



ANNUAL REPORT 2012 - 2013





OUR VISION

For people with a
disability to lead a
life of their choice.

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ACN: 002 407 294 • **ABN:** 55 002 407 294 • Fundraising Authority **CFN** 10754 • © Kurrajong Waratah 2013

FRONT COVER: Will Peck - participating in his Becoming a Worker course at Kurrajong Disability Solutions.
INSIDE COVER: Hannah Siemsen - undertaking one of her many roles at Coles as part of her work placement.
BACK COVER: Tyler Whitmore - preparing a treat in the sandpit at Kurrajong Early Childhood Intervention Service.

PATRONS



Sir William Deane

Mr Allan Davis

Mr Daryl Maguire

SIR WILLIAM DEANE Patron In Chief

Sir William honoured us with his acceptance of the position of Patron in Chief in 1998 whilst Governor General of Australia. On the conclusion of his term of office in 2001 Sir William included Kurrajong Waratah among a select number of organisations he continued to support as Patron in Chief.

MR ALLAN DAVIS Life Member and Patron

Allan's involvement with Kurrajong Waratah spans many years as a parent. He has been a Board member of the organisation in various roles including Chairman of the Board. For the past 18 years he has been one of our two Patrons. Allan's service to Kurrajong Waratah was recognised and honoured with Life Membership in 1991.

MR DARYL MAGUIRE Patron and Member for Wagga Wagga

Daryl has been the NSW State Member for Wagga Wagga for 14 years. He has a strong interest in social justice and in initiatives that build and sustain local communities and services. Daryl is a strong supporter and advocate for people with a disability and their families.

CORPORATE LIFE MEMBERS

Myer, Wagga Wagga
Riverina Media Group
PRIME7
2WG/93.1 StarFM

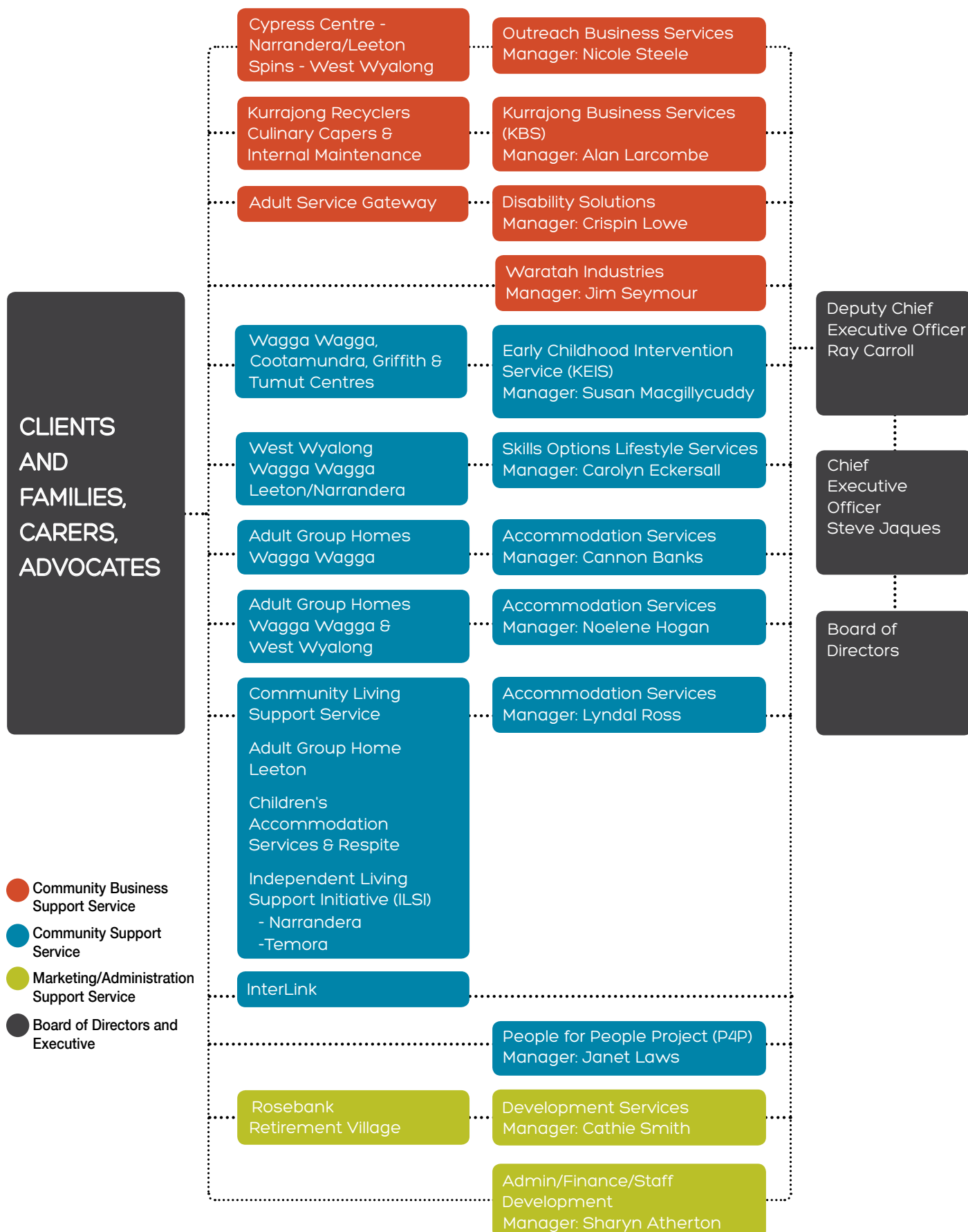
LIFE MEMBERS

Mrs Marjorie Anslow OAM
Mr Herb Cowley
Mr John Cosier
Mr Allan Davis
Mrs Nell Davis
Mr Bill Howitt OAM
Mr Wal Fife

Mrs Marcia Fife
Mr Michael Kennedy OAM
Mr Peter Perkins
Mrs Joyce Reynolds
Mr Ken Reynolds
Mr Cedric Robertson
Mrs Enid Scobie

Mr Allen Thomas
Mrs Audrey Cowley (dec'd)
Mrs Rita Deaner (dec'd)
Mr Bill Hurd (dec'd)
Mrs Lettie McDonald (dec'd)
Mrs Ada Robinson (dec'd)
Mr Wal Scobie (dec'd)

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE



BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2012 - 2013

There are nine elected Directors of Kurrajong Waratah - all being Non-Executive (unpaid voluntary) Directors.

The Non-Executive Directors of the Board contribute a range of skills and expertise to the governance of the organisation including: family and carer perspectives, client perspectives, strategic planning, legal, business and risk management, government relations, human resource management, education/training, health/medical, financial management and community relations/partnerships.



MICHAEL KENNEDY OAM

GARRY FORDE

BILL HOWITT OAM

PETER PERKINS

CURRENT DIRECTORS

MICHAEL KENNEDY OAM

President and Chairman of the Board (and Life Member of Kurrajong Waratah)

Michael has a long association with Kurrajong Waratah that totals over 40 years. Michael is a Consultant with the law firm Walsh and Blair Lawyers and is also active in a range of other community organisations and projects.

GARRY FORDE

Vice President

Elected in 1995, Garry brings in addition to his experience and knowledge from running his own business and managing others, a valuable family/carer perspective to the Board as a parent of a daughter with a disability.

BILL HOWITT OAM

Secretary (and Life Member of Kurrajong Waratah)

Bill has been involved with disability service management committees for over 36 years, and in 2005 was elected to the Kurrajong Waratah Board. Retired as a teacher, and as a parent of a son with a disability, Bill maintains a strong active involvement in disability and community service work.

PETER PERKINS

Treasurer (and Life Member of Kurrajong Waratah)

Peter is a retired principal of a large local high school and has had a long association with the organisation. As a parent, Peter has been involved in advocacy for disability services for a period spanning more than 35 years.

DR. MICHELLE FERNON

Director

A Board member for 6 years, Michelle is a Medical Practitioner having studied firstly Occupational Therapy and then Medicine. Together with her husband, Michelle is a Director of a specialist medical practice.

DR. MAX GRAFFEN

Director

A Board member for 5 years, Max is a practising medical practitioner with a strong interest in the health and well-being of people with a disability and their parent/carers through his practice and his involvement in regional health services where he is current Chairman of Murrumbidgee Medicare Local and past Board Member of Riverina Division of General Practice. Max is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

PAM GREEN

Director

A Board member for 5 years, Pam has retired as Head of Campus at the TAFE NSW Riverina Institute Wagga Wagga Campus after a long teaching and management career. Pam was instrumental in supporting the strong partnership links that exists between TAFE NSW Riverina Institute and Kurrajong Waratah.

KAY HULL

Director

It was with regret the Board accepted the resignation of Kay in November 2012 due to family health reasons. Kay remains actively engaged with Kurrajong Waratah.

Executive Director

The Executive (paid) Director of the Board is the Chief Executive Officer, Steve Jaques.



DR. MICHELLE FERNON

DR. MAX GRAFFEN

PAM GREEN

KAY HULL

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Michael Kennedy OAM
Chairman and Life Member

It gives me great pleasure to report on Kurrajong Waratah for the previous 12 months.

Once again the Kurrajong Waratah Board of Directors has been very diligent in their governance and oversight of all operating areas of the organisation. I thank them personally for their input, advice and their commitment to the services we deliver and are planning to deliver for people with a disability across the Riverina and Murray regions of NSW.

The environment we operate in is set to undergo major change and growth through the implementation of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). From 1st July this year the NDIS was launched in trial sites across Australia, one of which is the Hunter Region of NSW. Over the course of the trials we will continue to be monitoring the progress and outcomes closely.

The new operating environment for organisations like Kurrajong Waratah under the NDIS will move away from a government driven welfare system to a competitive market place. People with a disability and their family or carers, as a customer, will be able to purchase their services from the organisation or provider that is best placed or able to meet their wants and their needs to support their desired lifestyle.

The placing of decision making and choice in the hands of people with a disability and their family or carers will be in marked contrast to the way our services have been funded and delivered in the past. The strict and inflexible program boundaries that often comes with the funding to Kurrajong Waratah directly from government, has not always been responsive to people's wants and needs, nor to their changing circumstances.

The funding for disability services has always been inadequate. In NSW it services 55,000 people out of 140,000 people who are eligible for, and need support. The NDIS for people currently without services cannot come soon enough.

The roll out of the NDIS across other areas of NSW is anticipated to progressively occur over two years from 1st July 2016.



We are preparing for these changes and for the increased governance responsibilities that will arise from a new operating environment. A number of your Directors have participated in the Australian Institute of Company Directors courses run through our industry association this year to refresh and add to their governance skills and knowledge. Additionally we have engaged external consultancy resources to assist with our understanding of the implication of the changing environment and to help develop a three year strategic plan for 2013-2016 for the organisation.

Arising from the strategic planning workshop, Directors adopted a new Vision for the organisation going forward under the NDIS. The new Vision focuses on the increased decision making and choices that will be available to people with a disability and their family or carers.

The new Vision adopted is: 'For people with a disability to lead a life of their choice.'

The new Vision provides an effective point of reference for all planning actions and decisions regarding our existing and future services. All investment and expansion decisions by Kurrajong Waratah are now being referenced to our Vision to ensure they are enhancing the personal choices and citizenship of people with a disability.

The journey forward does not mean wholesale changes to our services. A number of our existing services are regarded as best practice as reflected by Kurrajong Waratah being nominated for the second year in a row as a finalist in the NSW Disability Innovation Awards. This year as a finalist we won the Award Category for "Excellence in Regional Innovation" for our performing arts program conducted through our Skills Options Lifestyle Services. No small achievement given the quality and depth of competition for these prestigious awards.

The journey forward for Kurrajong Waratah does however mean a strategic commitment to review, alter and better meet the wants and needs of people with a disability and their family or carers.

There is still uncertainty ahead for all of us until the feedback from the NDIS trials are known and begin to provide some clearer information and experiences to learn from.

Your Board however remains confident for the future from the initial steps that have been put in place to date, and from the knowledge, responsiveness and strength of our current services and commitment to continuous improvement.

Kurrajong Waratah's success in its many undertakings is due to the commitment and sacrifices made by its entire staff and the exceptional leadership qualities of management and I thank them all for such support.

Michael Kennedy OAM

Chairman and Life Member of Kurrajong Waratah

OUR VISION

For people with
a disability to
lead a life of
their choice.



While magpies can make their presence felt around Wagga Wagga, this magpie is being created just the way Barb Ceeney wants him.



Happy just to sit and relax in his new group home is Matthew Pottie.



Protected from the sun, little Lily Crowe is simply having outdoor fun at the Griffith Early Childhood Intervention Service.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Peter Perkins
Treasurer

Once again a most satisfactory overall financial result gives me pleasure in presenting the Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements for the year 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013.

Turnover for the year of \$21m is slightly less than that of the previous year. Total funding from the State and Commonwealth Governments was \$12.7m which represents 61% of total income. Our own businesses contributed \$6.0m or 29% of total income. The year past has been difficult for businesses generally and our businesses have struggled to meet budget expectations. Despite losing a significant government employment contract Kurrajong Disability Solutions (formerly Work Solutions) still achieved a most commendable surplus. All our businesses serve a remarkable function in providing employment for one hundred and fifty two employees with disability. Fundraising again demonstrated its importance to the organisation by contributing 4% of total income while fees and other income contributed 6%.

Wages, salaries and associated employee payments totalling \$12.8m and representing 64% of total expenditure is important for several reasons. Firstly, it shows that the majority of spending is on the delivery of direct services to our clients. Secondly the expenditure on wages and salaries makes a significant contribution to the economies of the local government areas receiving our services. The multiplier effect in these communities, through our employment of local staff who spend their wages locally, produces an increased flow of income that creates other jobs and benefits.

Capital expenditure of \$1.8m includes expenditure on buildings, property, plant and equipment and motor vehicles. The third group home at Olearia Place was completed at a cost of \$0.6m all of which was financed by the organisation from the proceeds of fundraising in recent years.

The total surplus for the year was \$0.8m which is consistent with expectations and reflects very favourably the initiative, commitment and effort of all managers and their staff in achieving this result.



The organisation has improved its already sound financial base with the growth of total assets (including cash, property, plant and equipment) to \$33.3m from \$31.2m in the previous year. Total liabilities amount to \$9.7m resulting in net assets of \$23.5m. It is worth noting that liabilities do not include any loans and our overdraft limit, as a risk management precaution with our bankers, is rarely used.

Thank you to the CEO, Deputy CEO and my fellow Directors for their support and for the role they play in ensuring the financial stability of the organisation. My special thanks to Mrs Sharyn Atherton, Finance and Administration Manager, for her ongoing dedication and efficiency.

Peter Perkins
Treasurer



Sharyn Atherton
Finance & Administration Manager

"The multiplier effect in these communities, through our employment of local staff who spend their wages locally, produces an increased flow of income that creates other jobs and benefits."

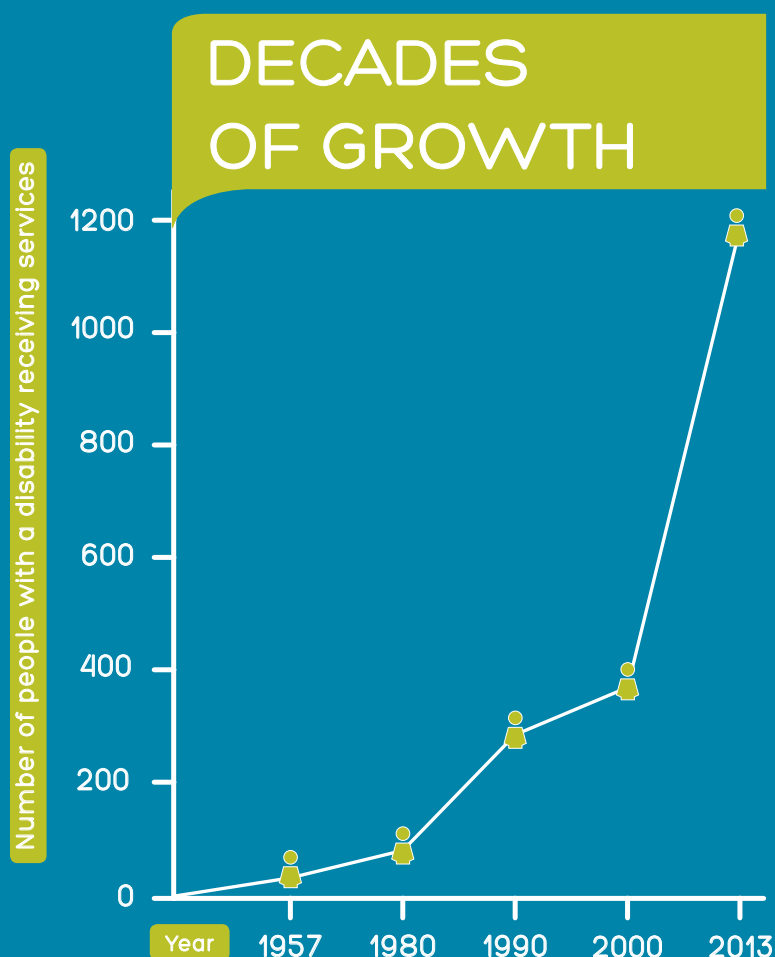
**KURRAJONG WARATAH
FINANCIAL RESULTS PARENT ENTITY
(EXCLUDES YALLAMBEE DENILQUIN LIMITED)**

INCOME STATEMENT

WHAT WE EARNED	\$,000
Sale of Goods and Provision of Services	5,877
Government Subsidies	12,721
Interest	397
Rent and Contribution Investment Properties	386
Fees, Fundraising, Donations and Other Income	1,232
Gain on Disposal of Property, Plant and Equipment	150
Total Revenue	20,763
WHAT WE SPENT	\$,000
Staff Costs	12,822
Property, Plant and Equipment Depreciation	1,483
Cost of Sales	960
Operating Expenses	4,717
Total Costs	19,982
SURPLUS FOR YEAR	781

BALANCE SHEET

WHAT WE OWN	\$,000
Property, Plant and Equipment	16,795
Investment Properties	2,397
Cash and Cash Equivalents	12,348
Debtors	1,159
Stock on Hand	236
Other	317
Total Assets	33,252
WHAT WE OWE	\$,000
Creditors	4,983
Rosebank Occupancy Deposits	3,411
Provisions	1,322
Total Liabilities	9,716
EQUITY	23,536



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Steve Jaques
Chief Executive Officer

This year's Annual Report has again sought to capture the essence and the highlights of another busy but progressive year for Kurrajong Waratah.

The service area and other reports are a testament to the ongoing focus of our staff and Managers on continuing to improve our service operations. Despite the uncertainty and unknowns about the specific details of how the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) will work, I am pleased that our staff continued to remain focused on delivering highly valued personal experiences and learning outcomes.

The year has had a dual focus for us. We have continued with a 'business as usual' approach to our current services and outcomes, but at the same time have taken steps that will position our services for the opportunities and challenges of a new and expanded disability system under the NDIS.

In our preparations for the journey ahead to the NDIS, a series of forums and meetings with families and carers were held across the Riverina and Murray regions earlier in the year. These forums were important as they provided families and carers with the opportunity to hear about the proposed NDIS, and about the broad benefits and changes that this new scheme and its funding is expected to deliver for them. It also provided the opportunity for Kurrajong Waratah to receive first hand from families and carers their ideas about the services they would like to have now, and those services and supports that they would like to have available in the future. The information gathered from these interactive forums was used in the development of a three year strategic plan for Kurrajong Waratah in readiness for the eventual rollout of the NDIS to all areas of NSW from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2018.

**"We don't promise
what we can't deliver."**



The Kurrajong Waratah Strategic Plan 2013-2016 has as its focus four goals.

1. Implement person-centred practices in all activities
2. Develop activities that support individual choice
3. Position Kurrajong Waratah as a provider of first choice
4. Manage growth

Under each goal there are a series of detailed Action Plans and Tasks that will drive our preparation and readiness for the NDIS. A number of actions are already underway and will be reported on at future forums and meetings.

An investment strategy to make available the necessary resources to implement the Strategic Plan includes where necessary the use of external assistance and advice.

In our Early Childhood Intervention Service area as an example, we have already commenced using some external help and advice to review our current practices. This investment in an external Consultant is helping us to align our service directions for the future for the age group of birth to eight years.

Such consultancy assistance provide external and different viewpoints on how and where we need to realign our service delivery to ensure a greater focus on individual choice, decision making, and that our services are delivered in appropriate environments, at appropriate times.

Further family and carer forums, engagement surveys and use of external consultants will continue to occur over the coming years to assist us to continually check that our plans and investment strategies are relevant to people with a disability and to their family/carers.

In closing, I would like to thank the Board of Directors for their continued support and guidance. I extend to my Deputy CEO, Ray Carroll and to all Managers and staff my appreciation for their commitment to making a difference to people who receive or benefit from our operations.

Steve Jaques
Chief Executive Officer

KURRAJONG WARATAH'S OPERATING REGION



Centres operate in these town/cities

Service area equivalent to
19% of the State of New South Wales

DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Ray Carroll
Deputy Chief Executive Officer

This year the organisation has continued to grow and change to meet the needs of the many people with a disability, their families and carers who receive our services across the Riverina Murray region of NSW.

As has been reported elsewhere in this publication we are entering a new and changing way in which we deliver our services. Even though the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) will not fully roll out until 1st July 2016, some changes are happening now which is evidenced by our receipt of funding to provide a more individualised service to clients under programs such as the Leaving Care Program in addition to receiving more Self-Managed funding packages for our clients.

Operationally, in a tight commercial market, our Business Services in Wagga Wagga, Narrandera, Leeton and West Wyalong found it difficult to meet their budgeted targets in some areas during the year with falling product sale prices a major contributing factor. With income levels not hitting budget it was pleasing to see that the Business Services Managers and staff controlled their expenditure well in such a tough environment. We are looking forward to a return to strong consumer confidence in the economy which will have a positive flow on effect for our supported employment businesses.

As part of our strategy to grow our businesses we have entered into a Recycling Agreement and a Product Stewardship Agreement with a large logistics company in relation to our E-Recycling products such as used computers and old televisions. We see the E-Recycling business as a real growth opportunity for the organisation and presently we are developing a business model to develop this business further.

Major capital expenditure will occur at Kurrajong Recyclers in the latter part of 2013. A glass crushing plant will be constructed which will break the glass into a sand and gravel substitute which can be used as road base, lining for underground pipes or various landscaping activities. The glass crushing plant will be operational by the end of this year and will enable approximately 3,000 tonne of glass to be diverted from landfill.



In July 2012 BSI Management Systems conducted the annual quality assurance audit for our Australian Disability Enterprises (ADE's). Very pleasingly, the audit revealed that there were no Notifiable Issues and no Non Conformances. This is again a terrific result and certainly reflects the excellent work done by our staff and employees to ensure that the organisation continues to provide best practice services in accordance with the Disability Services Standards. Also during the year an external audit was conducted on our Environmental Management Systems. These audits confirmed that we are complying with current environment management practices which is also a very pleasing result.

Kurrajong Disability Solutions (formerly called Work Solutions) have been very proactive in promoting the organisation to prospective clients through information days, expos and site visits and providing a clear pathway into our services for people with a disability. Kurrajong Disability Solutions' role will only be enhanced once the NDIS rolls out and more choice becomes available to people as to the service and provider they choose.

Our Adult, Children and Respite Accommodation Services continued to provide an excellent service together with our Community Living Support Service (CLSS) and Independent Living Support Initiative (ILSI) program. This year we were also able to provide a more flexible respite service enabling clients, families and carers to benefit from the extended respite provided.

The third group home at Olearia Place was completed during the year. We now have three quality group homes in this cluster on the outskirts of Wagga Wagga. Our clients have settled in well and they all love living in the quiet environment that has been created with the establishment of these homes.

Over the years our Skills Options Lifestyle Services have traditionally run very tight budgets, however, due to the great work by Kurrajong Disability Solutions as the gateway to our services and gaining new clients, plus the commitment by the Skills Options Lifestyle Services team, these services were able to be run at a small surplus which is a pleasing result.

Our Early Childhood Intervention Services continued to grow and provide much needed early

intervention services to many families which now include school age therapy being delivered which hasn't been done before. The growth of this service has been extraordinary and our staff do a great job meeting this growth and demand.

The People for People (P4P) workforce development program has continued to grow in stature and reputation within NSW. As a result of this recognition, P4P has been funded by ADHC to deliver staff training in behaviour management to day service staff in large Sydney based disability services by 30th June 2014.

Our InterLink service has now provided Older Parent Carer Packages to almost 350 families in the Riverina Murray region of NSW. This is an outstanding result and the assistance provided has enabled many families, carers and the people they support to enjoy some of life's necessities that many people without disabilities take for granted.

The smooth running of the organisation would not be possible without a competent and dedicated Administration and Development Services team. These staff have done a great job in ensuring that all administrative, promotional and fundraising activities are carried out in a professional and capable manner.

Finally, I would like to thank our CEO, Steve Jaques for his advice and support during the year. Our reputation as a leading provider in the Disability Services sector would not exist without the input of our managers, staff and employees. Your contribution to the organisation in so many different roles and responsibilities does not go unnoticed and is very much appreciated.

Ray Carroll

Deputy Chief Executive Officer

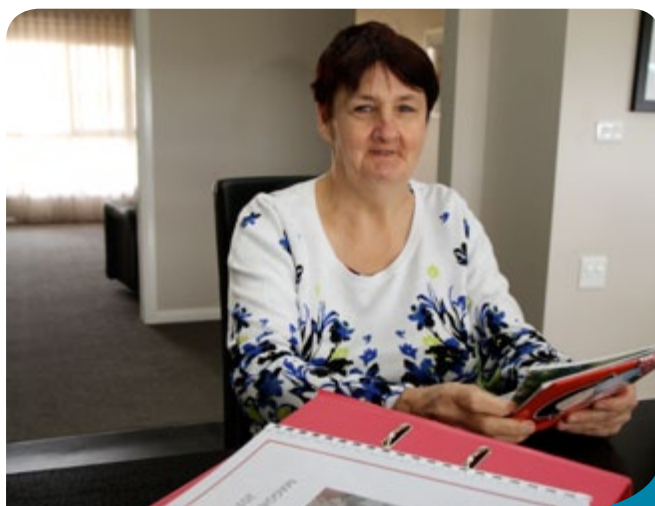
**"We see ABILITY
NOT Disability."**



Enjoying outdoor playtime at the Griffith Early Childhood Intervention Service is Michael Stephens.



Another crate almost full. Debbie MacLean prepares another batch of cut to length timber for a national hardware and home improvement company ready for dispatch and ultimate sale.



Residents are encouraged to play a very active role in the development of their 'Person Centred Plans', developed for people with a disability to lead a life of their choice. Maggie O'Kane explores travel brochures for the choices available.

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES REPORT

Cathie Smith
Development Services Manager

We would not have been able to achieve some of this year's accomplishments without the generous support of the community.

Kurrajong Waratah's donors are a diverse group of people, all dedicated to providing the best quality support, opportunities and experiences for people with a disability.

The official opening of Kurrajong Waratah's most recent group home, Olearia Place was the culmination of the efforts of the Kurrajong Waratah Race Day Committee, its supporters and the Ball Committee of 2007.

No government funding was available for this project making it a totally community funded project. Minister Andrew Constance in his address at the official opening said "in this community the passion and commitment to the improvement of disability services is not just talked about, it's backed up with community support".

We could not agree more.

Support does not stop here. Corporations such as Myer and Thomas Bros continue to play a vital role in our success through active partnerships.

Thomas Bros has supported Kurrajong Waratah for over 35 years through our art union, race day and in numerous other ways. We are incredibly grateful for the flexibility and willingness of the Thomas Bros team in the operation of our art union. Were it not for this assistance, the art union could not continue.

We thank Life Member Allen Thomas who supports Kurrajong Waratah and people with a disability in far too many ways to note individually. He does so without fuss or fanfare and is appreciated by everyone at Kurrajong Waratah.

The support of Myer, both as a corporation and the individual staff members is greatly appreciated. These dedicated staff worked hard, often in their own time to raise funds for projects which would not otherwise be possible. We are very appreciative and thank their fundraising committee: Karen Raufers (Fundraising Leader) Chris Boneham, Store Manager, Managers Meg Roache, June O'Connor



and Carol Viski and staff members Anne James and Marilyn Hartley for their ongoing support and generosity.

We acknowledge Myer's support of our art union by providing greatly discounted prizes and our all-weather ticket selling outlet. Myer has provided these benefits for over 30 years and are a major contributor of the art union.

Having the opportunity to benefit from the Myer Christmas Gift Wrap not only provides funds for our organisation, but the opportunity for our volunteers to publicly assist us.

Other very welcome support this year came from Joanne, Elise and Matthew Pascoe who undertook to support the Rural Getaway Holidays held at Borambola each year. This support was certainly the difference between being able to hold the camp or not. This gift was given in memory of the late Peter Pascoe by his family.

An anonymous supporter enabled Kurrajong to undertake some major repair work to roads and structures at Hildasid, our evolving Lifestyle Program on Gregadoo Road during the year. Three major flood events in 2010, 2011 and 2012 left us with no usable entry road and significant damage which impeded progress at Hildasid. We were honoured



The partnership between the Kurrajong Waratah Race Day Committee, Murrumbidgee Turf Club and Kurrajong Waratah's Development Services team achieves some pretty amazing outcomes. Pictured at the sponsor's celebration function are back row (l to r) Scott Sanbrook, Murrumbidgee Turf Club, Lindsay Garnock, Michael Douglas and Rob Balding, Race Day Chairman. Front row (l to r) Andrea Bradley, Tammy Holzheimer, Craig Barrett and Susan Duffy.

“...the passion and commitment to the improvement of disability services is not just talked about, it's backed up with community support.”



Myer staff work tirelessly and frequently in their own time to raise funds for Kurrajong Waratah's work and people with a disability. Pictured at the most recent presentation are back row (l to r) Garry Forde, Vice Chairman, Kurrajong Waratah, Marilyn Hartley, Myer Wagga, Cathie Smith, Development Services Manager, Kurrajong Waratah, Mr Peter Perkins, Director and Treasurer Kurrajong Waratah and June O'Connor, Myer Manager. Front row (l to r) Carol Viski, Myer Manager, Chris Boneham, Store Manager, Myer Wagga, Meg Roache, Myer Manager and Karen Raufers, Operations Manager and Fundraising Co-ordinator, Myer Wagga.

to have received this support and the assistance of other companies who contributed physically or through a reduction in their charges.

We are now looking with confidence to the development of Hildasid recognising its undisputed need in the immediate future. Continued support will be vital as there is no likelihood of government support or assistance towards this program at this time.

The desire to see Kurrajong Waratah continue to make a difference in the lives of babies, children and adults with a disability will be possible through the final gift of long term supporter and friend of Kurrajong Waratah the late Ken Seaman. Ken wanted his support to live on after his passing. It was a very humbling experience to be able to thank Ken personally when he shared his decision with us.

Our single largest fundraising event, the Kurrajong Waratah Race Day, is well reported in the Development Services and Community Support sections of this Annual Report. Worthy of recognition though, are the individuals who give their time to ensure the race day is a continued success. They are: Chairman Rob Balding - Westpac, Susan Duffy - D & M Electrical, Michael Douglas - Twomeys, Tammy Holzheimer - Commins Hendriks, Craig Barrett - Bolton Connolly Opteon, Andrea Bradley - WDF Professional, Lindsay Garnock - Boyce

Financial Services.

The committee's employers, fellow directors and partners who have supported them in their endeavours and share in the success we have achieved are also acknowledged and appreciated.

We are indebted to the Murrumbidgee Turf Club (MTC) for the allocation of this day and cannot speak highly enough of Stuart Lamont, Chairman, Scott Sanbrook, Manager and the Directors of the MTC for their assistance and support. See our 'Through the Lens' section of this report pages 39 to 64 for pictorial coverage.

Kurrajong Waratah relies on the generosity of our corporate and community organisations and individuals for people with a disability to lead a life of their choice.

The local and regional media assist us with the promotion of services and events in our communities through the use of valuable airtime, editorial or pictorial space. This assists us to promote the achievements of people with a disability and the promotion of our high profile events and news stories.

We have enjoyed an incredibly long and rewarding relationship with PRIME7, The Daily Advertiser and 2WG/93.1 StarFM and we cannot thank them enough for their continued willingness to support us.

Our staff, managers, directors and in particular, my own staff, deserve a huge vote of thanks for the contribution they have made towards our successful events and the financial achievements made through fundraising and community support this year. I am personally very grateful to each of you.

Thank you to our CEO Steve Jaques and Deputy CEO Ray Carroll for being a major part and influence which enables us to bridge the gap between what is, and what could be for people with a disability.

Cathie Smith

Development Services Manager

Together we
can bridge the
gap between what
is, and what could be.

KURRAJONG DISABILITY SOLUTIONS

Crispin Lowe
Disability Solutions Manager

After 13 years of formal schooling, the next step into adult life can be both exciting and daunting for all students.

With the National Disability Insurance Scheme being fully rolled out from the 1st July 2016, for students with a disability and their parents, this step can be particularly overwhelming as they seek to understand the vast array of information about the opportunities that are available to them as young adults.

To make the transition from school easier, Kurrajong Waratah has established 'Kurrajong Disability Solutions' as an information and referral pathway service providing a single access point for all Kurrajong Waratah services and is located at 73-75 Johnston Street, Wagga Wagga.

Recent consultation with families revealed that in offering a wide range of service choices and initiatives, it was important to not only help families with timely and correct information, but to also make their pathway into Kurrajong Waratah's services easier.

Kurrajong Disability Solutions staff liaise with schools across the Riverina Murray in the local government areas of West Wyalong, Cootamundra, Temora, Junee, Wagga Wagga, Narrandera, Leeton, Griffith, Hay, Balranald, Deniliquin and Finley to identify and assist students and their families become eligible for funding through both State and Federal disability programs such as Community Participation and Transition to Work. We also work with other service providers and the broader community to assist the students to understand the range of choices available through Kurrajong Waratah across the Riverina Murray.

Kurrajong Disability Solutions' Case Workers provide intake assessment services and ongoing case management for clients looking to transition to services provided by Kurrajong Waratah as well as brokerage management for people wishing to access self-managed and individually funded packages.

One program that is highly successful is the "Transition to Work" program. This program assists



young people leaving school manage their barriers to employment through completing a 'Cert 1 Employability Skills' course as well as participating in a range of supported work placements within Kurrajong Waratah and in the community through the assistance of local employers. This program is very important to Kurrajong Waratah as many of these young people transition into the businesses owned and operated by Kurrajong Waratah.

For people seeking advice or services provided by Kurrajong Waratah, contact Kurrajong Disability Solutions on **1300 764 620**.

Crispin Lowe
Kurrajong Disability Solutions Manager



As part of her Becoming a Worker course, Kristy Snowden enjoyed real life work experiences in businesses including Salon Christie.

WARATAH INDUSTRIES

Jim Seymour
Waratah Industries Manager

Our focus this year was to remain competitive in an extremely slow and price competitive market, continue to supply a quality product to our customers and grow our range of products and expertise both in our skills and willingness to achieve.

The close partnerships we have formed with our suppliers and customers from various businesses such as Hyne Timber Tumbarumba, Carter Holt Harvey Tumut, Lumara, Ausply (Big River), Proway and Metroll are just a few that we have continued to work with and support us.

As well as the larger suppliers and customers Waratah Industries has fulfilled more one off orders mainly from the local area for specialty products such as personalised design architraves and floorings.

We are producing quality products on time which is ensuring our customer base has confidence in the operation to continue to place orders. Our 22 employees have continued to step up and show what great skills and work ethic they have.

This year has seen a number of work placement students from local schools as well as Transition to Work clients undertake work experience in the factory which has given them a concept of working life after school. We have enjoyed having them at Waratah and we hope they have enjoyed the experience and gained a level of skill which will help them in the future.

Our continued emphasis on involving staff and employees and listening and acting on their suggestions around improving process and systems has created a more open, safe and involved work site.

Safety remains a core value at Waratah Industries and work processes and good housekeeping continue to improve to ensure we are maintaining a safe and healthy workplace for our staff, employees and visitors.

We are looking forward to the new year to further diversify our markets and products to ensure we grow and remain a viable business.



I would like to thank my staff and employees for their continued support and the dedication they have in making Waratah Industries a success.

Thank you also to our CEO Steve Jaques, Deputy CEO Ray Carroll and the Board of Kurrajong Waratah for their continued support and contributions to Waratah Industries.

Jim Seymour
Waratah Industries Manager



Training is an important part of the Supervisor's role at Waratah Industries. Pictured providing training to Geoff Pitman on the docking saw is Darren Johnston.



Variety makes a day more interesting and Lesley Daniels proudly demonstrates her involvement in the preparation of termite barrier components for a customer.

KURRAJONG BUSINESS SERVICES

Alan Larcombe
Kurrajong Business Services Manager



It has been extremely busy at E-Recycling since the introduction of the Product Stewardship Scheme. The team has responded magnificently and cheerily as they carry out their duties in the E-Recycling shed.

Kurrajong Business Services (KBS) Wagga consists of three businesses providing supported employment for 72 adults with a disability to increase and enhance their skills in a variety of jobs.

Kurrajong Recyclers has further enhanced their reputation as the major materials recovery facility in south west NSW and Riverina Murray regions. This year the tonnages of materials processed and recycled was 15,000 tonnes which is an exceptional amount of material diverted from landfill.

The demand and value of recycled materials has continued to be flat throughout the year due to overseas markets scaling down their productivity output. Notwithstanding this, the staff and employees have achieved notable outcomes particularly in efficiencies in processing various products both shredded and compacted to enable greater cost efficiency in freight transport costs and volumes to the major capital cities.

In early 2013, we entered into an agreement with a large logistics company to recycle televisions and computers under the Product Stewardship Scheme.

We have also formed an alliance with the Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils (REROC) to receive and process televisions and computers from the local government areas aligned with REROC. Kurrajong Recyclers continues to maintain its accreditation with the international Standard ISO 14001 Environmental Management System through



an annual audit by an independent external approved auditor. Our proposal to process recycled waste glass into a fine crushed glass aggregate for potential use as a sand substitute in road pavement works and also bedding material for civil drainage pipework has come to fruition. Consent has been granted from the NSW Environment Protection Authority to conduct this waste minimisation practice, keeping approximately 3,000 tonnes of waste glass out of landfill each year. It is anticipated that the plant will be operational by the end of this year.



No printer is too big or too small for the team at E-Recycling to handle. Josh Hann begins to strip a printer left at the Chaston Street drop off facility.



Kurrajong Recyclers Document Destruction Service ensures businesses can dispose of documents securely. Florence Edwards prepares to shred office paper for a customer.

“...supported employment for 72 adults with a disability to increase and enhance their skills in a variety of jobs.”

Culinary Capers has had another very busy year specialising in providing food products to local cafés, coffee shops and sandwich bars. The quantity of cooked chicken meat delivered locally averages 320 kg per week or about 16 tonnes a year. Specialising in preparing defined food products in accordance with our NSW Food Authority Licence on a daily basis is an achievement worth praise for the two staff and six employees of Culinary Capers. Catering for specific events and on occasions supplying high volume food to community fundraising drives throughout the area makes each day very challenging but satisfying. With the training support of staff, the employees are continually learning new skills in food preparation and presentation. Culinary Capers in conjunction with Kurrajong Disability Solutions has been able to provide work experience opportunities to local high school students to assist with choices in their future career paths.



Veronica Keogh prepares another batch of chicken, part of the 320kg of chicken meat cooked in Culinary Capers meat processing facility each week.



Pride in his work and a happy customer is what Steven Hull aims for. He makes sure each vehicle he details achieves both.

Internal Maintenance Service is responsible for the maintenance of some 25 properties that Kurrajong Waratah own and/or occupy locally. The maintenance of these premises includes lawn mowing, gardening, repairs and replacement of property and equipment, arranging and supervising professional trade work where and when required. This work is carried out by six employees with a disability supported by staff with training and supervision of the ever increasing skills being attained.

The motor vehicle fleet continues to expand as our services grow and the regular servicing, maintenance and repairs of our vehicles is essential for the continued delivery of our services.

For many years Internal Maintenance has carried out the NSW Government school bus contract in providing a home to school and return bus run service for the students of Willans Hill School in Wagga Wagga. In addition we also provide a workers' bus run for the employees of Waratah Industries, Kurrajong Recyclers and Culinary Capers who require transport assistance to and from work each day.

I wish to sincerely thank my staff and employees of KBS Wagga for their great effort and support throughout a very busy and successful year of achievements.

Alan Larcombe
Kurrajong Business Services Manager

KURRAJONG OUTREACH BUSINESS SERVICES

Nicole Steele
Kurrajong Outreach Business Services Manager



The Narrandera Laundry and Linen Service take great pride in their customer service and the presentation of the linen, ensuring it is well wrapped and labelled ready for delivery and storage by their customers. Sam Leney is pictured happily going about his work.

It has been anything but business as usual for the 16 staff and 47 employees at Kurrajong Outreach Business Services. With guidance and support from staff, employees happily and with confidence face a variety of tasks each week to not only enhance their existing skills but develop additional skills and knowledge. Both Vocational Training Officers work alongside staff to ensure employees reach their goals and become competent in their daily tasks.

This year Spins Recycling has diverted almost 200 tonne of cardboard, paper and plastic from the local landfill. Pamphlet delivering provides an excellent opportunity to exercise while being out in the community and the team continue to do a fantastic job mowing and maintaining three properties in town.

Over 8000 meals and 2500 coffees were enjoyed by customers at Café Peckish during the last



twelve months. Catering for weddings, parties and business functions remain popular, as do special events hosted by the café such as parmy, pasta and soup nights. Homemade Mother's and Father's Day gifts are prepared and sold each year not only for mums and dads to enjoy but also provide an opportunity for staff and employees to broaden their skills.

Additional laundry equipment has been purchased to assist in the washing and drying of approximately 12 tonne of linen each month that is provided to Narrandera and surrounding districts. Narrandera Laundry and Linen Service not only hire and launders linen for accommodation services but also professionally wash and press bed linen and tablecloths upon request.

Both Leeton and Narrandera continue to provide quality ironing services for working and busy customers. Gift vouchers are popular for Mother's Day and birthdays and the pick-up and delivery service is well utilised.



Staff and employees of Café Peckish in West Wyalong should be justifiably proud of their efforts in establishing the café's outdoor eating area, which is proving popular with customers in the warmer weather. Barbara Birks is one of the team members responsible for maintaining the colourful gardens.

"It is pleasing to watch employees take on greater responsibilities at their workplaces and taking pride in being such a valuable part of their work team and the community."

Cypress Recycling has not only processed and baled nearly 300 tonne of cardboard, paper and plastic but employees also enjoy the variety in tasks by dismantling old TVs and computers, as well as ongoing lawn mowing.

It is pleasing to watch employees take on greater responsibilities at their workplaces and taking pride in being such a valuable part of their work team and the community.

Everyone from Kurrajong Outreach Businesses should be proud of their efforts and I would like to sincerely thank them for their commitment, enthusiasm and hard work.

Nicole Steele

Kurrajong Outreach Business Services Manager



Troy Godde is well known to Café Peckish customers in West Wyalong. Troy is competent in all facets of the café and can regularly be found providing customer service, making his great coffee as well as food preparation and kitchen duties.



Pamphlet delivery provides an additional employment option for Kurrajong Waratah's employees in West Wyalong. Pamphlets are folded and delivered to over 1200 West Wyalong homes on a regular basis. Daniel Murdoch is pictured preparing pamphlets for delivery on behalf of local businesses.



The washing and drying are finished and folding is the next step. The Narrandera Laundry and Linen Service is a busy operation washing and drying 12 tonne of linen each month. Employees including Amy Nugent make sure the service maintains its great reputation and the high standard for which it is known.

KURRAJONG EARLY CHILDHOOD INTERVENTION SERVICE



Susan Macgillcuddy
Kurrajong Early Childhood Intervention Service Manager



Jayla Nix, Aboriginal Family Support Worker at KEIS is pictured playing a matching cards game with Latrelle Simpson. Jayla has helped the team to better understand the needs of aboriginal children and their families.

It is an insightful process reflecting on the past year and thereby focusing on the significant changes, growth and events that have occurred.

Throughout the year we supported 463 families and their children with disabilities and developmental delays. This represents an increase of 16% on last year. Our Griffith service reached full capacity and was forced to implement a waiting list. Kurrajong Waratah provides early childhood intervention services to approximately 70% of the Riverina Murray.

In April 2013 we received fabulous news that our Griffith service would receive additional funding to provide much needed support in the outlying areas. This innovative project will focus on building community capacity to support families and their children to access mainstream services in the communities of Hay, Leeton and Hillston. This project will also provide essential relief and support to families in the Griffith region.

In the past year we have seen a 65% growth in the number of aboriginal children accessing early childhood intervention which is an excellent result and to assist with the team's understanding of working in a culturally appropriate manner we undertook Aboriginal cultural competency training with the Ngroo workshop.

This workshop was excellent and gave us knowledge of how to support aboriginal families and their children to access early childhood programs.

KEIS had the opportunity to present two workshops to the Early Childhood Intervention Australia (NSW Chapter) conference to over 250 professionals.

Fire trucks are always a big hit with children. Declan Catanzariti thoroughly enjoyed the Griffith Early Intervention Service's visit to the Griffith Fire Station.



"It is extremely rewarding to be part of children's learning and growth and to share this journey with families."



Pictured with Thomas Love, (seated) are Physiotherapists Tahnee Collins-Roe & Donalee Gregory. Therapists are working to lengthen muscles in the back of Thomas' legs. The casts are put on for 4-5 days at a time, taken off and then replaced. This process can continue for up to six weeks.

In conjunction with the Early Childhood Intervention group we helped produce a resource to support early childhood services to inclusively use visuals in their mainstream settings. This resource has been overwhelmingly received with over 500 copies of the DVD being distributed to early childhood services across the state.

A major change in service delivery was the expanding of our services to school aged therapy. In April 2013 a Speech Pathologist was employed to provide therapy to children up to eight years of age, continuing a much needed service.

Kurrajong Waratah, in preparing for the changing disability landscape, contracted an expert in the field to review our early childhood services and benchmark against best practice. The review was very positive and recommendations will be progressively implemented.

Collectively, KEIS team members on average, have been employed by Kurrajong Waratah for 10 years which is a terrific achievement.

It is extremely rewarding to be part of children's learning and growth and to share this journey with families. Families are the foundation of children's learning and we are privileged to be an intrinsic component of these early stages. Together we aim to support families and their children to lead a life of choice.

I thank my team for the enormous contribution they make to the standard of services we provide to our families and their children.

Over the next few years the landscape of the disability sector will change. I greatly look forward to guiding and supporting the KEIS team, families and their children on this journey.

Susan Macgillcuddy

Kurrajong Early Childhood
Intervention Service Manager



The KEIS team aim to make learning fun for the children and Nate Wheatley certainly looks as though he is having lots of fun during his gross motor program at KEIS. He is pictured taking a break.



Photo courtesy of The Daily Advertiser

Water and children are a fabulous combination and Cooper Dennis is having a wonderful time at water play at KEIS.

ACCOMMODATION SERVICES

Cannon Banks
Accommodation Services Manager



Busy cooks Libby Biar and Lorraine Pitman make a batch of scones for afternoon tea for fellow residents in their group home.

TEAM B & C

The year has been one of many changes and challenges for Adult Accommodation. Clients and staff from Team B and Team C have taken on these changes and challenges with great enthusiasm and have responded by collaborating as a team to ensure that best practice outcomes for clients are a reality.

Team B saw a major change in client mix and I would like to thank and congratulate them. They did this with minimal fuss and got on with what they had to do. As Accommodation Manager I was incredibly proud of the exemplary way my staff approached this change, handling it with the same professionalism and continuation of the way our clients are supported.

In August, clients from Team B had the opportunity to travel to Kiama where they stayed for one week and took in the local attractions and wildlife. They also had the opportunity to go on assisted holidays to Melbourne, the Gold Coast and New Zealand.

"I was incredibly proud of the exemplary way my staff approached this change, handling it with the same professionalism and continuation of the way our clients are supported."



Team C this year encountered another busy twelve months which saw two clients leave our service to move into aged care facilities after being a part of Kurrajong Waratah for a combined 94 years! I would like to extend my gratitude to the staff who responded so well to support these clients' needs.

I would sincerely like to thank my fellow Accommodation Managers and all the management team for another positive year. I would also like to thank all the Team B and C staff for the superb job they do and the two Team Leaders for their great work throughout the year.

Cannon Banks
Accommodation Services Manager

While the use of physical aids is necessary for safe movement, Nicole Matthews and staff member Julie Bramham make the most of their interaction.



ACCOMMODATION SERVICES

Lyndal Ross
Accommodation Services Manager

- COMMUNITY LIVING SUPPORT SERVICE
- CHILDREN'S AND RESPITE ACCOMMODATION SERVICE
- ALLAMBIE GROUP HOME (LEETON)
- INDEPENDENT LIVING SUPPORT INITIATIVE (NARRANDERA AND TEMORA)

This year has been busy in all services and we have seen significant changes in the manner in which we provide support and care to children and adults with a disability. Staff have supported clients and families to develop an understanding of Person Centredness and we have seen support plans developed that are truly unique and tailored to each person's hopes and dreams. These individual support plans enable consistency but also flexibility to ensure that people are given many opportunities to increase their independence and to become connected in their community. Each service has continued to work closely with families to enable continuity of care and to provide families with individual support which caters for their diverse and changing needs.



Respite care gives people a chance to maintain and make new friendships - Gerry Ardbuckle still finds time to relax doing the things he loves.



The postman has done his rounds and Zac Chandler knows it is his job to check the mailbox.

We have endeavoured to provide flexible and adaptive services to clients and families and we have seen many times during the year that these supports have benefited many people. Clients have experienced opportunities that have challenged them in many ways and we have seen much personal growth and development of skills and confidence.

Staff also had opportunities to increase their skills, knowledge and understanding through various training courses in the past year. Training provides benefits for all members of the team and ultimately supports us to care for people and their families to achieve the desired outcomes.

All in all our services have run very well this year and I would like to thank the staff that support these services and who through dedication and skills provide quality services that have enhanced the lives of the children and adults that we support.

Lyndal Ross
Accommodation Services Manager

ACCOMMODATION SERVICES

Noelene Hogan
Accommodation Services Manager



Alison Williams takes time out to relax and do the things she enjoys after a busy day at Skills Options Lifestyle Services.

TEAM A & MARASHEL

The completion of our new group home at Olearia Place was a major highlight of the year. We now have three beautiful homes in this cluster providing accommodation support to twelve clients.

A great deal of planning went into the moves and setting up the new house. The new group home was opened by Minister for Ageing, Disability & Home Care, Andrew Constance on February 12th. The official opening went very well and was a great chance to showcase our new home and thank everyone who had been involved in its planning and eventual construction.



This year clients have again had great fun going on holidays and to events such as State of Origin, live shows and spending time with their friends. It is very important for clients to have time with other people and relax and have new experiences. One client has formed a friendship with a local family which is proving to be a mutually beneficial relationship where the simple things make the world of difference.

As was the case throughout our services, Marashel in West Wyalong has experienced a year of changing needs and adapting to those changing needs. Clients have had a holiday with a family on a cruise and others have spent time on a river cruise, shopping trips and sightseeing. Some have also been able to catch up with family, attend dances and go on bus trips.

As we are all well aware, our clients are ageing and we need to continue to explore opportunities to handle the challenges that this presents. Support from the local health fraternity is vital in order for us to continue to provide ongoing appropriate care to our clients.



Michael Bale gives his usual friendly smile as he uses his interactive games station.

This year, as other teams have experienced, we supported a client whose needs were changing rapidly, further complicated by poor health, injury and ageing issues. We worked closely with family members to ensure the client's needs were met in the most appropriate setting. No doubt we will see more of these changes as people age.

Times like this present challenges for our staff as do changes in team structure, but Team A work hard to minimise the disruption to people's lives and provide the necessary support and reassurance to our clients and their families.

It is such an honour to work with our client's families to achieve the best life possible for their son, daughter or family member. This will have greater emphasis in the years ahead but we will continue to put people with a disability at the centre of the decisions we make and support them to live the life they choose.

Thank you to all my staff and all in Accommodation for their ongoing support and thank you to Steve and Ray for supporting us in what we do.

Noelene Hogan

Accommodation Services Manager



Robbie Hardinge is very keen to get his shoes fitted, ready for the first game of bowls he has played since the opening of the Wagga Bowling & Entertainment Centre. Ten pin bowling is an ideal social and sporting option for many people with a disability and something they have missed in recent years.

Shopping provides an ideal opportunity for clients to engage with the community and Lesley Bradley knows the staff at the West Wyalong supermarket well and looks forward to seeing them during her weekly shopping trip.



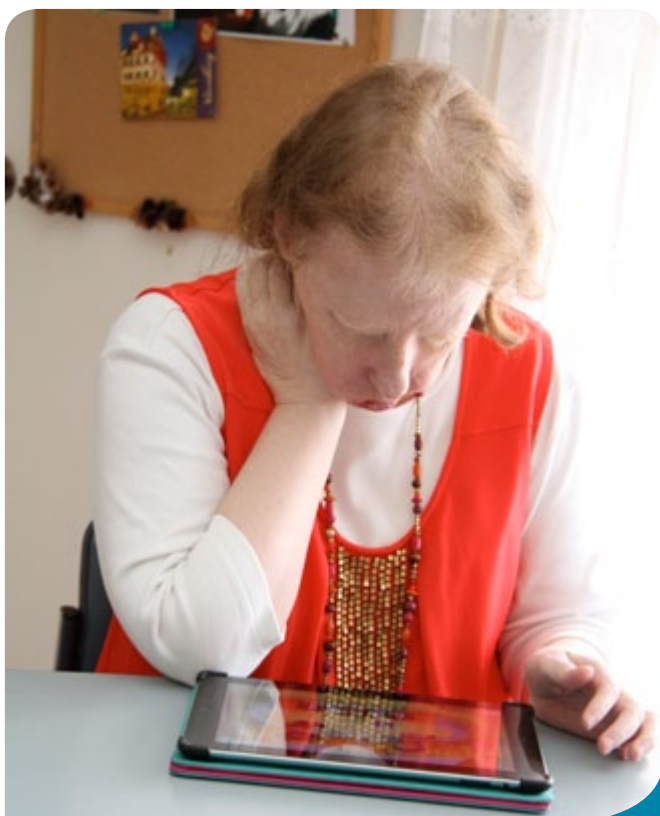
Having more personal space in his new group home allows Chris Loneragan to spend time doing quiet activities such as listening to music or playing games on his iPad.

What is person centred?

- putting people with a disability at the centre of decisions.

SKILLS OPTIONS LIFESTYLE SERVICES

Carolyn Eckersall
Skills Options Lifestyle Services Manager



iPads have become a new addition in some services. For many people with a disability their use has resulted in increased independence, self-esteem and communication options. Margaret O'Connor of Skills Options Lifestyle Services in West Wyalong is quite absorbed in using her iPad.

Skills Options continues to focus on creating and developing opportunities for our clients to reach their goals and achieve desired outcomes. Our lifestyle program is filled with interesting and diverse options for clients to choose from at our services in West Wyalong, Leeton and Wagga Wagga.

Over the past 12 months we have had more school leavers enter our service and we have responded by enriching and adapting our program to suit their needs. We always take a flexible approach in meeting the needs of our clients as we feel this is an important step in reaching their potential in a caring and positive environment.

We have been busy setting up a new service at Lake Street in Wagga Wagga. Staff in West Wyalong have also been settling into their new



Pictured cooking up a treat at Skills Options Lifestyle Services in Wagga Wagga is longstanding client Tracey Kelly.

premises in Court Street, which is a great location for our clients to access town and feel that they are part of their community.

Staff have also been implementing a new woodwork program from Waratah Industries and this activity has become popular, with many outstanding items produced.

Our Art to Crow About exhibition was a huge success, with many members of the community supporting the event at the Wagga Art Gallery. The exhibition was the culmination of months of hard work and we were very proud to see such a high standard of work by our clients on display.

The All Abilities Theatre Company's productions of "Off With Their Heads" and "Murder On The Indian Pacific" were performed at the Civic Theatre to appreciative audiences.

Skills Options has had another productive year and I would like to thank staff, volunteers, families and carers for all your support.

Carolyn Eckersall
Skills Options Lifestyle Services Manager

"We always take a flexible approach in meeting the needs of our clients as we feel this is an important step in reaching their potential in a caring and positive environment"

PEOPLE FOR PEOPLE (P4P)

Janet Laws
People for People Manager



P4P Mentors Rowena Lefever (Cowra Special Needs Service) and Marg Garretty (Orange City Council) were pleased to have the opportunity to explore the iPad apps, which may be of benefit to the clients with whom they work in their respective communities. They were attending one of the quarterly Mentor Network meetings held during the year.

P4P commenced the year with finalist status in the inaugural National Disability Services NSW Disability Industry Awards. Even though P4P did not win the award for Excellence in Workforce Development, it was a great achievement as we were competing with State and National services.

In the last financial year, P4P commenced a "train the trainer" program in all its packages to enable organisations to become self sustainable in providing the training to staff on an ongoing basis. Thirty organisations have signed a Memorandum Of Understanding resulting in 64 staff across the disability sector in Western Region of NSW trained as trainers. From this 14 trainers have independently conducted the training within their organisations. This has resulted in 40 training sessions conducted with staff independently of P4P. P4P has continued to support the smaller services who do not have a trainer and have conducted another 27 training sessions across the Western Region.

P4P has continued to conduct quarterly Mentor Network meetings. A Mentor Network steering committee from the sector has been developed so they can lead and direct the future training needs that arise.



Margaret Zacher (Kurrajong Waratah - Independent Living Support Initiative, Temora), Belinda Johnson (Valmar Support Service, Tumut), Matthew Johnson (Yallambee, Deniliquin) and Cathy Hilly (Valmar Support Services, Tumut) are pictured receiving instruction from speech therapist Katia Fisher (NSW Family and Community Services - Ageing Disability Home Care) at the Mentor Network meeting held in Tumut.

P4P partnered with ADHC to provide the sector with training in Inclusive Communication and Behaviour Support (ICABS) and Motivational Interviewing. 35 staff from Western Region participated in the ICABS training where they were required to complete a project to obtain a certificate of participation. The Motivational Interviewing course had over 60 participants attend which was an excellent result.

P4P continues to work on projects to develop the skills and ability of staff within the region and increase the expertise and networks across the sector which in turn enables services to be more sustainable and resilient in supporting their clients.

Janet Laws
People for People (P4P) Manager

"... we commenced the year with finalist status in the inaugural National Disability Services NSW Disability Industry Awards."

STAFF

OUR MOST VALUABLE RESOURCE

In a recent anonymous staff survey conducted by the Voice Project at Macquarie University of 150 full time and part time staff the following statements were made:

98% said they understood and believed in the overall purpose of Kurrajong Waratah and the work the organisation does and they liked the kind of work they did;

99% said their work gave them a feeling of personal accomplishment and they understood how their work improved the lives of people with a disability and

100% said they gained personal satisfaction from finding new ways to help people with a disability meet their goals.

About our staff:

- Kurrajong Waratah employs 201 full time and part time staff. An additional 87 are casual staff members.
- 27% are male and 73% are female
- 88.5% of all Kurrajong Waratah staff are employed to work directly with people with a disability
- Average length of service of staff is 6.5 years
- Average length of service of Managers is 15.9 years
- Average age of staff is 44.3 years
- 23% of staff members have given in excess of ten years service to people with a disability

STAFF WITH 10 YEARS OR MORE SERVICE

10 YEARS

Steve Chapple
Steven Davis
Donalee Gregory
Sandra Grintell
Annette Hayes-Ryan
Rachael Hyde
Karyn Hyland
Terry Ness
Marie Seckold
Jackie Stening
Wayne Taylor

11 YEARS

Cheryl Brown
Brendan Cowell
Kerryl Ryan

12 YEARS

Cannon Banks
Dorothy McCaskie
Mareeka New

13 YEARS

Michelle Baker
Annette McMillan

14 YEARS

Maree Kok

15 YEARS

Tracey Collins
Debbie Donohoe
Sharon Merritt
Lyndal Ross
Ian Walker

16 YEARS

Alan Larcombe
Crispin Lowe
Lynette Lugton
Jane Pottie

17 YEARS

Marie Jolly
Shandra Pereira
Ned Smith

19 YEARS

Sandra Rootes

20 YEARS

John Condron
Noelene Hogan
Arthur Kelly
Lindy Maginness

21 YEARS

Wendy Bean
Janet Laws

22 YEARS

Ray Carroll
Neville McDonell

23 YEARS

Carolyn Eckersall

26 YEARS

Frances Ahern
Cathie Smith

29 YEARS

Ian Fifield
Steve Jaques

Permanent active Part-time or Full-time

EMPLOYEES WITH A DISABILITY A VITAL PART OF OUR WORKFORCE

Kurrajong Waratah provide valuable supported employment opportunities for people with a disability within businesses owned and operated by the organisation.

These businesses include:

Kurrajong Recyclers - Wagga Wagga
Waratah Industries - Wagga Wagga
Culinary Capers - Wagga Wagga
Kurrajong Waratah Internal Maintenance Service - Wagga Wagga
Narrandera Laundry and Linen Service
Cypress Centre Recycling - Narrandera
Leeton Ironing Basket
Café Peckish - West Wyalong
Spins Recycling Service - West Wyalong

About our employees:

- Kurrajong Waratah employs a total of 148 people with a disability
- 66% are male and 34% are female
- Average length of service of our employees is 12.38 years
- Average age of employees with a disability is 40.7 years
- 47% of employees with a disability have been employed by Kurrajong Waratah for in excess of ten years

EMPLOYEES WITH 10 YEARS OR MORE EMPLOYMENT

10 YEARS

Barry Armstrong
Michael Eggleton
John Gledhill
Josh Himsley
Scott McClintock
Grant McMullen
Paul Perkins

11 YEARS

Nat Klein
Leonie McLean
Jeanette Miller
James Payne

12 YEARS

Nathan Collins
Peter Flaskas
Michael McCabe
Margaret O'Kane
Joanne Teagle

13 YEARS

David Chalmers

14 YEARS

Roger Baker
Veronica Foley
Veronica Keogh

15 YEARS

Jennifer Howe
Margaret O'Connor
Jamie Osmond

16 YEARS

Kellie Hulm
Michelle Thornton
Darryl White

18 YEARS

Kane Meyers

20 YEARS

Robert Rudd
Daniel Smith

21 YEARS

Michelle Anderson
Barbara Birks
Suzie Jennings
Craig McWhinnie

23 YEARS

Jason Harrison
Chris Loneragan
Scott Weeden

24 YEARS

Lesley Bradley
Heather Crerar
John Howitt
Adrian Long

26 YEARS

Andrew Perkins
Wendy Umback

27 YEARS

Stephen Gould
Lisa Rae

28 YEARS

Barbara Ceeney
Cathy Gain
Carmel Halloran
Robbie Hardinge
Stephen Holmes
James Kitney
Lorraine Pitman
Peter Smith
Dean Stapleton
Stephanie Warren
Arthur Webster
Phillip Wishart

29 YEARS

Jeff Doherty
Geoff Pitman

30 YEARS

Lesley Daniels
Mary Heffernan
Steven Hull
David Perkins

32 YEARS

Paul Duck

35 YEARS

Tony Arrowsmith
Robert Wiencke

36 YEARS

Wayne Emerson

37 YEARS

Nicky Fletcher

39 YEARS

Fran Webb

42 YEARS

Kevin Ritzau

COMMUNITIES MAKE A DIFFERENCE

So much of what Kurrajong Waratah is able to provide or do to benefit people with a disability and their families is not done in isolation.

Kurrajong Waratah recognise and appreciate the strong partnerships that exist and continue to develop with many individuals, businesses, community groups and associated organisations in our community.

We are conscious that community support and involvement will be even more crucial as we prepare for the National Disability Insurance Scheme.

There are so many ways the community can play an active or unseen role in the lives of people with a disability. This support is of the utmost importance and value for people with a disability to lead a life of their choice.

We extend a very sincere thank you to the following people or organisations who have worked with us and who share our vision for people with a disability.

We have many people to thank individually and collectively. The support we receive from:

Myer and their staff,

Thomas Bros

The Media and the

Kurrajong Waratah Race Day Committee

is well covered in the Development Services Report on pages 14 and 15 and you are encouraged to take the opportunity to read that report.

We also thank:

Our anonymous donors

While we cannot publicly acknowledge the support of some donors, we would like to reaffirm our great appreciation for everyone who supports our work. Reference is made throughout this report of an anonymous benefactor who has enabled a number of major projects to be undertaken and for that we are most appreciative. Thank you to the individual whose generosity enables these things to happen and to their local representatives and our supporters who recognise our need and respond so magnificently. We appreciate you all.

Hunters Office Choice

Other great supporters of our organisation are Scott Woodhouse and Ben Howard of Hunters Office Choice. This locally owned and operated company are a great example of the value of partnerships between those who share our vision and ourselves.

Westpac

Our local Westpac team are incredibly responsive

to the volunteer needs of our events and provide generous support for the Kurrajong Waratah Race Day, Myer Christmas Gift Wrap and art union.

Westpac at a corporate level supports our race day and individual staff members make regular payroll donations which are matched dollar for dollar by Westpac. Westpac staff this year produced outstanding results which are reflected in the financial support pages of this report.

Climate Technologies Golf Day

The Celi family of Leeton have for many years been generous in their support of Kurrajong Waratah's Narrandera services. Through the results of the Climate Technologies Golf Day, significant purchases have provided a great boost to the employee's work environment. We thank the Celi family, Ted, Ann and their daughters Natalie, Michelle and Dianna for the amazing results achieved on our behalf.

Service and community groups

- The continued support of the members of the Lions Club of South Wagga Wagga is invaluable. Without them, the Kurrajong Waratah Race Day, Christmas Spectacular and other events would be decidedly more difficult to run. A special thank you to each of you.

- South Wagga Rotary Club have financially supported our work for many years and in recent times have come on board to help by providing manpower for events. We thank each member for the assistance they have given.

Christmas Spectacular

It is a heart-warming experience to see families enjoying the traditional Kurrajong Waratah Christmas Spectacular each year. It is the efforts of a very small committee comprising Major Peter Thomas, Yvonne Braid, Deborah Braines and the Development Services team that make it happen. The support of sponsors and other community groups is paramount to our ability to provide this gift to the community. Mention must be made of the Australian Army Band Kapooka, Wagga Wagga City Council, Hume Building Society, The Rules Club, Forum 6 Cinema, Avis Riverina, The Building Supply Company, Pascoe Constructions, Charles Sturt Suites and Apartments, McDonalds, Chambers Whyte, PRIME7, Daily Advertiser, Riverina Crane Services and the Lions Club of South Wagga Wagga.

REMAX

New to our supporter base in a physical capacity, was the REMAX team. With the support of their

management, the REMAX team became regular volunteer ticket sellers for our art union and participated in the Myer Christmas Gift Wrap stand at a time when 90 volunteers were needed in the days before Christmas. We welcome the REMAX staff and encourage other businesses to join us in this way too.

Wagga Pro Rodeo

In recent years Kurrajong Waratah have been the beneficiary of the Wagga Pro Rodeo, conducted by John and Margaret Gill of The Rock and sponsored by Gil Mathew Steel. We thank them all for including us in this event and for the financial support that follows.

Business supporters

We acknowledge that numerous businesses offer discounts or make donations in-kind towards our work throughout the year. Where we know of this support we do extend our thanks, but undoubtedly there are times when this may not be known. We appreciate the support that is given. Kurrajong Waratah operate under a buy local policy where we deal locally in the exchange of goods and services.

Government and Local Councils

To local Councils, service agencies and to government departments both Commonwealth and State, who have worked with us in support of people with a disability and their families.

They include:

Commonwealth Department of Family, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs

Centrelink

NSW Department of Family and Community Services incorporating:

- Ageing, Disability and Home Care
- Housing NSW and
- Community Services

Commonwealth Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

NSW Department of Education and Communities

Wagga Wagga City Council

Narrandera Shire Council

Leeton Shire Council

Bland Shire Council

Lockhart Shire Council

Griffith Shire Council

Temora Shire Council

Deniliquin Shire Council



Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous benefactor, Kurrajong Waratah's accommodation service has been able to replace an ageing wheelchair accessible mini bus. In its place is a Toyota Hi Ace which will comfortably seat eight passengers and provide wheelchair access and transport in safety.



Tony and Luita Aichinger are pictured with family and friends at the Wagga Wagga Christmas Spectacular.



Photo courtesy of The Daily Advertiser

Pictured at the presentation of the Wagga Pro Rodeo proceeds are John Gill, Pro Rodeo organiser, Jane Pottie, Kurrajong Waratah Development Services Office Manager and Gil Mathew of Gil Mathew Steel, the major sponsor of the event.

Real communities *include* people with a disability.

VOLUNTEERS ARE INVALUABLE

Volunteers who assist in our services for people with a disability are a valuable part of our organisation. We encourage and appreciate the supporters we have and know that volunteers will continue to play an important role in the delivery of services under the NDIS.

Our services take this opportunity to thank the volunteers who have supported them in 2012-2103:

Kurrajong Early Childhood Intervention Service: Lisa Turner, Georgina Scully, Jeremy Wilson and Nicole O'Halloran

Skills Options Lifestyle Services: Margaret Smith (West Wyalong). In Wagga they are Bill Robinson, Bill Prest, Jennifer Hulm, Lyn Curry, Leanne Hooper, Bob Ward, Willi Sheather, Cliff Clancy, Norm Byng, Geoff Amos, Lorraine Lea, Arthur Priest, and Joy Byng

E-Recycling: Michael Johnston

Kurrajong Outreach Business Services: Lorraine Osmond (Narrandera) and Robert Shaugh (West Wyalong)

Temora Independent Living Support Initiative: Ron Ivins, Liz Walker, Kate Macauley, Jean Luck, Viv Leary & Ken Harmer

Kurrajong Waratah Internal Maintenance: Ron Grosse

Hildasid: Bill Harris and Athol Bryon

Accommodation Services: Mark and Rachael Cox

Fundraising: A very special thank you is extended to every person who assists in the fundraising conducted by Kurrajong Waratah in anyway whatsoever. We could not achieve what we do without you but space would not permit us to thank you personally in this report.



TRAC students volunteered their services for the Kurrajong Waratah Race Day and among other tasks, operated a very busy sausage sizzle for patrons and race goers.



A combination of height and muscle came in handy as it came time to double stake over 200 established trees planted at Hildasid. Tim Macgillycuddy of Kurrajong Recyclers had both to offer the planters.



Volunteer Bill Prest shares his love of gardening with Alison Williams of Skills Options. They are pictured inspecting their raised garden beds to see what their recent plantings have produced.



Many hands make light work when it comes to making over 2,000 kebabs for the Kurrajong Waratah Race Day. Pictured (l to r) on the job are volunteers Craig Barrett, Kurrajong Waratah Race Day Committee, Todd Smith, Twomey's, Mick Douglas, Kurrajong Waratah Race Day Committee, Angus Barrett and Reg Merrifield, Westpac.



Student volunteer Yifei Wang helped with the Kurrajong Waratah Race Day and self initiated volunteer Samuel Bannister has helped when and wherever he has been needed at the Kurrajong Waratah Race Day and other events. Samuel has assisted with various Kurrajong Waratah events in recent years, help that is greatly appreciated.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT (1st July 2012 - 30th June 2013)

Many of the programs and opportunities Kurrajong Waratah is able to provide for babies, children and adults with a disability would not be possible were it not for our generous supporters. On behalf of all of those we help, we would like to extend a very warm thank you to the following organisations, companies and individuals, as well as those who have given anonymously or in-kind to help us bridge the gap between what is, and what could be for people with a disability.

Donations, sponsorship & support over \$100,000 +
Anonymous
Estate of the late Kenneth Walter Seaman
\$50,000 - \$99,999
Pascoe, Mrs Joanne
\$30,000 - \$49,999
Myer Stores Community Fund
\$10,000 - \$19,999
Climate Technologies
Proceeds of Light it up Blue for Autism Ball
Westpac Banking Corporation
\$7,500 - \$9,999
Pirtek (Wagga Wagga) Pty Ltd
Thomas Bros Toyota
Wagga Endoscopy Centre
Wagga Plumbing Service
\$5,000 - \$7,499
Austbrokers ABS
Combined Development Group Pty Ltd
Fitzpatrick, Richard & Louise
Hunters Office Choice
Lions Club of South Wagga Wagga
Riverina Plaster Works Pty Ltd
South West Slopes Law Society

\$2,500 - \$4,999
Avis Riverina
Chambers Whyte Design & Print
Coolamon Steelworks
David Milne Roofing
Forum 6 Cinema
Gill, Mr John
Howard, Dr Matthew
Hume Building Society Ltd
Littlejohn, Dr & Mrs D
Mamo, Dr Vinny & Dr G Brady
Pascoe Constructions
Payne-O'Brien, Mrs Vida
Rotary Club of South Wagga
Rules Club Wagga Wagga
Subway
Viewco Glass
\$1,500 - \$2,499
Great Southern Electrical
GTES
Healy Farming Company
Long, Chris
Mueller, Mr & Mrs John
Reynolds, Ken & Joyce
Rotary Club of Wagga Wagga
The Law Society of NSW

Town & Country Children's Centre
Viatek - Wagga
Wagga RSL Club
Walsh & Blair Lawyers
Watson, Ms Leona
\$1,000 - \$1,499
Adams Kenneally White & Co
Bee Dee Bags Pty Ltd
Benson, Bernard, Judy & Katie
Betterlook Homes Pty Ltd
Bush & Campbell Pty Ltd
Riverina Cardiology
Centrapak Industries
Commings Hendriks Solicitors
Condon, Miss Betty
Crestia Carpets
D & A Murphy
D & M Electrical Communications
Dahlsens
Davis, Allan & Nell
Denniston & Day Lawyers
Fitzpatrick's Real Estate
Geoff Condon Homes
G J Buchanan Transport
Griffith Ex-Servicemen's Club
Inspiratio ns Paint

COMMUNITY

SUPPORT (1st July 2012 - 30th June 2013)

Jaques, Steve & Fiona	Osborne, Mr & Mrs B	The Printer Wizards
John Bance & Son Funeral Home	OSO Centre	Wagga Selling Agents Assoc.
JRC Electrical Services	Riverina Sports Injury and Massage	\$200 - \$299
Koorungal Stud	Schnepf, Donna	Begent, Dr J M
Long, Warwick	Schreiber, Belinda	Blake Street Car Wash
Makeham, Mr & Mrs R L	Sloan, Mr & Mrs Terry	Boyce Financial Services
McKenzie, Mr K A	Sonivala, Mr & Mrs Khalil	Brown, Barry & Orma
Moon, Robert & Therese	Southwest Irrigation Services	Campbell, Mrs Annette
Moorong Veterinary Clinic	T J & D J Van Lierop	Capital Night Club
National Fire Solutions Pty Ltd	Wagga Systems Pty Ltd	Crago, Mr Richard
OAMPS Insurance Brokers	Wagga Wagga Veterinary Hospital	Crozier, Dr P
REMAX Real Estate Wagga Wagga	Graham Wild Dental Surgery	Cummins, Dr & Mrs J
Riverina Hand Therapy	\$400 - \$499	Custom Car Care Wagga
Riverina Paediatrics	Beattie, Shirley	David Coates Dental Surgery
RSM Bird Cameron	Bertoldi, Messrs E & E	De Jersey, Miss Phyllis
Sandra, Mr Bernard	Colin Blake - Painting and Decorating	Duffus, Allan & Marnie
Schiller, Mr & Mrs Michael	Cowley, Mr & Mrs Herb & Glenda	Farrell Lusher Solicitors
Selby Watson & Co	D G Harper Pty Ltd	Fernon, Mr & Mrs P
Smith, Ned & Cathie	Des Damme Fencing	Forde, Garry & Wendy
Spies, Ms Kelly - Autism Awareness Week fundraising	John Mooney Real Estate	Fred Cole Betta Home Living
St George, Mrs A	Kendell, Mrs Eilish	Graeme Hull Smash Repairs
Stuart, Dr Catherine	TASCO Inland Australia Pty Ltd	Green, Peter & Pam
TLE Electrical	Yerong Creek Bowling Club	Griffith Bricks & Pavers Pty Ltd
Twomeys	Zacharia & Naumann	Hannan, Noel
WDF Professional	\$300 - \$399	Hepburn, Mr John
Xeros Piccolo Consulting Engineers	Adams & Associates Financial Planners	Ice Cream and Coffee
\$500 - \$999	Allen, Jim & Heather	Independent Commodity Services Pty Ltd
Aichinger, Mr & Mrs A	ASB & Associates	J P Pallister & Associates
Bidgee Pumps and Irrigation	Barnes, Dr & Mrs Clayton	Kincaid Medical & Dental Clinic
BOC Gases	Flood, Sue	Knight Frank Real Estate
Burmix Concrete Pty Ltd	Glass, Mr & Mrs M	Krishan, Dr B
Carroll, Ray & Carol	Graffen, Max & Sue	Leeton Veterinary Hospital
Chamberlain's SBR Chartered Accountants	Hogan, Noelene	Lowe, Crispin & Jennifer
Duffy Bros Country Fresh	Kennedy Bros Earthmoving	Matt Jenkins Homes
Farmhouse Industries Inc	Lamont, Mr & Mrs D	McCaig, Eric & Carol
Gardner Batcheldor Chartered Accountants	Mac's Trailers & Towbars	McCurdy, Margaret
Hartwig's Trucks	Northside Pharmacy	Measday, Amanda
Interior Constructions Pty Ltd	Paisley Robertson Pty Ltd	Michael O'Reilly Chemist
Kahlefeldt Caspers Pty Ltd	Polka Dot Pancakes	Nash, Mr & Mrs M
LTS Equipment	ProWay Livestock Equipment	Nixon, Jenny
McCready, Dr & Mrs M	Rivcrete Pty Ltd	Nixons Engineering
Noel Thomson Architecture	Riverina Safes & Locks	Orthodontics Wagga Wagga
Opteon (Southern Inland NSW)	Roy, Mr Philip	Pastro Custom Ag
	Scribbles Cafe	Pine Street Boys
	T J Hinchcliffe & Associates	Riverina Bobcat & Excavator Hire

COMMUNITY SUPPORT (1st July 2012 - 30th June 2013)

Over 1,100 people with a disability are directly helped by Kurrajong Waratah - but entire communities benefit.

Riverina Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Specialist
Riverina Physiotherapy Centre
Riverina Sharpening Centre
Saggers, Dr Gordon
Serafin Ag Pro
Sharrock, Dr Keith
Sinclair, Ian & Shirley
Slater, Dr Mary-Anne
St Thomas' Anglican Church Men's Group
Stratton Trucking Pty Ltd
Sutton, Mr & Mrs D
Telstra Business Centre Wagga Wagga
Townhouse Hotel Wagga
Trev's Tasty Treats
Trevor Ion Financial Services Pty Ltd
Wagga Bricks and Roofing
Wagga Foot Clinic
Wagga Trucks Hino
Wagga Windscreen Doctor
Walker, Mr Michael
Wardman, Sarah
Wotherspoon, Dr Mark
\$100 - \$199
Active Foot Clinic
Allen C Thompson Pty Ltd
Anderson's Tax and Investment Services Pty Ltd
Baker, Mr Geoff
Blue Ribbon Financial Services
Boyce Chartered Accountants
Braid, Mrs Sue
Casey, Mr & Mrs S
Coddington, Enid
Davis, Mrs Claire
Davis, Mr & Mrs Dick
Derricks Automotive Repairs
Downside Hall Fund
Dredge Machinery
Eade, Mrs D
Edwards, Mr & Mrs A M
Elliott, Mr & Mrs B
Elyard, Mr & Mrs G
Emerson, Mr & Mrs Jim

G & Y Booth Pty Ltd
Gill, Mrs Cassie
Girling, Julie
Hardinge, Mr & Mrs L D
Heffernan, Miss Therese
Hill, Dr & Mrs D
Hines, Mrs Marie
Howard, Mr Kerry
Hull, Mrs Kay
Hutton, Mrs
Insurance Brokers of Central Wagga
Jackson, Ian & Margaret
Junee Ex Services Club
Klemke, Mr K
Koshemakin, Mrs Jean
Lane, Mr & Mrs G L
Libby Jones Podiatry
Lidden, Mr & Mrs M
McPherson, Ms Leanne
Mills, Mr & Mrs P
Osmond, Dr Ken
Owen Toyota
Pentak Windows & Doors Pty Ltd
Phelps, Dianne
Pottie, Alan & Jane
Powerplus Lighting & Electrical Suppliers
Radio Cabs (Wagga) Co-op
Riverina Crane Services Pty Ltd
Riverina Water County Council
Salmon, Ms Maureen
Scott, Mrs D
Shaw, Debbie
South West Stock Feeds
Steele, Nicole
Temora Womens Fellowship Group
Thackray, Deb
Tumbarumba Veterinary Clinic
Weeks, Mr & Mrs Jon
Wagga Car Radio & Hi-Fi Pty Ltd
Watts, Mr & Mrs B
Yenda Producers Co-Op Society Limited
\$50 - \$99
Ahern, Frances
Alcorn, Mr & Mrs R D

Anderson, Graeme & Mary
Anson, Ron
Anthonesh, Julie
Buswell, Mrs PA
Ciccia, Mr Joseph
Clarke, Mr & Mrs A
Conway, Mrs Mary
Davies, Mr John
Dudley, Alf & Elaine
Dunford, Mary
Eddie, Warren & Helen
Halley, Mrs June
Heffernan, Mr & Mrs C
Howe, Mrs Aileen
Howitt OAM, Mr Bill & Mrs Fae
Huthwaite, Mr & Mrs J
Jaco's Window Cleaning
Jaques, Mr & Mrs D
Lang, Alan & Jenny
Lockhart Women's Bowling Club
Maginness, Grant & Lindy
Maslin, Rebecca
McGilvray, Mr & Mrs M
McMillan, Mr Dennis
Morris, Mrs S
My Shed
Packer, Mr W
Qemal, Ms Michelle
Rigby, Miss Joan
Sutton, Mr Trent
Trotter, Mr & Mrs Shane
Turning Heads Hairdressing
Walker, Mr Graham
West Wyalong S & C Sports Club
Womens Bowling
Winson, Grahame & Rhonda

THROUGH THE LENS

GOVERNOR GENERAL'S VISIT

Kurrajong Waratah was honoured to welcome a very special visitor to its Early Childhood Intervention Service In Wagga Wagga in February.

Chairman of the Board Michael Kennedy OAM and Board, Executive, Management and staff representatives, welcomed Governor General, Her Excellency Quentin Bryce and husband Mr Michael Bryce to the organisation.

Her Excellency listened intently to the stories the families told of their journeys, the therapy and the progress of their children. Her genuine interest in children's services as a professional and grandmother shone through.

Her Excellency interacted with the young children and showed a genuine warmth and interest in our work and the children much to the delight of all concerned.

A special visit from a lovely lady, which will long be remembered by everyone involved.



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1. Time for the Governor General to say goodbye. As she was about to leave, little Harper Kable showed she was more than happy to leave too taking the Governor General by the hand as she left. Mrs Bryce and her husband were delighted and intrigued by this gesture.
2. As host of the Governor General's visit to the City of Wagga Wagga, Mayor of Wagga Wagga Cr Rod Kendall accompanied Her Excellency on her visit to Kurrajong Early Childhood Intervention Service. Pictured during the visit are Cr Kendall, Mrs Trena Kennedy, Mrs Beryl Perkins and Mr Peter Perkins, Treasurer and Life Member of Kurrajong Waratah. Mr & Mrs Perkins thanked the Governor General for the personalised greetings they had received on the celebration of their 50th Wedding Anniversary just prior to her visit.
3. Formalities were kept to a minimum and the Governor General chatted with families and in no time was found enjoying throwing balls into the ball pit as Ben Tilyard squealed with delight as he engaged with this special visitor.
4. As a final gesture, Her Excellency presented families and children with a package of children's books for use in the service. KEIS Manager Susan Macgillycuddy received this special gift on behalf of the service.
5. Chairman of the Board and Life Member of Kurrajong Waratah, Michael Kennedy OAM had the honour of welcoming the Governor General to Kurrajong Waratah's Early Childhood Intervention Service on behalf of the Board and Management.
6. Before leaving and having spent a wonderful time at KEIS, the Governor General took the opportunity to stop off and spend time with Toby Bortolazzo during his Occupational Therapy session. Toby was pleased to show the Governor General how well he could thread beads.
7. Her Excellency appreciated having the opportunity to chat with Steve Jaques Chief Executive Officer of Kurrajong Waratah about the service and to Jeremy Wilson from a volunteer perspective.
8. It is not only fun for the children at KEIS. The Mayor of the City of Wagga Wagga, Cr Rod Kendall was soon encouraged to follow suit and walk the balance beam during the Governor General's visit.

UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR'S VISIT

The Wagga Wagga Branch of the Australian American Association hosted a visit by United States Ambassador Mr Jeffrey Bleich and his wife Rebecca during their Australian appointment. It was their first visit to Wagga Wagga.

Kurrajong Waratah was delighted to accept the invitation of the association to have their guests visit Kurrajong Recyclers and Kurrajong Early Childhood Intervention Service (KEIS).

Ambassador and Mrs Bleich enjoyed mingling with our employees at Kurrajong Recyclers and families and their children at KEIS.



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9. Ambassador Bleich took the time to chat to the children and their families including Riley Howard at KEIS.
10. E-Recycling employee Phillip Pumpa is keen to show Ambassador Jeffrey Bleich what is entailed in recycling a computer.
11. Making pizzas with the children at Kurrajong Early Childhood Intervention Service (KEIS) during their visit to Wagga Wagga and seated with children Mark Taylor and Claudia Taylor are Mrs Bleich, United States Ambassador Mr Jeffrey Bleich and Susan Macgillycuddy, Manager KEIS.
12. Ambassador Bleich and Operations Manager Kurrajong Recyclers, Tim Macgillycuddy watch closely as Johnathan Ryan demonstrates what is involved in recycling a power supply unit.



OLEARIA PLACE ACCOMMODATION DEVELOPMENT

The NSW Minister for Disability Services, Andrew Constance officially opened Kurrajong Waratah's group home accommodation development in February 2013.

Comprising three purpose built group homes, the development provides accommodation for twelve people with a disability. The NSW Government provided funding of \$1 million for the purchase of land and the construction of two houses.

The final home was funded entirely through local community fundraising amounting to \$650,000.

The necessary funds were predominantly raised through Kurrajong Waratah's Annual Race Days. Assistance was also forthcoming from supporters and the proceeds of Kurrajong Waratah's 50th Anniversary Ball.

Accommodation Manager of Kurrajong Waratah, Noelene Hogan addressed the gathering of over 200 people and outlined what a difference this development would make in the lives of people with a disability and how it will enable Kurrajong Waratah to respond to people's changing needs.

Daniel Smith spoke on behalf of all residents thanking people and the local community for supporting and providing the funds to build the third and final home. He told guests about the things he and his fellow residents would enjoy including having their own ensuite, a bigger bedroom where they could spend time doing the things they love and the large areas to share time with friends.

Minister Constance paid tribute to the local community saying, "In this community the passion and commitment to the improvement of disability services is not just talked about, it's backed up with community support".



Photo courtesy of The Daily Advertiser

14. Residents Maggie O'Kane and Robbie Hardinge (either side of doorway) are joined by l to r Michael Kennedy OAM, Chairman of Kurrajong Waratah, Noelene Hogan, Accommodation Manager, Minister Andrew Constance, (Maggie and Robbie) residents Daniel Smith and Chris Loneragan and Mr Daryl Maguire, Member for Wagga Wagga and Patron of Kurrajong Waratah.

15. Mr Daryl Maguire, Member for Wagga Wagga and Patron of Kurrajong Waratah paid tribute to the outstanding contribution Kurrajong Waratah makes to the local community and the lives of people with a disability and their families.

16. The verdict was unanimous. The design and quality of construction is first class and will provide an ideal lifestyle and accommodation for people with a disability.

17. Daniel Smith, on behalf of fellow residents thanked the Race Day Committee and others who had made the third and final group home possible. Steve Jaques, Chief Executive Officer obviously appreciates Daniel's comments as he spoke about what residents like about the house.

18. Resident Chris Loneragan had the honour of unveiling the opening plaque with the assistance of Minister Andrew Constance.

continued on next page...



19. Minister Andrew Constance was impressed by what Kurrajong Waratah had achieved with the assistance of government funding and community support and pleased to see residents including Daniel Smith give the new house the thumbs up.

20. Strong Kurrajong Waratah Race Day supporter Graham Walker of Combined Development Group and Estella Rise together with Cathie Smith, Development Services Manager and Steve Jaques, Chief Executive Officer.

21. Scott Sanbrook, Manager, Murrumbidgee Turf Club, Allen Thomas, Dealer Principal of Thomas Bros and Life Member of Kurrajong Waratah and Mrs Barb Thomas were delighted to inspect the group home they had supported through a number of Kurrajong Waratah Race Days.

22. Members of the Kurrajong Waratah Race Day Committee who played a major role in the construction of the third and final group home in the Olearia Place development attended the official opening and were pleased to see the culmination of their longstanding support, including Rob Balding, Tammy Holzheimer and Susan Duffy.

23. Attending the official opening were Alan Larcombe, Manager Kurrajong Business Services, Ray Carroll, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Kurrajong Waratah and Geoff Condon, Geoff Condon Homes who constructed the final house in the development.



KURRAJONG WARATAH RACE DAY AND CELEBRATION

The 25th Annual Kurrajong Waratah Race Day was a great success, the committee encouraged by having seen the official opening of the Olearia Place Accommodation Development just weeks earlier. A significant part of the \$650,000 needed to construct and furnish the final group home was due to the success of past race days.

The 2013 Race Day Committee aimed to raise the necessary funds to replace two ageing buses used for the transport of children and adults with a disability, enabling them to be actively engaged in educational, employment and recreational pursuits.

One bus was on the road in the weeks after race day, the second hopefully by the end of 2013 with the support and assistance of generous donors.

The 25th Kurrajong Waratah Race Day benefited by the glorious weather and an unprecedented crowd.

The committee, supporters, volunteers and staff can feel justifiably proud of another remarkable achievement.



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24. PRIME7 have been longstanding supporters of the Kurrajong Waratah Race Day. As an extension of this support Daniel Gibson, Network Presenter, PRIME7 attended the race day and carried out official duties, which was a great asset to the committee. Pictured are Cathie Smith, Development Services Manager, Daniel Gibson, PRIME7 Canberra, Rob Balding, Kurrajong Waratah Race Day Chairman and Trish Wilkins, Marketing Manager, Southern NSW, PRIME7.

25. Kurrajong Waratah Race Day Committee Member Susan Duffy co-ordinated the students from TRAC who volunteered their time to assist with the preparation and running of the day. Susan is pictured (second from right) with students.

26. The wonderful members of the Lions Club of South Wagga Wagga have for many years provided all catering for the Kurrajong Waratah Race Day. This year was no exception and they worked tirelessly catering for thousands of patrons on the day. With changes to the catering facilities, members coped magnificently with their outdoor kitchens thanks to Nathan Gale who assisted with the use of equipment and was incredibly flexible and supportive.

27. The trip from Narrandera was well worth it and Nicole Steele, Kurrajong Outreach Business Services Manager was keen to ensure Narrandera Laundry and Linen Service employees had the opportunity to attend the Kurrajong Waratah Race Day. She is pictured with Jason Harrison (l) and Craig McWhinnie (r).

28. The Austbrokers team from Sydney, Platinum sponsor of the Kurrajong Waratah Race Day, clearly had a wonderful day while visiting Wagga Wagga and the Murrumbidgee Turf Club.

29. Supporter Paul Gleeson catching up with Cathie Smith, Development Services Manager at the Kurrajong Waratah Race Day.

30. Studying the form guide and enjoying the day are l to r Scott Woodhouse, Director, Hunters Office Choice, Michael Douglas and Craig Barrett, both Kurrajong Waratah Race Day Committee Members and Ben Howard, Director, Hunters Office Choice who were valued Platinum Sponsors of the day.

31. Shona and Dr Matthew Howard of Brentwood Orthopaedics together with their daughter and Rob Balding, Chairman of Kurrajong Waratah Race Day.



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32. Representatives of sponsors, committee and the MTC are l to r Steven Wait, Thomas Bros, Stuart Allen, 2WG/93.1 StarFM, Susan Duffy, Race Day Committee Member and D & M Electrical, Benjamin Shuhyta, PRIME7 and Francis Mullins, Wagga Plumbing Service. Front row is Scott Sanbrook, Murrumbidgee Turf Club.

33. Yummy - chocolate dipped marshmallows were just one of the many treats available as part of the children's hospitality facilities sponsored by Pirtek.

34. South Wagga Rotary Club members assisted with BBQ catering for the Kurrajong Waratah Race Day for the first time. They initially wondered why they were needed when so many volunteers were already on hand but by the end of the day were left with no doubt whatsoever. Pictured are Des Hamilton and Ken Post.

35. Diamond Sponsor Wagga Plumbing Service and the Mullins family were represented by Ms Alexandra Mullins (right) who is pictured with Francis Mullins and Daniel Gibson, Network Presenter, PRIME7 at the presentation of the Wagga Plumbing Service Class 3 HCP.

36. Pauline Sheridan with supporter of the Kurrajong Waratah Race Day since 1990, David Milne of David Milne Roofing enjoying the sunshine and the race day.



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- 37.** Dr Vince Feron, Wagga Endoscopy Centre (Diamond Sponsor of the day) with Rob Balding, Kurrajong Waratah Race Day Chairman caught up between races.
- 38.** Look like winner's smiles...Fiona and Steve Jaques pictured enjoying the highly successful Kurrajong Waratah Race Day.
- 39.** This smart little chap proves you're never too young to enjoy the Kurrajong Waratah Race Day.
- 40.** A significant amount of the food provided to patrons on Kurrajong Waratah Race Day is coordinated or donated by Superior Foods Services. Attending the sponsor's celebration are Mick Landrigan and Glen Patterson
- 41.** Generous longstanding sponsors of the Kurrajong Waratah Race Day, John and Denise Hart of Pirtek are pictured at the sponsor's celebration with Susan Duffy, Committee Member.



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42. Having supported all 25 Kurrajong Waratah Race Days is Allen Thomas, Dealer Principal, Thomas Bros, pictured with Steve Jaques, Chief Executive Officer Kurrajong Waratah and Susan Duffy, Committee Member.
43. NSW and South West Slopes Law Society have supported the Kurrajong Waratah Race Day for many years and the committee appreciated having the opportunity to thank representatives. Pictured are Maggie Orman, President of the South West Slopes Law Society, Tammy Holzheimer Race Day Committee Member and Melissa Mastronardi.
44. Jon Daley and Lee Kimball of Westpac, caught up with Committee Member Susan Duffy at the sponsor's thank you celebration.
45. Taking the opportunity to thank sponsors of the Kurrajong Waratah Race Day is Trena Kennedy, Michael Kennedy OAM, Chairman of Kurrajong Waratah, Fiona Jaques and Platinum sponsor Graham Walker, Combined Development Group and Estella Rise.
46. Representing Lions Club of South Wagga Wagga at the sponsor's celebration are Brenda Shone and Helen Whitaker.
47. Celebrating the success of the 25th Kurrajong Waratah Race Day are Cathie Smith, Development Services Manager, Michael Kennedy OAM, Chairman of Kurrajong Waratah with Trena Kennedy.

WAGGA AGM

Over 240 people attended the 2012 Annual General Meeting at the Wagga Commercial Club.

In addition to the formalities and acceptance of the Chairman and Treasurer's reports and the election of Patrons and Directors, there is always a great deal of interest in the presentation by Chief Executive Officer, Steve Jaques. His presentation not only provides a verbal overview of the year's achievements, changes and future direction of Kurrajong Waratah's service, but also a visual one.

Without a doubt there is always great excitement with the presentation of Years of Service Awards made to employees and staff and the winner of the John Reid Memorial Award. The genuine celebration of people's achievements by those attending the meeting is both impressive and moving.

In addition to those receiving awards at the Annual General Meeting, there were a number unable to be present, or had elected to receive their award closer to their homes. At the date of this meeting Kurrajong Waratah had 36 staff who had given in excess of 10 years service. Collectively their years of service amounted to 592 years.

Sixty six employees with a disability also had in excess of ten years employment. These employees alone having 1462 years of employment.



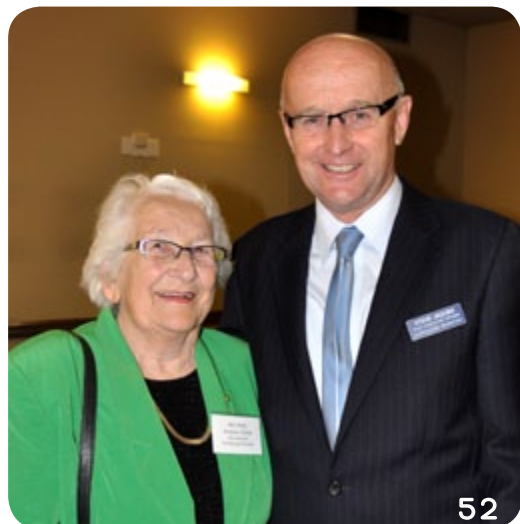
48. The late John Reid's brother Michael on behalf of the Reid family presented the prestigious John Reid Memorial Award. Michael (standing) is pictured with the proud recipient Allan Ward of Waratah Industries and Director Peter Perkins who read the citation. To be eligible to win this important award the recipient must 'be respected for the care they show for their fellow workers and be willing to lend a hand to benefit their workplace and their fellow workers as John Reid did'.

49. Wendy Bean and Janet Laws, Manager P4P received their traditional watch and plaque recognising 20 years service to people with a disability. Pictured with them is Director, Bill Howitt OAM.

50. Director Peter Perkins was pleased to have the opportunity to present Alan Larcombe, Manager Kurrajong Business Services and Jane Pottie with plaques recognising 15 years service.



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51. A very popular award was the presentation to Kurrajong Waratah's over 70's Volunteers. These gentlemen had received a Seniors Week Award for their volunteering with Kurrajong Waratah however, the organisation wished to formally acknowledge these remarkable gentlemen. Front row seated are Thelma Bryon (wife of Athol), Director Pam Green, Heather Harris, (wife of Bill). Back row are award recipients Bill Harris, Athol Bryon, Bill Prest, Norm Byng, Ron Grosse together with Chairman and Life Member of Kurrajong Waratah Michael Kennedy OAM. Unable to be present were Geoff Amos, Cliff Clancy and Arthur Priest. Each spoke briefly about what they gain from their volunteering experience and encouraged others to consider joining them as volunteers.

52. Life Member, Marjorie Anslow OAM of Narrandera is pictured with Steve Jaques, Chief Executive Officer.

53. Where do the years go? Wayne Emerson was thrilled to have his parents present to see him receive a plaque and award for 35 years employment. He is pictured with Lyndal Ross, Accommodation Manager, Kurrajong Waratah.

54. Director Pam Green is pictured with recipients of plaques recognising 15 years employment. They are Kellie Hulm and Darryl White.

55. Supper after the meeting is always enjoyable but so too is catching up with friends and families. Pictured are Steve Jaques, Chief Executive Officer, Daniel Smith, Brenton Howard and Chris Chalmers.

56. Andrew Perkins is always delighted to receive years of employment awards and to receive one for 25 years is certainly reason to celebrate. Pictured with Andrew is Garry Forde, Vice Chairman of Kurrajong Waratah.

continued on next page...



57. Garry Forde, Vice Chairman of Kurrajong Waratah presented Frances Ahern and Cathie Smith, Development Services Manager with plaques recognising 25 years service to people with a disability.

58. Leonie McLean and Nat Klein are pictured with Director Bill Howitt OAM who had earlier presented them with certificates recognising 10 years employment.

59. Unable to be present to receive her award for 25 years, Wendy Umback received her award from Manager of Waratah Industries, Jim Seymour following the Annual General Meeting.

OUTREACH AGM's

Following the Kurrajong Waratah Annual General Meeting in Wagga Wagga, Annual Meetings and Presentation of Awards are held in Narrandera and West Wyalong.

These meetings are extremely well attended and provide employees, clients, families, staff and community representatives the opportunity to know what is happening throughout the organisation, as well as in their local services. It also provides a chance to meet Directors and Managers of Kurrajong Waratah.

A very popular part of the evening is the recognition of years of service awards and achievement awards.





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60. Very proud recipients of gold watches and plaques recognising 20 years employment are front row (l to r) Craig McWhinnie, Narrandera Laundry and Linen Service, Michelle Anderson and Suzie Jennings, Cypress Centre, Narrandera. Back row (l to r) with Directors Dr. Max Graffen, Garry Forde, Bill Howitt OAM and Manager Nicole Steele.

61. A delighted and surprised Barbara Birks of Café Peckish, West Wyalong received a gold watch and plaque on the achievement of 20 years employment. She is pictured with Nicole Steele, Manager, Kurrajong Outreach Business Services, Steve Jaques, Chief Executive Officer and Director of Kurrajong Waratah, Bill Howitt OAM.

62. In addition, receiving years of service awards at Narrandera are Michelle Thornton, 15 years and Jeanette Miller, 10 years employment with Narrandera Laundry and Linen Service. They are pictured with Nicole Steele, Manager Kurrajong Outreach Business Services. Back row are Directors Garry Forde, Vice Chairman, Bill Howitt OAM and Dr Max Graffen.

63. General Manager of Bland Shire Council, Mr Ray Smith takes the opportunity to catch up with Steve Jaques, Chief Executive Officer, Kurrajong Waratah to discuss services Kurrajong Waratah provides in West Wyalong.

64. Pictured catching up at the conclusion of the Narrandera meeting are Mr Ray Pluis, General Manager, Narrandera Shire Council, Steve Jaques, Chief Executive Officer, Kurrajong Waratah, Mrs Jenny Clarke, Mayor of Narrandera Shire and Dr Max Graffen, Director, Kurrajong Waratah.

65. Proudly displaying his certificate for 10 years employment is James Payne pictured with Nicole Steele, Manager, Kurrajong Outreach Business Services, Steve Jaques, Chief Executive Officer and Bill Howitt OAM, Director of Kurrajong Waratah.

66. Sharing a light-hearted moment following receipt of an Achievement Award for being a punctual, consistent and reliable worker is Michael Anderson together with Bill Howitt OAM, Director, Nicole Steele, Manager, Kurrajong Outreach Business Services and Steve Jaques, Chief Executive Officer.

67. Pictured following the presentation of Achievement Awards are recipients and presenters. Front row (l to r) Sabrina Wood for the generosity and helpfulness shown to others, Ann Flanigan for always trying her best, Emma Ryan for showing great improvement and Nathan Collins for his efforts in all areas of his work. Back row (l to r) Directors Garry Forde, Vice Chairman, Bill Howitt OAM, Dr Max Graffen and Nicole Steele, Manager Kurrajong Outreach Business Services.

68. There is always a great chance for a friendly catch up following the meeting in West Wyalong. Pictured at the meeting are Lorraine O'Hara, Mark Loughnan, Noelene Loughnan (standing) and Margaret Loudon.



69. Making the Christmas Spectacular a real family occasion are Carolyn Black, with Jamie Putland, Hayley Putland and Shylah Kennedy.
70. Friends Michael Ingold, Kane Meyers and Jacqui Meyers relax at the Wagga Music Bowl as they wait for the Spectacular to get underway.
71. He needs no introduction the children flock to him and Ronald McDonald is certain to entertain and delight the children as they wait patiently for the candles to be lit and the activity to commence.
72. Clancy Kodla made his way through the crowd prior to the Christmas Spectacular. He is assisted by Lions Club of South Wagga Wagga Members and his Hume Building Society assistant Amanda Beckett.
73. Colonel David Hay and his family were definitely enjoying themselves when spotted at the Christmas Spectacular. Colonel Hay must have felt very proud of the members of the Army Band Kapooka whom he supports to participate in community events like the Christmas Spectacular.
74. Sponsors make it possible for the Christmas Spectacular to continue. Sponsors Phil Wallace of Avis Riverina (far right) seems to be enjoying himself in the VIP area along with Adrian Mangan, Anne Mangan and Bernie Wallace. (from l to r).

BORAMBOLA CAMP

Very welcome support this year came from Joanne, Ellse and Matthew Pascoe who undertook to support the Rural Getaway Holidays held at Borambola. This gift was given in memory of the late Peter Pascoe by his family. Rural Getaway Holidays provide an ideal opportunity for people with a disability to enjoy a holiday, catch up with friends made at previous camps and often provide family/carers with respite care and the chance to recharge their batteries.



75. Pictured receiving guidance and directions from Meg McCurdy in order to play blindfolded chess is Jacqui Meyers.

76. Rachel Wallace enjoyed many of the activities especially those where she could use her creative skills.

77. Old friends pictured catching up at camp are Cecilia West (Griffith), Jason Harrison (Narrandera) both standing, together with Anthony Pandolfo of Ningana (Griffith).

78. Pictured taking a moments break from the hectic pace of the Rural Getaway Holidays are Robert Forrestal and Richard Burge, Kurrajong Waratah staff member with Carolyn Stapylton



79. Let the music begin and patrons know just how fortunate Wagga Wagga is to have entertainment provided by the Army Band Kapooka under the musical direction of Major Peter Thomas.
80. Steve Wright, Station/Sales Manager PRIME7 and Justin Rhynehart, Regional Manager of Hume Building Society pictured at the launch of the Christmas Spectacular.
81. Sharing a storybook together at Kurrajong Early Childhood Intervention Service is Mark Taylor pictured with Steve Jaques, Chief Executive Officer who did not hesitate to join him.
82. GWS Giants players visited Waratah Industries in March to meet and chat with employees. Pictured with GWS player Dylan Shiel is Andrew Perkins who chats while Dylan gives him his autograph.
83. Tracey Collins, Co-ordinator of InterLink is pictured assisting Tricia and Graham Snowden select equipment which will make their caring role a little easier.



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- 84.** And the winner of the Kurrajong Waratah Art Union is Kevin Goldspink of Wagga Wagga. Mr Michael McCormack, Member for Riverina drew the winning ticket while Peter Allibon announcer of 2WG/93.1 StarFM stood ready to announce the winner live on air. Michael Kennedy OAM, Chairman of Kurrajong Waratah and Art Union Promoter watched on.
- 85.** Another Kurrajong Waratah Art Union successfully completed. Pictured following the draw are Michael Kennedy OAM, Chairman of Kurrajong Waratah and Art Union Promoter together with Steven Wait, Sales Manager and Allen Thomas, Dealer Principal, Thomas Bros. Allen is also a Life Member of Kurrajong Waratah.
- 86.** Residents of Rosebank Retirement Village assisted with cutting and folding of over 30,000 tickets in readiness for the Kurrajong Waratah Art Union draw. Pictured are residents Mary Dunford, Lorna Lane and Freda Edwards.
- 87.** Attending the presentation of the Excellence in Regional Innovation Award were I to r Fernando Whittaker-Roa, Artistic Director of Kurrajong Waratah's 'All Abilities Theatre Company' and 'Twilight Dance Troupe'; Carolyn Eckersall, Kurrajong Waratah's Lifestyle Services Manager; Steve Jaques, Chief Executive Officer, Kurrajong Waratah and Bill Howitt, Director and Life Member of Kurrajong Waratah.
- 88.** The NSW Minister for Disability Services the Hon John Ajaka MLC, (on right) presented the Excellence in Regional Innovation Award to Fernando Whittaker-Roa, Artistic Director of Kurrajong Waratah's 'All Abilities Theatre Company' and 'Twilight Dance Troupe' on behalf of Kurrajong Waratah at the awards ceremony held in Sydney.

COUNT ME IN

A determined campaign to ensure the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) was legislated and becomes a reality for people with a disability and their families, continued throughout the year.

With legislation achieved and trial sites begun throughout Australia, we are in the midst of changing times within the disability sector. People with a disability and their families will hopefully have their reasonable needs met under the NDIS however, guidelines are yet to be developed.

Disability services are confident there will be no government funding sources for capital and equipment under the NDIS. We will need to continue to work closely with our community and supporters to ensure the best possible outcome for people with a disability.

The needs of people with a disability and their families will always remain at the forefront of the decisions Kurrajong Waratah make and will need to continue to consult with families along the way and be a major part of the solution to their needs.



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- 89. Parents Nell Davis, Marnie Duffus and Herb Cowley know the importance of the NDIS and were happy to give their support to the campaign.
- 90. Employees joined in too. Pictured are Phillip Pumpa, Wayne Close with Michael Kennedy OAM, Chairman and Life Member of Kurrajong Waratah.
- 91. Pictured at the "Count me in" morning tea held at Kurrajong Waratah were I to r Dr Michelle Fernon, Director Kurrajong Waratah, Allan Duffus, parent, Cr Kevin Poynter, Wagga Wagga City Council, Phil Pinyon, General Manager, Wagga Wagga City Council and Peter Perkins, Treasurer and Life Member of Kurrajong Waratah and parent.

FAMILY & CARER FORUMS

In our preparations for the journey ahead to the NDIS, a series of forums and meetings with families and carers were held across the Riverina and Murray regions earlier in the year.

These forums were important as they provided families and carers with the opportunity to hear about the proposed NDIS, and about the broad benefits and changes that this new scheme and its funding is expected to deliver for them. It also provided the opportunity for Kurrajong Waratah to receive first hand from families and carers their ideas about the services they would like to have now, and those services and supports that they would like to have available in the future.

The information gathered from these interactive forums was used in the development of a three year strategic plan for Kurrajong Waratah in readiness for the eventual rollout of the NDIS to all areas of NSW from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2018.



92. Family members attending the Family & Carer Forums in Wagga Wagga were Anne and Cletus Heffernan of Junee and Iris Emerson of Wagga Wagga.

93. Discussing the needs of local families in Temora are Steve Jaques, Chief Executive Officer and Enid Coddington of Temora.

94. Kurrajong Waratah parents who have seen incredible changes in disability services over the years were interested to attend the Family & Carer Forums in March. They are Allan Davis, Patron, Life Member of Kurrajong Waratah and parent, Cathie Smith, Development Services Manager and parent with Nell Davis, Life Member of Kurrajong Waratah and parent.



95. Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous benefactor, Kurrajong Waratah's accommodation service has been able to replace an ageing wheel chair accessible mini bus. In its place is a Toyota Hi Ace which will comfortably seat eight passengers and provide wheelchair access and transport in safety.

We make a living by
what we get but we
make a life by what
we give. - WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE



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JOURNEY FORWARD WORKSHOP

Kurrajong Waratah conducted a workshop as the first steps in positioning Kurrajong Waratah for the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). The NDIS will see our operations progressively change from direct government funding of our services to one that gives people with a disability and their carers greater choice and control over the care and support they receive.

'The Journey Forward' workshop was attended by Kurrajong Waratah Directors, Managers and staff and was facilitated by Peter Brinkerhoff an internationally recognised trainer to disability organisations.

- 96. Attending 'The Journey Forward' workshop were Bill Howitt OAM, Director of Kurrajong Waratah, staff members Steve Chapple, Karin Thompson and facilitator Peter Brinkerhoff.
- 97. The workshop also provided the opportunity to meet staff from other services. Pictured are Tracey Collins, InterLink, Di Byrne, Yallambee Deniliquin and Noeline Hogan, Accommodation Manager.
- 98. Representing Kurrajong Early Childhood Intervention Service (KEIS) at 'The Journey Forward' workshop were Joanna Caton, Jackie Stening, Donalee Gregory and Susan Macgillycuddy, Manager KEIS, pictured with Steve Jaques, Chief Executive Officer.



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- 99. Manager of Kurrajong Disability Solutions, Crispin Lowe is pictured chatting with school leavers at the School Leavers Expo in Wagga Wagga. Similar Expos were held throughout the Riverina Murray region and Kurrajong Disability Solutions took an active part in them all.
- 100. Volunteers Fiona Jaques and Dr Michelle Fernon, Director of Kurrajong Waratah were a great asset to the volunteer team who transformed the driveway entrance to Hildasid planting over 200 advanced trees.



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- 101.** Myer staff are always keen to find additional ways of boosting their fundraising coffers for Kurrajong Waratah and Meg Roache, Peter James and Anne James took the opportunity to conduct a very successful BBQ at the rear of the store prior to Christmas.
- 102.** Rob Balding of Westpac may not have been in his comfort zone, but wrapping customers' purchases on the Myer Christmas Gift Wrap stand was another way he could assist Kurrajong Waratah.
- 103.** Throughout the 2012-2013 Kurrajong Waratah Art Union, REMAX staff volunteered their time to sell tickets. This support was a significant boost as finding suitable sellers is one of the greatest challenges in conducting the Art Union. Pictured outside Myer are Dave Skow and Christa Lindsay REMAX, Chris Chalmers ticket seller and Chris Boneham, MYER Store Manager.
- 104.** REMAX staff members (l to r) Margaret Ford and Anna Eastern were just two of the ninety supporters who volunteered their time to assist on the Myer Christmas Gift Wrap stand, which operated in the store before Christmas in support of Kurrajong Waratah.
- 105.** A generous benefactor purchased a zero turn mower for use at Kurrajong Waratah's Hildasid during the year. Volunteer Bill Harris has been able to maintain those hard to get at spots between trees which were not possible with the larger tractor/slasher. Bill is certainly delighted with the acquisition of the Toro.
- 106.** The Celi family are generous in their support of Kurrajong Waratah's Narrandera services. Through the results of the day over the years, many major purchases have been possible and been a great boost to the employee's work environment. Pictured at the Climate Technologies Golf Day cheque presentation are l to r Ted Celi, Natalie Celi, head of the organising team, Nicole Steele, Kurrajong Waratah's Outreach Business Services Manager and Ann Celi.

END OF YEAR FUNCTION

Kurrajong Waratah's End of Year gathering provides an ideal opportunity for clients, employees, staff, volunteers, Managers, Directors and their families from throughout the Riverina Murray region to catch up in a relaxed environment.

Last year's event was held in the grounds of the Murrumbidgee Turf Club where there was something for everyone.



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- 107.** Lesley Bradley (standing) and Michelle O'Connor travelled from West Wyalong for the get together.
- 108.** Robbie Hardinge (Wagga), Michelle Anderson, Suzie Jennings and Ros Thompson all from Leeton enjoyed catching up with friends while in Wagga Wagga.
- 109.** The trip from Temora was a great opportunity to meet other families. Pictured are Jennifer of ILSI Temora with parents Laurel and Bill West.
- 110.** The Harmer family were one of many families who relaxed and enjoyed the pleasant surroundings of the night.
- 111.** The Geaghan family, Graham, Louise and June enjoyed the relaxed night and catching up with other families.



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112. Young or old there was something for everyone - including Marj Anslow OAM, Life Member from Narrandera who enjoyed the opportunity to have arm painting and a scoot along.



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113. Arthur Webster enjoyed strumming his guitar while others sat back and listened.

114. Hayden Watts got into the spirit of the night dressing up and is pictured together with his parents Julie and Brian.



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115. In a word the food was - perfect and Lorraine Pitman knew just where to start.

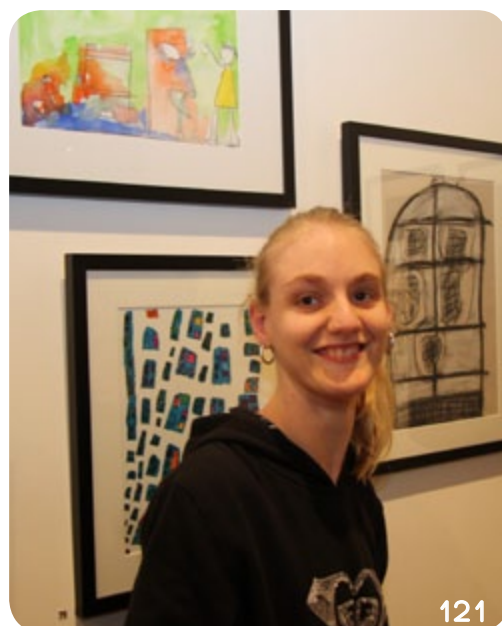
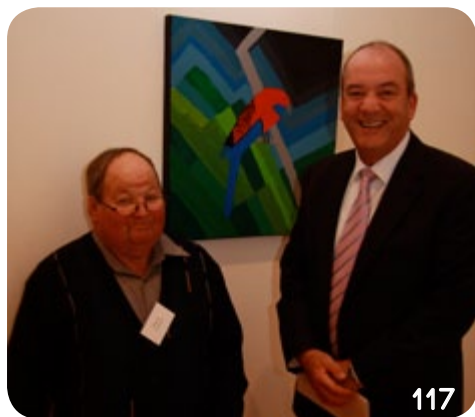
116. Polka Dot pancakes provided supper for the guests at the end of year get together. Fred Loneragan felt it was worth waiting for.



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117. Artist Wayne Emerson is pictured at the opening of the Art to Crow About Exhibition with Mr Daryl Maguire, Member for Wagga Wagga and Patron of Kurrajong Waratah.

118. Canny Kinloch (r) officially opened the 2013 Art to Crow About and is pictured with Carolyn Eckersall, Manager Kurrajong Skills Options Lifestyle Services which is responsible for Art to Crow About.

119. Artist Jennifer West of Kurrajong Waratah's ILSI service in Temora is pictured with Fernando Whittaker-Roa at the Art to Crow About opening night.

120. Joanne McLennon and Robyn Turner of Warburn Estate Wines travelled from Leeton for the Exhibition and were pleased to have provided the wines for opening night.

121. Janna Harrison loved seeing the finished pieces of art on display when she attended the opening of Art to Crow About.

122. Supporters June O'Connor and Meg Roache both Managers of Myer were impressed by the array of new inclusions in this years Art to Crow About exhibition.

Leaving a bequest to Kurrajong Waratah will have benefits that endure beyond your lifetime.



It will help bridge the gap between what is, and what could be for people with a disability.

Your bequest may be structured to benefit a special program or be directed to the most crucial need identified by Kurrajong Waratah. Mrs Cathie Smith, Development Services Manager, will be pleased to discuss this with you or your Solicitor confidentially. Cathie can be contacted on 6932 6009, mobile 0438 219 487 or email csmith@kurrajongwaratah.org.au.

Your bequest and support will make it possible for people with a disability to lead a life of their choice.



Bridging the gap
between what is,
and what could be.



www.kurrajongwaratah.org.au

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