

VOCAL POINT



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Welcome CEO Dr Clare Allen



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Cover image: Clare with Darryl, Jeane, Lianne, Janet and Louise at the Volunteer Morning Tea.



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Vocal Point is the official newsletter of Minda

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FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER CLARE ALLEN

I am happy to say that my first impressions of the Minda community have been extremely positive, with a warm welcome received from staff, volunteers, corporate partners, the Board, members of the Association, people supported by Minda and their families.

When I start in a new role the first thing I do is look at the 'pulse' of the organisation, and despite Minda experiencing a difficult six months, there is no doubt that passion and commitment run strong through our workforce.

We have good reason to be positive about our future and the anecdotes shared with me reinforce that Minda really is at the centre of people's hearts.

This support is found in the overwhelming response we received after a recruitment effort for senior leadership positions, with hundreds of applicants from across South Australia and further afield providing an outstanding pool of candidates to interview.

One of these positions, the former Chief Operating Officer role, has experienced significant growth in role and responsibility, so we have split it into governance and client services to ensure enhanced focus on these two key areas. I am pleased to announce that Kym Shreeve joins Minda as our new Executive Manager Corporate Governance, with the familiar face of Andrew Stoll as Executive Manager Customer Support Services.

Kym comes to Minda with a strong background in disability, aged care and health. She has particular skills in driving client quality, safety and wellbeing frameworks and systems aligned with the NDIS Quality and Safeguarding Framework.

With more than 25 years' leadership in experience in the human services sector, including as General Manager Development at ECH, Andrew first joined Minda in March 2019 as a consultant and now takes on a permanent executive position.

We also welcome Chief Financial Officer, Nick Stevens to Minda's leadership team. Nick is a commercially-focused chartered accountant with a blend of commercial, risk, audit and corporate finance experience within commerce and Big Four accounting firms.

Also new to the team is people and values-driven leader Lois Andrijich, who has been appointed as Executive Manager People, Culture & Change. Lois has worked across a range of diverse industries including aged care, retirement living, manufacturing and retail and has a strong interest in enhancing organisational culture.

I would also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the experience, passion and commitment of the existing team in Executive Manager Business & Customer Development, Marcus Gehrig, Executive Manager Infrastructure, Michelle Gheorghiu and General Manager Commercial Enterprises, Jamie Higgins.

Together, we are building a framework for success at Minda and moving back to purpose, to ensure we are best prepared to support our clients and their families in what has become a fast-changing environment under the NDIS.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Clare Allen'.

Clare Allen
Chief Executive Officer





FROM
THE
PRESIDENT
SUSAN
NEUHAUS

WELCOME TO THE JUNE ISSUE OF VOCAL POINT, AND MY LAST AS CHAIR OF THE MINDA BOARD.

The last six months has been a busy period for Minda. Minda is now experiencing the most transformative changes to our sector thanks to the ever-changing rollout of the NDIS, as well as an unprecedented level of scrutiny in Aged Care and new Quality Assurance Standards across the disability sector.

The Board's priority has been addressing sanctions imposed on the Minda Nursing Home. In recent months we have committed significant resources, expertise and major capital investment to ensure our residents can live and thrive in a safe and nurturing environment and that our workforce has the skills and training to support their needs.

I am pleased to report that, following recent inspection by the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission the Minda Nursing Home now meets *all* expected standards, and the sanctions will expire on 25 June.

This is a tremendous achievement and reflects the efforts and expertise of Greg Adey (g88 consulting) and Andrew Stoll but mostly the enormous hard work and commitment of Linh Truong and her team.

The Board also recently received the findings of an organisation-wide independent governance review. It contains valuable lessons that can be applied across Minda. A number of the 35 recommendations, such as implementation of an externally facilitated 'whistleblower policy', have already been implemented. Others, such as establishing an independent Clinical Governance Committee are well progressed. Whilst they will need to be prioritised, the Board has committed to implementing all the remaining recommendations which provide a roadmap for Minda's future.

As part of the process we have also delivered on our promise to refresh the skills base of the Board. We welcome four new Directors to the Minda Inc Board: Joanne Denley, Independent Board Director and Business Advisor; Darryl Gobbett, Chief Economist and Financial Adviser at Baillieu Holst; Kylie Gallasch, Group Executive Corporate Services & Safety at ARTC; and Andrew Heard, Director at Chartered Accounting practice, Heard Phillips Lieberenz. All are well-respected leaders and bring not only a wealth of commercial and governance experience, but 'heart' and values to their new roles.

The arrival of our new CEO Dr Clare Allen has also seen leadership change at senior executive levels with a refreshed team, new energy and business discipline. I know you will support her as she implements changes to drive Minda towards a culture of service excellence.

In closing, I would like to thank the Association, but particularly my Board colleagues over the last two years. It has been an immense privilege to steward Minda through such a challenging period and I extend sincere thanks to those who were prepared to step up and demonstrate their commitment and resolve to make Minda better.

I leave knowing that Minda is in good hands. The governance review recommendations will form the foundations of a new journey; one that will ensure Minda continues to be able to provide care and support to the people that we and you, care deeply about. I wish you well on that journey.

Susan Neuhaus CSC
President

Stars of the Stage

You'd be forgiven for thinking you stepped into a night club when the guys from RU Serious take the stage at Minda!

The beloved band – who are known for their tributes to everyone from The Beatles to The Beach Boys, Suzie Quattro and David Bowie – are the recent recipients of the Star Volunteers award.

At the April Coffee Club, we honoured band members Darryl, Steve, Peter, Errol and Max with an award in recognition of their outstanding service and for always turning it up to 11!

Volunteer specialist Louise Fletcher made the presentation to the band, saying they received the Star award for 10 wonderful years of volunteering at Minda.

The band's music is loved by people supported by Minda, who always look forward to hearing from RU Serious at the monthly Coffee Club and events like Stars of Minda and Christmas Carols and Markets.

Thank you, RU Serious, for everything you've done, and continue to do, for Minda.



RU Serious band members Darryl, Steve, Errol, Peter and Max

Welcome Dr Clare Allen

We have been excited to welcome Dr Clare Allen as Minda's new Chief Executive Officer.

Clare joins Minda after spending more than six years as CEO at Visibility Ltd – Guide Dogs WA/TAS; prior to that she was CEO of WA-based disability management organisation Community First International (now known as Chorus).

As well as being founder of values-based leadership and executive-coaching company Words That Express, Clare's impressive credentials also include being a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and the Australian Institute of Management.

"Minda's recent period of increased scrutiny offers an opportunity to learn and improve, and my plan is to work with the Board and Executive team to ensure a culture of excellence is in place which strikes a balance between the organisation's history and the need for a modern, efficient service delivery model," Clare says.

"My own passions and values align strongly with those of Minda, and I am excited at the opportunity to work with the people we support and their families to consistently deliver the best outcomes for people with disability."



Clare getting immersed in all things SA with South Aussie icon Andrew (Jars) Jarman and CMI Toyota's branch manager Adam McCallum (pictured left)

Reconciliation at Minda

With the finishing touches being made to Minda's Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP), we recognise and celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures through two events – National Reconciliation Week, and NAIDOC Week.

National Reconciliation Week runs from May 27 to June 3 every year, with the dates commemorating two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey – the successful 1967 referendum, and the High Court Mabo decision, respectively.

National Reconciliation Week is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia.

NAIDOC Week will run from July 7 to 14, with the theme: 'Voice, treaty truth: let's work together for a shared future'. The theme acknowledges that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have always wanted an enhanced role in decision making in Australia's democracy.

Karrarendi, run by Kura Yerlo, is a program which has been attended by Minda customers Maria, Elva, Dot, Lorraine, Mary and Juna for 25 years and recently they had some of their



Lorraine, Maria, Cheryl, Dot and Mandy at the Bearded Art Gallery, Gays Arcade

works on display at the Bearded Dragon Gallery (pictured).

Karrarendi means, 'to rise above and be proud' in Kaurna language and this Aboriginal disability group celebrates their cultures every Friday at the Taperoo Community Centre.

Maria says, "Staff at Karrarendi and those that support us from Minda Mentoring have been with us for a long time and understand our needs and how important Karrarendi is to me."

Maria says it is great that the Karrarendi

ladies have been getting together once a week for all this time.

"Karrarendi is a lot of fun. I like talking to Kura Yerlo staff, Sue, Kaz, Bernie and other people that come along," Elva says.

"I really enjoy being part of a group of Aboriginal people that come together each week. I like that Kura Yerlo and Mentoring staff ask us what we want for Karrarendi and assist us with our art. I still like to do some performing arts/plays as people were interested in me and my story."

World Games Medalist



Dale wins silver in Abu Dhabi



Dale with his medals at Minda Brighton

Tenpin bowler Dale returned from the Special Olympics World Games in Abu Dhabi with three medals – two silvers and a bronze.

Winning a medal in every event he competed in, 23-year-old Dale won silver in both his singles and teams events and bronze in his doubles.

"Getting ready for the World Games was a lot of effort, a lot of training, but it's been a massive honour to do it and lots

of people are proud of me," Dale says.

"The travel was better than I thought it would be, though I'll be quite happy not to get on a plane for a little while!" Dale joked.

Dale has been bowling for 15 years and competing in the Special Olympics for three years. He won his place at the World Games after a solid performance at the Special Olympics Australia National Games held in Adelaide in 2018.

He plans to keep competing in

the Special Olympics and is already straight back into tenpin bowling on Friday nights at Marion Bowland.

A self-advocate, Dale works at Laundry and Linen Services at Lonsdale. After flying home on a Saturday, Dale was back at work first thing on the Monday morning, and was welcomed by the staff in his area with a big photograph and congratulations, which he really appreciated.

Well done Dale on your tremendous effort!

At home with Marty

Marty is celebrating more than one year living with his mates Michael, Anthony and Des at Minda Brighton – and life is sweet.

A long-term resident of Minda, Marty made the move in February of last year with his cat Ginger.

"Ginger comes inside, sometimes he sleeps on my bed, or in the lounge, and occasionally he visits Anthony too," Marty says.

Marty takes care of feeding Ginger and making sure his furry friend has fresh water.

He also helps with chores around the house such as tidying up the plates after a meal and taking the bins out.

Marty says his favourite things about his home are the big TV in his room – so he can watch the football – and an Essendon guernsey he was given for his 50th birthday a few years ago.

Marty enjoys keeping his support staff, work colleagues and people around Minda up-to-date with the football, and always has the latest information on who's playing and who's winning.

Known for his positive and friendly attitude, Marty loves to greet staff and customers and this year will celebrate working at Minda's Store for a fantastic 35 years.



Spending time with Ginger



Marty with his Bombers guernsey

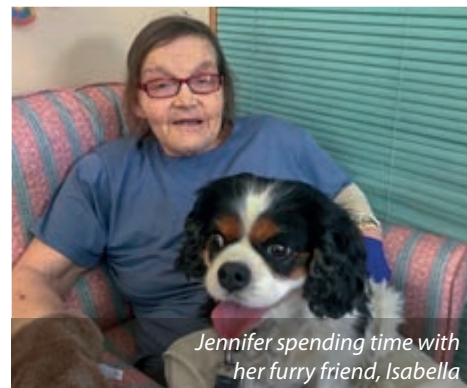
Minda Nursing Home Update



Robert getting involved in activities



Ron enjoying the maracas



Jennifer spending time with her furry friend, Isabella



Janet makes a bead necklace with Fiona



Paul showing his artistic flair

On Thursday 30 May, assessors from government agency, the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission (ACQSC), visited the Minda Nursing Home to find out how efforts are going to improve a number of key focus areas.

"We're happy to report that the Commission was pleased with the significant improvement made in all areas, and confirmed sanctions on the Minda Nursing Home will expire on 25 June," Residential Services Manager Linh Truong says.

"The assessors found significant improvement in all areas and highlighted positive feedback they had received from families and staff about the many improvements that have been made in recent months."

Although this is a great outcome, the team continue to work diligently to deliver great outcomes for the people who call the facility home, and their families.

This includes continued training and recruitment efforts, seeking continuous

feedback from families, and an ongoing contribution from Greg Adey who will continue in the Nursing Home offering support and leadership expertise.

"From our perspective, it means staying on track with continuous positive change and we will continue to work hard to ensure we can sustain and build upon this," Linh says.

"It also means ensuring preparedness for the new Aged Care Quality Standards which take effect on 1 July 2019, putting consumer dignity and choice at the centre of services."

The new service standards cover eight areas – consumer dignity and choice, ongoing assessment and planning with consumers, personal care and clinical care, services and supports for daily living, organisation's service environment, feedback and complaints, human resources and organisational governance.

To find out more about the standards, please visit www.agedcarequality.gov.au/providers/standards

Child Wise Accreditation

Minda has received Child Wise accreditation, with many staff now having completed this essential one-day training.

Accreditation is a visible recognition that Child Wise is satisfied Minda provides a safe environment for children and young people.

With staff undertaking Child Wise certification, our organisation can be recognised as a leader in child safety and wellbeing.





Georgia leads the way



Taking a walk through the mangroves



Barry on the boardwalk



Joshua and Georgia having a great time

St Kilda Trip

The MyPATH Monday Our Environment group recently took a trip to the picturesque St Kilda Mangroves Trail.

The trip was organised by staff member Tracy as an outing for the group to get amongst what nature has to offer. Everyone enjoyed the trek along the board walk and a stop for lunch.

Achieving success in NDIS Quality & Safety Audit

Minda recently underwent an audit against the NDIS Quality and Safeguarding Practice Standards. The audit occurred between 6 and 10 May 2019, with Minda assessed against 59 outcomes.

"The three auditors were very complimentary of Minda, and have confirmed that we meet the requirements under the NDIS standards," Board President Susan Neuhaus says.

"They were particularly impressed by Minda's customer-centric culture and praised the willingness of staff to go the extra mile for the people they support and their families – something that has always helped to make Minda stand out within the broader sector."

"While auditors are compiling their final report, it has been a valuable learning experience for staff participating in the audit because it not only reassures us that we are well-positioned to achieve the stringent NDIS requirements, but also identifies aspects where we can make enhancements as part of continuous improvement," Susan says.

Volunteer Morning Tea

Minda's wonderful volunteers were honoured at our Volunteer Appreciation Morning Tea held during National Volunteer Week last month.

About 60 people gathered in Verco Hall at Minda Brighton for morning tea served by students from Cabra Dominican College's St Mary's Unit, live entertainment from Sacred Heart College, and the opportunity to meet our new Chief Executive Officer Dr Clare Allen.

This year's National Volunteer Week theme was 'Making a world of difference', highlighting the significant impact volunteers make around the world.

Clare says this financial year, volunteers contributed around 6,700 hours to Minda.

"On behalf of everyone at Minda, thank you to our volunteers for the enormous contribution they make to the lives of others."

Clare also acknowledged volunteers who have been awarded our Star Volunteer award this financial year – Sue Laslett, Nigel Baker and band RU Serious.

Minda's Executive Manager, Strategic Marketing and Fundraising, Marcus Gehrig, was MC for the morning, introducing Clare, as well as our new Manager, Fundraising and Volunteer Services, Tom Radomski and

Volunteer Specialist Louise Fletcher.

Louise introduced guest speaker Lianne van Mierlo, who talked about her experience of being supported by volunteers.

Lianne is a very talented artist who participates in MyPATH programs and works part time at the Minda Laundry at Lonsdale.

She talked about how volunteers help her and shared a few of the things she likes about volunteers.

Lianne helped Marcus draw the lucky door prize, which went to a very excited from Steve from RU Serious!

"Thank you all for the difference you make in the lives of people with disability through volunteering," Marcus says.



Daniel and Adam from Cabra Dominican College



Janet, Marion and Yvonne



Marcus with Sally, Jeane and Valerie



Murray with his assistance dog Laurie



Jesse and Jan



Yvonne and guest speaker Lianne



Students from Sacred Heart College entertained the crowd



Hugh from Cabra Dominican College



The Jonats family

Cooking Up a Storm

Minda held a very successful community barbecue at Bunnings Marion, with more than \$1,700 raised.

Expert barbecuer Bill Rawlins from Rotary Club of Somerton Park came in early to help set up, and our wonderful volunteers Raul, Leeanne, Isaac and Tim assisted with set up, cooking and serving in the morning.

Long-term supporters of Minda, the Jonats family (Andrew, Pip, Sas, Zig, Tanya and Tom) assisted with cooking, serving and pack down in the afternoon.

Community engagement coordinator Nicole Carey says there were consistent sales all day, and customers were very friendly and generous with extra donations.

"Thanks to Marion Bunnings for letting us host this fundraiser and thank you to everyone who supported this event," Nicole says.



Volunteers Isaac, Tim, Leeanne, Raul and community engagement coordinator Nicole



Raul on the tongs



Janet at Minda Brighton

Janet's Volunteering

Volunteer Janet is getting great satisfaction from collecting volunteer time sheets around Minda Brighton.

Accompanied by a support worker, Janet walks around various locations and enjoys meeting and chatting to people along the way.



Sharon, Andrew and Jade with the award

Premier's Volunteer Award

Adelaide Arcade and Minda have been awarded the 2019 Premier's Certificate of Recognition for Outstanding Volunteer Service.

The certificate is signed by Premier Steven Marshall and Minister for Human Services Michelle Lensink MLC.

Minister Lensink says receiving this certificate is testimony to the dedication, commitment and support of volunteers

across South Australia.

Minda and Adelaide Arcade have had a successful partnership for many years where Adelaide Arcade supports Minda volunteers to undertake gift wrapping in the Arcade in the lead-up to Christmas, as well as Mother's Day.

Thank you to Andrew and the team from Adelaide Arcade for your generous support!



Minda's Community Engagement Coordinator Nicole with Eric at Calèche

Here Comes the Bride

Calèche Bridal House in Norwood recently donated more than 30 stunning wedding gowns from past collections and samples to Minda.

The gorgeous, hand-crafted gowns were then available for sale through an online auction, with the auction providing brides-to-be with a rare opportunity to bid on their dream wedding gown.

Calèche is committed to having a positive impact on the local community and the wider environment and has been supporting Minda for a number of years.

"An opportunity presented itself for us to donate a large collection of designer gowns which enabled Minda to raise considerable funds," Eric Foubert from Calèche says.

"It is a pleasure for our company to have found a way of supplying Minda with samples of prior collections and to be able to support its cause with regular contributions, and we will continue to do so."

Calèche is proudly manufactured in Adelaide, with all gowns designed and created in the Calèche workroom at Norwood and Eric says the company prioritises ethical businesses when choosing fabric and jewellery suppliers.

"Our next step was to create a range of bridal gowns made using natural and organic fabrics and upcycled fabrics, to spread awareness and work towards sustainable fashion. Our desire is to minimise waste and open a dialogue on environmental impact," he says.

"We strive to run our business in an ethical and sustainable manner; from small practices such as responsible waste management, to giving back to the community through donations and partnerships, and to providing a safe and ethical work environment for our employees."

As for the auction, it was a success thanks not only to the generous donation from Calèche, but also long-time Minda supporter, auctioneer Andrew Monks from Evans Clarke National who made the auction possible.

If you missed out on the auction, there are still dresses available to view, try and buy at Minda's ReStyle Sanctuary on Brighton Road.

YNA Opportunities for Growth

Five staff members are the lucky recipients of scholarships totalling \$6,300, thanks to our long-standing corporate partner Your Nursing Agency (YNA).

Mount Gambier support worker Katie Beare will use her scholarship funds towards a Certificate III in Individual Support, and Envirocare Team Leader Ivan Dargie is set to study a Certificate IV in Leadership and Management.

Ren Tharakan, a disability support worker from Minda Brighton will study a Certificate IV in Training and Assessment, while support worker Brittanny Santin will study a Diploma in Disability through the SA Learning Centre.

Disability support worker Jobie Joseph will study a Graduate Certificate in Disability Studies.

Your Nursing Agency is one of Australia's leading providers of healthcare staff to government and non-government health facilities.

The business is proudly owned and operated in South Australia and has been able to grow and develop in its national business from the Adelaide head office under Managing Director Joel Hepburn-Brown's leadership over the past six years.

YNA supports Minda through this direct care staff scholarship, which enables our staff to develop leadership skills and enhance the delivery of services to people we support.

Joel says YNA continues to be a strong supporter of Minda, its staff members and customers.

"We absolutely believe that by assisting Minda staff to access training and development opportunities, this investment in great people will contribute positively to supporting people with disability," Joel says.

"Our staff work side by side each day and we see the Minda/YNA relationship as a very important partnership."



Joel from YNA (centre) with Ren and Brittanny



Julie and John in the nursery at Reynella



Chene, Robyn, Kate and John working on packing the dog treats

News from Reynella

The packaging team at Commercial Enterprises, Reynella has been working on a great new job for South Australian company Bow Wow gourmet dog treats.

Supported Employee Coordinator John says the job allows people of all abilities to be involved in the work, which involves counting and packing Bow Wow's in-store range of natural and health treats.

Chene and Kate were enjoying working on the job with supervisor Robyn recently. Bow Wow products are sold in most supermarkets – make sure you keep an eye out!

Commercial Enterprises Reynella opened in January 2018 on the old Accolade Wines site. John says many new people have joined the team during the past year, while there have also been employees who have transitioned to retirement.

Julie joined the team at Reynella a few months ago, having moved with the crew from the old Craigburn Nursery, which is now located within the Commercial Enterprises' Reynella warehouse.

Julie says she loves working at Reynella: “The people here are very friendly.”

A new Bunnings store is also currently being built on the site, meaning Minda's Commercial Enterprises will be positioned in the heart of a mainstream commercial centre.

Unplug N' Drop Success

Electronic Recycling Australia (ERA) is achieving much success with its Unplug N' Drop electronic and electrical goods recycling program.

Since Unplug N' Drop began in February 2017, the program has nearly doubled its volumes of e-waste recycling.

ERA Account Executive Paul Bulluss says when the program began, it was recycling 130 tonnes of e-waste per month.

“We're now getting 240 to 260 tonnes of e-waste per month, and sometimes we're

reaching 280 tonnes per month,” Paul says.

ERA's partner businesses and organisations play a key role in supporting Unplug N' Drop's positive values of environmental sustainability and social responsibility in employing people with disability. Paul says Bunnings is a key Unplug N' Drop partner.

“Bunnings has been on board for 18 months now, and by the end of this year, we will have received 1,000 tonnes of e-waste from Bunnings alone,” he says.



Paul with the Unplug N' Drop cage at Minda Brighton



Jessica

Self-Advocates at Flinders

Self-advocates Maria, Jessica and Warren, along with Developmental Educators Max and Mel, recently presented on self-advocacy at Flinders University.

Each year, self-advocates are invited to present to students who are undertaking the Mentoring and Advocacy topic as part of the Bachelor of Disability and Developmental Education at Flinders University.

Max says the self-advocates provided the next generation of disability professionals with valuable first-hand insight into their lived experiences of self-advocacy at Minda, and how best to advocate for the rights of people with disability.

Warren, who lives in Salisbury, made his journey to Brighton for five weeks to participate in the My Choice My Way workshop. He shared some of his experiences of being an advocate and standing up for his rights after completing the workshop.

“He has not only built the confidence to advocate for himself, but has also been advocating for others in his local community,” Max says.

“Maria shared her valuable knowledge of the history of self-advocacy at Minda and promoted the university students to continue to advocate for their own rights as well as the rights of people with disability.

“Jess talked about her experiences of being part of the leadership group at Minda and attending the Having A Say conference in Geelong. She highlighted what self-advocacy means to her and how important everyday choice and control is.”



Movie Fundraiser

We are excited to have secured a premiere screening of the new Spider-Man movie as a Minda Movie Fundraiser at Wallis Mitcham on July 4!

The fundraiser includes the screening of Spider-Man: Far From Home and a drink and popcorn or choc-top on arrival.

The night begins at 6.15pm with door prizes and a raffle, with the movie screening at 7pm.

You can book tickets and watch the movie trailer on the Minda website: www.mindainc.com.au/blogs/minda-movie-night

Everyone is welcome, with proceeds going towards the people we support.

Self-Advocacy Quiz Night

The annual Self-Advocacy Quiz Night will be held on Friday October 25 at Somerton Park Bowling Club.

Money raised from the quiz night will go towards sending our self-advocates to the Having A Say conference in Geelong in February 2020.

The whole Minda community – staff, family and friends – are invited to attend for a night of great quiz questions and fun activities. Many self-advocates are already excited about the night and are getting ready to sell raffle tickets soon.

Mark the date in your diary – more details to come!



Barb enjoys an icy cold beer

Perfect Brew for Barb

The proof is in the pudding – or in this case, the icy cold beer, for Minda Home Care customer Barb!

A few weeks ago, staff member Coby accompanied Barb to the local community art and sculpture exhibition at Brighton.

If a picture tells a story, then Barb's day out was certainly a happy one!

Minda Home Care prides itself on caring and respectful staff who work with customers to support them in planning their goals to deliver outcomes they enjoy.

Minda Home Care is a registered provider through the Australian Government My Aged Care service, and offers flexible support options to meet customers' changing needs and goals, with as little, or as much, support as they choose.

If anyone would like to find out more about Home Care packages, contact the Home Care team via email homecare@minda.asn.au.

Easter Market

Our MyPATH Easter Market was a great success, with MyPATH customers, families and Minda staff enjoying the festivities.

The Market Day included stalls with some fabulous goods for sale, including hand-made items by our MyPATH groups including Cottage Craft, Pottery, and Pets Animals and Creatures.

MyPATH Op Shop, ReStyle Sanctuary, was also present with some pre-loved clothing and other items for sale.

The bake sale in LSP2 was a big hit, while everyone enjoyed a barbecue lunch cooked by Reece.

Of course, no Easter Market is complete without a visit from Easter Bunny, who hopped into the market with plenty of cheer – and chocolate Easter eggs – to share!



Hollie, Adam and Julie with their Easter bunny ears at one of the stalls



Adam rode in on a trike



Dot spreading the Easter joy



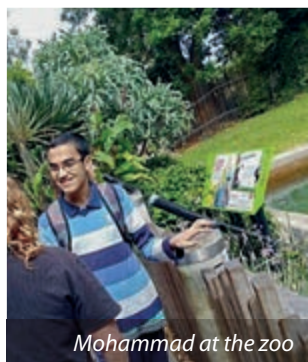
Adam, Bec and Josh



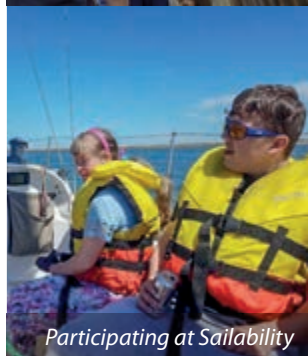
Deborah, Kate and Bianca selling delicious baked goods



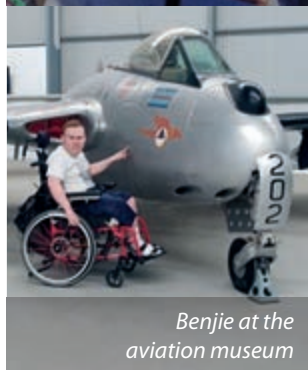
Erin and Sam



Mohammad at the zoo



Participating at Sailability



Benjie at the aviation museum

Adventures at Minda in the North

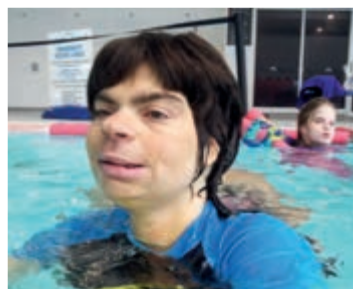
It's been another action-packed month of activities for the crew at Minda in the North, with a visit to the zoo, participating in Sailability, cooking and lunch outings all on the agenda!

Day Program Support Leader Louise says the Adelaide Zoo outing was a big highlight: "A couple of participants had never been to the zoo before, so they were quite excited to see the animals up close, including crocodiles, birds and monkeys," she says.

"We also took part in Sailability, and everyone enjoyed spotting several seals basking in the sun along the shoreline."

The northern team enjoyed a beautiful lunch at the Boatdeck Café on Mawson Lakes Boulevard, with a view of the large man-made lake and interesting sculptures.

The team also visited the Aviation Museum in Port Adelaide where they had access to a wide range of helicopters and aeroplanes.



Jessica enjoying time in the water



Maraika swimming underwater



Monica having a lovely time



A fabulous underwater photo of Caitlin

Going Swimmingly

Mondays are always something to look forward to for the Monday Community Swim Group.

The group travels to the SA Aquatic Centre at Marion each week and everyone has a fun time learning new water skills.

MyPATH Sport and Recreation (STAR) support leader Robyn says the Monday Community Swim Group is currently being encouraged to learn to swim laps, and to build on the number of laps they swim over time.

"Eventually we'll map how far everyone has travelled on a map of Australia," Robyn says.



Blend Creative Visits Bowden

Earlier in the year, Blend Creative's graphic design team visited one of their trusted print suppliers, Bowden Print Group.

Bowden's CEO, Damien, took the team on an extensive tour of the premises, showing them the pre-press department, explaining digital printing, offset printing, plate making, and print finishing, which were fascinating to hear about and see in action.

This tied in wonderfully with what Blend's training and development coordinator, Andrew, had been teaching the team about the printing process. It was also wonderful to show the team how their artwork is produced to bring Blend's amazing projects to life – from digital files, to business cards, booklets and more, across many different printers, machines and finishing processes.

The team very much appreciated this valuable experience and are looking forward to many more!

Spotlight on Kate

Kate has been a customer with Minda for several years now. Her parents Michael and Liz came across the organisation while they were on holidays from their former home interstate.

"We were in Adelaide for a holiday and decided to take a tour of this place our friend had raved about, Minda – it was a revelation!" Liz says.

"All the doors were open, and people talked to us and were friendly. But the thing that struck us most was that the customers came up and shook our hands. We'd never seen somewhere so transparent and welcoming. It was amazing."

Michael and Kate made the decision to move to Adelaide and Kate started attending MyPATH. After a while, it was suggested that Kate might like to work in the ReStyle Sanctuary Op Shop.

"She is making cups of tea, working the till, sorting clothes and best of all, she loves it," Michael says.

Kate has used working at ReStyle Sanctuary as an opportunity to develop her independence, and is a wonderful example of how our programs provide real-life experience and encourage the development of new skills.

One of Liz and Michael's biggest concerns for Kate was her independence and making sure she would be okay if one day they could no longer care for her.

"We were expecting we'd have to wait maybe 10 years for supported accommodation. That's what we'd heard interstate," Liz says.



Kate with her mum and sisters



Celebrating with a delicious cake



At reStyle Sanctuary



Kate loves spending time with her friends at Minda like Sam

"To receive the NDIS funding for accommodation, we had to apply for a review of Kate's plan. I was getting really worried because it took six months until it was sorted."

However, last year, Kate was offered an accommodation place with Minda. She was allocated a house at Minda Brighton, sharing with three other ladies.

"It was difficult letting go of Kate. But she's so happy," Liz says.

"Kate's self-esteem has gone way up and she loves the house. She comes to our place for family dinner on Mondays and she never hesitates to go back to her home with a smile."

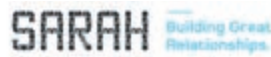
"We really underestimated how much Kate loves being at Minda. I don't think we appreciated it until we went away for a few weeks and saw how much she missed it."

THANK YOU



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