

From the President with Therese von Samorzewski



Therese von Samorzewski

It gives me pleasure to be able to report to the St Michael's Association community that our CEO Mr John Gilpin has signed a new three year contract to continue in his position until early 2017.

The St Michael's Board members are all in agreement that we are grateful to John for continuing his commitment and hard work to progress the development program and ongoing business activities here at St Michael's.

The Board is also very grateful for the last three years of John's professional leadership and high quality decision making expertise at St Michael's. Since John joined the Association his work to bring the goals and business prac-

tices into excellent focus with sound outcomes is to his credit.

To help to achieve these goals John has worked with managers and staff to ensure positive outcomes for participants, carers and families. It is difficult to summarize all of John's achievements even for the last twelve months but the following lists may give you some insights into his ongoing work.

I am sure that we will all continue to work with John and support the ongoing developments of the Association.

Work performance commended with particular mention of :-

Implementing Disability Care Australia requirements.

Purchase the first St Michael's Association owned Group Home.

I.T. hardware and software upgrades.

Introduction of Tapit and Ipad Technology to assist non-communicative clients, and development of an Interactive Learning Area for clients.

Purchase of the first

purpose built wheelchair accessible bus for St Michael's.

Continuing ongoing negotiations to work through, and complete for each phase of the NRAS offer, with relevant bodies, identities and the Board sub-committee.

Ongoing implementation of Schads Award for employees.

Completion and compliance with Quality Audit and recommendations.

Settlement with funding bodies for services provided for participants.

Securing NRAS Funding for the new 20 unit development.

RTO management.

Financial Performance:

Revenue over 3 million up 31% since 2011, net assets up 27% in 2014.

Excellent financial reporting to Board and sound communication with managers and staff.

Growth in Day Program activities.

Continuing growth in funds for the redevelopment

ment of the Merrington Centre.

Facilities

Re-Roofed Desmond Wood, Carpet Merton House and Carpet and curtains Desmond Wood.

Converted Terrapin into 3 units.

Staff

Staff Recognition Process Personal Learning and Achievement Process Innovation Award for Safety.

From 41 staff to 59.

Clients

Sports Equipment through Queechy High School.

Planning and Supporting Additional Day Programs.

Profiling our clients and Association through NDIS.

NDIA Signing - Prime Minister (former Hon. J. Gillard).

Donations Inner Wheel, Myer, etc and Myer's Court upgrade.

Thanking John and Board members and all those working and supporting St Michael's Association.



Advertisement

Peter Gutwein

Liberal Member for Bass

Rebuilding essential services

Thank You

Authorised by: Sam McQuestin 2/24 Murray Street Hobart

New - Independent Living Units

Work is underway on the development of 20 Independent Living Units at St Michaels.

The area has been cordoned off and work has begun clearing and laying out the unit foot-prints.

The 20 Independent Living Units are being constructed by R&B Constructions on the Hoblers Bridge Road site which will bring the total number of Independent Living Units to 44.

Funds for this large project has been approved through the National Rental Affordability Scheme (NRAS) to construct the 20 new units.

CEO John Gilpin said "the construction of the 20 units is a major project for St Michaels and will be a significant boost for the disability community with planning well underway with the project due for completion by November 2014 with full occupancy by December 2014".

Expressions of interest are extended to those Tasmanians with a disability which are looking to transition into Independent Living.

Please contact the Disability Manager Participant and Clients Donald Richards if you are interested. Donald can be contacted on 6331 7651.

Thanks goes to the NRAS and Housing Tasmania for their ongoing support in this project.



Imagine - Artistic Program

The Imagine Artistic Education and Development Program "Imagine Mature Artists Giving Inspiration and Nurturing Emerging Talent" has been a wonderful success with all participants excelling and being exposed to various artistic mediums including pottery, ceramics, line drawings to name a few.

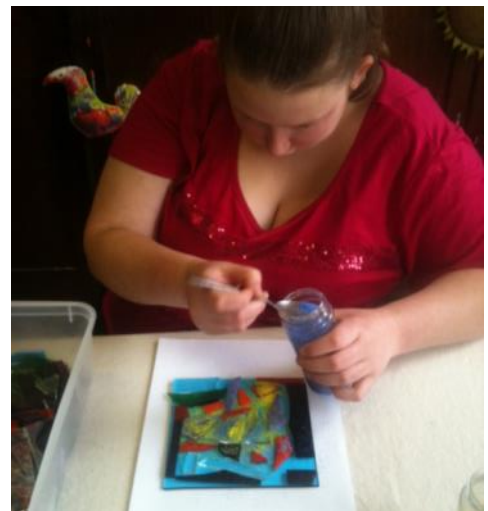
The purpose of the Imagine Artistic Program was to provide budding artists with access to artistic specialists. Specialist who could then assist the artists in developing new skills across a number of artistic medium and further enhance their current artistic skills.

Special thanks goes to **ANZ bank** for funding this marvelous program and Sarah Grubb for her support and co-ordination of the artistic specialists, who have worked tirelessly with the six artists. Including Geoffrey Archer, David Neil, Robyn Bye, Emma Malouf, Damian Colpo and Samantha Lewis.

The program is now in nearing completion and will culminate with an



exhibition featuring six remarkable emerging artists on Friday, April 11, 2014 5.30-7pm at the Tram Bar, Best



Western Plus Hotel, Earl Street Launceston.

You and a friend are warmly **invited** to attend the opening night of

this exciting exhibition. We would love to see you there!

St Michaels - At a glance

St Michaels Association Inc. is a not-for-profit non-government organisation providing accommodation and support to people with intellectual and physical disabilities for over 47 years.

The vision of St Michaels is to *develop independence through maxi-*

missing the individual qualities of Tasmanians living with a disability.

Our Mission is to *support the physical and emotional needs of our clients and their families through the provision of personalised care programs, training and a variety of accommodation services*

St Michaels relies heavily on grants, local community support, donations and fund raising to meet our clients needs.

All proceeds received are redistributed back into the St Michaels Association Inc. community.

If you feel you would like to make a donation, please complete the form **see page 15** and forward it to

Rod.Campbell@stmichaels.asn.au or post it to PO Box 306 Newstead, Tas. 7250

Thanking you for your consideration.

New Raised Garden Beds

Work is underway on the newly created raised garden beds between the Merton House Transitional Accommodation unit and the Independent Living Units.

The work is being carried out by RCD Paving Contractors and is due for completion early April.

Special thanks goes to volunteer Henk Duim and Asset Manager Mark Holdaway for their assistance with the development.

If you wish to become a Friend of St Michaels Volunteer call Glen Cornish on 0419 305 490



Volunteers doing a great job!

The volunteer team has been working feverishly in and around the St Michaels grounds.

The cleanup work has included general clean up, hazard removal, rubbish removal, painting and general repair works.

Special thanks to the friends of St Michaels including Glen Cornish and Henk Duim who have contributed to the cleanup work.

So if you would like to make a difference, do something worthwhile, help others less fortunate and have a bit of fun along the way we would like to hear from you. Please contact Glen today on 63272363 or 0419 305 490.



V8 Super Cars

A number of participants had a fantastic time at the Symons Plains Race Track on the weekend watching the V8 Super Cars.

Everyone commented that they had a great time and were looking forward to the next time they are able to go.

Special thanks to Disability Manager Participants and Clients Donald Richards who arranged for the day's adventure.



Outdoor Basketball Court

One of the favourite activities of our student participants is basketball.

Unfortunately there has not been anywhere that they could safely play so an outdoor miniature basketball court is being constructed in the grounds of St Michaels.

This purpose built area will feature an adjustable basketball ring that will be able to be utilised by all participants including those restricted to using a wheel chair.

Special thanks to the Tasmanian Community Fund for their generous donation and ongoing support and Ron Duncan from RCD paving for the construction.



Cycle 4 All - 2nd year program

The successful Cycle 4 All Program has once again been a huge success with many of our participants achieving their personal goals.

Disability Manager Operations Rod Campbell commented "many of the participants had never been on a bike before let alone finish with a 9 km ride".

Team Leader Ben Anderson also commented "One participant in particular was unable to even push the peddle when he first started!"

The Cycle 4 All Program is designed to equip participants with the relevant skills and understanding in how to use a bicycle as a means of transport.

The program culminated with the participants riding a return 9 km course to St Michaels for a celebration BBQ and certificate presentation.



Congratulations on everyone who participated in the Cycle 4 All program and thanks to

Andy Booke, Luke Ponso-Pedersen and the Department Infrastructure Energy Re-

sources for your ongoing support of this wonderful program.

Staff Retirements

It was a sad day for many of our staff and participants as Debbie Slater, Regina Lim and Val Abel have decided to call it a day and retire.

Debbie Slater and Val Abel both commenced at St Michaels in 1996 (18 years) whilst Regina Lim started in 2006 (8 years).

Unfortunately Regina and Val were unable to make the afternoon tea that was held to celebrate the occasion.

CEO John Gilpin and Disability Manager Participants & Clients Donald Richards passed on their thanks for a job well done and presented Debbie with a beautiful bouquet and gift.



Eagle's Edge - with Fenton Jones



Fenton Jones

In a flap over his long lost parrot, a US man has asked a Washington Court to allow him to question the bird he claims is rightfully his, on the witness perch.

He alleged that the Washington Animal Shelter wrongly adopted out an African Grey parrot he believed to be his beloved Loulou, which only a month earlier flew the coop.

He recently filed a lawsuit to reclaim the parrot, but is struggling to prove it is indeed Loulou. However, he said a demonstration of the bird's vocal repertoire, which includes the ability to hum TV theme songs and recite cute phrases before the court, will close the case once and for all.

In addition to being reunited with his feathered friend, he is also chasing US\$15,000 from the shelter for pain and suf-



fering he claims was a result of its decision to give the bird away to another home.

Prior to hatching court proceedings, he caught a glimpse of the bird through an open window and was immediately convinced of its identity.

"She seemed like she tried to communicate with me," he said.

On a more serious side, a Parrot's shrieks lead India police to an alleged murder-

A pet parrot in India has been credited with helping catch the man who allegedly murdered its owner, a relative said.

The owner, a 55-year-old woman, was stabbed to death and her jewellery stolen at her home in the northern city of Agra on

February 20.

The woman's relatives grew suspicious when her caged bird became agitated whenever her nephew, was in the home or his name was mentioned.

The family started calling out different names to the parrot, who stayed silent until the nephew's name was used, the woman's brother-in-law said.

"Whenever the nephew's name was said, the parrot shrieked and behaved abnormally and gave sufficient indication of him being involved," the woman's brother-in-law said.

"This information was passed to police."

The nephew, 35, who also had a bite mark on his hand from the woman's dog, was arrested

and charged along with an accomplice after the murder weapon and the jewellery were recovered, a local police officer said.

We certainly hope that nobody finds themselves in such a predicament. However appearing in court can be highly stressful, no matter the offence. By being proactive, experienced and discrete, Bishops Solicitors can help obtain the best outcome for you.

Minor criminal charges, restraint order applications, traffic offences, restricted licence applications and bail applications are heard in the Magistrates Court. You should get legal advice as soon as you become aware of the need to go to court. If you are not legally represented when you first attend Court but would like to be, you may ask the Magistrate to adjourn the matter so you can obtain legal advice.

Contact Bishops for an appointment and referral to one of our lawyers, Anna Lydon, who specialises in criminal law for initial advice and to discuss the options available to you.

Bishops Barristers & Solicitors - *Your friends-in-law*

Bishops Barristers & Solicitors has been providing legal services and support to their clients and the community for over 23 years, with a reputation as "The Friendly Firm"

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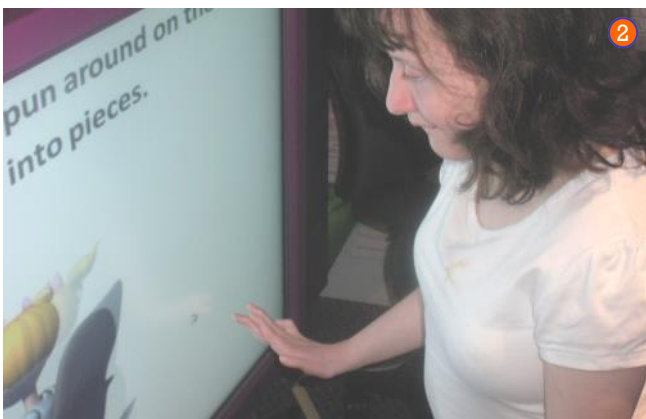
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Things we do...



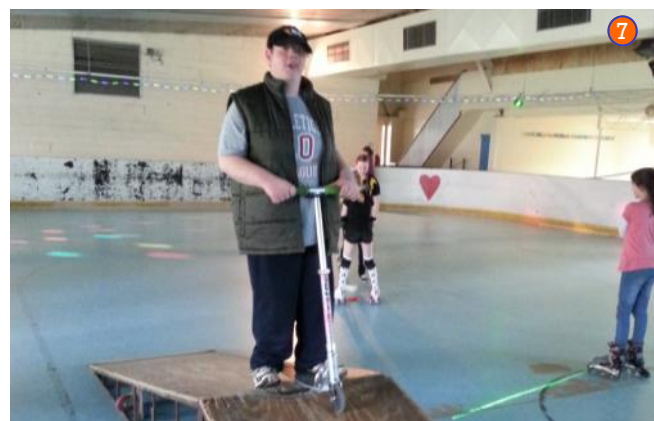
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Things we do...



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Things we do...



Would you like a copy of a photo? **See P12** for details

Recipes to make your mouth water



Mini Quiches Compliments of Jan

Ingredients

1 French Stick (thinly sliced)
7 Eggs
1 Clove garlic (diced)
1 Sml onion (diced)
1 Sml red capsicum (diced)
250g diced bacon
2 Cups grated cheese
1 Tspn chicken stock powder
1/2 Tspn dry mustard
Freshly ground black-pepper
2 cups baby spinach (cut small)
Sliced tomato
2 cups mushrooms (diced)

Method

Butter one side of bread, place buttered side down in greased muffin tin. Melt 1 table-spoon of butter in pan and add mushrooms, garlic, bacon, capsicum

& onion, sauté 6-8 minutes and let cool, fold in spinach.

Whisk eggs with pepper, mustard and chicken stock, then add cheese and vegetable mixture. Mix well and spoon into muffin tin on top of bread slices.

Top with a slice of tomato and extra grated cheese. Cook in moderate oven 20-25 minutes.



Dark Chocolate & Raspberry Mini Bites Compliments of Laura

Ingredients

3 Eggs
3/4 Cup castor sugar
1/2 Cup plain flour
2 Tbsp Plaistowe Dutch processed cocoa, plus extra for dusting
50g butter, melted
1 Punnet raspberries, cut into halves, plus 1 punnet extra
200g Plaistowe premium dark chocolate chopped
1/2 Cup thickened cream
Spray oil for greasing

Method

Preheat oven to 200C/180C fan forced. Using spray oil, grease two x 24 hole (1 table-spoon) mini muffin pan. Using an electric mixer, whisk eggs and sugar for 5 minutes or until mixture is thick and has tripled in volume. Sift flour and Plaistowe

Dutch processed cocoa over egg mixture, add butter and gently fold through.

Evenly divide mixture among pan holes, and carefully press raspberry halves into each hole, bake for 10 minutes, or until cakes are firm to touch. Cool. Remove from pan.

Place Plaistowe premium dark chocolate and cream in a microwave-safe bowl. Microwave on medium (50%) for 3 minutes, stirring every 30 seconds until smooth. Stand at room temperature until thickened. Place in a piping bag using a plain nozzle, pipe a small amount of ganache on top, top with extra punnet of raspberries.

Photos

Yes, I would like to purchase copy of a photo/s (please indicate page number, caption details, size and how many copies)

☐ 6x4" = \$2 No. of copies..... Page Number..... Photo ID Number.....

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Expiry Date:

Card Holder: Signature.....

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Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss First Name..... Surname.....

Address..... Suburb..... Postcode.....

Donations

Tax Tip

"even a \$2 donation can be used as a tax deduction!"

Yes, I would like to make a tax deductible gift to St Michaels Association Inc.

☐ \$5 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$75 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$1000 ☐ \$2500 ☐ \$5000 ☐ Other.....

☐ 1 time contribution

☐ Ongoing contribution ☐ Monthly x months ☐ Quarterly x years ☐ Annual x years

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Credit Card ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard Card Number

Expiry Date:

Card Holder: Signature.....

☐ Yes, please contact me to discuss other ways I may be able to help St Michaels Association

Details

Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss First Name..... Surname.....

Address..... Suburb..... Postcode.....

Phone:..... Mobile:..... Email:.....

Services offered at St Michaels

Community Access (Day Program)

Is an adult training program for people with special needs that require support in the development of the life skills that they may require to live independently in the community. The program operates from Monday to Friday, 8.30 am to 3 pm, most weeks of the year.

Transitional Accommodation

Merton House
Adult Accommodation is a transitional program that provides accommodation and training for adults who are preparing to live independently in the community. The program operates overnight from 3.00 pm to 9.00 am Monday to Friday and 3.30 pm to 9.30 am Saturday and Sunday. The residents attend day programs within and outside the organisation.

In Home Tenancy Support

Program started in 1995. The goals in this program are to give people assistance in their own home environment in the areas of life skills, personal care and budgeting and banking to maintain and develop their independent skills.

Community Housing

The Association also supports three Community Homes as a part of the Community Integration Program (CIP). Each home accommo-

dates 4 residents who are supported overnight 3.30 pm to 9.30 am, 7 days a week, with day support provided on Saturday and Sunday and the residents attending their day programs during the week.

Student Accommodation

Student Accommodation for students under the age of sixteen who are attending special units in the education department. Accommodation is provided from Sunday evening to Friday morning during school terms.

Youthbreak

Youthbreak is provided to young people up to the age of 25 in the Desmond Wood Complex from Friday 4.00 pm to Sundays at 4.00 pm when funding is available.

Individual Programs

St Michaels Association provides contracted support to individuals to meet their specific needs. This support may be in their home, day or night, or at an educational or work facility. This program currently extends through to the Southern Region where we provide support to young children with accessing their educational programs.

Social Club

Social Club is held in the hall at St Michaels every Saturday Night from 6.00 pm to 9.30 pm. This is a time for clients to get together for a meal and engage

in leisure activities of their choice such as card or board games, singing, dancing or enjoying a footy match on TV with a friend.

Independent Living Units

Independent living units are the most recent development at St Michaels Association. Each of the units provide independent living in a safe, supported environment. These units are more suited to clients with higher skills, requiring minimal assistance.

Registered Training Organisation

St Michaels are a Registered Training Organisation that provides accredited training for Tasmanians with a disability in partnership with Rural and Equity Training. Including Certificate I and II in Warehousing Operations, Certificate I in Agri-Food Operations and Certificate II in Horticulture.

Did you know?

The St Michaels Hall and kitchen facilities are available for hire.

If you are interested in hiring the facilities please call Lisa on 6331 7651

Details

The Independent will be distributed electronically on a bi-monthly basis.

General Display and Classified Display Advertising space is available if you would like to advertise your business.

Please contact Rod Campbell on 6331 7651

Contact Details

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