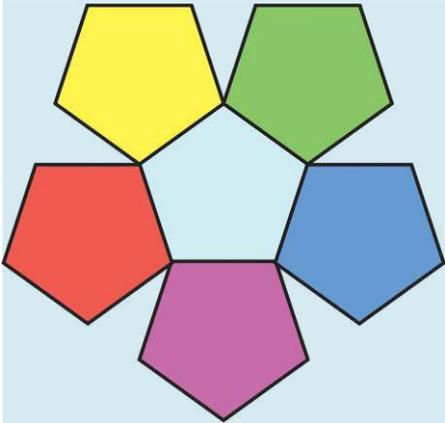


## Dame Pattie Menzies Centre

Proudly supporting  
people in the  
Murrindindi Shire



March 2017  
Newsletter

## The Summer Games are a Splash!

The annual Get Fit and Active Summer Games were held in Alexandra in early March. Over 40 people enjoyed a swim and games at the Alexandra pool followed by lunch and games in the park.

The weather was perfect for a swim. Visitors remarked on the picturesque setting of the pool. The hoist at the pool made the water accessible for people of all abilities including wheelchair users.

The focus of the games is to have fun and have the opportunity to meet new people and catch up with friends. Everyone is looking forward to the next games will be held in Mansfield in winter.

"It was a good day. I liked playing with the basketball ring in the water. I liked meeting new people and I saw one of my friends there." Rupert

"I enjoyed swimming. We had a yummy lunch in the park. I did get water in my ears though." Jamie



Dame Pattie Menzies Centre Inc ABN 51 724 115 911  
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## Diary dates

### Labour Day

Monday March 13  
Day Services  
closed

### Dangerous Deeds Opening Launch

Friday 17 March  
1:00pm—3:00pm

### NDIS Q&A

Friday 24 March  
5:00pm—7:00pm

### Last day term 1

Friday 7 April

### Staff training day

Tuesday 18 April  
Day Services  
closed

### First day of Term 2

Wed 19 April

### Anzac Day

Tuesday 25 April  
Day Services  
closed

### Queen's Birth- day

Monday 12 June  
Day Services  
closed

### Last day term 2

Friday 7 July

## From the desk of the CEO

### Renovations

There has been a hold up with the approved works involving the carport and front door due to the discovery of an historical overlay on the property. A new planning permit needs to be submitted for the carport and a decision is required on the change to the front door before the works can go ahead.

The concreting at the main entrance was permitted as this did not change the look of the property and is required for safe access. Hopefully with the current front door width being non compliant this will also be allowed.

### Quality Assurance Report

After a two month wait and expecting the worst we were very pleasantly surprised to receive a positive and constructive audit report.

There are a number of observations which we expected but no non-compliance or other urgent issues to be addressed.

We have developed a plan to complete the work that needs to be finalised before the next re-certification in 2018. This will include a review of plans and other personal information which needs updating. Clients and carers will be contacted in the next few months to ensure that files contain the most recent documents.

### Website

Finally we have a live site. This has the capacity for growth and added functions, it also allows us to make changes and add updated news and information. Please check it out [www.dpmmc.org.au](http://www.dpmmc.org.au)

### Client Activities

The local Self Advocacy group is very excited about their involvement in the Dangerous Deeds Art Exhibition that is coming to Alexandra in March and the Digital Art display which is part of the 150th celebration on March 4th. Melissa

Manning is the project manager for these events so that is adding to the enjoyment of those involved.



A group of four clients and one staff member attended the Having Say Conference in Geelong. It was decided this year to have a smaller group and one staff member attend with different people having the opportunity to attend each year. This creates less of a burden to cover staff for the 3 days.

Outings have included the female AFL opening game at Carlton, Guns & Roses Concert, Storm Family Day, Day on the Green at Mitchelton Winery and other activities of choice.

### **Alexandra's 150th Celebration**

The art and work skills groups have developed a display for the community garden where their hay art has featured over the past couple of years. It is well worth a visit.

### **Strategic Planning**

A draft report has been submitted to the Committee of Management following several planning meetings involving Committee of Management members and senior staff.

The plan will be presented to members once it has been adopted by the Committee of Management.

Leah Ross -

Chief Executive Officer



The hay bale art in the community gardens made by DPMC



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

# Dangerous Deeds

Showcasing the Victorian Disability Movement



AN ACCESSIBLE EXHIBITION

## FREE EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

St Johns Hall, 37 Downey St, Alexandra

3rd March to 31st March

Fridays: 3pm - 6pm

Weekends: 11am - 3pm

5-7pm 24th March

**NDIS Q&A with Guest Speakers**

The National Disability Insurance Scheme; what changes will it bring to the people of Murrindindi? Speak Up Alexander will host a Q&A with guest speakers.

1.30-3.30 pm 26th March

**Making Art at the Margins: Disability + LGBTI+ Arts**

Writer, performer & changemaker Jax Jacki Brown will present on how art can be a vehicle for social change. Her presentation will focus on gender & disability.

10.30-12.30pm 27th March

**It's A Mainstream Issue: Women + Disability + Violence**

Tricia Malowney is a strong, respected advocate for women with disabilities. Tricia presents the need for legal, justice, health & women's services to change, to improve services and reporting.

For more information//interpreters//support

0435 940 843 or 0408 567 188

[alexandraspeakup@gmail.com](mailto:alexandraspeakup@gmail.com)

**CREATIVE  
VICTORIA**



## Recognizing Excellence

On Wednesday 3 March, Mark Warren-Smith from Dame Pattie Menzies Centre was recognized for the outstanding contribution he makes to the lives of people with a disability when he received the Pride of Workmanship Award from the Rotary Club of Alexandra.

The DPMC team would like to congratulate Mark, he is most deserving of this award.



Leah Ross (CEO) congratulates Mark Warren-Smith on receiving the Pride of Workmanship Award

### The Citation for the Pride of Workmanship Award

Mark joined our team at Dame Pattie Menzies Centre in August 2014. It was a career change for Mark as he had worked as a butcher previously. It was quite a change of profession but we are very glad that Mark decided to try something new. Mark has shown himself to be a caring, compassionate support worker with a cheerful smile and a great sense of humour. Mark has proven himself to be multi-talented with skills as a fisherman, handyman, hay bale sculptor, cook, mechanic, bus driver, football supporter, photographer, tour guide, advocate, organizer and gardener to name a few. Mark will give anything a go and do it cheerfully. He contributes innovative ideas and solutions to tricky problems. Mark works to high standards and ideals; if Mark does a job you know it will be done well. Mark gives his time freely to help others, often visiting clients on weekends. He is happy to 'go the extra mile.'

Mark is a valued member of our team and we would like to thank Rotary for giving us the opportunity to formally recognize Mark for the wonderful contribution he makes to both Dame Pattie Menzies Centre and the lives of those we support.



Top left: Wayne and Mark at the women's footy match

Top right: Wayne looking for gold

Left: A photo opportunity with Princess Alexandra

Below left: Jenna and Anne-Marie at the Having A Say conference in Geelong

Below right: Savoulla out and about on a picnic



# Around Dame Pattie Menzies Centre