was run over a period of ten weeks and

clients who participated in the program

really enjoyed the sessions and the presenter Mrs Dorothy Johnson.

Tidey said this was the best group she had ever worked with. There has also been positive feedback from parents and clients. A second group of clients are eagerly waiting for their turn to participate in this program.

- *Certificate 1 in Numeracy & Literacy* is run by Geelong Employability Inc. at Witt Street on Tuesdays & Wednesdays. The advanced group meets on Tuesdays and the basic group on Wednesdays. Each group has six clients engaged in the whole day program. The tutor, Jonathan Brown, has been very impressed by the enthusiasm shown by the clients. The program runs from June to November, by which time our clients will be proud graduates of Certificate 1.

Hema Kumble
Programme Manager



Start at the Very Beginning!

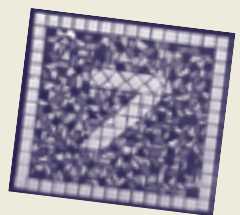
Don't forget to book your tickets to *The Sound of Music* produced by NADRASCA Amateur Drama, Dance & Song (NADDS) by arrangement with *Origin Theatricals*.

For a bargain cost of \$20, you can journey with the Von Trapps through a showcase of access, participation and community involvement at the Whitehorse Centre, 397 Whitehorse Road, Nunawading on December 15th 2005 at 8.00pm.

For ticket sales and enquiries, phone 9262 6555 or 9872 3922.

House Numbers

The ATSS Mosaic Group are creating **mosaic house numbers**. Made to order. 36cm X 40cm
Ring Janet on 98723922
Magnificent. Only \$30.00



Eastern Regional Sports Day

On Wednesday 26 October NADRASCA ATSS will be participating in a sports day with other organisations in the Eastern Region. Among those competing are Monkami, Onemda, Genesis and The Oakleigh Centre. Teams will perform a round robin of events, culminating in a 50m dash at the end of the day.

Organised by staff at Monkami and held at the North Dandenong Cricket Club, the day should offer a great opportunity to participate and socialise. With a BBQ lunch provided for participants and spectators alike it's going to be a fantastic day!

Simon Deutscher

NADRASCA NEWS

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