



# HOMEPLACE

## NEWSLETTER

**AUTUMN EDITION** May 2021



Autumn at Mt Lofty Botanic Garden by David Greenwell

### A word from the Chief Executive

The 15th of May every year is International Day for Families. This day was recognised by the United Nations in 1993 to reflect the importance the international community attaches to families. The day provides an opportunity to promote awareness of issues affecting families. The experience of COVID-19 has reinforced to all of us the importance of family and other ways to have circles of support for all of us. To the families of HomePlace participants, thank you for the leading role you have and will play in the lives of participants.

*(continued next page)*



Craig showing Julie all his  
favourite places to visit



## Family

Like branches on a tree, we all grow in different directions, yet our roots remain as one.

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I have been continuing to 'get out and about' and meet with as many participants and family members as I can. One of the requests I keep hearing, from both participants and some parents is 'can HomePlace please put on another event, so that we don't have to wait until the AGM'. So with this in mind, we are planning a new event to be a regular feature on HomePlace's event calendar:

### 'Winter Wonderland' Party!

Please save the date for our new mid-year party, **Friday 9 July 2021, 6pm-8pm**, for some food, fun and dancing.

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. We are seeking **your** input to help shape HomePlace's future and new strategic plan. We are keen to hear your responses to 3 key questions:

1. *"For you, what does HomePlace do really well to support you to have a good life?"*
2. *"What could HomePlace do better for and with you?"*
3. *"If HomePlace could do one NEW thing or one thing DIFFERENTLY to help you have a better life, what would it be?"*

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

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Please email your answers to [admin@homeplace.com.au](mailto:admin@homeplace.com.au) or bring them with you to the HomePlace Ideas Box at the July party. If you need assistance in preparing your ideas, please ask someone you know to help – this could be a family member, friend or someone from HomePlace.

As we head into shorter and colder days, Stay warm and stay safe in the place you call home!



**Julie Bowman**

Chief Executive



## BUILDING A GREAT STAFF TEAM FOR HOMEPLACE PARTICIPANTS

HomePlace participants are at the heart of everything we do. To enable participants to lead better lives, we are building a bigger HomePlace staff team and also investing in our current staff through introducing a number of approaches:

### Induction system improvements

Our staff tell us that our 'induction system' is really important, but there are some parts where there is too much information to absorb or that information could be communicated in simpler, clearer ways. We have started an improvement process to refine, simplify and systematise this crucial way that we set our staff up for success in providing active support with participants.

### On-the-job experiences

On-the-job experiences in senior roles are being introduced in a number of ways for staff. Gisela, Jacqui and Miriam are just three of our staff who have/are in the midst of acting in senior roles. Each senior support worker is mentoring a member of their participant's staff team so that they can be an additional contact for participants and their families during times when senior support workers are on leave.



### Training and Development

We are supporting a number of staff to participate in training experiences. Six staff recently completed training in Management of Actual and Potential Aggression, and seven staff attended: 'Towards a Better Life — an exploration of social role valorisation, and providing support for marginalised individuals'.

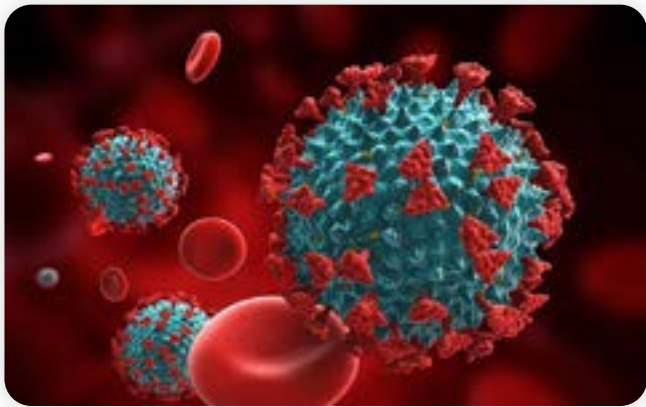


It was exciting to learn from social role valorisation (SRV) facilitator Jane Sherwin about how we can shape more valued roles for and with HomePlace participants.

Thank you to Jane and fellow workshop attendees (Gemma, Pat, Matt, Fernanda, Gisela, Jacqui and Julie) for sharing your wisdom and experiences. We look forward to putting SRV principles into practice so HomePlace participants can lead rich and enriching lives.

The two-day workshop provided a number of new staff with key learnings that underpin HomePlace's ethos of enabling participants to have valued roles and live meaningful, independent lives in the places they call home.

# COVID-19 VACCINATION



The Government's COVID-19 vaccination program roll-out has had its own recent injection to accelerate progress with this important part of Australia's response to the pandemic. Vaccinating against COVID-19 is our best defence against this life-threatening virus. HomePlace participants, families and staff are encouraged to place trust in the science behind the vaccine and roll up your sleeves and have your vaccination. Providing careful support to each HomePlace participant who elects to have the vaccination is a priority for us. We continue to try to keep participants, family members, guardians and staff as up to date with information as we can.

For additional information, please visit the HomePlace website.

[www.homeplace.com.au](http://www.homeplace.com.au)

**If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the HomePlace office on 8445 9900.**

# DISABILITY GATEWAY

"People with disability can contact the Disability Gateway to get free, fact-checked and private information and advice about COVID-19. They can also be referred to other support services if needed, including counselling and advocacy. The Disability Gateway can also help families, carers and support workers: <https://linkd.in/gN4QuUP>

To use the Disability Gateway, go to Disability Gateway or call **1800 643 787**. The Disability Gateway phone line is available Monday to Friday, 8am to 8pm AEDT.

If you need information in a language other than English, call the Translating and Interpreting Service on 131 450 and ask to be connected to the Disability Gateway. If you are deaf or have a hearing or speech impairment, call the National Relay Service on **1800 555 677** and ask to be connected to the Disability Gateway."

## **Disability Gateway**

1800 643 787

*(Excerpt from NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission)*





**Welcome**

## **MATTHEW PETERSON**

**Senior Coordinator**

Cycling is a passion and I try to ride at least once a week. One of my favorite past times is to attend concerts or shows and I enjoy playing the bass guitar.

I have worked in the disability field for over 25 years in a variety of roles from supported employment through to management. I am very pleased to be working for HomePlace, as I feel a strong connection with the organisation's values.

**Welcome**

## **FERNANDA HANNAM**

**Senior Coordinator**

I have worked in the disability sector for the past 26 years, and to me being able to care and support someone to become more independent and confident in their own abilities is the best reward.

What I like about HomePlace is the values that we uphold. It's a great feeling when you meet the participants and find out that they have been with HomePlace for 10 years or more.

**What are my favourite things to do?**

Going to the movies and spending time with my family and friends.  
Camping, kayaking and swimming.



I am Portuguese, was born in Mozambique, and moved to Australia in 1987. I am married and have two children who think their mum is a little crazy. I like to embarrass them, especially at school!

JOIN US IN

# Winter Wonderland

Friday 9 July, 6pm-8pm

*Wear your most colourful jumper!*

**Lakes Resort Hotel, Function Centre**

141 Brebner Dr, West Lakes

Meals Served at 6.30pm

**PLEASE RSVP BEFORE JUNE 25TH**

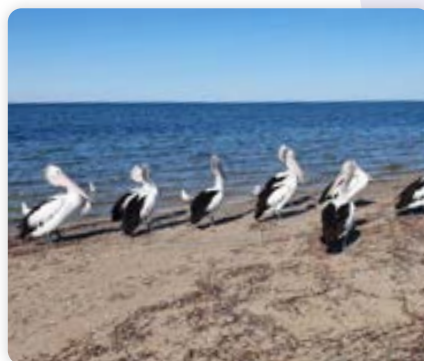
Email: [cmethot@homeplace.com.au](mailto:cmethot@homeplace.com.au)

Call: 8445 9900

**The greatest  
pleasure in life is  
doing what people  
say you cannot do!**



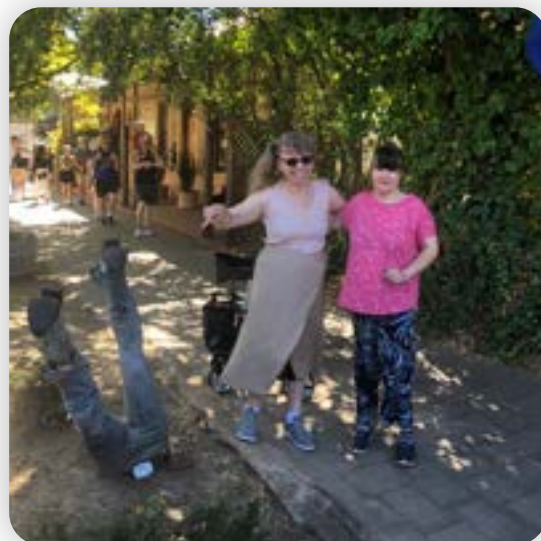
# A GORGEOUS DAY FOR A TRIP TO THE YORKE PENINSULA!







# JACKIE & KOBI'S TRIP TO HAHNDORF







# 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

[www.homeplace.com.au](http://www.homeplace.com.au)  
[admin@homeplace.com.au](mailto:admin@homeplace.com.au)  
8445 9900

**Please address all  
correspondence to**  
PO Box 16, Ferryden Park  
South Australia 5010

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