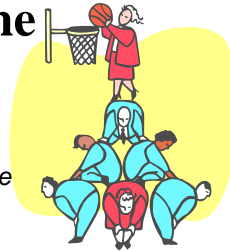


Knoxbrooke Talk

From the CEO

Rad Kilian
Chief Executive
Officer



I am pleased to report that the Board reform program as detailed in last month's newsletter is settling in well.

We have started to have our meetings in the more focussed subcommittee groups with the appropriate managers.

I am sure that the benefits derived from this will be real and substantial in the period ahead.

ATSS:

We have a slight increase in ATSS staff to cope with the extra client intake. All new and continuing staff are settling into their changed structure well.

Accommodation:

Housing staff has also been increased with the extra funding being supplied by DHS. This is to allow greater life choices for our clients however there is still a fairly long way for us to go before they will receive the full benefit from the State Government plan for individual choice.

Supported employment:

We are moving along a fairly rapid path towards fulfilling all of our aims.

We have concluded the first stage of our marketing plan and are now tackling a full business plan. Overall we have reduced losses dramatically but still have not been able to break even or obtain a surplus.

It is essential that we recoup our past losses over a reasonably short time to ensure our future sustainability and to enhance the services that employ in excess of 110 supported workers. I am sure that we can attain this; our wholesale plant sales have reached record proportions for us

in March and April, which is excellent. This significant improvement on last year was achieved in a continuing difficult market place.

We are fully geared for case based funding however this brings new issues and even further reporting requirements.

Those of you who attended the Annual General Meeting would have met Andrea Hayward-Petrucci. Andrea worked in DHS and was a great supporter of Knoxbrooke. Unfortunately she has moved on to bigger and better things and no longer is involved with our organisation.

I would like to thank her for the support that she gave me and our organisation during her time with us. I am especially appreciative as it was my first dealing with a government department.

DHS have supported us again with funds to renovate and make necessary changes for the better in rooms 6 and 7.

All staff are doing a wonderful job with the real continuing level of government funding being cut and the increased responsibilities being placed upon us.

They are coping very well, for this I thank them. They are our real asset.

Residential

Kerryn Bellantyne
Supervisor



Hi there everyone...I hope you all had a good Anzac Day - long-weekend and enjoyed those biscuits? (Lest we forget).....

Well, it's all go go go at the residential....

April 2005

Inside this Issue

- 1 From the CEO
Residentials
- 2 Knoxbrooke Nursery
Knoxbrooke Industries
- 3 Knoxbrooke Industries cont'd
ATSS
- 4 ATSS cont'd
'Thought for the Month'
Time Out
Autumn Review
Car Boot Sale

Knoxbrooke Incorporated
977 Burwood Hwy
Fernfree Gully 3156

April is a busy month for birthdays... we had Elaine celebrating her 68th birthday on the 7th, Steven who turned 35 on the 17th, and Mark turned 38 on the 28th of April, so there has been plenty of candles blown out....

A number of residents are involved in the Special Olympics, and are busy training each Sunday, with most attending the recent regional games and all coming home with various ribbons, and smiles on their faces...

The regional games will be on again in May, with all the swimmers off to Echuca, which is always a fun weekend.

Some on the other activities which residents' are involved in are: basketball, karate, 'Nubuddy' group, which is water aerobics with a social group network, football, not to mention various social activities, which all are involved in.

Steven, Linda, and Michael are off to America, in September for 13 days, which they are all excited about, and have their bags ready to go!!! I am still trying to see if I can fit in them.

Johanna is also off on a trip soon. She will be going to central Australia in July, and then will return home on the "Ghan", which will be exciting...Speaking of holidays...I must say a happy Bon Voyage, to Irene, who will be off to China on the 1st of May....have a great time, and we all want to see the photos....

On a last note....many thanks for all the well wishes, support, on behalf of James. He has made an amazing recovery, coping very well, but still has a long way to go...he will commence a intense physio/rehab program soon, but, it will be some time before he will be back to work and normal activities...but again

thanks for the cards, well wishes, and support.

That's all for this month...until next time - keep smiling.

Knoxbrooke Nursery

*Bruce Durant
Manager*



Thank goodness for the passing of a mild Summer, as we embrace the arrival of the breathtaking season of Autumn. Not only is it the season of brightly coloured leaves, but it also heralds the main commencement of Camellia's flowering. By planting out several different species, it is quite achievable to reap the reward of Camellia flowers within your garden for at least 8 – 9 months of the year.

The cool summer has assisted the government in the decision of lifting the water restrictions. This has in turn meant the lifting of the physiological barrier of how we can't enjoy our gardens without water. In reality, with a little education about mulching and the most effective way to apply water to plants, most plants including Camellias become drought tolerant. Obviously the new permanent water restrictions simply take on a common sense approach, with things like never hose down a concrete driveway and always use a trigger nozzle on the hose.

Due to the mild weather our plants have enjoyed some of the best growth in years, which has gratefully resulted in a hive of selling activity.

STOP PRESS

'FREE STEAK KNIVES,'
(Not quite, but mark this date)

SUNDAY 15TH MAY

MASSIVE PLANT CLEARANCE SALE *ONCE ONLY EVENT*

Hundreds of over stocked species and bargain box 2nd's

**Out the door at
wholesale cost prices
4 hours of mayhem
only:**

10.00am – 2.00pm

Exclusively for the family and friends of the Knoxbrooke community

**31 Kallista – Emerald Rd.,
The Patch (Melways 124 B4)
(1ST driveway on the left, after
The Patch suburb sign)**

Knoxbrooke Industries

*Lynda Hopkinson
Manager*



We continue to introduce to you our wonderful staff...

G,day folks! My name is Mark. I'm the driver, 'Jack of all trades, Master of none' at Knoxbrooke Industries.

Dollar Sweets have given us the job of removing the silver wrapping paper from 46 tonne (*that's right 46 tonne!*) of small solid chocolate Easter eggs. We consider it will take us about twelve months to complete.

We had a competition to guess how many Easter eggs were in a large jar. Ben was the one who guessed the closest and guess what? That's right he won the jar of Easter eggs. Ben's smile was that big I thought his face was going to fall in half. Congratulations Ben!

We have also just started another job putting labels onto 37 pallets of towels. With all this extra work it is keeping us all very busy. That's it from me for now. Smile it does you good.



.....Hooroo!

ATSS

*Belinda King
Manager*

Jenny Quelch

Autumn Review

Clients taking part in our drama program are rehearsing for the Autumn Review to be held at the ATSS on Thursday May 26th. (See the advertisement page 4) We would love to see you there!

Welcome

We extend a warm welcome to our new Band II instructor - Chris Tucker.



Chris has taken on the programs previously run by Rebecca (now in Japan).

If you run into Chris please make yourself known to him.

Staff Training

On Wednesday April 20th, our staff participated in a training day on 'Dementia'. This subject was chosen to further equip our instructors as they care for our ageing clients.

Reminder – Client Free Day

Tuesday May 10th, 2005 is a 'Client Free Day' as staff will be receiving training in 'Duty of Care'.

Car Boot Sale

On Saturday May 21st we will be holding a 'Car Boot Sale' here at the ATSS on Burwood Highway.

Sites cost \$20.00 and space is limited, so if you are interested in making a booking please contact Jenny or Dianne on 9758 3666. (Please refer to our advertisement on page 4)

Special Achievement

Recently Matthew P swam in State Games at Carey Grammar with fantastic results.

- Gold – 100m Backstroke
- Silver – 50m Freestyle
- Bronze – 50m Backstroke

Congratulations Matthew!

Renovations

Rooms 6 and 7 have recently received some quite extensive renovations.

Room 6 now has a new larger bathroom area that can accommodate a change table and hoist comfortably.

Room 7's bathroom was also altered to make it easier for both staff and clients to move around. This meant new flooring, and fresh paint.

Donations

Thank you to Helen's mum for donating to our cooking

programs a pizza maker and a stainless steel frypan. Also to Thaddeus's mum, thank you for the brightly coloured pieces of crockery.

Karate Program

Clients participating in the Karate program recently received individual Achievement Awards after being graded by their instructor.

Parents and staff who watched the grading were very proud of the way our clients conducted themselves in the program and wish to congratulate the people that took part.



Andrea & Samantha



Jodie (very serious business)



David learns to defend himself



Congratulations Steven!

Reminder

Please remember when assisting clients with choosing their attire for the day, that it is necessary to check their programs to make sure that appropriate clothing is being worn for each day i.e. bushwalking – strong shoes and warm clothes if the weather is to be cold.

Health and Safety regulations require that thongs, scuffs and open toed shoes cannot be worn while attending Knoxbrooke. This not only applies to clients, but also to all staff.

‘Thought for the Month’

Common sense and a sense of humour are the same thing, moving at different speeds. A sense of humour is just common sense, dancing.

Philosopher -William James (1842-1910)

Time Out

A man arrives a little late at a picture theatre and the movie has already started. As his eyes adjust to the darkness, he is surprised to see a dog sitting beside its master in the row ahead intently watching the movie.

It even seemed to be enjoying the movie – wagging its tail during the happy bits, dropping its ears at the sad bits and hiding its eyes with its paws in the scary bits.

After the movie, the man approaches the dog’s owner. “Jeez mate, your dog really seemed to enjoy the movie I’m amazed”. “Yes I’m amazed too”, came the reply. “He hated the book”!



Autumn Review

When: Thursday
May 26th, 2005

Time: 6.30pm Supper
7.30pm Review

Where: Recreation
Room
Knoxbrooke ATSS
977 Burwood Hwy
Ferntree Gully

Enquiries & RSVP:
13/5/05 – Jenny
9758 3666

Knoxbrooke Inc.

Car Boot Sale



977 Burwood Highway
Ferntree Gully

SATURDAY MAY 21ST, 2005
9AM TO 3PM



\$20.00 per site

Bookings and enquires phone 9758 3666 9am to 4pm



