

Knoxbrooke Talk



In this issue:

- Knoxbrooke Achieve
- Staying Alive!
- Knoxbrooke Extras
- Knoxbrooke 365
- What's happening at Knoxbrooke Enterprises

From the CEO

Welcome to the Autumn issue of Knoxbrooke Talk. As you read through this edition, there have been many exciting developments – each of



which ensure that Knoxbrooke remains a strong person-centered, not-for-profit organisation that is focussed on achieving outcomes for people with disabilities through support, education and employment. Our purpose is clear and our staff are committed to assisting each person's journey.

Last year Knoxbrooke provided a free service to guide and assist individuals through the NDIS. This is because Knoxbrooke is keenly aware that the NDIS is new, complex and nuanced, and presents a wonderful opportunity for individuals to access life-changing supports.

The Knoxbrooke NDIS team have now attended a large number of meetings and are well versed in the NDIS system. Our experience so far is people using the Knoxbrooke NDIS team better understand what to expect in the meeting and are therefore better prepared. This in turn has generally led to more people being satisfied or even pleasantly surprised with their NDIS funding outcomes. If you do receive a NDIS plan and are dissatisfied with it, please do speak with the Knoxbrooke NDIS team regarding the NDIS review process.



Knoxbrooke Achieve

Knoxbrooke Achieve, our two-year school leaver employment support program (SLES), commenced on 22 January. Located at our BaseCamp hub near Ferntree Gully railway station, five students are now undertaking a course of diversity and variety; obtaining a wide range of skills aimed at equipping them with the tools needed to reach their employment goals.



Although still a new program, Knoxbrooke Achieve has had significant interest from the NDIA, schools and LCHS planners.

Basecamp will also be used from April onwards for the delivery of the Knoxbrooke Extras program which is focussed on living skills, capacity building and recreation.

*Glen Bowen - General Manager
Knoxbrooke Community*



What's happening at Knoxbrooke Community

The first three months of the year have been very positive and productive! We have been excited to welcome 6 new participants into the fold at Knoxbrooke Community and we anticipate many great activities, outings, experiences and events as we move into the cooler months.

Staying Alive – The Musical!

We are looking forward to the much anticipated staging of our 2018 Performance— ‘Staying Alive Tribute Concert—Honouring Musicians Past and Present’ to be held on 26th July at the Burringa Theatre. Last year was a sold-out show so reserve your tickets now!



**Knoxbrooke
Annual Concert**

6.45 pm Start

Tickets
\$15.00

Burringa Theatre
351 Glenfern Road
Upwey

Honouring
Musicians past
and present

**GET YOUR
TICKETS
NOW !!!**

**THURSDAY 26TH JULY 2018
6.45PM START
STAYING ALIVE
TRIBUTE CONCERT
2018**

Come and see the Knoxbrooke Performing Arts group put their best foot forward



**KNOXBROOKE
COMMUNITY**
Ring Jenny or Laurelle
on
9758 3666

Knoxbrooke Community is closed on the following inclusive days:

No service: Wednesday 25 April 2018

No service: Monday 11 June 2018

No service: Monday 9 July 2018 to Friday 13 July 2018

The full schedule of the **2018 HOLIDAY DATES** are available on our website.

Extras at Knoxbrooke Community.

It is exciting to announce the Knoxbrooke Community 'Extras' Program will trial during the March / April holiday break. Extras is a small group day service held during our traditional closure periods. Following a survey sent to families in February that asked for your input regarding the types of activities you'd like us to offer, we are now able to present a timetable that includes swimming, movies, picnics and cooking.

We hope to make this a regular service each holiday break. If you would like further information, please contact our Extras Coordinator, Fleur George on 9758 3666.

Knoxbrooke 365

Our new Knoxbrooke 365 program has also commenced. This program offers in-home support every day of the year from 6am—10pm and overnight if required, and is another way we are delivering on your feedback about the types of support that is most important to you and your family. Laura Walton is the Service Coordinator. For more information, please contact Laura on 9758 3666.



Knoxbrooke EXTRAS

Need a place to learn new skills and make new friends in a supportive environment?

Starting in April 2018, Knoxbrooke will offer you the opportunity to learn new skills, make new friends and most importantly have fun!

Call 1300 KNOXBROOKE today to register your interest

Introducing Knoxbrooke Extras

A small group program focused on learning life skills and having fun with:

- Healthy cooking
- Managing your budget
- Staying safe on social media
- Social groups
- Music concerts
- Sporting events and much more

Knoxbrooke
INCORPORATED



Knoxbrooke 365

Flexible support provided by experienced staff

Support available 365 days of the year

Between 6am – 10pm and overnight if required.

Call 1300 KNOXBROOKE to find out more

Providing individualised 1:1 in-home & community support.

Knoxbrooke
365

We need your help!

Earlier this year we were thrilled to receive a grant of \$9,000 from the Government's Stronger Communities Program towards a much-needed upgrade to our Courtyard.

The Courtyard is a fantastic space for catching up, eating lunch on sunny days and just relaxing. This grant will be instrumental in giving the area a face-lift that will see shade sails, extra picnic tables and a more liveable space all year round.

But we need your help to make the transformation a reality! If you are able to make a contribution to the project, please give us a call on 9758 3666. Your assistance is very much appreciated, and we look forward to keeping you posted on developments.



*Scott Buckland - General Manager
Knoxbrooke Enterprises*



What's happening at Knoxbrooke Enterprises

Wow! It seems like yesterday we were celebrating the end of 2017 at the Knoxbrooke Enterprises Christmas Party and here we are at Easter already. Our solid business development work over the past 12 months is continuing to pay off.

Yarra View Nursery (YVN)

I am very excited to announce that Yarra View Nursery has been successful in its bid to supply plants to the Mernda Rail project. This is big. Not just for YVN but for all social enterprises right across Australia.

Some 150,000 plants at a value of \$500k makes this contract one of the biggest single social enterprise deals ever done! An amazing achievement for the YVN team right across the board. These deals don't just happen overnight—this is recognition for the hard work by everybody over the past 2 years. But, the real hard work starts now in producing and delivering. I have great confidence that, together, we will exceed expectations. I look forward to everybody's support and cooperation in making this happen.



There are lots of other activities happening in the nursery as well with strong sales continuing with Bunnings, the Mitre 10 Autumn program being prepared and the next Aldi allocation nearing completion. YVN is in great shape.



Knoxbrooke Outsource (KO)

Knoxbrooke Outsource has continued to achieve great results in recent months. Traditional clients have continued to provide steady work and we have had several new clients come on board in the last month or so.

This provides for greater variation in the type of work being done and lots of flexibility to move employees around the warehouse to try new things.

Yarra View Horticulture

The first stages of the large contract for the Level Crossing Removal Authority have been completed. Well done to Paul Fernando and his team in getting the job done in amongst a very busy Spring / Summer period. A special thanks to a number of employees in the YVN team who assisted where an extra hand or 2 was needed.

The final stage will commence in July 2018 once the new rail crossing is complete. Importantly, this project has given us some great learnings in being able to tender and complete similar projects in future.

Home of Garden Lovers (HOGL)

HOGL had a great finish to the 2017 year and has continued to perform strongly in the summer months. It's certainly a challenge on those 42 degree days, and it's a credit to Steven and the team in keeping the garden centre in tip top condition.

Plans are being made for the traditional Mother's Day weekend sale where again all plants will be heavily discounted. I urge people not to leave their shopping until the Sunday as in the last couple of years we have sold out of many lines by lunchtime Saturday.

HOGL is past becoming a key destination for locals and beyond to browse, find inspiration, that special 'something', or fill a whole garden. We are certainly becoming a 'one stop shop' for all your garden needs.

Don't forget to connect with us on Facebook to make sure you stay up to date with all the new products and specials coming through.



Knoxbrooke Talk will be sent primarily by email and printed copies will still be widely available. If you would like to be emailed future editions of Knoxbrooke talk, simply email

reception@knoxbrooke .com.au