



HOMEPLACE NEWSLETTER

SUMMER EDITION February 2021



Farewell, Shirley and Denice

It's time to farewell our wonderful Executive Directors, Shirley Paterson and Denice Wharldall, who are both retiring from working life, today. No words will suffice to thank them both for their outstanding contribution to the disability sector in South Australia, their tireless advocacy work and their caring leadership of HomePlace. We are going to miss them very much and we wish them all the best for a happy retirement!



Welcome to our first newsletter for 2021

2021 has begun with many exciting developments at HomePlace. Before we said goodbye to 2020, we welcomed participants Oliver, Stefan and Roger to HomePlace. We welcomed in the New Year at our party on 29 January at Thebarton Community Centre, and celebrated the amazing contributions of our Executive Directors, Shirley Paterson and Denice Wharldall at their Farewell High Tea on 19 February 2021 at the Lakes Resort. It was wonderful to see so many participants, family members, staff and colleagues of Shirley and Denice's at these events. Hearing our patron, Professor Richard Bruggemann speak on Shirley and Denice's achievements, Ian and Karen's poem, as well as Shirley and Denice's reflections were special highlights. Congratulations must also be extended to Richard on his recognition through the Australia Day Awards as Senior Australian of the Year (SA).

The Government's COVID vaccination program started on 22 February 2021. Providing careful support to each participant throughout the vaccination process, as well as for HomePlace staff is a priority. We will try to keep Participants, family members, guardians and staff as up to date with information as we can. Safety of Participants and the HomePlace team is of vital importance to us, as well as supporting the health and safety of the community as we fight this pandemic.

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

Thank you for the exceptionally warm welcome extended to me as I start in the role of HomePlace's Chief Executive. I have observed, listened and felt in so many ways already the HomePlace culture where Participants, and enabling them to live better lives, are the focus of everything we do.

A key goal for 2021 and beyond is to continue to build and grow 'the HomePlace way' in providing support and services 'with a personal touch', showing our values of respect, trust, safety, partnership every step of the way with Participants and their families.

"The ache for home lives in all of us, the safe place where we can go as we are and not be questioned."

Maya Angelou

Julie Bowman
Chief Executive





Welcome to 2021 Party!





HomePlace Host stays have been 'Happy Days' for Moira and Deb

There have been a number of very successful homestays organised through HomePlace Host during the latter part of 2020. One of our success stories has been the great match between a young woman named Moira who has stayed with a wonderful host, Deb for several weekends. More recently, Moira stayed with Deb for a full week during a very big time for her as she transitioned from school and started two new day-options programs.

The match between Moira and Deb has been perfect. They are both active types and have enjoyed getting out and about, doing lots of different activities together as well as quiet times at home drawing and just hanging out together. They've been to the movies, spotted dolphins on the Dolphin Cruise, had train trips into town, lunches out, walks, collected shells at the beach and played on the swings at a local park. Deb even had a spare ticket to the Pageant so Moira went with Deb and her grandchildren just before Christmas, which she loved. In Deb's own words, "Hosting Moira through HomePlace Host has been an absolute pleasure."

Moira's Mum hit the nail on the head recently when asked what made her choose the HomePlace Host Program as a respite option for Moira. She said,



"Because it's not so clinical. People are not just 'managed'. HomePlace Host stays are family orientated and more about building communities around people. That's what I'm into and interested in for Moira."

And the best part is, Moira's smiles say it all!

If you know good people who have lived experience supporting people with disabilities and might be interested, we would love to hear from them.

HomePlace Host is always looking for new participants and hosts. Please contact Jenny Munro if you are interested in this fun, respite service.

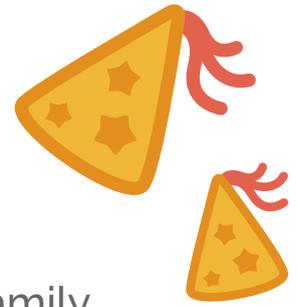


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Happy Birthday, Julie!

Julie celebrated a special 50th birthday at the the Mawson Lakes Tavern, surrounded by friends and family.



Paula's String Art and Mosaics.

Paula is someone who really loves doing artwork through her string art and mosaics. Here, she shows us her string artwork for the Port Adelaide Football Club logo (Below) and a mosaic of the Collingwood Football Club logo (Right).



Above: Kayla (Left) with Paula (Right).





Adventures with Jackie & Kobi

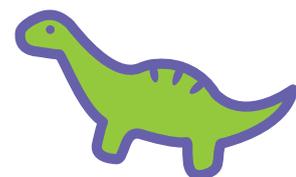
Right: Jackie had two lovely celebrations for her birthday, one at a cafe and another with her parents.

Below: Staff enjoying a belated Christmas lunch party at Highlander Hotel in January.



Left: Jackie and Kobi visited Dino World exhibited at the Adelaide Convention Centre.

It was a special experience for Jackie who loves dinosaurs and Kobi enjoyed the food court.





Shirley and Denice's High Tea Farewell





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

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FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH A DISABILITY

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