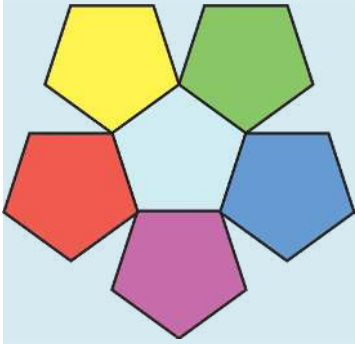


Dame Pattie Menzies Centre

Supporting adults
with a disability



June 2016 Newsletter

A Cuppa for Cancer

Dame Pattie Menzies Centre again hosted Australia's Biggest Morning Tea to raise funds for the Cancer Council. This year's morning tea was organized by the clients in the Life Learning Group who did a wonderful job.

Rain was forecast so we moved our celebrations indoors rather than brave the elements outside. Our guests enjoyed a cuppa and a chat with a cake or two.

The music group entertained everyone with a few songs accompanied by Rick, the music teacher.

Thank you to everyone who brought food to share and everyone who attended the morning tea, we enjoyed having you come to visit and raised funds for a worthwhile cause.



Diary dates

Friday 1 July
Last day of term 2

Monday 11 July
Staff training day
Day Services
Closed

Tuesday 12 July
Clients return for
start of term 3

Wednesday 27 July
Get Fit and Active
Games—Winter

Friday
23 September
Last day term 3



Above: Savoulla visited the Y Water Centre recently and looked at all the displays.

Right: Jamie and Ethan enjoyed trying on the different hats as they were learning about fashion through the ages.



Day Services will not operate on days declared Code Red in the North Central Fire District.

Attendance Fee Increase

The day service attendance charge will increase in July from \$11.48 per scheduled attendance to \$15.00.

The original calculation of the attendance fee omitted some costs and has not increased in two years. In addition to this rising prices have also impacted on the fee. Dame Pattie Menzies Centre has been subsidising these costs. Small increases in the attendance fee are necessary to reflect the true cost of delivering quality day services programs.

Having a Say on the Victorian State Disability Plan

The Victorian state government is seeking input for the Victorian state disability plan 2017-2020. The state disability plan is an overarching framework for improving the way mainstream services and environments work for people with disabilities – not just for those supported by the NDIS, but for all people with a disability living in or visiting Victoria.

Some of our clients attended a forum in Melbourne held by the Self Advocacy Resource Centre (SARU) to provide input into the plan. Other clients have received surveys in the post so they can share their views on the plan.

People with a disability, carers, family members and community members can all have their say on what they would like to see in the Victorian State Disability Plan.

More information about the plan can be found at <http://www.statedisabilityplan.vic.gov.au/>. You can provide feedback online, about the plan. Submissions close Wednesday 6 July 2016 at 5pm.



Firewood Raffle

As a fundraiser for Dame Pattie Menzies Centre, the Committee of Management are holding a raffle for a trailer of firewood. Tickets can be purchased from Dame Pattie Menzies Centre in July. Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5. We will also be selling tickets outside of FoodWorks in Alexandra. Some of our clients would like to participate in selling tickets outside of FoodWorks. If you can volunteer some time to support the clients while they are selling tickets or if you would like to sell some tickets, please contact Dame Pattie Menzies Centre



Frequently Asked Questions About the NDIS

What is the NDIS?

The National Disability Insurance Scheme is the new way of providing individualised support for eligible people with permanent and significant disability, their families and carers. The National Disability Insurance Scheme is the insurance that gives us all peace of mind. Disability could affect anyone - having the right support makes a big difference.

What is the NDIA?

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is the name of the scheme.

The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) is the independent agency responsible for implementing the NDIS.

The NDIA understand that everyone's needs, preferences and aspirations are different. That's why we provide to eligible people a flexible, whole-of-life approach to the support needed to pursue their goals and aspirations and participate in daily life.

What is the NDIA's role?

To provide information and referrals, links to services and activities, individualised plans and where necessary, funded supports over a lifetime.

To raise community awareness and encourage greater inclusion and access to mainstream services, community activities and other government initiatives.

To support service providers to build capacity and be part of the scheme.



Farewell Melissa

Melissa was presented with flowers and our best wishes for her new adventure in life as she goes on maternity leave. at Dame Pattie Menzies Centre's Australia's Biggest Morning Tea.

Steven Turner has been appointed the Day Services Manager while Melissa is on leave.

Thanks to Dame Pattie Menzies Centre for support of a major regional project

Dame Pattie Menzies Centre 's contribution to the "Power Down Project" was acknowledge at the presentation of the project's final report in Shepparton on Friday May 20. Five years ago DPMC were invited to be part of a project by GV Community Energy to develop a program to significantly reduce the cost of energy to low income households. DPMC agreed to be part of a consortium who would support the project in kind.

The consortium members contribution, over the life of the project, was valued in excess of \$700 000 for in kind support. This contribution ensured that the full amount of about \$1.7 million of federal grant funds were available to the communities in the area from Wallan to Wangaratta and from Alexandra to Elmore.

DPMC's unique contribution was to ensure that the project effectively included persons with a disability. Some of the first home assessments were conducted in Alexandra over three years ago. Very quickly the project identified that a major barriers to minimising the energy used in the home were to know where the energy was being consumed and what reasonable action could be taken by the householder. Persons with a disability were at a distinct disadvantage as they found reading their energy bills very difficult or they were unable to do the physical work necessary to make the required savings.

The project team conducted over 1000 home assessments many involving the installation of energy saving devices (part of the project cost) and a follow up visit to make sure things were working as planned. The recipients of the project services were very satisfied and the scientific analysis of the data collected showed that the project had been very effective in reducing energy consumption while ensuring a comfortable home environment. 8 clients from DPMC took part in the home assessments which resulted in modifications being made to their homes to increase energy efficiency.



The "Power Down" recognition plaque was handed over to Peter Elms Smith, president of the committee of Management of DPMC Inc at the Dame Pattie Menzies Centre Australia's Biggest Morning Tea

Left: Rob Chaffe, who was involved with the project from the beginning, being presented with a recognition plaque for Dame Pattie Menzies Centre's contribution to the "Power Down" project.



Above left: The Life Learning group have been exploring fashion through the ages

Above: Jamie is thrilled to be going to the State of Origin match in Brisbane

Left: The cooking group went to Two Pickled for some taste testing

Below: Happy birthday Naomi and Savoulla begins backing for the Biggest Morning Tea



Around Dame Pattie Menzies Centre