

A close-up photograph of bright yellow flowers, likely a type of goldenrod, filling the upper half of the page. The flowers are in sharp focus, with some green leaves visible. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green.

WINTER EDITION 2019

HOMEPLACE NEWSLETTER



Welcome to our first newsletter

A large, stylized green sun icon is positioned on the right side of the page. It consists of a central circle with several curved lines radiating outwards, resembling a sun or a flower. The icon is a vibrant green color.

Welcome to the first edition of the HomePlace News. We have so much going on at HomePlace, and I'm pleased to be able to share it with you.

Preparing for the NDIS has absorbed much of our energy over the past three years, and I am happy to announce that all of our participants have now transitioned, and we are 100% in the new world of the NDIS.

The NDIS has provided individuals and their families greater opportunity to choose their service provider, and, as a result, HomePlace is now supporting an additional six participants in our shared living supports.

- Emily and Julie are sharing a home together at Pasadena
- Megan and Mikhaila are also sharing a home at Pasadena; and
- Jane and Janet are sharing a home at Woodville West

All three homes are brand new builds and part of the State Government's 100 Homes project. It is very pleasing that each of the participants is a tenant in their own right, with an individual tenancy agreement with the housing provider independent of HomePlace.

In the next two months, HomePlace will be establishing Participant and Family Feedback get-togethers. They will be both, an opportunity to provide us with feedback, and to meet other participants and families. We look forward to your feedback and catching up.

Denice Wharldall
Executive Director

Welcome Doug

If you've visited the HomePlace office lately, you may have come across Doug Hicks, our new corporate services manager. We asked Doug a few questions:

In 25 words or less describe yourself

Husband, father, brother, son and Australian. I enjoy working with people and have a strong sense of social justice and Aussie sense of a 'fair go'.

What was your last job?

I was very fortunate to be the General Manager HR, Admin & IT at ac.care (Anglican Community Care). ac.care was a Not-for-Profit organisation with a rural focus in the South East of SA from Murray Bridge, Riverland, Limestone Coast & Mt Gambier. Providing services in the community in the area of Homelessness, Children under the guardianship of the Minister (GOM), Foster Care, Relationship services and Aboriginal support services.

What attracted you to work at HomePlace?

Two things: One, the sector Homeplace operates in, which is disability. My time working at Bedford, was one of the most wonderful and rewarding experiences of my life and I wanted to return to working in this area and support the exceptionally wonderful people who support people with a disability. Second, and most important, the values of HomePlace resonated



Doug Hicks
Corporate Services Manager

strongly with me and aligned with my own. I know that I am very fortunate to be a member of the HomePlace team and working with such talented, compassionate and committed people.

Crows, Port or other

Any team playing the Crows :)
Other - Rugby League (Manly & QLD State of Origin supporter)

Morning or evening person.

Definitely a morning person, which is funny, as my wife of 33 years is a night owl.

Sweet or savoury

Savoury with a preference for pies and pasties.

Tea or coffee

Coffee, but rarely.

Di hanging up the washing independently



Every moment has potential

Research tells us that in shared living arrangements, person-centred active support makes a significant difference to the quality of life of participants.

What is person-centred active support?

Active support is a way of providing assistance to people that focuses on making sure individuals are engaged and actively participating in all areas of their lives - from personal interactions to daily tasks. It allows the people we support to be as independent as possible, and also provides staff with the skills required to support individuals effectively.

The active support approach encourages supporters and workers to customise their support to the individual to ensure they are meeting all of the person's needs.

The model uses four basic principles:

1. Every moment has potential
2. Maximise choice and control
3. Little and often
4. Graded assistance

HomePlace is implementing Active Support with the initial focus on our support for individuals who share a home together.

Over 40 staff have attended a one day Person Centred Active Support Workshop, which is being followed up with onsite individual training sessions.

Staff feedback on the training has been excellent and we are seeing staff being more creative and more deliberate in their interactions with participants.

Changes to the South Australian Transport Subsidy Scheme (SATSS)

IMPORTANT!

Order your book of SATSS (Cab) Vouchers by 30 June

There are some changes to eligibility for the South Australian Transport Subsidy Scheme (SATSS) for current members who have transitioned to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

These changes are due to transport support being provided as part of the NDIS.

If you have transitioned to the NDIS

While the National Disability Insurance Agency further refines its transport policy, current SATSS members who have transitioned to the NDIS will be issued **one further book of 80 SATSS vouchers when they re-order voucher books before 30 June 2019** (in accordance with the conditions of the SATSS).

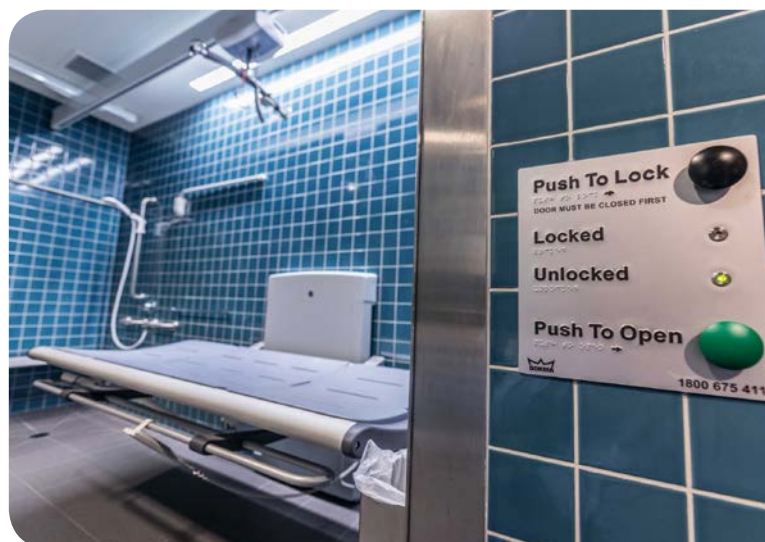
SATSS members who have transitioned to the NDIS and receive **Journey to Work vouchers**, should contact SATSS administration on **1300 360 840**.



If you are not transitioning to the NDIS

For SATSS members who are not eligible for the NDIS, **nothing will change and new voucher books can be re-ordered as usual** (in accordance with the conditions of the SATSS).

If you have any questions, the SATSS information line can be contacted on **1300 360 840**.



Changing Places Australia toilets now part of Australian building code

The National Construction Code now includes a new class of public toilets called Accessible Adult Change Facilities.

From 1 May 2019, specified public buildings across Australia such as large shopping centres, sports stadiums, museums, art galleries and airports must include an Accessible Adult Change Facility. This new type of toilet is an addition to accessible toilets and features full-sized change tables, electronic hoists and space for two carers and an adult.

We can be proud that Australia is now the first country in the world to regulate for truly accessible toilets.



Nick enjoying a cuppa
in the winter sun

HomePlace launches Support Coordination service

HomePlace is delighted to be able to now offer Support Coordination as a service to individuals with a disability. This means that our Support Coordinators can support participants to understand and get the best of their NDIS plans. Our Support Coordinators work closely with participants to explore options and find the right service providers for their needs. They will coordinate all supports, which include mainstream, informal, community and funded supports.

For more information, contact HomePlace **08 8445 9900**.



**FLU
SEASON IS
HERE**

Most of you will be aware that the flu season has begun early and it is really important that we protect ourselves and our participants from the flu.

For vulnerable groups the flu can result in hospitalisation and even death. For this reason, we strongly encourage you to get your annual flu vaccination.



Jane with her dog Larz



Janet with her cat Lucky

PETS ARE GREAT COMPANY

Jane and Janet moved to their brand new home in January and they very much looked forward to having their pets live with them once again. Both had spent time in temporary accommodation support services where they were unable to have their beloved pets with them.

Since moving to their home, the ladies are delighted to be reunited with their pets, and it is a joy to witness the positive effects of pet-ownership be realised.

Larz, Jane's dog and Lucky, Janet's cat are somewhat wary of each other, but they have worked out how to coexist in their new home.

LET'S TALK CULTURE

Isn't it wonderful for us to feel welcomed at HomePlace and be 'at home' with colleagues and participants? Our unique values at HomePlace are vital in shaping the way we treat each other, and in offering the best service we can to our participants.



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