



Nadrasca News

Dignity. Diversity. Community. Industry.

Summer 2011/2012 Issue 25

Nadrasca Wins Whitehorse Business Group Award

*From
the Desk
of the
Executive
Director*

In July, Nadrasca entered the Whitehorse Business Group Awards, in the new 'Community Award' category, included to recognise the contribution that the Not-for-Profit and Community Sector make to the City of Whitehorse.

Nadrasca was selected as a finalist. An assessment and interview by an independent Business Analyst from Box Hill TAFE followed. At the Excellence in Business Awards Gala Dinner on 2 September, Nadrasca and the Fresh Youth Theatre were selected as joint winners of this inaugural award. Nadrasca was presented with a glass plaque and a framed certificate.



This Epworth Eastern Community Award recognises 'excellence in business practices, management, customer service and business vision', and is a credit to the staff, employees and clients of Nadrasca.

Board Member resignations

At Nadrasca's AGM on 23 September, three Directors: **Yvonne Mahony**, **Richard Copeland** and **Beth Reid**, did not stand for re-election/ resigned. Yvonne and Richard joined the Nadrasca Committee of Management in 1975 and Beth in 1993. **Chris Tann** also resigned effective 3 November, as he is moving to Brisbane. Together, these four Directors have given 94 years of voluntary service to Nadrasca. The Board and Nadrasca recognise, acknowledge and thank them for



Gus Koedyk accepting the Award from Vincent Borg, Executive Director of Epworth Eastern

their contribution. They have been involved in making many strategic decisions and have assisted in the success of Nadrasca in supporting people with a disability. They were farewelled at a private function and presented with a glass plaque in appreciation of their years of service.

In the past year the Nadrasca Community has mourned the death of a number ageing parents and one

of our older clients. We extend our condolences to their families and carers. Many of these people many have been involved with Nadrasca since its inception in 1967.

The Board and Management of Nadrasca wish you Season's Greetings, and a safe and enjoyable Christmas.

Gus Koedyk
Executive Director



Nadrasca's 2012 Calendar

The 2012 Calendar of beautiful and creative artwork by Nadrasca artists is an ideal Christmas present. Cost: \$12.50 (plus \$1.50 p&h) – order from Lee on 9873 1111. Proceeds will assist the further development of our Arts Programs.

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DIARY DATES

The **Rooks Road Head Office** is closed from midday 22 December to 2 January 2012 inclusive.

Community Options (Witt Street, High Street & Seniors) is closed from 28 December to 20 January 2012 inclusive.

Nadrasca Industry is closed from 23 December to 15 January 2012 inclusive. (Christmas Early Return Crew only returns on 9 January 2012)



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Nadrasca Industry



During October, Nadrasca Industry underwent its annual ISO Quality audit and again achieved ongoing accreditation status.

Following the closure of Timber, we commenced the extension at the southern roadway end. It is expected to be completed by the end of December. The building will then be fitted out with new warehousing racking/facilities in early 2012.

Results for the July-September quarter were pleasing, with above-budget income and surplus. The Contract Services business continues to grow through existing and new customers. Employees have been trained in new skills, and the response by employees and staff to the increased work requirement has been fantastic. In particular, employees from Timber have continued to adapt well to their new work environment and gain new skills.

We welcome the following new employees to Nadrasca Industry:

Peter Cramma
Keith McDonald
Jenny Chen
Kristen Pugsley
Neeta Singh

On the Friday before the AFL Grand Final, a traditional meat pie/doughnut/soft drink lunch was organised. Employees were asked to dress in their favourite team colours. Prizes of Myer gift vouchers were awarded to the best-dressed employees.

Nadrasca Industry again supported CanTeen in 2011, supporting young people living with cancer. Sale of bandanas and pens raised a total of \$231. Well done to all.

The Employee Representative Committee has again organised the annual Nadrasca Industry Christmas Dinner Dance on 16 December at the Manhattan Hotel.



Footy best-dressed – Back: Shannon Penman, Kerryn Doorey, Ryan Mitchell, Michael Vajna, Nicole Allemand. Front: Wayne Farmer, Philippe Smith, Patty Slattery

The last day of work at Nadrasca Industry will be Thursday 22 December 2011 and full production will resume on Monday 16 January 2012. A small crew will work from Monday 9 January 2012.

Everyone at Nadrasca Industry thanks you for your support during the year and wishes you Season's Greetings and a Happy New Year.

Peter Ray
General Manager, Nadrasca Industry



Renovation of old barn



Robert Finch on the tractor

Project Progression at The Farm

It's been full steam ahead at The Farm this month. Currently the old barn in the centre paddock is being restored – our sincere thanks to **Robert Finch** of **The Good Guys Nunawading** for funding this project. Robert and his team visited The Farm in November for a sausage sizzle to see the projects they helped with over the past four years.

The Farmers (along with groups from Melba and Yooralla) are planting heaps of vegetables, including tomatoes, beans and pumpkins. We are also flat out with contract mowing because the grass is growing very fast at this time of the year.

The car park extension (to cope with extra traffic from community groups accessing The Farm) has been completed. Scoresby Secondary College has assisted with planting small trees in the top paddock over two Mondays.

Rodney, Glen & the Farmers



Seniors@ Nadrasca

The Seniors have worked tirelessly for their 2012 Exhibition and the Box Hill Community Art Exhibition on 15 December. Their work is outstanding, in terms of the ideas and thoughts being transferred onto canvas. They have created masterpieces as Christmas gifts for family and friends.

The combined project with High Street clients is now complete. This has been a rewarding experience for the Seniors, who met new people, exchanged thoughts, ideas and watched art evolve on the canvas. More importantly, watching their peers become empowered in their creation of Art and more confident in their new-found skills has meant so much to the Seniors.

Paula Euthimiou
Seniors Service Manager

Community organisations supporting people with a disability need to explore new paradigms of inclusion and align themselves with asset-based community development strategies. Participation and Integration outline the obligation of service providers to assist people with a disability to integrate, participate and be involved in the life of the community. Inclusion is regularly mentioned as the outcome. Whilst **integration** is thought of as having a presence (with an understanding that this presence may lead to opportunities), the concept of **inclusion** is sometimes difficult to define.

Inclusion:

- Is not a disability issue. Inclusion is a community issue. Other members of our community experience exclusion and wish to experience inclusion.
- Is increased in the community not by education programs, but by approaching the community from a perspective of possibility and invitation and enlisting people to participate in ways that make sense to them. If more people participated in the process, more would own the commitment.
- Has three components: being there, feeling like you belong there and being missed if you were not there.

Extract from a presentation at the 43rd ASSID (Australian Society for the Study of Intellectual Disability) Conference by Anne Marie O'Brien

On 29 September, Nadrasca Community staff attended the Personalised Lifestyle Assistance workshop on the Art of Relationships. As we seek to enrich the lives of people with a disability, we are uncertain about how to involve and engage others not paid to be there. Families are worried about who will be there in the future; hence many put their hopes in the services system.

At Nadrasca Community, we are striving to **Evolve our Service Delivery**.

We aim to:

- Create opportunities and build freely-given relationships
- Focus on individual contributions which can lead to better communities for all of us
- Invite and nurture relationships in people's lives
- Create relationships that can safeguard people's lives

- Build circles of support which can develop and assist people to live the lives they want
- Facilitate and nourish people's efforts

In the past, we have concentrated on the activities of groups within Programs and people had to 'fit the model'. Now, we are moving to focus our efforts on intentional relationship building. We need to assist individuals with a disability to pick up on social cues, learning to advance a friendship in a way that occurs naturally for many people. The role of the Keyworker needs to be valued as a means of enhancing people's connections.

Have you had your Personal Plan created? If not, contact your Keyworker.

Finally, I would like to wish all of Nadrasca Community a safe and Happy Christmas.

Raeoni Turner
General Manager
Nadrasca Community



Changes to Nadrasca Community Options Service Delivery (Witt Street & High Street)

On 7 November, Service Delivery across High Street and Witt Street changed in another move towards true empowerment.

The aim is for people with a disability to spend time with their Keyworker, really getting to know each other. We now have two flexible days (High St: Mon and Tues; Witt St: Tues and Fri), where the Keyworker gets to know the person they support and assists in the development of their individual Personal Plan. The quality and type of information in Personal Plans will provide us with a better understanding of people's hopes, wishes, dreams, likes/dislikes and aspirations.

It's about providing opportunities and experiences with people to pursue their passions, interests, likes, dreams and goals in their Personal Plans, rather than just a focus on programs. People will be supported to access and take part in a variety of activities in their local community.

The Music Theatre Group (Witt St & High St) is busy rehearsing for the 2012 production, 'Chicago'. A fun-filled Trivia Night was held in November to raise funds for this production. Thank you to **Rhonda Hussey** and her team of supporters for their hard work in organising this and seeking donations from local businesses and staff, who

were more than generous. The night was a rousing success and in total, over \$4,000 was raised.

We wish everyone a Happy Christmas and a safe break!

Betty Hamilton
Manager Community Options
(Witt Street)

Maryanne Weir
Assistant Manager Community Options
(High Street)

Jodie Blobel
Facilitator of Active Support
& Advocacy

The Good Guys Nunawading are happy to support Nadrasca for the great contribution they make to our community



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No Exceptions...



When Nadrasca Industry was sourcing narrow shrink wrap, Graeme Drummond (our Business Development Manager) found suppliers 'Australian Made Packaging' in Norcal Road, Nunawading. Graeme was greeted by the Managing Director, Peter Edwards, and Barry, Head of Security. Peter showed Graeme through his factory, then asked to see our facility. All visitors to our site must wear a visitor's tag and even though he was 'Head of Security', Barry could not be exempted.



Meghan's Engagement

Three years on... After the challenge of sharing a house with three men, Gerard and I finally moved house. Stress levels were very high. I walked into the kitchen. Gerard was down on one knee with a beautiful, sparkling diamond ring asking me to marry him. I responded by bursting into tears and said, 'Are you serious?... Are you for real?... We are in the middle of moving house!' Gerard responded, 'Can you say Yes or No!' as he placed the ring on my finger. I finally said 'Yes' and we finished the day with champagne.

Meghan Coulter

Vale: Robyn Hadaway

We recently farewelled our dear friend Robyn Hadaway, who passed away after a long illness. Robyn is remembered fondly by all – she worked tirelessly as a volunteer for the Epilepsy Foundation at the Blackburn Opportunity Shop for over 20 years. Robyn worked at Nadrasca Industry from the age of 25 and attended Seniors@Nadrasca when she retired, until her illness prevented her from attending.



Front row from left: Liz Spicer, Caroline Chong, Janette McDonald. Back Row from left: Joanne Rice, Veronica Stroude, June Patterson, Rodney Cheetham, Bill Cook, Jacqueline Francischelli, Sandra Petz and Wayne Sporish.

Visiting Mummy...

In late July, a group from Witt Street attended Melbourne Museum's 'Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs' exhibition. Everyone had an amazing time. Bill Cook, who initiated the excursion, was in his element, reading all the explanations for each exhibit. The group enjoyed the outing and have requested more, so a similar program will be planned each month.

Melbourne Cup

Residents from High Street and Panorama Drive enjoyed the sights, sounds and thrills of the Melbourne Show, and followed it up with an exciting day at the Melbourne Cup, soaking up the atmosphere of the Spring Racing Carnival. No winners were backed but a wonderful day was had by all!



From the Left: Nicole Harrop, Darren Kilner, Emma Jennings, James Pattison, Jenny White

Accommodation Services

Our Stars of the Month

Congratulations to Matt on his award-winning performance in 'Monkams Night at the Oscars' which was enjoyed by all who attended. Catherine made her debut African drumming performance at the Surrey Hills Music Festival. Bill, Roger, Emma and Jennifer starred in the recent All Abilities 'Follow the Yellow Brick Road' Concert, where the audience was enthralled and captivated by an absolutely outstanding show.

Other Happenings

Sarah continues to be active in the Nunawading Orcas, Swimming. Andrew M is trialling lawn bowls, quickly picking up the intricacies of the game. Recently, Andrew S joined the Leisure Options Group and soaked up the sunshine in Queensland, while Gary relaxed in Mildura with his family.

On the Staff Front

We have been very busy recently – staff attended the Disability Support Worker Conference, Staff Safety Workshop, Healthy Eating Workshop, Active Support Workshop and the 4th combined In-Service Training for all Nadrasca Community Services Staff, while Supervisors attended the Community Services Leadership Conference.

Meghan Coulter

Accommodation Services Manager