



2016 - 2017
**ANNUAL
REPORT**





"We're here for the people and I think that comes through in our work."

Working Together Speaks Claudia's Language

A country girl at heart, Claudia Westcott was thrilled to relocate from Sydney to Wagga Wagga in January 2017 to take up a role as an early intervention speech pathologist with Kurrajong Therapy Plus.

Now assisting children aged between 18 months and 8.5 years with language, speech and feeding therapies, Claudia loves working with families and other allied health professionals to achieve great outcomes for her clients.

Why did you choose to work at an early intervention service like Therapy Plus?

Prior to this role, I had been working in schools in South West Sydney. While I loved the children I worked with, I found the private practice model quite frustrating at times and I was predominantly seeing kids with language needs only. In terms of my skillset, I was seeking a job where I would see a variety of clients with different needs.

Moving to the NDIS, where we have the opportunity to work with a variety of ages and a variety of needs, excites me.



What do you enjoy most about your work?

One of the things I love about my job is that it's quite varied – I get to see kids with a variety of needs.

It's also the interaction I get with families and of course working together with other disciplines (such as occupational therapists and physiotherapists) towards the client's goals.

Like any job it's going to have its tough days but this is a supportive workplace, so when I have those days, I can go and talk to someone about it and resolve any issues. I always feel like I'm being heard and that I don't need to solve problems on my own. We also celebrate the wins together.

Why is Kurrajong important to our community?

We're a not-for-profit organisation that works with people with disabilities, whether that be providing therapy support as we do here, or employment somewhere like Kurrajong Recycling.

As well as supported employment we also provide a range of Lifestyle Choices and Supported Living services – giving people with disability choice, because people with disabilities deserve as much choice as you and me.

I've heard that a lot of our adult clients who previously finished therapies at age 7, because that's where therapies used to end, or older adults who had no access to therapy services at all, are getting NDIS plans and are now choosing to come back to us for their services. That's pretty exciting. It tells you we're obviously doing something right.

If you could tell people one thing about Kurrajong, what would it be?

I think it's that we genuinely care. Everyone I've worked with here are genuinely here for the right reasons.

One of the things I like about this job is that we provide services to a range of families from a range of cultures and different socio-economic backgrounds. We're here for the people and I think that comes through in our work.

Contents

Patron in Chief and Patrons, Corporate Life Members and Life Members	3
Board of Directors 2016 – 2017	6
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer's Report	8
Kurrajong's Operating Region	9
Treasurers Report and Financial Results	10
First Contact, the NDIS and You	14
Organisational Overview	18
Kurrajong Foundation Report	24
Organisational Structure	28
Our Management Team	29
Our Staff	32
Our Supported Employees	36
Our Service Partners	37
Age no Barrier to Involvement	40
Thank You to Our Donors	42
How We Can Change Lives Together	46
Our Year in Pictures	48

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ACN 002 407 294 **ABN** 55 002 407 294 **Fundraising Authority CFN** 10754 © Kurrajong 2017

Certified Disability Service Provider DSS:2004 **Certificate No.** DS 549704

Certified Environmental Management Systems ISO 14001:2004 **Certificate No.** EMS 569443

Certified Quality Management System ISO 9001: 2015 **Certificate No.** FS 674308

Certified E-Waste Scheme AS/NZS 5377: 2013 **Certificate No.** 617084

Registered NDIS Provider No. 405 000 8171

Front Cover: Kiara Vella, Kurrajong Lifestyle Choices

We acknowledge and appreciate the input of Frank & Earnest and Jack of Hearts Photography in the preparation of this report.

Patrons for 2016 - 2017



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 among a select number of organisations he continued to support as Patron in Chief.



Mr Daryl Maguire

Patron and Member for
Wagga Wagga

Daryl has been the NSW State Member for Wagga Wagga for 18 years. He has a strong interest in social justice and in initiatives that build and sustain local communities and services. Daryl is a strong advocate for people with disability and their families and accepted the honour of Patron of Kurrajong in 2010.



Mr Peter Perkins

Life Member and Patron

Peter's involvement with Kurrajong commenced in 1982 when he became a Director and continued until 2015, including 20 years overseeing the organisation's finances as Treasurer. Peter always brought a parent perspective to his role. Peter's outstanding commitment and service to people with disability and Kurrajong was recognised when he was given the honour of Life Membership in 2005. Peter accepted the position of Patron of Kurrajong in 2015.

Life Membership

The following corporations and individuals have been honoured with Life Membership for the highest level of support and commitment to Kurrajong over a very long period. These are the only Life Memberships granted in Kurrajong's 60 year history.

Corporate Life Members

- Myer, Wagga Wagga
- Wagga Daily Advertiser
- PRIME7
- 2WG/93.1 StarFM

Life Members

- Mrs Marjorie Anslow OAM
- Mr John Cosier
- Mr Allan Davis
- Mrs Nell Davis
- Mrs Marcia Fife
- Mr Wal Fife
- Mrs Sybil Haw
- Mr Bill Howitt OAM
- Mr Michael Kennedy OAM
- Mr Tony Kew
- Mr Peter Perkins
- Mrs Joyce Reynolds
- Mr Ken Reynolds
- Mr Allen Thomas
- Mrs Audrey Cowley (dec'd)
- Mr Herb Cowley (dec'd)
- Mrs Rita Deaner (dec'd)
- Mr Bill Hurd (dec'd)
- Mrs Lettie McDonald (dec'd)
- Mr Cedric Robertson (dec'd)
- Mrs Ada Robinson (dec'd)
- Mrs Enid Scobie (dec'd)
- Mr Wal Scobie (dec'd)

Right now, Nat lives close enough to walk to The Haven to visit his mum but plans to drive there (and everywhere!) once he gets his driver's licence.



Nat's Driving Ambition



For the past 15 years, Nat Klein has been an integral member of the Kurrajong Property Services team which is responsible for keeping Kurrajong's buildings and grounds ship-shape.

"Kurrajong is a bit like extended family. They've taught me how to do the mowing, edging, operate the sprinkler system and change tap washers. Working here has helped with my confidence.

"I like working here. For one, I get paid and I'd get bored if I stayed at home!"

After several attempts, earlier this year Nat gained his learner's licence and is currently learning to drive.

"I wanted to get my licence so I can drive around by myself and if Steve, Thomas and Jim (my supervisors and support workers) want a hand, I can give them a hand.

"And I will be able to go fishing when I want to. Just take myself. It will come in handy."

In typical fashion, the Kurrajong team is supportive of Nat's driving ambitions. His supervisor Steve Chapple is proud that Kurrajong's support with things such as TAFE literacy and numeracy courses, and health and family issues has played a big part in Nat's professional and personal development over the years.

"For quite a few years we got Nat to go to TAFE, and we spent a bit of time with him on the computer, just doing practise tests for his driver's licence.

"On a personal level, Nat's mum recently had a stroke and was in hospital for a few months before going to The Haven. Our InterLink service helped get Nat's name on the lease, so he is able to still live in the family home. It's great that Kurrajong can assist in these ways and I know it makes a difference."

In the time Steve has known Nat he has become more social and talks to people more openly now.

"He's a good worker. He's ambitious, keen and he's motivated all the time.

"He's also got a great sense of humour and keeps us on our toes. He's got a story every day and a joke or three!

"He likes to have a bit of fun and I love it. It makes a difference to my day. It makes coming to work fun and, over the years, it makes you feel that you've achieved something as well."

Right now, Nat lives close enough to walk to The Haven to visit his mum but plans to drive there (and everywhere!) once he gets his driver's licence.



2016 - 2017

Board of Directors



MICHAEL KENNEDY OAM *Chairman of the Board & Life Member*

Appointed to the Board: 21 April 1982 | **Qualifications:** Diploma of Law

Michael's long association with Kurrajong spans over 40 years commencing as an Apexian and the formation of Waratah Industries in 1972. Michael's outstanding commitment to people with disability and the wider community saw him awarded the Order of Australia Medal in 2000. Michael was a partner and the consultant at Walsh & Blair Lawyers for 53 years. He served on a number of Catholic Diocesan committees, local charitable institutions and community organisations for many years. Michael looks forward to the choices offered to people with disability with the introduction of the NDIS, but also appreciates the challenges that will have to be met by all concerned. Married to Trena, they have three adult sons, two of whom have, or currently serve on boards of disability organisations in the district.



DR MAX GRAFFEN *Vice-Chairman*

Re-appointed to the Board: 26 October 2016 | **Qualifications:** M.B.B.S. (Hons 1) Dip A (UK), DObstRCOG, FRACGP, Grad Dip (Geriatrics) GAICD

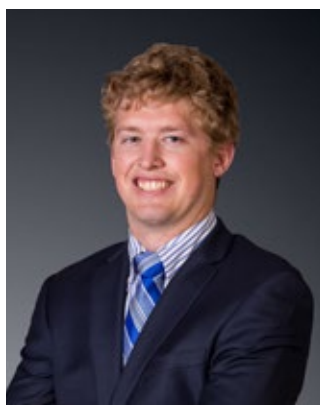
Max is a practising general practitioner with a strong interest in the health and well-being of people with disability and their parent/carers. He is involved in regional health services, through directorship of the Murrumbidgee Medical Training Hub of UNSW and as former chair of the Murrumbidgee Primary Health Network. He is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. Max, together with his wife Sue came to Wagga in 1981 and have raised and educated their 4 boys here. He is committed to utilising his board experience, qualifications and strategic approach in assisting Kurrajong's governance. Max looks forward to assisting the organisation and local people with disabilities and their carers successfully navigate the transition into the NDIS.



WILLIAM HOWITT OAM *Secretary & Life Member*

Appointed to the Board: August 2005 | **Qualifications:** Diploma of Teaching

Bill has been involved in Disability Service Management for 40 years. Until his appointment to the Board of Kurrajong in 2005 Bill had served on the Cypress Centre Committee in Narrandera since 1977. Until his retirement in 2002 Bill was in charge of Special Education at Narrandera High School. In 1997 he received the NSW Director General's Award for Services to Education. Bill was awarded the Order of Australia Medal for services to community in 2008 and received the Australian Sports Medal in 2000. He continues his community involvement with the St. Vincent de Paul Society and the Narrandera Lions Club and is a Life Member of the Royal Life Saving Society. Bill and his wife Fae have four children, their youngest son John is an employee of Kurrajong Recycling.



HAMISH CULLENWARD *Treasurer*

Appointed to the Board: 16 Sep 2015 | **Qualifications:** GAICD, CA, BComm, BActStud (ANU)

Hamish grew up on a sheep and cattle property north of Bourke. He has worked as an Actuarial analyst in Sydney for consulting firm Rice Warner Actuaries. Upon moving to Wagga Wagga, he joined Boyce Chartered Accountants.

Hamish's mum has worked for many years as an occupational therapist in regional NSW and has provided him with a passion for getting the services and education needed in these areas. As such he is excited about leveraging this passion towards serving a great organisation such as Kurrajong and supporting its transition into the NDIS. Hamish and Kate have both loved Wagga Wagga since moving here and are looking forward to raising their young family here in the coming years.



DR MICHELLE FERNON *Director*

Appointed to the Board: 9 November 2007 | **Qualifications:** MB Bch (Medical Practitioner)
Bachelor of Applied Science (Occupational Therapy)

Growing up in Young, Michelle (nee Mullany) has worked as a Medical Practitioner in Wagga Wagga since 1992. Prior to completing her medical degree at Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, she trained and worked as an Occupational Therapist in Australia and Ireland. Married to Vince, together they operated Wagga Endoscopy Centre for over 20 years. They have four daughters. Michelle is Chair of the Medical Advisory Committee at Wagga Endoscopy Centre, has volunteered in various roles on other committees and has successfully completed the Australian Institute of Directors Course. She is also a keen supporter of Caritas and a founder of Woman For The World. Michelle is excited for the future of the Kurrajong community, as it has been built on sound principals and good governance.



PAM GREEN *Director*

Appointed to the Board: 22 October 2008 | **Qualifications:** B.Sc (Hons), Dip Education, Graduate Certificate Management Development

Pam was Head of Wagga Wagga Campus of TAFE NSW Riverina Institute before retiring after a successful teaching and management career. She and husband Peter now contribute to several community organisations and enjoy spending time with family. They have two married daughters and three grandchildren. Throughout her career Pam worked to ensure the transforming power of education was accessible to all and supported strong links between TAFE and Kurrajong. Pam is committed to Kurrajong. She is passionate about supporting people with disabilities and their families through the implementation of the National Disability Insurance Scheme and about continuing to provide them with the highest standard of service possible as well as opportunities and choices for the future.



GEOFF BREUST *Director*

Appointed to the Board: 19 February 2014 | **Qualifications:** BA (Administration Economics) Canberra, GAICD, FCILTA

Geoff grew up on the family farm near Temora, went to University in Canberra and worked in various Departments in the Commonwealth for 20 years before joining Kendell Airlines as General Manager in Wagga Wagga in 1988. In 2003 he was appointed CEO/Managing Director of Regional Express (REX). Now semi-retired he serves on a number of Company Boards, is Chairman of Southern Agventure Limited and is heavily involved in community activities including Rotary and Wagga City Aero Club. Geoff sees his role at Kurrajong as ensuring effective strategic decision-making, guiding the organisation for the future as well as maintaining robust corporate governance, especially as we move in to the NDIS. Geoff is married to Ros and has two adult sons.



LOUISE LOTZ *Director*

Appointed to the Board: 16 September 2015 | **Qualifications:** Bachelor of Communication (Advertising) CSU; Diploma in Marketing Communications CSU

Louise currently works for Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga (CSU) in the Faculty of Business, Justice & Behavioural Science while running her own advertising and marketing company. In addition, Louise has been a keen advocate of supporting the Riverina through her community involvement in Women in Business; Riverina Regional Tourism Board; playing Wagga Wagga women's water polo; a mentor for Young Achiever's Australia and organised charity fund raising events. With the introduction of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) in July 2017, Louise is keen to ensure Kurrajong continues to deliver a high standard of services to all stakeholders through facilitating a seamless transition into the new scheme ensuring each individual and their families continue to feel part of the organisation and community.



STEVE JAUQUES *Executive Director/CEO*

Qualifications: Bachelor of Business (Dist.) NSW Justice of the Peace

Steve has been at the helm of Kurrajong as Chief Executive Officer since 1984 and is the Executive Director on the Kurrajong Board. The delivery of Kurrajong's services according to Steve is quite straight forward, "it's all about putting people with disability and their family/carers at the centre of our thinking and everything that we do at Kurrajong."

"If you put yourself in the shoes of a person with disability or on their mountain to view their world, then it's obvious what needs to be done to ensure they have the same opportunities as other citizens to be able to lead a life of their choice." For Steve, the National Disability Insurance Scheme that will deliver long overdue reforms and changes to the way disability services and supports are funded will finally enable this to start to happen. Steve is married to Fiona and has three adult children.

Report from the Chairman & Chief Executive Officer



Michael Kennedy OAM

Chairman and Life Member



Steve Jaques

Chief Executive Officer

"The challenge as we enter this competitive and commercially driven market place for disability service provision will be for Kurrajong to remain true to our historical values and our Vision for people with disability and their families."

It is pleasing to report that in our 60th year Kurrajong has enjoyed another very strong year. It has been a year of growth and of strengthening our services.

At the same time our focus has remained on our preparations for Kurrajong entering and being successful in the new National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). The transitioning of existing clients and realignment of our current services into the scheme commenced from 1st July this year and will continue over the next 12 months.

The challenge as we enter this competitive and commercially driven market place for disability service provision will be for Kurrajong to remain true to our historical values and our Vision for people with disability and their families.

The NDIS is new for everyone but particularly so for families and for people with disability. Our Kurrajong family needs analysis project that we have been delivering over the past few years has underpinned our NDIS pre-planning for families. Our staff from our Kurrajong First Contact team have been meeting individually with every family at times and locations that suited their lives. From these meetings a pre-NDIS planning document was created which outlined their personal circumstances and the disability services and supports that they needed.

This personal document has equipped families and people with disability to not only understand the new language of the NDIS, but it has also given them confidence in not being overwhelmed or confused about the processes of changing their current services from various Commonwealth and State government departments across to the NDIS scheme.

Importantly the information provided in our family needs analysis project enabled them to realise the opportunities that the scheme provides to have their reasonable care and support needs better met.

Whilst it is still early days yet, we are starting to see the benefits from this initiative for families in the increased range and scope of services and supports that they are being allocated in their NDIS plans.

With the NDIS has also come competition. We are witnessing some early growth in

competition from existing disability service providers and from new organisations entering or poised to enter what has been our traditional service delivery areas. This is not unexpected. With the size and scale of the NDIS it was always the scheme's intention that there would be developed over time a more competitive disability service marketplace.

Kurrajong too has plans to consolidate and expand our services as we build on the high levels of service satisfaction we have with our clients and their families. The NDIS plans that our families are starting to receive through the scheme, and the information we have gathered from our individual needs analysis with each family provides us with a strong 'blue-print' for this growth and expansion.

The future does still remain a little unclear with the NDIS still being developed, amended and reviewed as the scheme is being built to its completion. However we are confident that Kurrajong are in a strong position to assist families to have their service and support needs and outcomes better met under the scheme.

Kurrajong is fortunate in having a talented and committed Board who continue to monitor the implementation of the NDIS and approve the required actions and expenditure in our Strategic Plan that includes investments in technology and new administrative systems, building new facilities and investing in staffing resources.

Together with the support and commitment of our managers, our staff, volunteers, families and carers, the business community, local Councils, Members of Parliament, and members of the public we have great confidence in Kurrajong's future ability to successfully continue to flexibly meet the needs of people with disability and their families.

We take this opportunity to thank everyone who has contributed, or has been directly involved with Kurrajong during our 60th anniversary year, and for the achievements highlighted in this report that have been delivered.

Our vision is for people with disability **to lead a life of their choice.**

Kurrajong's Operating Region



Treasurer's Report



Hamish Cullenward
Treasurer

Kurrajong is in good financial shape going into the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). Total revenue for the year was \$30.5m representing an increase of 15% on the previous year that was attributed to increases in government funding and increases from fundraising, donations and bequests.

Government funding was 69% of our total revenue, with income that we generated from operating our social enterprises (which provide supported employment to adults with disability) contributing another 23% (\$7.1m) of the total revenue.

Total expenditure increased by 14% which was mainly due to the employment of additional staff for new services and areas. Apart from the benefit to people with disability and their families from Kurrajong's increasing our staffing and services, there is also the flow on impact on the economies in the local government areas through our employment of staff who live locally and spend locally.

The net operating result for Kurrajong this year is a surplus of \$1.6m. This surplus has been placed in our reserves to assist Kurrajong to fund future capital expenditure and maintain our assets, which are areas of expenditure not funded under the NDIS. Our reserves also enable Kurrajong to build a 'buffer' for any future unexpected business costs.

A special mention and thank you is extended to all those who assisted

us and particularly on the back of this year's results, I would like to acknowledge our benefactors (and their families) who supported our work and ensured our future by including a gift in their Will. Such compassionate gestures enables Kurrajong to plan and implement amazing projects such as the independent living units in Narrandera, the purchase of land in Deniliquin for future housing and the Hildasid Community Farm project in Wagga Wagga.

Once again many of the fundraising and community events like the Kurrajong Race Day held at the Murrumbidgee Turf Club were significant community events that provided the opportunity to raise awareness of Kurrajong, publically profile the important work we do as well as provide our supporters the opportunity to assist us.

The implementation of the NDIS from 1 July 2017 has created challenges for Kurrajong as it has the whole industry sector. Having a sound asset base and strong reserves are keys to the survival and growth of any organisation in this new operating environment.

Kurrajong has been able to achieve this by past and continuing prudent financial management and governance. That said, Kurrajong's investment in our staff, in technology and in adapting our systems over the past year to deal with the NDIS changes has placed us in the best possible position going forward.

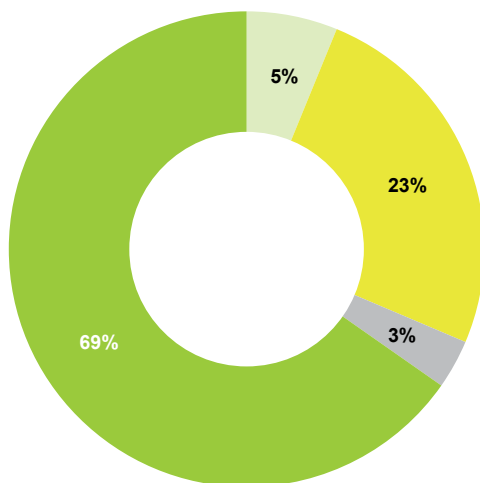
In closing I extend my thanks to the CEO, Deputy CEO and my fellow Directors for their support and for the role they undertake in monitoring and maintaining the financial health and viability of the organisation. My special thanks go to Mrs Sharyn Atherton, Finance and Administration Manager, for her co-operation, dedication and efficiency.

HAMISH CULLENWARD

CA, GAICD, BComm, BActStud (ANU)
Treasurer

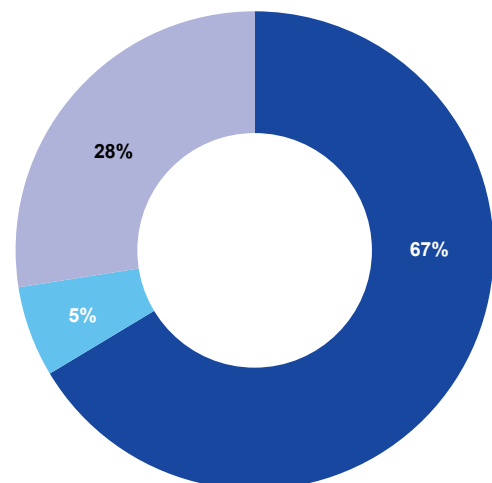
Kurrajong Financial Results 2016 - 2017

Income 2016/2017



■ 69%	Government Subsidies
■ 23%	Income from Business Operations
■ 5%	Fees/Other Income
■ 3%	Fundraising

Expenditure 2016/2017



■ 67%	Staff Costs
■ 28%	Operating Costs
■ 5%	Equipment Costs

Income statement

What we earned \$,000

Sale of Goods and Provision of Services	7,064
Government Subsidies	21,023
Interest	359
Rent and Contribution Investment Properties	501
Fees, Fundraising, Donations and Other Income	1,485
Gain on Disposal of Property, Plant & Equipment	80
Total Revenue	30,512

What we spent \$,000

Staff costs	19,222
Depreciation of Property, Plant and Equipment	1,477
Cost of Sales	1,232
Operating Expenses	6,968
Total Costs	28,899

Surplus for the year \$1,613

Balance sheet

What we own \$,000

Property, Plant and Equipment	18,546
Investment Properties	2,069
Cash and Cash Equivalents	19,886
Debtors	1,184
Stock on Hand	378
Other	566
Total Assets	42,629

What we owe \$,000

Creditors	6,217
Rosebank Occupancy Deposits	3,998
Provisions	2,034
Borrowings	33
Total Liabilities	12,282

Equity \$30,347

Craig's ImPRESSive Track Record

"I've got plenty of friends here and I like coming here to work. I work with good people. It's lots of fun."

Craig McWhinnie loves coming to work each day.

Since 1993, Craig has made the trip from Yanco to Narrandera to work at Kurrajong Laundry Narrandera (formerly Cypress Laundry & Linen Service), providing linen laundering services to hotels, motels and clubs in the Riverina.

"I fold sheets, press the pillowcases and wrap the sheets. We have customers from Narrandera, Leeton, Griffith, West Wyalong, Coleambally and Darlington Point.

"I like wrapping the parcels the best. I also like going out on deliveries and I like all the singing and dancing we do. It's a happy place. Oh yeah!"

Staff member Tracey Durnan said working with Craig is great fun.

"Craig is a very good worker. He's the best pillowcase presser, in fact he's a great all round presser but he doesn't like to do it all the time. He's very, very good at his job.

"We do lots of things to help Craig. If he has a problem, we try to work it out with him.

"The staff here do a lot more than provide employment support.

"We all go to the movies. We go on footy trips. We've been to State of Origin. We go to Melbourne to football trips.

"On Saturday mornings we go boxing and Rachael (Kurrajong staff member Rachael Hyde) has been teaching the employees to do boxing which they enjoy.

"From our point of view, all our staff members are excellent, all our employees are excellent and we all get along pretty well together. It's like a family. We go places together, we hang out together, and we do things for each other."

Craig agrees that working at Kurrajong is like being part of an extended family.

"I fight with Tracey all the time and I win!"

"I've got plenty of friends here and I like coming here to work. I work with good people. It's lots of fun."



"I like wrapping the parcels the best. I also like going out on deliveries and I like all the singing and dancing we do. It's a happy place. Oh yeah!"



First Contact, the NDIS & You

Kurrajong is an approved provider of services and supports under the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

The NDIS is a Commonwealth Government scheme that provides funding for people with a life-long disability to have their reasonable and necessary support needs met, so that they can live as independently as they choose.

“To lead a life of their choice”.

Kurrajong First Contact

The NDIS is a big change. It brings with it many new opportunities for people with disability and their families and carers. It's also a new system that can be difficult to navigate.

In anticipation of the introduction of the NDIS, Kurrajong established a 'one stop' information gateway called Kurrajong First Contact.

Kurrajong's First Contact staff are NDIS experts. They have a thorough understanding of the scheme and are kept up-to-date with any changes made to the NDIS over time.

Located across the Riverina and Murray regions, our First Contact staff are available to work “one on one” with people with disability and with their families or carers to ensure they understand the NDIS and what can be funded.

Our team members can help you list the services and supports needed, and then assist in the NDIS planning meeting to ensure these are included in your NDIS plan. The NDIS planning meeting is important as it determines what package of funding for services and supports will be provided to each person under the scheme.

A First Contact free call number has been established so you can speak directly to caring and knowledgeable staff about any questions or concerns you may have about the NDIS.

What you need to do to participate in the NDIS?

If you haven't already done so, you can start to think about your needs and what goals you'd like to achieve in the future.

If you are currently a Kurrajong client, your existing supports and services can continue under the NDIS. You can also request other services and supports available under the scheme.

A Kurrajong First Contact team member is available to assist in developing an individual needs analysis, which sets out your needs and goals for the future.

In partnership with people with disability and their families, we have helped people develop their NDIS needs analysis for the past 18 months and our clients have found great benefits in this process.

As a direct result from NDIS pre-planning, we are seeing better quality outcomes with higher NDIS funding for service and support packages being approved.

Haven't had an NDIS pre-planning (needs analysis) meeting yet?

It's not too late!

Call Kurrajong First Contact today: 1300 764 620



Many people with disability and their families have already begun the NDIS process. Some are about to embark on it.

A number of families shared their thoughts about the process and the part Kurrajong and our First Contact team have played. We have the knowledge, commitment and desire to see people with disability and their families achieve NDIS plans that really reflect their needs and choices. Here are their comments:

"Kurrajong First Contact staff supported me through the NDIS process and that took a lot of pressure off. I'm just so thankful, because it's a lot to remember when you've got so much going on.

"Our Kurrajong Therapy Plus therapists who support my son Charlie are very informed so I got lots of information from them, and I am still getting lots of information even after we've got our plan.

"Talking about personal life and 11 years of doctors and behaviours is emotional. I remember going to my NDIS meeting and for the next two days it was a complete blur because it brings it all to the surface again, so having that support person from Kurrajong was very reassuring."

Luci Achilles - see Luci's story on pages 16 and 17

"Kurrajong First Contact came to my house and we went through everything, like what might come up in the NDIS meeting, and we made a summary report of things that I needed to remember at the meeting.

"They were right across the whole scope of my son Nathan's needs and assisted in determining the goals we could set. They encouraged me to think about goals that perhaps I hadn't thought about. They were really fantastic and very helpful in trying to get the very best outcome for Nathan. I highly recommend them.

"Kurrajong staff were just so approachable and helpful."

Ann Maree Watters

"Kurrajong First Contact staff have been excellent. They had good ideas and a good understanding of Janna's needs. They sat in on our NDIS plan meeting and helped out as our support person. The NDIS plan meeting process is fairly in-depth, there's quite a lot to take in, so it was great to have them actually with us at the meeting.

"I'm more than happy with the NDIS plan we received. It's everything you'd want.

"I'd definitely recommend Kurrajong First Contact. They were very helpful and very nice and obliging. It's been a very good experience and we have felt really supported by them."

Leanne Harrison

"I went to a lot of information sessions about the NDIS and thought my head might explode with all the information.

"Kurrajong First Contact staff have been a godsend; they helped pull together Nikayla's goals for the NDIS plan as well as coming to the meetings with us.

"I am really happy as it will now be possible to have things such as speech therapy and occupational therapy.

"I don't think the outcome of our plan would have been as good without Kurrajong First Contact's help."

Julie Greer

"We had a needs analysis done with Kurrajong First Contact, which looked at my son Simon's current services and what's missing to really give us the big picture of his needs and to help us set goals for his NDIS plan meeting.

"Then they helped ensure we got everything on paper so we were able to cover all bases in Simon's plan.

"They did a really good job of explaining everything and walking us through the process. It was also great to be able to put in a phone call if we had any questions along the way.

"With First Contact it's reassuring knowing someone is there. You can read all the information brochures but until you get into it, you don't realise just how complex the NDIS is. It's wonderful to be able to ask Kurrajong a question.

"It's great to have their expertise and support."

Jo Parsons

Help with NDIS Invaluable

Luci Achilles thinks of Kurrajong as family.

For the past 11 years Luci has drawn on the support of Kurrajong staff, starting when, as a baby, her son Charlie was referred to Kurrajong Early Intervention Service (KEIS) as it was then known.

Charlie attended KEIS – now Therapy Plus – until age six. But then, like many school aged children, he was left without therapies.

Luci and her family found this period incredibly difficult, particularly as they were left alone to navigate costly therapies for Charlie.

“It was an isolating experience. We were having to do everything privately and I struggled with finding products and information.

“Even though we were no longer part of the service, I still had a couple of contacts at Kurrajong that I’d regularly ring and ask, ‘Is there anything you can help me with?’

“They still took my calls and helped me with what they could, which meant so much. They have been a lifeline.”

Luci was pleased and relieved when Kurrajong’s School Aged program became available in 2016.

“I’m glad that they’ve put in this program because there’s no gap any more. I feel so thankful for the families coming after us that won’t have to go through the same experience – they’ll just continue through.”

Luci was again able to draw on the support and expertise of Kurrajong staff this year in developing Charlie’s NDIS (National Disability Insurance Scheme) plan.

“Kurrajong was very quick off the mark, helping me with draft plans,” Luci explains.

“I had about three informal meetings with them, just to talk about behaviours and home situations.

“Because they’re so friendly and I know them quite well, we were just bouncing ideas and they remembered things I didn’t even think about.

“They also supplied letters from the therapists to support our plan, because for the NDIS you really have to prove what you’re after and why you need it.”

For Luci, this staff support took the pressure off to know the ins and outs of the NDIS system.

“I didn’t understand much about it. I work full-time, so I wasn’t able to go to information days but I know Kurrajong staff went to all of those NDIS seminars and were very informed. I got lots of information and am still getting lots of information – even now we’ve got our plan.

“Debbie Young who is normally part of Therapy Plus but also a First Contact team member at the present time also came to my NDIS meeting for my final plan at Intereach as our support person.

“I’m just so thankful that they were there because it’s a lot to remember when you’ve got so much going on and you’re in such unfamiliar territory. Talking about your personal life and 11 years of doctors and behaviours, it’s emotional. It brings it all to the surface again, so having that support person was very reassuring.”

Luci is now very happy with Charlie’s NDIS plan.

“He’s been having therapies once a week at the moment – speech one week and OT the next – and Charlie has a fabulous rapport with his therapists.

“The NDIS means so much. Now we’re not financially struggling and having to choose what’s more important, speech or OT, or between Charlie’s therapies and our other children’s needs. It frees up that financial side of things.

“It also gives him so many opportunities. He gets to have the range of therapies he needs. He’s having OT, speech, we’ve got physio happening. He’s getting it all and, as his needs change, so will his therapies.

“I feel a lot better knowing that with the NDIS and with Kurrajong’s support, Charlie will function to the best of his ability. People say that these kids’ abilities are stronger than their disabilities and I feel that with Kurrajong’s support, they will really thrive.”



"I feel a lot better knowing that with the NDIS and with Kurrajong's support, Charlie will function to the best of his ability."



Organisational Overview



Ray Carroll
Deputy Chief Executive Officer

This year has proven to be a great challenge for everyone in the organisation as we continued to prepare for the introduction of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) on 1st July 2017 and at the same time not forgetting that we still had to attend to the current day to day requirements and issues in our social enterprises and services in our current operating environment.

NDIS

In September 2016, in readiness for our entry into the NDIS we became an approved registered NDIS provider to deliver services under the scheme.

To assist with the transition to the NDIS we commenced a new support unit called First Contact. First Contact's role is to assist families and clients across the Riverina Murray region with developing their NDIS plan and to answer any questions or concerns they have about the scheme.

In preparing for the NDIS we have completed or are in the process of many new initiatives and improvements some of which are listed below:

- Successful completion of our NDIS pre-planning Disability Service Needs Analysis for families and clients.
- Development of a Client Management System called CTARS.
- Replacement of our old service brands with 6 new service brands.
- Appointment of a Marketing and Communications Manager.
- Appointment of a Human Resource Manager.
- Development of a new website.
- Extensive training and upskilling of staff in the organisation and coordinating new processes across multiple remote locations.
- Complete revamp of our external signage displaying our new brand.
- Internal live streaming webinars to share information with staff across the region.
- Revamp of the staff newsletter now called Konnect.
- Implementation of a rostering and timesheet system called EmpLive.
- Upgrade to a single cloud based data storage system replacing our ageing servers.

Although the implementation of the Client Management system is still a work in progress a number of milestones have been achieved as we move towards full implementation. The system is now active and ready for billing and we have successfully transitioned people to CTARS as they receive their NDIS plan.

Social Enterprises

Our social enterprises mostly performed well in some tough markets and continued the excellent outcome of employing over 160 people with disabilities in our businesses.

Kurrajong Timber continued its strong association with the local timber operations providing services to meet their needs. Internally the focus has been on providing appropriate training to staff and employees and maintaining a strong Work Health Safety awareness in the workplace. In addition Kurrajong Timber underwent a compliance audit conducted by our funder, the Department of Social Services. This audit revealed no issues which was an excellent result.

Kurrajong Recycling were successful in obtaining the contract with Wagga Wagga City Council to process kerbside recycling material for the next seven years commencing in April 2018. With a partial financial contribution from the EPA, the in-feed system in the MRF has been upgraded and a new front end loader was purchased. The result of this investment had increased the output capacity of the plant from 8 tonnes per hour to 10 tonnes per hour. This increased capacity now provides the opportunity for other shires in the region to send their recycling product to us for processing as Griffith, Leeton, Narrandera and Lockhart shires currently do.

Kurrajong Catering in Wagga Wagga had a disappointing year financially and as a result some changes have been made to the staffing structure and the type of work we do. Our focus now will be on catering internally and externally

to various businesses. This change in direction presents not only new challenges but also opportunities for our employees by cooking a whole new range and type of food from which we anticipate will show positive results.

Kurrajong Laundry in Narrandera has had an extremely busy year providing laundry and linen services to motels in Narrandera, Griffith and West Wyalong. Kurrajong Recycling in Narrandera has been business as usual as we continue to look at various business opportunities to increase income in that area. Kurrajong Laundry in Leeton has maintained a steady flow of customers. Kurrajong Café in West Wyalong has had a challenging year and we are presently looking at ways to improve this business. Kurrajong Recycling in West Wyalong not only continued its recycling activities but maintained the contract to clean 24 Telstra sites throughout the shire. Also this year we commenced a new contract under the NSW Government's "Public Works and Procurement Regulation 2014". The contract is with the Department of Primary Industries for the cleaning at Narrandera Fisheries and is working well.

Our social enterprises in Deniliquin comprising Kurrajong Catering, Kurrajong Café and Kurrajong Property Services all had busy years with a notable addition of the much needed Cool Room Freezer for Kurrajong Catering. This was made possible by a community grant through the Edward River Shire Council and has given much needed extra room, bench space and an opportunity to grow the business further.

162

people with disability
employed in our
businesses

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kerbside recycling material
for the next

7

 YEARS

for Wagga Wagga City Council

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InterLink

In the new environment of the NDIS our Older Parent Carer Program, InterLink unfortunately will wind down sometime during the 2017/18 financial year as this program is designed for the carer not the individual person with a disability as the NDIS is. The staff of InterLink have provided a terrific service to well in excess of 530 families during its 10 years of operation. These families have received financial and other much needed assistance they would not have otherwise received if InterLink did not operate this program.

Kurrajong Therapy Plus

Provided transdisciplinary services to over

450

children with disability

School aged therapy services were provided to

150

children

Apart from providing transdisciplinary services to over 450 children with disabilities in the Riverina Murray region the introduction of the NDIS has seen Kurrajong Therapy Plus begin to deliver services to adults with disabilities which has never happened before. This exciting new innovation has resulted in the employment of a Speech Pathologist specifically for adults and we are certainly seeing the benefits of this appointment.

Our very successful school aged therapy services were extended to provide supports to 150 school aged children in Wagga Wagga, Tumut, Cootamundra, Temora, Griffith, Hay, Hillston, Coolamon and Junee. In addition a full time therapist was appointed to work with 9 - 18 year olds.

In preparation for the NDIS we took up the invitation to participate in the NDIS transitional Early Childhood Early Intervention (ECEI) approach in NSW. As an ECEI Transition Provider we are now able to continue providing information, short term supports and referral to mainstream services to children aged 0 – 7 years and their families.

During the year many noteworthy activities occurred such as the Playconnect group in partnership with Playgroup NSW commenced in February 2017, we hosted a Pictorial Exchange Communication workshop for 25 people and we provided Early Childhood Intervention placements for medical students.

In addition to this our second allied health scholarship commenced in January 2016 and a paediatrician was contracted for 1 day per month for families who could not otherwise afford to access a paediatrician.

Lifestyle Choices

As part of preparing for the NDIS, Lifestyle Choices Wagga underwent an extensive project of redefining the current service model to operate in the new NDIS environment. We believe that this model will be able to respond to clients' needs as they have their NDIS plans approved and will give clients greater choice as to when and what type of service they will receive which is what the NDIS is all about. Construction will soon commence on the Hildasid Community Farm Project which when completed in mid 2018 will provide another physical facility for clients to choose to attend. The Art to Crow About art exhibition was again an outstanding success with many paintings by our clients selling quickly.

Lifestyle Choices in Leeton and West Wyalong continued to provide quality services to our clients and while at this point are not as advanced as Lifestyle Choices Wagga in their NDIS preparation there won't be any problems once NDIS Plans start coming through for their clients.

Lifestyle Choices in Balranald, Deniliquin and Finley have been very proactive in ensuring clients get the best result from their NDIS planning meetings to ensure that they receive the supports that they need to improve their lives. The past year has seen an increase in the overall number of people supported and the opening of our service in the Deniliquin CBD which is used 5 days a week was much needed to relieve the pressure at our main premises in Napier Street. This new service has also become the hub for evening activities and being in the CBD now makes it easy to access for everyone to attend. The Schools Connect program in Deniliquin and Finley have been great successes with both Deniliquin and Finley High Schools having a tremendous response from both students and teachers with 17 students volunteering their time to support 13 fellow students with a disability in their schools to attend school events and monthly fun activities that the service organises.

The Art to Crow About art exhibition was again an outstanding success with many paintings by our clients selling quickly.

The Schools Connect program in Deniliquin and Finley have been great successes with both Deniliquin and Finley High Schools having a tremendous response from both students and teachers.

Supported Independent Living

The last 12 months has seen our preparation for the NDIS taken to a new level. Staff are getting used to the electronic rostering and timesheet system which commenced in October last year and training has commenced for staff on the new CTARS Client Management System and recently introduced Activity Logs for the NDIS reporting requirements. The staff have been excellent in embracing these new administrative requirements and understand the importance of them while maintaining a person centred approach to the supports that they are providing each day.

With the introduction of these new systems Team Leaders are able to easily and quickly communicate with staff which enables much better decision making which greatly benefits and enhances the support to our clients. Also it enables sharing information and linking the Supported Living teams and other services to better meet the clients' aspirations.

During the last 4 months of the year a lot of time was spent preparing clients and families for their NDIS planning meetings. NDIS readiness client forums for people in our Supported Living services were held and well received culminating in over 40 NDIS planning meetings taking place in a very short time frame which were always attended by someone from the organisation to support the family and client.

As always there were plenty of activities for the clients during the year including dances held in Narrandera, Wagga Wagga and Temora, client holidays, live concerts and shows and a social day out in Narrandera (fun day). These activities are very important as it links clients to the community and creates social opportunities for them to form friendships with a wide range of people.

Across the Riverina Murray region our Supported Living services comprise 12 Group homes in Deniliquin, Leeton, Wagga Wagga and West Wyalong supporting 45 residents, Community Living Support Service in Wagga Wagga supporting 19 people, Independent Living Support Initiative (ILSI) supporting 28 people in Narrandera and Temora in various programs, Short term accommodation provide respite to 55 families and 3 smaller support programs in Wagga Wagga supporting 10 people.

Kurrajong Property Services have continued to provide a great service looking after our large vehicle fleet and properties in Wagga Wagga. A new initiative this year has been the acquisition of the cleaning contract at the Agricultural College with the Department of Primary Industries. Like the Narrandera Fisheries contract but on a larger scale, this contract has been a welcome addition as it provides an excellent opportunity for our employees to broaden their skills.



The Finance and Administration department and Kurrajong Foundation have again done a tremendous job providing accounting, payroll, fundraising, organising functions and other administrative services across the organisation. Their skills and expertise will be required on a much larger scale as we fully rollout in the NDIS and I know that we have talented and committed staff in these departments who will continue to provide these services to a high level in the new environment of the NDIS.

Finally, I would like to thank our CEO, Steve Jaques for his continued advice and support during the year. Also thanks to the Managers and staff who have all done a great job preparing for the NDIS.

RAY CARROLL
Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Kurrajong Helps Make Work Dreams Come True

Joel Jenkins is living proof of the power of Kurrajong's Transition to Work program.

Joel, 19, first became involved with Kurrajong when he was at school.

"It all started when I was at school," Joel explains. "I wasn't learning well and was really struggling, so the school contacted Kurrajong First Contact (previously called Kurrajong Disability Solutions) and I met Norm Corcoran.

"We had an interview with Norm and I ended up doing three days work placement at Kurrajong Recyclers' electronic recycling each week."

Joel became part of the Transition to Work program, which helped build his skills and readiness for employment.

"I got a lot out of it. We did our First Aid, our White Card training. We got to have a look around the Turvey Park Fire Station, which was a lot of fun.

"I had work placements at Kurrajong Recyclers, then at the RFS (NSW Rural Fire Service) and at the SES (State Emergency Services).

"The Transition to Work program was just fantastic.

"They helped me to finish school and then helped prepare me for the job. All the staff and everyone was so kind and they helped with building practical skills."

It was during work placement with the RFS that a full-time position with the State Mitigation Support Service became available.

With support from both the RFS and Kurrajong staff, Joel applied for the position and was asked to complete a practical assessment to test his physical ability to do the job.

"When I completed that, I was nervous waiting for the results. I didn't get the results for a few weeks after, so I just had to wait for a phone call but then they rang me and I got the job. It was great!"

Joel is now employed as a full-time Crew Member with State Mitigation and assists the team undertake mitigation work, such as clearing fire trails.

"Everyone I've met since I got into Kurrajong and the RFS have been absolutely fantastic to me."

"We also do aid work for the elderly – like cutting their lawns, cleaning their gutters out and chopping down overgrown vines – and support the districts if they need trucks moved.

"I like everything about the job. All the maintenance, all the chainsaw work, the brush-cutting, talking on the radios and stuff.

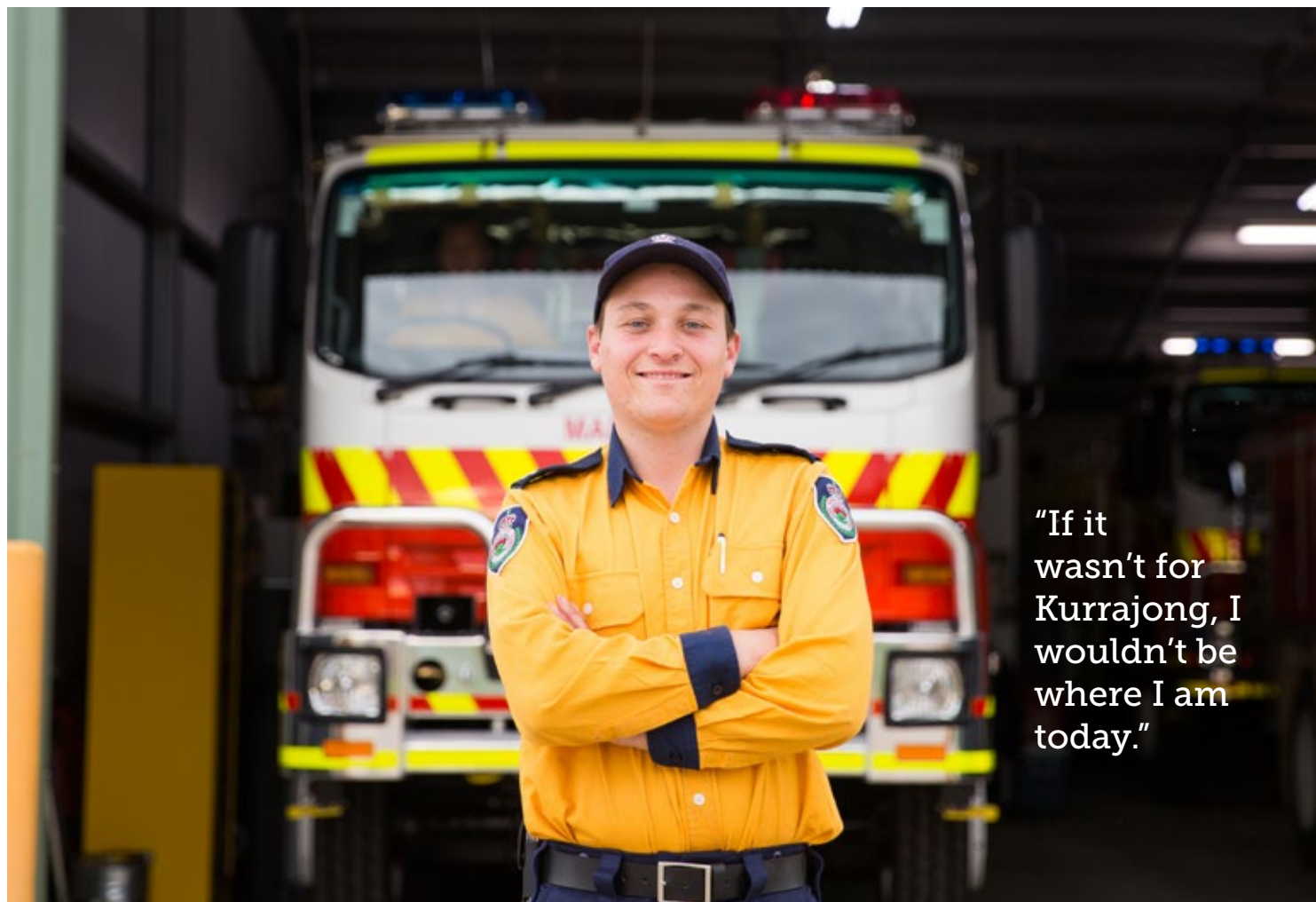
"I really love hard work, and from day one, the people have been wonderful. Everyone I've met since I got into Kurrajong and the RFS have been absolutely fantastic to me and they're really easy to get along with."

As well as securing full-time work, Joel credits Kurrajong with helping him become a volunteer firefighter for his local brigade in Coolamon.

"The Transition to Work program was the best thing I've ever done. I've got a job out of it thanks to Kurrajong and the RFS then encouraged me to become a volunteer firefighter, so if it wasn't for Kurrajong, I wouldn't be where I am today.

"I love helping people, helping the community. That's very important to me to look after our community and protect lives from raging bushfires.

"I'm also happy to encourage other people to talk to Kurrajong about what they need and let them know that it really is possible to get a job."



"If it
wasn't for
Kurrajong, I
wouldn't be
where I am
today."



Kurrajong Foundation Report

This year we continued engagement with our wonderfully loyal and valued supporters and donors, and focused on our well-known fundraising events. We also took the opportunity to consider the future and the likely impact the NDIS environment will have on our fundraising.

As part of future-proofing our fundraising efforts, we recognised the need to develop a Fundraising Business Plan and the need for greater diversity in our fundraising programs.

Bequests & Major Gifts

This year we saw direct benefits from a number of bequests received in recent years.

The opportunity to apply for and subsequently secure a Federal Government grant towards our Hildasid Community Farm project was enhanced, in part, by these generous bequests.

By leaving these kind gifts in their Will, these supporters enable us to continue our work.

Interestingly, in each case there was a direct link to the benefactor's love of the land or their community, or they simply loved what we are striving to achieve for people with disability.

There is no more humbling experience than to have someone talk to us about the joy they get from deciding to leave such a gift to Kurrajong in their Will. Sadly, we don't get this opportunity with every person who makes a bequest.

Our readiness to undertake Stage 2 of the Hildasid Community Farm project can also be attributed to our loyal donors and supporters. We look forward to sharing the results of this support with you in 2018.

Supporters

Unless anonymity is requested, our financial supporters are acknowledged in the following section of this annual report. By engaging with us in this way, you have helped us change people's lives and for that I thank you.

It is only through the commitment of our supporters and various committees that we have again enjoyed a number of successful events throughout the year.

The Kurrajong Race Day

Thank you to those who contributed to the financial and social success of our race day, which is now in its 30th year. I would specifically like to thank the Murrumbidgee Turf Club, our generous sponsors, our volunteers and supporters of

We also recognised that what has been done in the past was based on necessity and opportunity at the time. Future fundraising programs will reflect the different needs of people with disability we support and leverage new opportunities.

The name change from 'Development Services' to 'Kurrajong Foundation' and including this area in the organisation's Strategic Plan are the first steps in that process.

goods and services. We also thank our organising committee for their tireless efforts: Chairman Rob Balding (Westpac), Susan Duffy (D&M Electrical), Michael Douglas (Navigate Advisors), Tammy Holzheimer (Commings Hendricks), Andrea Bradley (WDF Professionals), Michelle Weick (Viatek), Nigel McKellar (Telstra Business Centre), Sophie Cheney and Geoff Seymour (Fitzpatrick's).

Wagga Wagga Christmas Spectacular

This event would definitely not have been possible without the support of the Australian Army Band Kapooka under the direction of Major Lindsay Mee, Wagga Wagga City Council and Tony Balding of Building Supply Company. We also thank PRIME7, 2WG/StarFM93.1 and their staff, Yvonne Braid, South Wagga Lions Club and the sponsors who gave generously to make this wonderful event possible for the enjoyment of the community.

As with most of our events, we rely heavily on the assistance of volunteers in delivering these events so a special thank you to the many groups and individuals who help year after year.

Kurrajong Long Lunch

The passion of longstanding Kurrajong supporter Penny Lamont, the creative flair of Jenni Stephenson, an offer of a marquee and equipment by Jaegers Event Hire and a great reason to celebrate combined to bring Kurrajong's first-ever Long Lunch to life.

While we were challenged by a week of wet weather, the help offered by committee members and a virtual army of volunteers saw a paddock transformed into a stunning dining and entertainment venue on a cool Saturday in August as 370 people helped Kurrajong celebrate its 60th Anniversary.

Each attendee supported our momentous new development, the Hildasid Community Farm, and helped provide almost \$60,000 to the project. This financial boost means the project – which started from the gifting of land to Kurrajong by the late Dick Nash and his wife Maisie – is ready to enter the major building phase.

A heart-felt thank you to our table hosts, sponsors Jaegers Event Hire, Coates Hire and Wagga Catering Service (Nathan Gale) for their generous contributions and to our supporters and tireless committee who all made the event so successful.

I encourage you to look at pages 50 and 51 of this report to see photographs of this memorable event.

Thomas Bros

Thomas Bros have continued their generous involvement of all our major fundraising events: our race day, art union and Christmas Spectacular and more recently by supporting our Hildasid Community Farm project.

As they have for the past 39 years, Thomas Bros willingly assist and support us in whatever ways we require. It seems nothing is ever too much trouble for them. Thank you so much.

Myer

Our friends at Myer, their committed local management and staff, continue to support our work such is their desire to see people with disability lead the life of their choice.

The events and activities they conducted were highly successful and we are indebted to them for the many ways they assisted us.

South Wagga Lions Club

Hundreds of volunteer 'Lion hours' were provided in support of almost all events and activities we held during the year, including race day, the Christmas Spectacular, the art union draw and the Kurrajong Long Lunch.

We acknowledge and appreciate your time, effort and the results we achieve together.

In fact, the club has recently taken up permanent residence at our Hildasid Community Farm and we warmly welcome them.

Rotary Club of South Wagga

We acknowledge and appreciate the financial and physical support of the South Wagga Rotary Club throughout the year.

This cheery bunch are regulars at our race day and the Wagga Pro Rodeo and seem to make light work of the barbecue cooking the endless supply of meat our kind sponsors provide for our hungry patrons.

Westpac Team

Today many corporations support and encourage their staff to assist not-for-profit organisations.

We are pleased to have a longstanding relationship with Westpac where a call for volunteers is always productive. The Wagga team has always provided a great boost to the

manpower required in preparation for our race day and when requested for other events. We really appreciate their help.

Media Supporters

We are fortunate to have the support of our media partners across the Riverina Murray region.

The media plays a vital role in helping us promote our events and activities and publicise our news stories, particularly where it will benefit the people we support.

Thank You

I recognise the efforts of Kurrajong staff in our outreach areas who actively coordinate events to benefit the people they support through their services. This is in addition to the great job they do in their usual roles and doesn't go unnoticed. Thank you so much.

Much of the work undertaken by the Kurrajong Foundation team is done behind the scenes and out of normal business hours and I wish to thank my team and, in the cases where their family members are involved, I extend my sincere thanks to them too.

Finally, thank you to our CEO Steve Jaques and Deputy CEO Ray Carroll for the interest and support you have shown as we plan for the Kurrajong Foundation's **strong future**.

CATHIE SMITH

Manager, Kurrajong Foundation



“We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.”

Winston Churchill



Choices Key For Chris

Choice is important to Chris Bennett.

For the past seven years, Chris has been part of Kurrajong Lifestyle Choices in Leeton.

In that time, Chris has tried his hand at many activities, including woodworking, volunteering and learning to play the guitar.

"I come to Kurrajong five days a week. We do cooking, go to the gym, and play pool. I like having different options.

"Last year Kurrajong helped me go to TAFE to do a Certificate II in Business and this year I'm doing Basic Computers."

A football fan (and diehard Parramatta Eels supporter), Chris uses his computer skills to run the Leeton Lifestyle Choices NRL footy tipping competition.

Support Coordinator Karin Thompson said Kurrajong supports Chris in building his skills and confidence.

"Chris has come a long way.

"If we're going to introduce something he has never done before, we'll research it, print things out and help him gain his confidence to have a go. He tries just about anything.

"He's always keen to bring his ideas here, too. He might see something in town that's going to be at the Roxy (movie theatre) or when he has been to the Library for the Knitting Group, he'll come in and tell everyone about it.

"If he doesn't like something, we'll change it quickly. There aren't many things that Chris says he'd like to have a go at that we can't facilitate."

Recently moving to Mallee Street from the Town Circle, Lifestyle Choices Leeton now has a bigger facility. Its backyard is complete with a shed which Chris is able to use, along with the sanding equipment and paint he requested, to tackle his latest woodwork restoration project.

"I was less confident before I came to Kurrajong," Chris said. "I have more skills now and I like coming here to see my friends."

Chris's mother Linda describes Kurrajong as very important to the Leeton community.

"Kurrajong gives people with disabilities a meaning in life.

"It means they are not cooped up at home thinking they can't do anything. They want to be engaged like anyone else.

"Kurrajong staff are also very good in the sense that whether we are at home or need to go to Sydney, Kurrajong will work around our commitments so Chris can still come to Lifestyle Choices.

"I tell you, Kurrajong was the best thing I found for Chris. He really loves it."



"I tell you, Kurrajong was the best thing I found for Chris. He really loves it."



Organisational Structure

- First Contact
- Therapy Plus
- Lifestyle Choices
- Supported Living
- Social Enterprises
- Corporate Support



Deputy Chief Executive Officer:
Ray Carroll

Chief Executive Officer:
Steve Jaques

Board of Directors

Our Management Team

Providing 258 years of
commitment, experience & service

to people with disability



STEVE JAQUES
Chief Executive Officer
33 Years of Service



RAY CARROLL
Deputy Chief
Executive Officer
26 Years of Service



SHARYN ATHERTON
Finance and Administration
Manager
12 Years of Service



CATHIE SMITH
Kurrajong Foundation
Manager
30 Years of Service



CRISPIN LOWE
Kurrajong IT Systems
Manager
20 Years of Service



JANET LAWS
Kurrajong Change and
Special Projects Manager
25 Years of Service



CHRISTINE PRIEST
Kurrajong Human
Resource Manager
Commenced 2017



MATHEW BERTRAM
Kurrajong Marketing and
Communications Manager
Commenced 2017



SUSAN MACGILLYCUDDY
Kurrajong Therapy Plus
Manager
10 Years of Service



CAZ ECKERSALL
Kurrajong Lifestyle Choices
Manager
27 Years of Service



CANNON BANKS
Kurrajong Supported Living
Manager
16 Years of Service



LYNDAL ROSS
Kurrajong Supported Living
Manager
19 Years of Service



ZENA WAHANUI
Kurrajong Deniliquin
Manager
12 Years of Service



NICOLE PRIOR
Kurrajong Small Businesses
Manager
12 Years of Service



JIM SEYMOUR
Kurrajong Timber
Manager
8 Years of Service



TIM MACGILLYCUDDY
Kurrajong Recycling
Operations Manager
8 Years of Service



Tim's Career Change Changes His Perspective

Tim Glanvill is a plumber by trade who more or less grew up on the job having started his apprenticeship at age 16. Plumbing was just what he knew.

About 12 years ago, Tim decided it was time to “try something different”, something he might enjoy. This decision saw him swapping his boots for a job and work environment far removed from the blokey world of tradies and tools – caring for people with disabilities.

Although it took a number of years for the change to stick, today Tim is a Kurrajong community support worker who has been assisting people with their daily living activities in their group home and the community for the past five years.

“It’s a great job – just the interaction with clients and the banter.

“It was a bit of an adjustment at first but I’ve learnt a lot. In my experience, people with disabilities are very determined, don’t whinge or complain much but just get on with it and make the most of things.

“There’s this tendency to live in the moment and not overcomplicate things. When I spend time with these guys, I seem to forget a lot of my own worries. I think it helps you put things in perspective.

“Although there is such a wide spectrum of disabilities, I honestly think everyone would benefit from spending more time with the people I work with. They teach you so much. I would like my kids and nephews to spend a bit more time with them because I know they would benefit.”

Although Tim’s very happy with his job, he’s careful to not make it sound too “rosy”.

“It’s not always enjoyable – some days are diamonds and some are stones. I guess dealing with humans you just never know what you’re going to get.

“Sometimes it’s hard dealing with difficult behaviours and people getting upset. But I’m realistic – I am there to support them, it is their home and they are just as entitled as anyone else to have their ‘off days’.

"There's this tendency to live in the moment and not overcomplicate things. When I spend time with these guys, I seem to forget a lot of my own worries. I think it helps you put things in perspective."



"But we do also have fun and I love seeing them happy. It is a job that I generally really enjoy."

When asked why he thinks Kurrajong is important to our community, Tim says it's quite simply an organisation that takes good care of people that need it.

"Kurrajong is very important for people with disability. These are vulnerable people that need to be looked after and with Kurrajong, it's a better life.

"It is an organisation that looks after clients very well. Clients really are the number one priority." I think

Kurrajong is also important for the families of the people with disabilities. I have three young children and it's busy. I cannot imagine how much more difficult it would be having a child with disability - it can be a lot of work and comes with its challenges on a 24/7 basis.

"I believe it's just circumstance that differentiates us all and I'd like to think that if I was in that circumstance someone would look after me or my loved ones with the same level of care that Kurrajong provides."

Tim says it's quite simply an organisation that takes good care of people that need it.



Our Staff

At Kurrajong, we have an amazing team.

Our staff members are an integral part of the communities in which they live and work; people who really care about the wellbeing of our clients.

We are proud of their passion, commitment to excellence, and their drive to make a difference.

Currently our workforce totals 544 – 382 staff and 162 supported employees. This is a mix of full-time, part-time and casual staff which allows flexibility for our clients, and flexible employment options for staff who often have busy and diverse lives outside of Kurrajong.

Jobs at Kurrajong are diverse jobs. They include direct care roles within our Supported Living and Lifestyle Choices sections, allied health roles within our Therapy Plus section and in industry training, and business and production roles within our Social Enterprises businesses. In other sections of the organisation, staff are employed in administration, finance, information and marketing and in community support and fundraising activities.

With a range of new opportunities for people with disability under the National Disability Insurance Scheme, it is expected that the number of disability service jobs in the sector will increase dramatically. As a result, we expect Kurrajong's workforce to grow in the coming three years.

Ensuring Kurrajong has the capacity and capability to meet the projected new growth in jobs is vital. Our plans are set out in our Workforce Capacity Strategy.

Employer of Choice

Kurrajong has a positive culture where we value individuals, provide professional development, mentoring, support and career path development, and opportunities to gain personal and professional satisfaction through work. It's an ongoing focus for our Human Resource department and each of our Managers.

Staff with 10 or more years' service are listed below:

10

Lynette Anderson
Jackie Caqusau
Elizabeth Gill
Julie Girling
Debra Howard
Joanne King
Victoria King
Susan Macgillycuddy
Kerrie Murphy
Tania Pascoe
Margaret Seaman
Karin Thompson
Debbie Young

11

Tracey Durnan
Martin Frechette
Margaret Loudon
Karen Salabert
Michelle Sandow
Tanya Van Wel

12

Kylie Anderson
Sharyn Atherton
Col Neyland
Nicole Prior
Kimberley Rowatt
Addrenia Taig
Zena Wahanui
Fernando Whittaker-Roa

13

Deanne Bolesta
Cathy Boyton
Sue Brady
Sue Honey
Dianne Phelps
Debbie Shaw
Lynette Steele
Roslyn Thompson

14

Steve Chapple
Steven Davis
Donalee Gregory
Sandra Grentell
Rachael Hyde
Terry Ness
Marie Seckold
Jackie Stening
Wayne Taylor

15

Cheryl Brown
Brendan Cowell
Justin Keane
Kerryl Ryan
Julie Watson

16

Cannon Banks
Dorothy McCaskie
Mareeka New

18

Denise Imber

19

Debby Donohoe
Lyndal Ross
Ian Walker

20

Crispin Lowe
Jane Pottie

21

Marie Jolly
Ned Smith

22

Dianne Byrne
Tracey Collins

24

John Condon
Arthur Kelly
Lindy Maginness
Kaye Whittaker

25

Janet Laws

26

Ray Carroll
Neville McDonell

27

Carolyn Eckersall

30

Frances Ahern
Cathie Smith

33

Steve Jaques

"I think I have a really strong empathy for people with disabilities now."



A Career To Crow About

"I absolutely love it. I say to people, 'It took me 25 years to find this job and I'm so pleased I'm doing it now'."

Meet Debra Howard, educator and arts lover.

When Debra started working as a casual arts teacher at Kurrajong 10 years ago, she had no idea the job would have such a profound effect on her.

Debra had trained in childcare studies and worked as a special needs assistant at a pre-school before completing her degree in Graphic Design (with Honours). It was only at the end of four years of study that she realised she didn't want to be a graphic designer.

Starting out as a casual, today Debra works in the Kurrajong Lifestyle Choices art room in Forsyth Street and introduces Kurrajong clients to different artistic techniques.

"You can bring in lots of different things and say, 'Look this is what this artist does' but ultimately, the client will do what they want to do and that's the nice thing about it. It's absolutely beautiful.

"It's sort of like outsider art. It's very raw. Some of it looks childlike but it's not, really.

"For example, our birdcages don't look like birdcages you'd buy downtown. They're a bit quirky and they're different. I absolutely love the uniqueness of it."

Since joining Kurrajong, Debra has helped curate the Art to Crow About exhibition. Each year, she and fellow Lifestyle Choices colleague Dianne Phelps pool their ideas for the exhibition.

"We bring together 30 or so ideas and put them to the guys, so they can choose what they want to make.

"I think that choice is extremely important. People with disabilities should be treated exactly the same as anyone else is treated and have choices and creative freedom.

"Art to Crow About opening night is always fabulous. It's so nice to actually see the art up on the wall and look at the guys' faces. They're so proud of their work.

"I get a little bit emotional when someone comes up to me and says, 'Deb! My work sold'."

Debra explains that working with people with disabilities has given her so much, including many "warm fuzzies".

"I enjoy the interaction with people with disability. If I didn't have that, I'm not sure I would stay.

"I had three weeks off last year and when I came back to the art room, all of the artists had done a portrait of me and hung it up and I just bawled. It was really amazing.

"They give you so many warm fuzzies. If you have a day off sick they'll make you a card. Who else does that? Not even your friends do that!

"I think Kurrajong has taught me to go into bat for people with disability. I think I have a really strong empathy for people with disabilities now.

"I'd like everyone to know that people with disability are people first."





Freedom To Be Creative

Each Thursday, you'll find Kiara Vella doing something she loves – making art.

For the past year, Kiara has joined art classes as part of Kurrajong Lifestyle Choices and enjoys being able to use her hands and her imagination.

"I am a creative person and I like being able to make things up.

"I do art at home sometimes and I used to do it at other places as well.

"On the first day I tried here, I instantly loved it and thought Kurrajong would be the best place to be."

Kiara has experimented with a variety of mediums including paint, sculpture, collage and felting. She quite often has three or four different projects on the go at any one time.

"I don't really have a favourite thing. I just love it all.

"It's always so much fun. You can be creative in what you want to do.

"I like fantasy stuff."

One of Kiara's artworks – a painting of a dragon – was selected to be part of the 2017 Art to Crow About exhibition.

"My dad came. He was proud. I was proud too!

"It was nice to see the other art work. I like going to galleries to see art. I love seeing how people have different techniques in their paintings."

Along with art classes, Kiara does other activities with Lifestyle Choices. She particularly likes photography and ten pin bowling and thinks it is great to get to meet new people.

"Kurrajong is a bit like a big family. I've got two brothers who actually joined Kurrajong. They do different things to me.

"At Kurrajong, we always have a lot of fun. It brings me friendships."



"On the first day I tried here, I instantly loved it and thought Kurrajong would be the best place to be."



Our Supported Employees

Kurrajong provides employment opportunities and choices for people with disability to participate in meaningful employment through our Social Enterprise businesses.

Our supported employees make a significant contribution to Kurrajong and to their communities.

The total number of supported employees engaged in jobs with Kurrajong is 162 and many of our employees are long serving. In the past 12 months, Kurrajong's businesses have undergone a rebranding for marketing development and business strategies.

Our new brands are:

- Kurrajong Recycling
- Kurrajong Timber
- Kurrajong Café
- Kurrajong Catering
- Kurrajong Laundry
- Kurrajong Property Services

Supported employees with 10 or more years' employment are listed below:

10	14	20	31
Gary Flanigan Troy Godde Frank Vella Timothy Wood	Barry Armstrong Michael Eggleton John Gledhill Sheree Hardie Josh Himsley Paul Perkins	Narelle Ross Michelle Thornton Darryl White	Stephen Gould Lisa Rae
11	15	21	32
Hilary Crane Phillip James Chloe Lidden Sabrina McDonald Phillip Pumpa Simon Russell Daniel Weathers	Nat Klein Leonie McLean Jeanette Miller James Payne	Peter Hardie	James Kitney Peter Smith Dean Stapleton Stephanie Warren Phillip Wishart
12	16	22	33
Michael Anderson Christopher Davies Florence Edwards Tracy Evans Brenton Howard David Pitman Justin Stokes	Nathan Collins Peter Flaskas Michael McCabe Margaret O'Kane Joanne Teagle	Kane Meyers	Geoff Pitman
13	17	23	34
Shane Gall Barbara Grigg Gillian Judd Jason Post Leila Sly	David Chalmers Alistair McLean	Ronald Salan Leonie Schack	Lesley Daniels Mary Heffernan Steven Hull David Perkins
	18	24	36
	Roger Baker Veronica Foley Veronica Keogh	Megan Everitt Daniel Smith	Paul Duck
	19	25	39
	Jennifer Howe	Craig McWhinnie	Tony Arrowsmith Robert Wiencke
		27	40
		Jason Harrison Chris Loneragan Scott Weeden	Wayne Emerson
		28	41
		John Howitt Adrian Long	Nicky Fletcher
		30	46
		Andrew Perkins Wendy Umback	Kevin Ritzau

Engaging Communities. Changing Lives.



Our Service Partners

Our thanks and gratitude to local Councils, industry associations, service agencies and government departments both Commonwealth and State, who have worked with us in partnership to support and enhance opportunities for people with disability and their families to lead a life of their choice. They include:

- National Disability Services (NDS) our industry association
- NSW Department of Family and Community Services incorporating:
 - Ageing, Disability and Home Care
 - Housing NSW
- NSW Department of Education
- NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA)
- Commonwealth Department of Social Services (DSS)
- Commonwealth Department of Human Services – Centrelink
- Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development
- National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA)
- Local Government Councils in the Riverina Murray region
- Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils (REROC)
- Riverina and Murray Regional Organisation of Councils (RAMROC)

Phillip's Handy Contribution

Kurrajong Recycling has a 98% electronic materials recovery rate. Phillip Pumpa is proud to play a part in this great achievement.

Three days a week, Phillip joins his friends at Kurrajong Recycling to dismantle computers, televisions and other electrical equipment down into their components – like copper wires, metals and glass – to prepare for recycling.

Because this process is done by hand, the amount of material that can be recycled is far higher than what other automated processes generate.

"It's a good place to work," Phillip said.

"I like the work I do. It's really great.

"I like seeing the people I know and talking to them. I've worked here for 10 years so have worked with the same people for a long time."

"I also like talking to the supervisors."

One of Phillip's supervisors is Shirley Beattie.

Shirley helps oversee the 20 employees in Kurrajong's electronic recycling team (around 10 employees typically work on any given day).

"Phillip is a very charming gentleman," she said.

"He's always got quite a happy disposition and it's good to have a little bit of a joke with Phil. He's always telling me what shows are on the television.

"Before I came to work for Kurrajong I was in a totally different field. To work with the wide range of people that I work with here has been quite a blessing.

"Every person who works here has an intellectual disability and some have other disabilities. It brings its own challenges and rewards but every person is different and every day is very varied."

Kurrajong offers Phillip flexible hours where he can choose his own hours and days of work. Shirley is also able to support Phillip if he needs help to make or attend an appointment.

"Looking out for the health and wellbeing of our supported employees is something we do.

"Kurrajong is important because it provides people with disabilities the opportunity to work and to feel a sense of self-worth. The supported employees get self-satisfaction and they're also providing an important community service."

"It's a good place to work."



"I like the work I do.
It's really great."



Kurrajong Recycling – Facts



As part of the National Television and Computer Recycling Scheme, established in 2011, Kurrajong Recycling recycles the electronic waste for a number of RAMROC and REROC councils



Contracted to product stewardship organisation MRI, Kurrajong supported employees dismantle electrical and electronic equipment such as computers, television, vacuums and microwaves



Kurrajong Recycling processes 450 tonnes of these particular materials each year



The recovery rate is 98%, a much higher rate of recovery than automated processes. The remaining 2% is mostly timber which cannot be recycled



Overall, Kurrajong Recycling processes 17,500 tonnes of materials each year



As well as providing kerbside recycling processing services to local councils, Kurrajong Recycling also offers a document destruction service (both electronic and paper documents) on a fee for service basis, commercial waste collections, rural properties domestic recycling and scrap metal recycling



Over 90 students from two Wagga Wagga schools provided 400 hours volunteer support for the Kurrajong Race Day, among them were: TRAC students Fatima Siddiqui, Maddie Hewson, Marina Gabra, Isaac Kingham and Chris Kelly.

Age no barrier to involvement

The students in our region are living proof that you're never too young to lend a hand.

It has been an incredibly rewarding year, with a number of schools and community groups encouraging or actively assisting their students/members to support Kurrajong.

This support is given in a number of ways and not only benefits Kurrajong and people with disability, it is also an important part of each student's development.

A number of schools have held fundraisers within their school community, raising substantial amounts of money to benefit our programs. The students are always genuinely delighted to learn what has been possible as a result of their efforts.

This year the students of Kildare Catholic College raised \$500 towards our Hildasid Community Farm project and Narrandera High School Year 12 students raised \$2,500 to purchase outdoor settings and other items for the new Kurrajong Supported Living units in Narrandera.

Others have organised students to support our fundraising initiatives through their school or community programs such as Duke of Edinburgh Award (The Riverina Anglican College), Lutheran School's Community Service Task Program or Koorungal High School's Leadership Program.

The Kurrajong Race Day enjoys the physical assistance of approximately 90 students from a range of schools

who provide hundreds of volunteer hours in preparation for race day and on the day itself.

Among the students we see a willingness to help without any expectations of reward or recognition. We let schools know when their students are involved in Kurrajong at a personal level, and it is always wonderful to hear when a school principal acknowledges a student's efforts on our behalf.

Another group to play an active part in our race day and Christmas Spectacular is the 1st Koorungal Scout Group.

When our committees and volunteers are exhausted at the end of these events, the enthusiasm and energy of the Scouts and their parents who assist with the pack-up or clean-up is warmly welcomed and appreciated.

We thank the following schools and community groups for their invaluable support:

- Deniliquin High School
- Finley High School
- Kildare Catholic College
- Koorungal High School
- Lake Albert Public School
- Lutheran School Wagga Wagga
- Narrandera High School
- Sturt Public School
- The Riverina Anglican College (TRAC)
- 1st Koorungal Scout Group



Koorringal High School students Thaveesha Piyasiri, Meaghan Harbright, Chloe Neal, Denzil Noack, Harry Moorby, Lois Peralta, Ana Chapman & Juliette Gamble.

We also acknowledge and thank the families and friends of our committee members and staff. The help they provide cannot be underestimated and we always appreciate the extra hands.

It's wonderful to see children of 7 or 8 playing an active role in fundraising and helping their community and this year we even had a 4-year-old helping pack lollies for our race day alongside her father.

Like the student volunteers, it is heartening to see that these young people are being encouraged to grow up in a culture of giving to others.

Schools Connect Program

The Schools Connect Program we operate in Deniliquin and Finley has been a great success, with both Deniliquin

and Finley High Schools having a tremendous response from students and teachers alike.

Seventeen students have volunteered their time to support 13 fellow students with disability in their schools to attend school events and participate in monthly fun activities organised by our Kurrajong Lifestyle Choices service.

We look forward to the expansion of the Schools Connect Program into other communities.

Kurrajong will undoubtedly have employment opportunities for students in the near future. This is being closely investigated as we explore different ways to ensure our future workforce can meet the anticipated growth in the number of people we support under the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).



It's wonderful to see even very young children working alongside their parents who are volunteering. Race Day Committee member Mick Douglas is pictured with his daughter Eliza aged 4 as they pack lollies for the children's hospitality area.

The Minions were a very popular attraction at the Kurrajong Race Day – Kevin (Joben Smith) and Bob (Angus Smith) both aged 11 did a great job. Joben and Angus are students at Lutheran School Wagga Wagga and volunteered as part of the Community Service Task Program for Year 6 students.

Thank You

You've really helped us make a difference

What we have achieved this past 12 months is in no small part thanks to the generosity we received from our wonderful donors, volunteers and friends.

Their vital support means we can continue to offer choice and new opportunities for people with disability.

As a result of working together, eight people with disability in Narrandera and Leeton now have the opportunity to live in Kurrajong's new Supported Living units in Narrandera. This achievement is the direct result of lobbying and fundraising undertaken by the local community over many years, together with a significant financial contribution from Kurrajong to purchase the land on which the units are built and a grant from the NSW Government.

We are also delighted that Stage Two of our Kurrajong Community Farm on Gregadoo Road Wagga Wagga will be completed in 2018, the result of many volunteer hours and donor contributions. This is not only an exciting time for people with disability, but for many other community groups which will also use the facility.

These are very real examples of what we can achieve when we share a common goal and work together to change lives.

The continued support of our donors and volunteers is crucial. This help is essential to ensuring we can continue to offer the same level of choice and opportunities to the 1300 babies, children and adults with disability who live in our region, and their families.

We know we can do it – but not alone.

DONATIONS, SPONSORSHIP & SUPPORT \$100,000 +		
Anonymous		
Friends of the Cypress Centre Narrandera		
\$30,000 - \$65,000		
Allen C Thompson Pty Ltd		
Climate Technologies		
\$20,000 - \$29,999		
Estate of the late Beatrice Cordingley		
Estate of the late Herbert Cowley		
Mueller, Mr & Mrs J		
Myer Stores Community Fund		
\$5,000 - \$19,999		
Anonymous		
Austbrokers ABS		
Bell, Mr & Mrs L		
Bell, Mr B		
Bell, Mr W		
Bell, Ms S		
Brown, Mr T		
Brown, Mrs R		
Cameron Williams Endowment		
Combined Development Group Pty Ltd		
Dennis Trading Pty Ltd		
Estate of the late Olive Parramore		
Fernon, Drs V & M		
Fitzpatrick, Mr & Mrs R		
Gundagai Meat Processors		
Horvath, Mrs J		
Lions Club of South Wagga Wagga		
Mamo, Dr V		
Matthews, Mr W		
\$5,000 - \$19,999		
Pirtek		
Riverina Plaster Works Pty Ltd		
Rotary Club of Narrandera		
Rotary Club of South Wagga		
Scott, Mrs J		
Smith, Mrs L		
Thomas Bros Group		
Viewco Glass		
Wagga Plumbing Service		
Wagga RSL Club		
Wagga Wagga Takes 2 Committee		



Donations and support received from 1 July 2016 - 30 June 2017

\$2,000 - \$4,999
Avis Riverina
Bee Dee Bags
BMD Constructions Pty Ltd
Commings Hendriks Solicitors
Coolamon Steelworks
Damasa Pty Ltd
David Milne Roofing
Dr Mathew B. Howard
Easdowns Business Specialists
Gill, Mr J
Graeme Hull Smash Repairs
Greg & Fiona Hindmarsh Transport
Hunters 1866
Knight Frank
Ladex Construction Group Pty Ltd
Narrandera Rodeo Committee Inc
Origin Energy
Payne-O'Brien, Mrs V
Town and Country Children's Centre
Wagga Wagga Early Years Learning Centre
Walsh & Blair Lawyers
Westpac Banking Corporation

\$1,000 - \$1,999
000 Plumbing Services Australia
Adams Kenneally White Pty Ltd
Arthur J. Gallagher
Bidgee Pumps & Irrigation Pty Ltd
Boyce Financial Services
Bush & Campbell Pty Ltd
Casey, Mr & Mrs S
Chamberlain's SBR Chartered Accountants
Chim Cheroo Cleaning Services
Cleanaway
Condron Constructions
Coolamon Foodworks
CTARS
Davis, Mr & Mrs A

\$1,000 - \$1,999
EML
G J Buchanan Transport
Gasweld Tools
Great Southern Electrical
GTES
Hull AM, Mrs K
Hume Bank Limited
Hutcheon & Pearce
Inspirations Paint
Jaques & Co Pty Ltd
Jaques, Mr & Mrs S
John Bance & Son Funeral Home
Joss Group
Jupiter Motors
Kapooka Golf Club
Karcher Center LTS equipment
Koorngal Stud
Kotzur Kanvas
Krause Building Pty Ltd
Lamont, Mr & Mrs D
Long, Mr C
Moorong Veterinary Clinic
Noel Thomson Architecture
Osborne, Mrs P
Passion Hair & Beauty Art
Paul Ryan Electrical
Pickles Auctions
ProWay Livestock Equipment Pty Ltd
QBE Insurance (Australia)
Riverina Cardiology
Riverina Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Specialist
Riverina Paediatrics
Riverina Scooters and Mobility
Riverina Water
Rodney's Transport
Rotary Club of Wagga Wagga
RSM Australia
Selby Watson & Co
Smith, Mr & Mrs N

\$1,000 - \$1,999
Sturt Mall
Sydney Sleep Services
Synergy Healthworks
Trail Street Medical Centre
Twomeys
Wagga Property Mangement
Wagga Wagga Marketplace
Watson, Mr & Mrs J
WDF Professional
Xeros Piccolo Consulting Engineers

\$750 - \$999
Farey Transport & Trading Pty Ltd
Lions Club of Yanco

Giving is
not just
about
making a
donation.
It's
about
making a
difference.

Thank You

\$500 - \$749

Active Foot Clinic Podiatry
Andrews, Ms M
Arlington Park Racing
ASB & Associates Chartered Accountants
Barnes, Dr C
Belmore Thoroughbreds
Bertoldi, Messrs E & E
Care Mechanical Services
Carroll, Mr & Mrs R
Choices Flooring
Col Blake - Painting and Decorating
Cowley, Mrs G
D & M Electrical Communications
Dahlsens Building Centre
Des Damme Fencing Pty Ltd
Fitzpatricks Real Estate
Frank & Earnest
Gavin Fairman Homes
Graham Wild Dental
Hartwigs
Healy Farming Company
Healy, Mr B
Interior Constructions Pty Ltd
Jazz Academy of Music Wagga
JDC Lawyers
John Mooney Real Estate
McCaig, Mrs C
McCready, Dr M
McKenzie, Mr K A
McMeekin, Mr & Mrs R
Menzies, Mrs L
Moon, Ms T
Mueller, Ms R
Murrumbidgee Magic
Nash, Mrs L
Paisley Robertson Accountants
Perkins, Mr & Mrs P
PoolWerx Wagga Wagga

\$500 - \$749

Quota International of Temora Inc
Riverina Safes & Locks
Riverina Sports Injury & Rehabilitation
Rotary Club of Koorinal
Rotary Club of Wagga - Wollundry
Roy, Mr P
Saggers, Dr & Mrs G
Sheather's Painting & Decorating
Strano, Mr & Mrs A
T J Hinchcliffe & Associates Pty Ltd
Tabcorp
TJ & DJ Van Lierop
Wagga Car Radio & Hi-Fi Pty Ltd
Wagga Catering Equipment
Wagga Mobile Cranes
Wotherspoon, Dr & Mrs M
Yenda Producers Co-Operative Society Ltd

\$250 - \$499

A & C Construction
Adams & Associates Financial Planners Pty Ltd
Allen, Mr & Mrs J
Allens Coaches
Black Crow Contracting
Blue Ribbon Financial Services
Bridgestone
Campbell, Mrs A
Christopher Punch Pty Ltd
Coates Dental Surgery
Commings, Mrs L
Craig Glasson Smash Repairs
Crozier, Dr P
Cummins, Dr & Mrs J
Evergreen Lawn & Gardening
Extend Physiotherapy
Farmhouse Industries Inc
G & Y Booth Pty Ltd
Halley, Mrs J

\$250 - \$499

Hanrahan, Mr & Mrs J
Hunt, Ms G
Insurance Brokers of Central Wagga Pty Ltd
Ireland, Mr & Mrs N
Johnson, Mr M
Kendell, Mrs E
Kildare Catholic College
Landmark Operations Ltd
Lawrence, Ms M
Linda Crawford Accounting Pty Ltd
Lowe, Mr & Mrs C
Maginness, Mr & Mrs G
McCurdy, Mrs M
Michael O'Reilly Pharmacy
Moulden, Mrs D
Ness, Mr & Mrs T
Northside Pharmacy
Orthodontics Wagga Wagga
Riverina Mowerworld
Ronald, Mrs A
Samuelson & Giacca Accountants
Sinclair, Mr & Mrs I
Slater, Dr M
Stephen Lawrence Constructions Pty Ltd
Stinson Hastie & Co
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Talbingo Tourist Caravan Park
The Fast Lane Drive Thru Coffee Wagga
Trevor Ion Financial Services Pty Ltd
Trotter, Mr & Mrs S
Tye Engineering
Wagga Bricks and Roofing Pty Ltd
Wagga Selling Agents Association
Wagga Systems Pty Ltd
Wagga Wagga Veterinary Hospital
Wagga Windscreen Doctor
Walker, Mr M
Zacharia & Naumann Optometry

Donations and support received from 1 July 2016 - 30 June 2017

\$100 - \$249
ABC Tyres Pty Ltd
Active Physiotherapy
Advanced Communications Riverina
Anderson, Mrs S
Andracchio, Mr & Mrs A
Bance, Mr & Mrs J
Begent, Rev J M
Blake St Car Wash
Bobele, Mrs J
Braid, Mrs S
Buswell, Mrs P A
Carlyle Suites & Apartments
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Dewar, Mr & Mrs J
Dries, Mr K
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Duffus, Mr & Mrs A
Duffy, Mr B
Dunmore, Mrs M
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Farrell Lusher Solicitors
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Fletcher, Miss C
Forde, Mr & Mrs G
Friedlieb Byrne Solicitors
Gill, Ms E
Girling, Mrs J
Glass, Mr & Mrs M
Graffen, Dr & Mrs M
Green, Mr & Mrs P
Hardinge, Mr & Mrs L D
Harris, Mrs D
Hatty, Mrs M
Heffernan, Miss T
Henderson, Ms S
Hutton, Mrs J
Irons, Mr & Mrs J

\$100 - \$249
Jackson, Mr & Mrs I
Judd, Mrs J
Kahlefeldt, Mr B, OAM, & Mrs
Koshemakin, Mrs J
Lidden, Mr & Mrs M
Matthews, Mr & Mrs S
McCormack, Mr M
Measday, Ms A
Mills, Mr & Mrs P
Morris OAM, Mrs S
Moses & Son
New, Mrs M
Nixon, Ms J
Nixons Engineering
O'Kane, Mr & Mrs T
Osmond, Mr & Mrs J
Owen Toyota
PAH Innovative Construction
Perey, Mrs K
Perkins, Mr & Mrs W
Powerplus Lighting & Electrical Suppliers Pty Ltd
Priests Coaches
Rick Firman's Menswear
Riverina Engineering Wagga
Sampson, Mr & Mrs B
Scribbles Café
Shaw, Ms D
Southwest Stockfeeds
St George, Mrs A
St Thomas' Anglican Church Mens Group
Stoll, Mrs S
Sutton, Mr & Mrs D
Temora Lutheran Womens Fellowship Group
Trev's Tasty Treats
Turner, Mrs M
Tyreworld
Wagga Tilt Tray Service
Wagga Trucks Hino Shaw
White, Mr M
Wiencke, Mr & Mrs P
Wittich, Mrs H

\$50 - \$99
Ahern, Mrs F
Anderson, Mr & Mrs G
Anson, Mr R
Anthonesh, Mrs J
Barton, Mr & Mrs
Bateman, Mrs J
Bull, Mr & Mrs R
Elliott, Mr & Mrs B
Fellows, Mrs P
Fletcher, Mr & Mrs S
Haines, Mr & Mrs R
Heffernan, Mr & Mrs C
Henty Foods
Hill, Dr & Mrs D
Hocking, Mrs D
Howe, Mrs A
Izzard, Mr & Mrs D
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Loughnan, Mr & Mrs M
Lowe, Mr A
McCulloch, Mrs E
McGilvray, Mr & Mrs M
McMillan, Mr & Mrs B
McNair, Mr J
My Shed
O'Brien, Mr & Mrs J
Osmond, Dr K
Pallister, Mr & Mrs W
Reid, Mrs D
Rigby, Miss J
Riordan, Mr & Mrs K
Rumens, Mrs M
Sharrock, Dr & Mrs K
Stephenson, Mrs C
Thompson, Mrs J
West, Mr & Mrs B
Westblade, Ms R
Westpac Bank Matching Gifts
Winson, Mr & Mrs G

How we can change lives TOGETHER

Kurrajong is an organisation that changes lives.

Starting 60 years ago from a desire to meet the needs of people with disability, Kurrajong provides choice, support and opportunities to people with disability, their families and carers.

During that time, Kurrajong has helped countless families find peace of mind knowing that the supports needed for their loved one could be found locally.

As a large organisation servicing the needs of people in southern New South Wales you'd be forgiven for thinking we don't require much community support.

Nothing could be further from the truth.

We simply cannot engage with our communities and change lives without the generosity of our supporters.



Part of the Kurrajong Long Lunch Committee – Judy Grant, Dr Michelle Fernon, Dr Jenny Masters, Leonie Ward, Duncan Jaeger, Susan Duffy, Penny Lamont and Jenni Stephenson.



Tammy Holzheimer, solicitor and busy mum also makes time to volunteer as part of the Kurrajong Race Day Committee. And when there are 1200 cakes to bake, it's all hands on deck.



A dedicated volunteer known for her 'can do' approach is Susan Duffy. She is pictured making 1,000 marshmallow cones for the children's hospitality area at the Kurrajong Race Day.

A talented artist herself, Joy Byng brings great enjoyment to people with disability when she shares a few hours supporting people in our Lifestyle Choices areas. Stephen Holmes is pictured with Joy doing needlework.



Seven ways you can help us make a difference!

If you believe in the important work of Kurrajong, there are many ways you can show your support. Here are seven ways you can get involved, but we welcome your ideas. All it takes is a conversation with Cathie Smith, Manager Kurrajong Foundation to get the ball rolling.

1. Volunteer as a Companion

A small commitment of time - an hour a week or fortnight - could help a person with disability achieve something that wouldn't otherwise be possible.

It could be as simple as enjoying a cup of coffee with someone, going for a walk or visiting the library. Or perhaps you could be another pair of hands at one of our support programs, and help with cooking, creative art or woodwork.

2. Help with our community farm and house maintenance or gardening

Volunteers to work on our Hildasid Community Farm on Gregadoo Road are always welcome. As we have commenced the building phase of this exciting community venture and soon the development of the community gardens themselves, the need for volunteers will be crucial.

Or perhaps you'd enjoy helping in the garden of our group homes or doing some minor maintenance, then you're just the person we need!

3. Make a donation or sponsor an event

Your financial support is always welcome and needed now more than ever. We pride ourselves on putting your money to work immediately doing just what you want - changing lives.

We have opportunities for you to make a donation in whatever way suits you: monthly, annually or making a one-off gift in response to a specific request for help.

There are also opportunities to enter into a mutually beneficial sponsorship arrangement through the Kurrajong Race Day, our Christmas Spectacular or other events we hold during the year.

4. Leave a bequest

By including Kurrajong in your Will, your gift will have lasting benefits for decades to come.

We are extremely grateful to the people who have made this important decision in the past, or plan to in the future. There is no more humbling experience than receiving a bequest - someone wanting to make one final gift to benefit people with disability.

Our Kurrajong Foundation Manager, Cathie Smith, will be pleased to provide confidential information about bequest wording to use to ensure your bequest reaches us.

5. Set up a donation through payroll

Making a donation through your payroll is a convenient way to donate and reduce your taxable income.

You don't have to wait until the end of the financial year to claim tax deductibility. You simply need to advise your employer of your intention, and your employer will remit the funds on your behalf before tax. Some corporations match their staff's donations dollar-for-dollar which is worth asking about.

6. Assist with our Art Union (no approaches involved)

We are looking for volunteers who can spare a couple of hours on a weekly, fortnightly or monthly basis to man our Art Union ticket sites between November and February, in Wagga Wagga or surrounding areas.

We never expect our volunteers to ask people to purchase a ticket; the signage and vehicle are self-explanatory. Our volunteers simply write tickets, collect money and say thank you.

7. Become a Kurrajong member

Becoming a member of Kurrajong connects you to a strong community of people who share a sense of commitment and interest in securing the future for people with disability.

In addition to receiving Kurrajong publications, such as our annual report, members have the opportunity to participate in the election of the Board of Directors on an annual basis. Application forms are available at www.kurrajong.com.au and membership fees are \$5 for individuals and \$20 for corporations.

For further information regarding any of these activities, or other ways you may wish to help Kurrajong, please contact:

Cathie Smith
Manager Kurrajong Foundation
02 6932 6009
0438 219 487
csmith@kurrajong.com.au

Great Outcome for Narrandera



Proudly presenting the proceeds of years of hard work and fundraising are members of the Friends of Cypress (back row) Tim Foley, Jeff Osmond & Bill Howitt OAM (with builder Geoff Condron on right). Seated are Lorraine Osmond and Marj Anslow OAM with Cathie Smith, Manager, Kurrajong Foundation on right.



It was all smiles when the ribbon was cut during the official opening of the supported living units in Narrandera. Pictured are back row: Bill Howitt OAM, John Primrose, Jeff Osmond, Bev Hughes & Terry Andracchio. Front row: Natasha Didden, Craig McWhinnie, Marj Anslow OAM, Hon. Ray Williams, NSW Minister for Disability Services, Lorraine Osmond & Joan Graham.



Tony Andracchio (left) and Steve Jaques, CEO Kurrajong (right) are pictured with the NSW Minister for Disability Services, the Hon Ray Williams (centre).



Delighted with the completed units, the official party were the first to inspect the units before enjoying afternoon tea.



Deanne Bolesta of Kurrajong Supported Living service spoke passionately about the opportunities the new units will bring to people with disability in Narrandera and Leeton.



It was 'thumbs up' from Natasha Didden and Craig McWhinnie on the completion of their thank you speech at the official opening of the supported living units before inspecting the units with official guests.



Dean Nielsen of the Red Door Cafe is pictured serving afternoon tea to Cathie Smith, Manager, Kurrajong Foundation and Project Architect Murray Ashby from McCallum Ashby Sydney. Dean and his wife Justine were involved in many aspects of the project including landscaping, catering, floral arrangements and decorating design as part of Kurrajong's commitment to keep the project local.



Spacious well appointed living/kitchen areas will offer future residents pleasant, light and secure homes. Units have been completely furnished and decorated purchasing from Narrandera businesses.



In addition to the Friends of Cypress and the community being delighted to see the supported living units completed so too were Jake and Geoff Condon (Condon Constructions) and Cathie Smith, Manager Kurrajong Foundation. The project was a boost to the local economy with all available trades and suppliers being accessed locally.



A long time waiting. Warwick Heckendorf and Bill Howitt OAM finally celebrate the completion of the supported living units in Narrandera.



Delighted to share this special occasion were former Mayor, Cr Jenny Clarke, Mayor Cr Neville Kschenka, George Cowan, General Manager, Narrandera Shire Council & Cr Narelle Payne.

There can be no better way of demonstrating Kurrajong's message of 'Engaging Communities Changing Lives' than the supported living units in Narrandera. It is testament to a strong and engaged community and will definitely change lives.



Kurrajong Long Lunch Boost for Hildasid Community Farm



Tireless volunteers Penny Lamont & Jenni Stephenson showed loads of imagination and resourcefulness and led the supportive Long Lunch Committee to a memorable event.



Wagga Catering Service staff under the direction and talent of Nathan Gale delivered 370 delicious meals in 21 minutes much to the enjoyment of guests.



Trena Kennedy appreciated the opportunity to enjoy the Long Lunch with friends Steve & Mary Dwyer. Trena's talent in creating arrangements was appreciated.



Guests Jude Hewitt, Christine Priest, Human Resource Manager, Kurrajong and her husband Andrew Priest enjoy a drink on arrival at the Long Lunch.



Guests Sue Graffen & Dr Max Graffen, Vice Chairman, Kurrajong enjoyed some outdoor hospitality with Andrew & Bonnie Prior and David & Catherine Friedlieb prior to lunch.



After weeks of preparation and hard work Milton and Duncan Jaeger of Jaegers Event Hire finally relaxed and enjoyed the day. Pictured are Duncan & Shannon Jaeger.



Michael Kennedy OAM, Chairman & Life Member of Kurrajong welcomed 370 guests to the Kurrajong Long Lunch which marked Kurrajong's 60th Anniversary.



Pictured at the Kurrajong Long Lunch are Peter Green, Pam Green, Director, Kurrajong with friend Anna Dennis.

From empty paddock without utilities to this magnificent setting for the Kurrajong Long Lunch was the result of the generous support of Jaegers Event Hire, Coates Hire and a hard working Long Lunch Committee.



The Hildasid Community Farm project was advanced with contracts signed for the construction phase. Pictured are Back: Allen Thompson, Building Designer, John Di Trapani, Construction Manager, Ladex Construction Group, Cathie Smith, Manager, Kurrajong Foundation, Ray Carroll, Deputy CEO Kurrajong and Front: Michael Kennedy OAM, Chairman & Life Member of Kurrajong & Richard Pottie, Managing Director, Ladex Construction Group.



The funding announcement and organisational rebranding was the perfect time for the Hildasid Community Farm to be officially named.

A major boost for Stage Two of Kurrajong's Hildasid Community Farm project came with the announcement of a Federal Government grant of \$1.2m under the competitive National Stronger Region Fund. On hand for the announcement are Michael Kennedy OAM, Chairman & Life Member of Kurrajong, Cathie Smith, Manager, Kurrajong Foundation, Ray Carroll, Deputy CEO Kurrajong & Michael McCormack, Member for Riverina.



Changing Times

Mathew Bertram, Manager, Kurrajong Marketing & Communications & Michael Kennedy OAM, Chairman & Life Member of Kurrajong were pleased to see the beginning of the installation of our new brand - at Kurrajong First Contact.



Following the launch of Kurrajong's new brand the first new logos appeared at Lord Baden Powell Drive and Hamish Johnson was quick to point out to CEO Steve Jaques that Kurrajong Property Services was there and correct.

The first webinar for Kurrajong staff was held during the year and reached staff from all services throughout the Riverina Murray region simultaneously. Staff appreciated hearing an update on the NDIS from Kurrajong CEO, Steve Jaques.



Welcoming newly appointed Kurrajong Manager Human Resources, Christine Priest, on her first day is Ray Carroll, Deputy CEO Kurrajong.



Pictured at the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) Service Providers Roundtable meeting are John Carrigan (NDS), Alice Tibbitts (NDIA), Hugh Packard (Valmar), Roy Catanzariti (Griffith PSO), Libby Clohessy (TLC), Sarah Manley (TLC), Fiona Durham (Ningana EI), Trevor Connell (Aspire), Janet Laws (Kurrajong), Dean Bright (Intereach) & Lyndal Ross (Kurrajong). This group was established to enable disability service providers to share experiences and awareness associated with transitioning into the NDIS.

Artists Crow About Their Work



Art enthusiasts and always interested in Kurrajong's Art to Crow About exhibition are Fiona Jaques, artist Kerry Forde of Kurrajong Lifestyle Choices and Steve Jaques, Kurrajong CEO.



Proud artist Kiara Vella pictured with 'Saphira', her acrylic on canvas, with her father Dominic Vella.



Pictured catching up to admire the creations of local artists with disability are Chris Harmer, Dr Max Graffen, Kurrajong Vice Chairman, Sue Graffen and Thomas Harmer.



Master of Ceremonies of Art to Crow About opening night Christopher Clarke is pictured with fellow artist Arthur Webster.



Cathy Gain enjoyed peoples' company as well as looking at the art works on display in the Wagga Wagga City Art Gallery on opening night of the Art to Crow About exhibition.



Artists with disability who exhibited in the Art to Crow About exhibition were delighted so many of their creations were sold on opening night.

Supporters, Visitors & Friends



Frank and Earnest (F&E) launched their inaugural 'We Are Wagga Wagga' publication in 2016. It profiles people who contribute to the diversity and vibrancy of our community. Pictured are Cathie Smith, Manager, Kurrajong Foundation, Peita Vincent (F&E), Steve Jaques, Kurrajong CEO and Belinda Benson (F&E) presenting a donation from initial sales.



Meet my new wombat friend from WIRES Steve! Hayden Watts is obviously delighted to introduce his new friend to Steve Jaques, Kurrajong CEO.



Tim Macgillcuddy, Operations Manager Kurrajong Recycling and his team welcomed many visitors on industry visits during the year. They included school groups, service clubs and on this occasion residents from Rosebank Retirement Village which is owned and operated by Kurrajong.



As part of his familiarisation visit Westpac CEO Brian Hartzler met Kurrajong Recycling employees. Pictured are Len Robinson, Paul Duck, Brian Hartzler, Tony Arrowsmith, Leila Sly and David Cain.



Westpac CEO Brian Hartzler (centre) and Senior Relationship Manager Jon Daley (left) visited Kurrajong during the year. Brian discussed opportunities for the bank's future relationship with Kurrajong with CEO Steve Jaques (right).



Also visiting Kurrajong Recycling but finishing with a luncheon were members of a local Probus Club. Pictured are Bett Wood, Patricia Hawkin, Jean Choy, Jean Downey and Marjorie Mathers. The ladies were surprised just how diverse Kurrajong is and agreed it was Wagga's best kept secret.



Ulladulla disability service representatives visited Kurrajong during the year. Pictured during the visit are (seated) John Gillett OAM, President Yumaro Management Committee, Janet Laws, Kurrajong Change and Special Projects Manager, and Brian Beveridge, Yumaro Programs Manager. Back row are Steve Jaques, Kurrajong CEO, Mat Bertram, Kurrajong Marketing and Communications Manager and Ray Carroll, Kurrajong Deputy CEO.



The smiles say a lot. Obviously pleased to catch up were Mark Loughnan and Lyndal Ross, Kurrajong Supported Living Manager. Lyndal's visits to West Wyalong are always welcomed and appreciated.



South Wagga Lions Club have supported Kurrajong for over 35 years. They presented part of the proceeds of the club's fundraising efforts during the year to help Kurrajong change lives. Making the presentation to Cathie Smith, Manager, Kurrajong Foundation is John Ristivojevic, President.



The Myer Wagga Staff have supported Kurrajong for over 35 years and during that time changed many lives of people with disability. Pictured at their successful Trivia Night are back row Leonie Geppert, Annie James, Chris Boneham and Aileen Ryan. Middle row, June O'Connor, Karen Raufers, Kyle Millington, former Myer staff member who returns from Canberra each year for this event, and Meg Roache. Receiving a hug from grandma is Milana Blacklock.



The last role of outgoing South Wagga Rotary Club President Steve Biggin was to present a number of local charities with part of the club's fundraising proceeds raised during 2016/17. Kurrajong were delighted to receive \$5,000 to benefit people with disability.



Making a special presentation to Hamish Tait of the Riverina Conservatorium to thank him for providing space for weekly Butoh rehearsals are Christopher Clarke, Alison Williams and Joel Wetherbee of Kurrajong Lifestyle Choices.

Successful AGM Wagga Wagga



Pictured at the 59th Annual General Meeting are Pam Green, Kurrajong Director, Tim Macgillcuddy, Kurrajong Recycling Operations Manager, Susan Macgillcuddy, Manager Kurrajong Therapy Plus, Janet Laws, Manager Change & Special Projects, Dr Michelle Fernon & Geoff Breust Directors of Kurrajong.



Recognised for 15 years commitment to Kurrajong are Mareeka New, Cannon Banks, Michael McCabe with Peter Flaskas (front), pictured with Kurrajong Treasurer Hamish Cullenward (on far left).



Hildasid volunteers Sid Clarke & Bill Harris catch up with Cathie Smith, Manager Kurrajong Foundation & Ray Carroll, Deputy CEO.



Paul Duck of Kurrajong Recycling is proud of his 35 years employment and delighted to receive his award from Dr Michelle Fernon, Kurrajong Director.



The longest serving staff member and supported employee are pictured celebrating their combined 77 years service at the AGM. They are Steve Jaques, CEO (32 years) and Kevin Ritzau, Kurrajong Timber (45 years).



Kurrajong CEO Steve Jaques congratulates and thanks longstanding staff member Ned Smith for 20 years commitment to Kurrajong.



The Kurrajong AGM is a time for celebrating peoples' contribution and achievements. Proud to be present are Cathie Smith, Manager, Kurrajong Foundation, volunteer June O'Connor (Myer), Sandra Rootes, Noelene Hogan both volunteers and former staff members of Kurrajong pictured with longstanding supporter Meg Roache (Myer).



Director Louise Lotz congratulated and thanked Karen Salabert, Chloe Lidden, Martin Frechette, Simon Russell & Phillip Pumpa for 10 years commitment to Kurrajong and their respective services.



The prestigious John Reid Memorial Award is presented to an employee for the care they show for their fellow workers. Normally this award is presented by Michael Reid, the brother of the late John Reid, but this year Michael was joined by sister Elizabeth Hall and her children Angela & Lucy. Pictured is the proud recipient Johnathan Ryan, Kurrajong Recycling.



Dr Max Graffen, Kurrajong Director presented plaques and gifts to supported employees Lisa Rae & Stephen Gould and thanked them for 30 years for a job well done.



Where have the last 25 years gone. Neville McDonnell, Kurrajong Recycling and Ray Carroll, Deputy CEO were recognised for 25 years service and commitment to Kurrajong by Geoff Breust, Kurrajong Director.



Catching up following the AGM and celebrating a combined 85 years are award recipients and great workers Nicholas Fletcher & Kevin Ritzau (with awards) pictured with Jim Seymour, Manager, Kurrajong Timber, Simon Fletcher and Michael Kennedy OAM, Chairman and Life Member of Kurrajong.

Celebrations in West Wyalong



Kurrajong Director & Life Member Bill Howitt OAM presented Michael Anderson, Kurrajong Recycling West Wyalong with an Achievement Award for 'putting in 100% effort everyday'. Well done Michael.



Pictured at the West Wyalong AGM Update & Presentation Evening are Caz Eckersall, Manager, Kurrajong Lifestyle Choices, Joanne Teagle, Kurrajong Recycling recognised for 15 years and her proud mother Joyce Teagle.



Michelle Sandow, Kurrajong West Wyalong was proud to receive recognition for 10 years commitment and service to Kurrajong. She received her award from Bill Howitt OAM, Life Member and Director of Kurrajong.



Another person to be thanked for 10 years as a good worker was Phillip James, Kurrajong Recycling West Wyalong. He is pictured with Bill Howitt OAM, Life Member and Director.



Margaret Smith and Steve Jaques enjoyed a catch up over supper following the West Wyalong AGM Update & Presentation evening. There is always plenty to chat about at these gatherings.



Celebrating a combined total of 45 years with Kurrajong Supported Living are years of service award recipients Marie Jolly (20 years), Dorothy McCaskie (15 years) & Margaret Loudon (10 years) who were thanked for their commitment by Life Member and Director Bill Howitt OAM.

Years of Service & Achievements



Hilary Crane, Kurrajong Catering Deniliquin is pictured with Michael Kennedy OAM, Chairman and Life Member of Kurrajong who travelled to Deniliquin to attend the presentation evening. Hilary was thanked for 10 years employment.



Proud employee Daniel Weathers, Kurrajong Property Services Deniliquin is pictured after receiving his award for 10 years employment from Michael Kennedy OAM, Chairman and Life Member of Kurrajong.



The traditional Kurrajong gold watch and plaque for 20 years may have been a little late but Leonie Schack of Kurrajong Catering Deniliquin proudly displays it after being thanked by Michael Kennedy OAM, Chairman and Life Member of Kurrajong.



Zena Wahanui, Manager, Kurrajong Deniliquin is proud of the achievements of all employees and is pictured with Shane Gall after receiving an Achievement Award for adapting to change from Michael Kennedy OAM, Chairman and Life Member of Kurrajong.



Achievement and years of service are great reasons to celebrate and there was great cause for celebration from this proud group: Zena Wahanui, Manager, Kurrajong Deniliquin, Leonie Schack, Hilary Crane, Daniel Weathers, Peter Hardie, Shane Gall & Michael Kennedy OAM, Chairman & Life Member of Kurrajong.



It's a proud moment for Peter Hardie being recognised for 20 years employment with Kurrajong Property Services Deniliquin and having Chairman & Life Member of Kurrajong Michael Kennedy OAM to celebrate with him.

Presentations in Narrandera



Supported employees Craig McWhinnie, Sabrina Marks, Ryan McDonald and John Skinner were proud to receive their Achievement Awards from Kurrajong Directors Dr Max Graffen and Bill Howitt OAM.



Employees recognised for years of employment at the AGM Update and Presentation Evening held in Narrandera are Sabrina McDonald (10 years) and Nathan Collins (15 years). They are pictured with Bill Howitt OAM, Life Member and Director and Dr Max Graffen, Vice Chairman of Kurrajong.



Natasha Didden was recognised at the AGM Update and Presentation Evening in Narrandera for completing the Becoming a Worker Course during 2016.



Pictured are Bill Howitt OAM, Life Member and Director of Kurrajong, Steve Jaques, CEO, Kurrajong, Dr Max Graffen, Vice Chairman, Kurrajong and Cr Wes Hall who represented Narrandera Shire Council at Kurrajong's AGM Update & Presentation Evening held in Narrandera.



Enjoying the social catch up after the formalities are Lee Broad, Caitlin Andracchio, Terry Andracchio and Rosemary Orr, Kurrajong Supported Living Narrandera.

Winners & Thank Yous



While initially finding it hard to believe, being at Thomas Bros to receive their new vehicle was a reality check for winners of the 2016/17 Kurrajong Art Union, Ray & Kay Holding who are pictured receiving keys from Fleet Manager, Jeremy Whalan.



Life Member and Patron of Kurrajong, Peter Perkins was for many years the Promoter of the Kurrajong Art Union but this year had the pleasure of drawing out the winners numbers. He certainly made their day.



Volunteer ticket seller Diane McGrath is pictured with familiar face of the art union Deb Hocking who are an important part of the operation.



Volunteer art union ticket sellers Jeanette Reynolds, Beryl Knight & Joan Skews share a cuppa at the 'Thank you Morning tea' for sellers.



Regular volunteer sellers, Bruce & Chris Chalmers and Alan Pottie enjoyed a relaxed cuppa and a break from selling tickets.



It takes 5 months to sell art union tickets but only a morning and 40 helpers to cut and fold them ready for the draw. Pictured are helpers Jean Bateman, Betty Bartlett & Jenny Lloyd on the job.

Race Day Success



Rob Balding (Westpac) and Chairman Kurrajong Race Day Committee with Graham Walker, Managing Director, Combined Development Group (Estella Rise) at the Kurrajong Race Day.



John Hart pictured with daughter Lani Hudson, granddaughter Rosie and wife Denise Hart of Pirtek Wagga. John and Denise have been major sponsors of the Kurrajong Race Day for many years.



Life Members of Kurrajong, Michael Kennedy OAM & Allan Davis, caught up at the Kurrajong Race Day.



Enjoying the Kurrajong Race Day are Peter Heffernan, Chris Last, Francis Mullins, Robert Mullins & Michael Glover. Francis Mullins of Wagga Plumbing Service has been a major sponsor and supporter of Kurrajong for many years.



The nursery farmyard provided by Old Kentucky Farm brought along this cute baby llama pictured with a delightfully inquisitive Sophia Lamont.



Longstanding Kurrajong staff member Frances Ahern with Kerry Parker & Kay Carroll.



One lucky race goer left with a \$250 fuel voucher thanks to the support of Tasco Petroleum. Pictured are Sophie Cheney, Nigel Wilson (Tasco Petroleum), Nigel McKellar & Susan Duffy all Kurrajong Race Day Committee members.



Relaxing at the races are Ray and Carol Carroll.



The Dennis family of Dennis Trading are major supporters of the Kurrajong Race Day and celebrated with (back row) John Patterson, Rodney Dennis, Howard Hunter & Charles Dickson & (front row) Michelle Dennis, Jan Patterson, Narelle Hunter & Stephanie Hunter.



The Kurrajong Race Day is the perfect place for families and children. Francis Mullins is pictured with grandchildren Oscar, Zoe & Maggie Thomas.



Cathy & Geoff Reid enjoyed catching up with friends at the races. They are pictured with Cathie Smith, Manager, Kurrajong Foundation.



Veronica Keogh & Nicole Smith of Kurrajong Catering Wagga enjoyed relaxing and the hospitality associated with the Kurrajong Race Day.



Austbrokers are major supporters of the Kurrajong Race Day and bring their staff to Wagga for this event. Pictured with Ray Carroll, Deputy CEO Kurrajong are back row Karen Agapios, Paul Mills (Austbrokers), Adam Peatey & John Walsh. Front: Greg Alerkos, Tanya Pejakovic, Jane Lee & Rebecca Wilson.



Michelle Weick (Viatek) & Sophie Cheney both Kurrajong Race Day Committee members enjoy a few social moments at the races.



Lucy Howard, Sofia Howard & Bridie Gregurke seem to like a similar design and have obviously visited the face painting booth.



Cathie Smith, Manager, Kurrajong Foundation pictured with Dr Max Graffen, Vice Chairman, Kurrajong, Sue Graffen & Nigel McKellar, Kurrajong Race Day Committee member.

Race Day Helpers Ensure Success



Before the successful Kurrajong Race Day there are hundreds of volunteer hours required. Andrea Bradley (WDF Professional) & Sophie Cheney both Kurrajong Race Day Committee members are pictured on deck to make several thousand kebabs.



Westpac can be relied on to send in the troupes when working bees are needed. Regulars are Jon Daley, Kylie Thompson, Jason Carroll, Allan Constable & Rob Balding, Chairman Kurrajong Race Day Committee.



Neighbours unite - Michelle & Brett Weick rounded up neighbours to help prepare for the Kurrajong Race Day. Pictured are on left side Rachael, India and Raliyah Fikkers & Harrison Stormonth. Right side of photo Brett Weick, Cooper Fikkers, Jasmine Macdonald & Linda Stormonth.



Angus Barrett and his mother Janine Barrett didn't see making 1,200 cup cakes for the children to decorate as too big a challenge. Thank you both.



South Wagga Rotary Club members John Clout, Richard Sleeman, Brian Roy, Tony Crawford, Michael Slinger & Henry Hope probably didn't want to see another sausage, chicken wing or kebab after cooking thousands of them for Kurrajong Race Day supporters.



An equally dynamic force are South Wagga Rotary Club female members and Rotary Ann's' (wives of Rotarians) - Danielle Osborne, Di Roy, Chris Hope, Jean Carroll (rear) & Penny Crawford.



South Wagga Lions Club members willingly give their time and cooking skills for many of Kurrajong's functions. Pictured at the races are members (front row) Daryl Maguire, Kevin Cameron, Greg Smith, Bob Smith, Bruce McAlister and (back row) Richard Leonard, Ollie Henderson, Andrew Cramp, John Ristivojevic, Chris Leonard & Barry Briggs.



And behind the scenes are even more South Wagga Lions Club members. From left around the table are Jan Leonard, Chris Leonard, Viv Fuller, Noeline Burns-Gee (at sink), Sam Tonacia (deep fryer specialist), Michelle Henderson, Dianne Smith and Ann Leonard.



Always willing to lend a hand is Shaun Duffy who is pictured assisting TRAC students Angus Talbot & Brooklyn Cashen at their busiest time.

Celebrating Another Big Year



Volunteers Mary Dunford & Thelma Birkin are pictured with Cathie Smith, Manager, Kurrajong Foundation.



Pictured at the Kurrajong End of Year function for employees, families, staff and volunteers are Myer Wagga Wagga representatives Meg Roache, Chris Boneham & June O'Connor with Lara Knox.



A real family occasion for the Kennedy's with Michael Kennedy OAM, Chairman and Life Member of Kurrajong, his wife Trena Kennedy and granddaughter Charley Kennedy. Charley really got into the spirit of the night.



Distance didn't stop anyone from enjoying the Kurrajong End Of Year function with Jeanette Miller, Tim Wright, Taryn Muntz & Nathan Collins travelling from Narrandera to catch up with their friends from other services.



Another busy year and Christopher Clarke & Scott Lea were happy to relax at the end of year function.



A special night - Danni Flory, her mother Wendy Flory and Wendy Umback relax in the grounds of the Murrumbidgee Turf Club.



Lovely to see Craig McWhinnie of Kurrajong Laundry, Narrandera & Debbie Shaw of Kurrajong Administration catch up at the end of year function.



Shandra Pereira & Mark Loughnan of Kurrajong Supported Living, West Wyalong are regulars at the end of year function in Wagga.



Three generations of the Davis family Nell & Allan Davis, Life Members of Kurrajong, daughters Jenny Lang & Beth Davis with the newest family member great-grandson/grandson Archer.



The cool evening and being dressed up didn't stop Jazmin Ross & Lucy Williams from diving into the foam pit and being sprayed by the foam cannon. Getting dry was another matter.



The picture of relaxation - Back row: Craig McWhinnie, Liam Cull, Emma Ryan & Simon Doss. Front row: Mareeka New, Rachael Hyde, Jason Harrison & Nicole Prior enjoyed good company - after another busy year.



Director of Kurrajong Louise Lotz made the most of meeting other members of the 'Kurrajong family' - pictured are the Lotz family Louise, Chloe & husband Marcus and Front row: Richie, Bel & Ted.

Gift to the Community



There is lots of preparation before special events and to help out South Wagga Lions Club members Russell Baird, Helen Whittaker, Richard Leonard & Bob Smith willingly packed thousands of candle bags for sale at the Christmas Spectacular.



Taking a break from making popcorn are volunteers Jackie Ryan, Kylee Smith & Daniel Smith.



Lorraine Pitman, Cathy Gain & Beth Davis settle in for the wonderful entertainment provided by the Australian Army Band Kapooka and local artists at the Wagga Music Bowl.



Prime Possum is a great attraction for most children but for the moment little Tully preferred to be in her mother Simone Hodge's arms.



Members of the South Wagga Lions Club taking a break from cooking for the hungry crowd at the Christmas Spectacular are Helen Whittaker, Noelene Burns-Gee & Andrew Cramp.



South Wagga Lions Club members are regular helpers with many Kurrajong events - Mildred Anderson & Dianne Smith are very familiar faces and willing volunteers.

The NDIS Journey *Together*



Kurrajong First Contact held a number of information forums to help families prepare for the introduction of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). Pictured at one of the many Wagga forums is Juli Morgan with Caz Eckersall, Manager, Kurrajong Lifestyle Choices.



Allan & Nell Davis, Life Members of Kurrajong found the Kurrajong First Contact information forums and the materials they provided of great benefit as they began the NDIS journey.



Pictured at an NDIS Family Forum are Pauline Manning, Gai Mercieca & Cathy Boyton, Vocational Training Officer, Kurrajong Recycling.



Anne Perkins travelled from Adelong to learn all she could about the NDIS from Kurrajong First Contact team members and found it worth the effort. Anne is pictured catching up with Kurrajong Supported Living Manager, Lyndal Ross.



A familiar face at the NDIS Family Forums was Norm Corcoran, Business Development Coordinator, Kurrajong First Contact who is pictured chatting with grandparent Catherine Vella.



Susan Macgillycuddy, Manager, Kurrajong Therapy Plus provided an abundance of information to support families prepare for the NDIS, she is pictured delivering a session which was also provided in sign language.



We can make a difference when we
work alone - we can change lives
when we engage our communities.