



HOMEPLACE

NEWSLETTER

SPRING EDITION November 2020



Photo of Julie doing the YMCA dance at our 2020 AGM.

A word from the Executive Directors

This time last year HomePlace had just celebrated its 30th Anniversary with a dinner as part of our AGM and we danced the night away. We were not to know how much the world would change this year. At this year's AGM held in October, sadly we had no dancing and had to follow strict COVID rules. Despite the restrictions it was a great evening and a chance for us all to catch up.

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The recent COVID-19 outbreak in South Australia reminds us that the virus is still around, and that we can't become complacent. We must strictly maintain the hygiene, social distancing and service delivery practices we have in place for some time to come.

The Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability continues its work and have just released an Interim Report. A copy of the Summary of the Report is available on the HomePlace website. For those who are interested, the full 520-page report can be downloaded from the Commission's website <https://disability.royalcommission.gov.au>. We are looking with great interest at the information in the report related to group homes, more information is contained within this newsletter related to group homes.

Several HomePlace participants are making direct presentations to Commissioner Dr Rhonda Galbally on their experiences with service systems. The participants are supported by Our Voice and it is pleasing that the Dr Galbally has made time of half a day for each participant. This demonstrates the commitment of the Royal Commission to hear the voices of people with an intellectual disability.

Christmas is almost here, and although we had plans for a lovely get together on Friday 4th December, this event has now been postponed due to the recent COVID-19 outbreak in South Australia. We will look to create another opportunity to celebrate early in the new year as restrictions are eased. Until then, stay safe, stay well and stay home.

Denice Wharldall and Shirley Paterson

Executive Directors

HomePlace
believes in building
**long-term
relationships** with
our participants and
their families, to
ensure that
**positive and
sustained** outcomes
are achieved.





NEW LEADERSHIP FOR HOMEPLACE

Spring brings change and new beginnings, so it seems an opportune time to discuss a key matter regarding the future for HomePlace.

As members of the HomePlace community, you will hopefully know the Executive Directors of HomePlace will be retiring in early 2021. Shirley and Denice have been fantastic leaders and are true champions of the HomePlace approach and culture, which we all cherish.

The departure of Shirley and Denice may leave our staff, participants and their families uncertain as to what direction HomePlace will take going forward. I can assure all of you that the Board of Management has a unanimous view that the HomePlace culture of putting participant care and outcomes above all else. We strongly value a personalised approach, with true care and support, as this is what makes HomePlace unique and special.

The Board of Management is invested in ensuring this continues, even after two of its most strident proponents retire. The Board has set up a number of activities and processes to ensure this happens and this will be central to the Board's decisions on the appointment of the next Chief Executive to lead HomePlace.

The Board of Management is progressing well with the recruitment process for the new Chief Executive and I hope to provide you with the outcome of that process either later this year or very early in the next. We have allowed ourselves plenty of time to ensure that the skills, values and culture of the next Chief Executive align to those which make HomePlace unique.

If staff, participants or their families have concerns about the future of HomePlace and the new Chief Executive, then please do not hesitate to contact me or one of the Board members.

Braden Naylor
Chairman



From left to right: Richard Bruggemann, Braden Naylor and Shirley Paterson at the 2020 HomePlace AGM.

Senior Australian of the Year for 2021 (SA) HomePlace Patron Richard Bruggemann

Many congratulations to HomePlace Patron, Professor Richard Bruggemann who has been named Senior Australian of the Year (South Australia) for 2021. We are so very proud of him!

At 76 years old, Professor Richard Bruggemann is continuing to make a difference to the lives of people living with an intellectual disability.

Throughout his career, he has provided expert advice to governments on disability services, legislation, inclusion, and rights. He is a dedicated volunteer, has sat on more than 20 non-government boards and committees, and is a prolific writer on topics of concern for the disability community.

This year, he was called on by the South Australian Government to join the special taskforce investigating the tragic death of cerebral palsy sufferer, Ann Marie Smith.

Richard was also appointed to a new government role to assess the temporary orders to protect people living with a cognitive or mental impairment from the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

His ongoing leadership has helped create a community service system that helps people with intellectual disability and their families enjoy a better quality of life.

Please click on the link below from the World Health organisation on how to wear a mask.

SOURCE: www.australianoftheyear.net/recipients/richard-bruggemann/2273

RECOGNITION OF YEARS OF SERVICE

An organisation is only as good as the people who embody its vision and culture.

HomePlace would like to thank our valued staff for their dedicated commitment to the quality of care and support of the people we serve. At the 2020 Annual General meeting on the 22nd October 2020, four staff members were recognised for their milestone work anniversaries.

The certificates were presented to them by HomePlace Patron, Richard Bruggemann.



Judith Wild



Walter Elliot

Rizalita Lopez

Lisa Jenkins



HomePlace Patron Richard Bruggemann presenting 'Five Years of Service' award to Walter Elliot.

AGM 2020

annual general meeting

HomePlace had a very successful AGM on the 22nd October, where we closed out another great year of operation (despite the challenges posed by the pandemic), celebrated staff-service milestones, enjoyed fabulous live music, and caught up with our community.

Thank you to all who attended!



AGM 2020

annual general meeting



SHARED LIVING WORKS WELL FOR JACKIE AND KOBI



Jackie

Jackie has the kind of nature that would make someone feel cared for. She is interested in everyone's wellbeing and is compassionate, kind, and cheerful. Jackie loves spending time with her family and enjoys playing with her sister's dog. She loves her job and has plenty of friends from work who socialise together and even go bowling regularly. Jackie is a good swimmer, and she has great fun with painting and colouring in. As a huge fan of Disney, Jackie looks forward to her regular cinema visits and has probably watched every children's animated film that has been released. Jackie's love of animals means that she loves going to the zoo.



Kobi

Kobi is all about drama – literally. A natural and very talented performer at heart, Kobi absolutely loves her drama classes at No Strings Attached. Due to COVID-19, the classes were delivered virtually and she has been learning new IT skills to interact with her classes online. Drama is Kobi's way of expressing herself artistically. This year, Kobi has been very excited to have the chance among only seven Australian performers to participate in an international show called SAME-SAME. The show is an online, inclusive collaboration between No Strings Attached Theatre of Disability (Adelaide, Australia) and Diverse Abilities Dance Collective, DADC (Singapore). Kobi also enjoys her job very much and has a great sense of humour. She also loves visiting the zoo.





Join us for a

Christmas Party!

Friday evening, December 4th
5:30pm - 8:00pm

Thebarton Community Centre
Corner of South Road and Ashwin
Parade, Torrensville, SA 5031
(car park entrance via South Road)

RSVP by Monday November 23rd
admin@homeplace.com.au
8445 9900

Please advise of any dietary requirements.
This is an alcohol free event. Water and soft
drinks will be provided.

COVID-19 Instructions

- Please sanitise your hands on arrival.
- Sign the attendance sheet.
- Avoid physical contact with others.
- Keep 1.5m distance, where possible.
- Food will be served.

***Sadly, due to the recent outbreak of COVID-19 in South Australia,
we advise that our Christmas party has been postponed.***

***We will look for other opportunities early next year to celebrate
together. Until then, please stay safe, stay well and stay home.***



*Julie making
Christmas
table pieces
with Thelma.*



*'Tis the
season to
be jolly!*





The Place I Call Home



Respect



Trust



Safety



Partnership

WHO WE ARE

Established in 1989, **HomePlace** was formed by a group of parents who were seeking to secure an independent future for their adult children with intellectual disabilities.

Three decades later, the HomePlace service is just as personable, where **we support people with disabilities** to live well by participating in their own home and community.



HomePlace
LIFESTYLE SUPPORT
FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH A DISABILITY

19-21 Belmore Terrace, Woodville
South Australia 5011

9am-5pm Monday - Friday

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8445 9988

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