

Knoxbrooke Talk

August/September 2006

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Knoxbrooke
Website

Knoxbrooke Incorporated
977 Burwood Hwy
Ferntree Gully 3156

Volunteers

Government statistics apparently tell us that volunteering is in steady decline, which is apparently the case when you read the article below that appeared in a newsletter especially put together to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Knoxbrooke back in 1994 and compare this with the lack of volunteers that we currently have at Knoxbrooke in 2006.

"Thank You

I would like to take this opportunity, to share some information on the great work that is being done by people who do volunteer work here at Knoxbrooke, and to thank them for their efforts which are greatly appreciated by the Centre, staff and clients.

With the recent volunteer training session managing to recruit a number of new volunteers to our team, Knoxbrooke now has 16 volunteers who attend weekly. Their combined effort, adds up to 37 hours of active program involvement. In terms of the amount of time that a full time staff member is required to spend in programs, this is equivalent to more than 1.5 staff positions.

They are involved in a variety of programs which include – swimming, tennis, literacy, art, woodwork, gardening, driving, indoor games, ten pin bowling, recreation, money skills, community access and even collecting manure for our worms.

Their involvement means, that clients can receive a higher amount of one to one support and instruction. This means that individual needs can be better addressed, and better results obtained. They also add a further social aspect to our Centre, with clients looking forward to seeing their volunteer when they come in.

To all of Knoxbrooke's volunteers, THANK YOU. Your efforts are truly appreciated, and please keep up the good work.....Phil"

To the few that currently do volunteer their time to assist our clients we reiterate the sentiments of the last paragraph of the article, because you are truly appreciated!

Congratulations!

To Tate (YVN) & Porter
Belated congratulations on the safe but premature birth of your first child and daughter, Anika, born July 3rd, 2006 weighing a tiny 575grams. Anika now weighs over 1.5 kilos!

To Bruce (Knoxbrooke Nursery) and Lauren
Well done and congratulations on the safe arrival of your son Riley Patrick (brother to Darcy) born on August 17th, 2006 weighing 8lb 13oz.

To Belinda (ATSS) and Josh
Congratulations on the safe arrival of your son and a warm welcome to Shaun (brother to Paige) born August 21st, 2006 weighing 7lb 7oz.



ATSS

Glen Bowen
Manager Disability
Support Services

Client Free Days at the Day Program Service

- 25th to 29th September for staff annual leave
- 6th to 7th November for staff annual leave and the Melbourne Cup Day Public Holiday
- 22nd December 12pm last day of program for 2006 (Client return date for 2007 is 23rd January 2007 and a schedule of 2007 dates will be published and forwarded to carers within the next month)

Introduction



My name is Glen Bowen and I am the new Day and Accommodation Service Manager at Knoxbrooke.

I have come to Knoxbrooke with 21 years of experience in accommodation, employment, in-home support and day program services supporting people with disabilities. Over half of this time has been in a variety of coordination and management roles. Most recently I was the Manager of two of Edar's four day program services in the inner eastern suburbs of Melbourne.

In the first 4 weeks of my new role with the Knoxbrooke Day Program I have been slowly getting to know all the clients (98 currently), carers and staff. I have also been trying to follow

the schedule of so many wonderful activities that clients get up to in their week with the support of the staff.

Although I have not spent very much time in our accommodation units yet, I have met most of the clients and staff and I am pleased to report that our CEO, Rad Kilian, has secured the services of an experienced Accommodation Manager from Wallara, to provide Knoxbrooke with consultancy support over the next 3 months. From this assessment Rad and I will be able to plan better for the future of Knoxbrooke's Accommodation Services including, looking at sourcing the appropriate funding levels for these clients that we support within their homes.

I have already attended one of Knoxbrooke's Day Program Sub-Committee meetings of the Board of Management and one of the committee members expressed that it would be very important for Knoxbrooke to communicate to carers the important trends happening in the disability field. What I will attempt to do in future editions of this newsletter is include some of this information and if it is more comprehensive; I will look at other ways to disseminate this information.

Client Council News

Client Council would like to thank Sam, Dianne, Bernie, Adam and Chris for all their effort and hard work they put into making our 'Mixed Bag' a very enjoyable and successful show. We would also like to thank everyone who came to watch and a very special thank you to Frances Rowlett for all her effort and hard work. An extremely special thank you to Barry and to our drama group for the effort and hard work they put into make our 'Mixed Bag' review an awesome night for all to see!

Barry has been excellent over the past year as director and conductor of the drama group.
.....Thanks Baz!

We would like to pay tribute and thank Belinda for the effort, time and commitment she has put in over the last few years as our day service Manager. She has been kind, caring and helpful to Rad, Jenny, the staff and our clients.

On behalf of Client Council we would like to say you have done an outstanding job as Manager.

Also, to Belinda, Josh and Paige, congratulations on the birth of little Shaun. We look forward to seeing him at some stage.

We would like to warmly welcome to Knoxbrooke, Mr Glen Bowen. Personally, I know Glen from EACH and EDAR. Glen, my mate, welcome to Knoxbrooke. We hope you enjoy your time here with us. Don't hesitate in asking myself and Client Council for any help you may need. We would be more than happy to help.

Lastly, Client Council would like to offer their condolences and sympathy to Dajana's family with her passing away. She was a valuable member of Knoxbrooke. She will be sadly missed by all at Knoxbrooke.

A very special thank you to Frances and Barry for their way of conducting and organising Dajana's remembrance ceremony. We remembered the good times we all shared with her, when she was here.

Yours sincerely
The Client Council – August 2006
Written by ADS (Adam James)

Basketball

The Knoxbrooke Tigers defeated the Beachlyn Bandits on Tuesday September 5th scoring 38 points to 30. Congratulations!

Queensland Camp
16th – 23rd August 2006
YeeeeeeeeHaaaaaaa.....
WHAT A RIDE!

I can safely say that Knoxbrooke clients, Steven, Russell, Marissa, Louise, Alexandrine, Rosie, Bill, Meg, Amber, David, Jodie and Travis had an absolutely wonderful holiday.

We experienced the 'gut wrenching' thrills/rides of Movie World and Dream World, the wave pool and tube ridges at Wet 'n' Wild, and aquatic wonders at Sea World, the toe tapping, cowboy/girl antics of 'The Australian Outback Spectacular', the occasional dinners at fantastic restaurants, yummy breakfasts/lunches and of course the energy and excitement of the crocodiles/animals at the late Steve Irwin's 'Australian Zoo'.

We stayed at Sea World Nara Resort, receiving brilliant, supportive service, comfortable accommodation and friendly attitudes. It was an absolute pleasure dealing with flight, resort, bus and theme park staff. This trip had been in the making for over a year and many thanks go out to Dianne Daniels for her thoughtful planning and organisation in providing Knoxbrooke clients with a 'rip tooting' 8 day holiday.

Thanks also to all the staff back at Knoxbrooke who pulled together to allow Dianne, Wayne and Antigone to tag along and be the token 'bag carriers' for the guys!

.....Antigone

Dianne and the campers would like to thank both Antigone and Wayne for their care, support and sense of fun, ensuring that everyone had the best possible time and giving all the opportunity to experience new challenges and excel!



Russell, Steven, David, Bill, Travis, Meg, Jodie, Amber, Antigone, Rosie, Alexandrine. Marissa & Louise



Travis, Russell, David, Steven, Bill & Wayne having a 'close encounter'

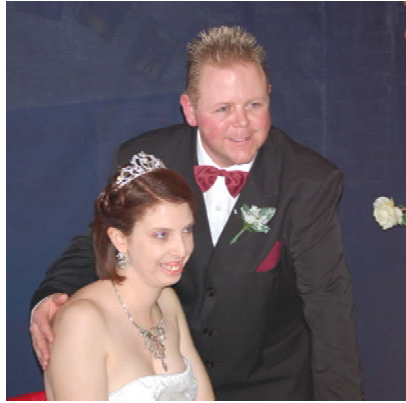


Amber (hiding), Xandrine, Jodie & Meg

Knoxbrooke Industries

Lynda Hopkinson
Manager

Congratulations to Glen and Kim on the occasion of their marriage, which took place at Knoxbrooke ATSS on Saturday September 2nd, 2006.



Glen and Kim wish to thank everyone who helped them to make the day wonderfully memorable, especially Bernie and Frances from the Knoxbrooke ATSS for their 'setting up' talents.

Grand Shed Opening

The official celebration of the opening of our long awaited shed will now take place on Wednesday September 20th at 12 noon.

We can now announce that the opening will have a very special guest in Doug Hawkins!

Everyone is welcome to join us for this special occasion and enjoy a sausage sizzle at the end of the ceremony.

Thought for the Month

"Crikey!"
Steve Irwin 1962-2006

Time Out

A senior citizen said to his 80 year old chess partner: "So I hear you're getting married?"
"Yep", was the firm reply.
"Do I know her?" he asked.
"Nope", was another firm reply.
"This woman, is she good looking?"
"Not really", said the prospective groom.
"Is she a good cook?"
"Can't cook to save herself", the old fella said.
"Does she have lots of money?"
"No. Poor as a church mouse", he said.
"Why in the world do you want to marry her then?"
"Because she can still drive!"

Bad Barry - Mooroolbark

40th Anniversary Dinner Dance



August 11th, 2007,
Karralyka
Function Centre,
Ringwood East.

"Fund Raising Shopping Trip"

Date: October 14th, 2006

Time: 7.45am to 5pm

Meeting Place: Knoxbrooke ATSS

Cost: \$40.00 with Champagne
Restaurant Meal

BYO: Morning/Afternoon Tea

RSVP: Jenny – Knoxbrooke
Reception
\$20.00 deposit asap



Knoxbrooke Website

www.knoxbrooke.com.au