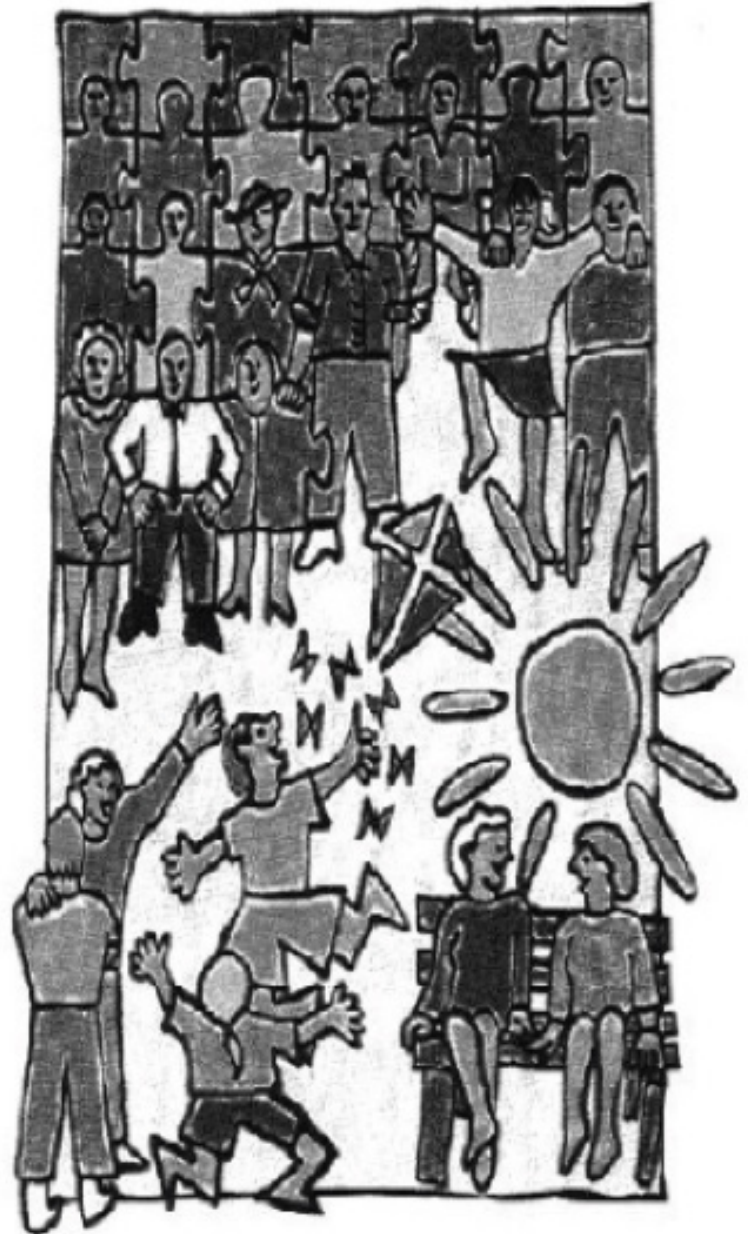




Newsletter

December 2023 - Issue #143

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PO Box 161, Bentleigh 3204

Telephone: 9533 5977 | Fax 9923 6173 | E-mail: info@southernda.org.au

ABN: 90 909 078 371



From the Program Manager

Dear friends

This is my report for the Annual Report, for the AGM we had in October.

In writing my report for the Annual Report, it is an opportunity to reflect on the past year and our achievements and how we can improve on what we do, primarily individual advocacy for people with disability. Of course, supporting more people with quality advocacy is a simple measure of improvement and our statistics show that we have achieved that, as well as expanding our catchment to include the City of Casey. I have been long concerned about the amount of requests for advocacy that we received for residents of Casey, that up until July 2022 we couldn't assist. However, we have now added Casey to our other local government areas of Port Phillip, Stonnington, Bayside, Glen Eira, Kingston, Frankston and Mornington Peninsula. In addition, we have set up a Self Advocacy Help Line, where people with disability and their informal supports can book an appointment to get guidance on how to advocate for themselves. We have also instituted an online client survey, to be completed when we finish working with a client, to get their feedback on our service.

We also have a regular quality assurance audit, conducted by SAI Global, and we undertook this in November 2022, with some opportunities for improvement identified but also very positive feedback from clients and the auditors. We have always welcomed the QA audit process, not as a hurdle or exam but as a way of getting objective, independent commentary on what we are doing and how we can do better.

A major project that is ongoing is the establishment of a new database, as our existing product was increasingly unsuitable for our needs. 2022-23 is the final year of us using Ivo, and time has been spent this year identifying our needs and engaging another provider, and negotiating a suitable product. I look forward to using Fixus and seeing how we can improve our productivity through this more modern facility.

I am forever grateful to our Committee, who are long term members and very committed to the program. Unfortunately, we lost Sharon Bergman and we offer our thoughts and condolences to her family. Her contribution to the program was valuable, given her family experience of disability, and we will miss her greatly. Anat, Evan and Aisa remain involved and give their time and attention willingly, allowing me to concentrate on the operational aspects of the Program. We are in a strong position for the coming year, in large part due to the Committee's oversight.

From the Program Manager

I also wish to thank Lisa Thomas, our Advocate, for her commitment to her clients and skillful advocacy on their behalf. Lisa has achieved significant outcomes for clients over this past 12 months, in a setting of complex advocacy issues. Indeed, the wide variety of advocacy cases that we have worked on this year reflects the challenges that people with disability face in their lives. Naturally a significant part of our workload is matters related to the NDIS, whether this is about access to the Scheme, or appeals about planning decisions or concerns about the quality and safety of services funded out of someone's plan. In addition, we have dealt with issues that aren't in any way related to NDIS, including Guardianship, abuse and neglect, Centrelink matters and other financial concerns. We have also continued our work in supporting clients with the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability. The publication of the report in September 2023 is should give all Australians and governments at all levels the motivation to do better to protect our most vulnerable.

We look forward to 2023-24, as we believe we are well positioned to continue this good work in supporting our clients.

Kerry McLinden
Program Manager



From the Program Advocate

This article is to help you understand how Southern Disability Advocacy (SDA) responds to the situation where someone from SDA has said or done something that you don't think is right or that has made you upset. At SDA we welcome feedback about how we do our job. If we can do something better, we would like to know. Sometimes feedback might mean making a complaint.

It is okay to make a complaint. A complaint is a way of providing feedback. At SDA we think it is important for people in contact with our service to know:

- Your complaint is only between you and the people you tell.
- You won't get into trouble for speaking up
- Southern Disability Advocacy will make sure your complaint is sorted out within a time everyone agrees upon.
- Your complaint will be kept confidential in your secure file in the SDA office.
- You can see it at any time if you wish. Simply talk to the Program Manager to arrange a time.
- The Committee of Management is the boss of SDA staff. They must be told about complaints about SDA staff so the problem can be sorted out. This means your complaint will be included in the report written by staff to the Committee of Management. You can request that your complaint be reported to the Committee without your name.
- If you are upset about the way someone outside SDA is treating you, then you can tell the SDA Program Manager.

If you want to complain about SDA, you can tell them yourself. If that is too difficult to do, you may ask to speak to someone on the Committee of Management. The Committee of Management is the boss of SDA staff. You can do this by telephoning 9533 5977 and asking for someone from the Committee to call you. The member of the Committee that is to call you must contact you quickly and will work to sort out your complaint. If talking to someone at SDA about your complaint is too difficult you can put your complaint in writing to us. You can do this by sending us a letter or completing our Complaint Form. Phone 9533 5977 and ask for it to be sent to you.

Another way to make a complaint about SDA is to speak to people outside of SDA and ask for their help in sorting out the problem with SDA. This is a list of organisations that can help you with a complaint you may have about SDA:

- The Office of the Public Advocate: Phone 1300 309 337
- Villamanta Legal Services: Phone 1800 014 111
- Victorian Advocacy League for Intellectual Disability (VALID) 9416 4003
- Department of Social Services: Phone 1800 634 035
- Complaints Resolution and Referral Service: Phone: 1800 880 052
- Victorian Mental Illness Awareness Council (VMIAC) Phone: 9380 3900
- Disability Abuse and Neglect Hotline Phone: 1800 880 052

Remember at SDA we like to know if we can do something better. You won't get in trouble for speaking up. Your complaint is only between you and the people you tell.

Lisa Thomas
Program Advocate

Would you like to receive the Southern Disability Advocacy Newsletter by email?

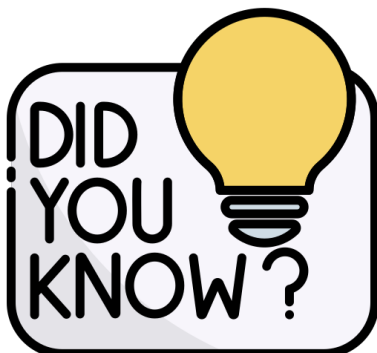


If so, just email us at kerry@southernda.org.au & we will happily place you on our e-list.

Did You Know?

Southern Disability Advocacy keeps a file on the work they do with you. The file contains the information that we gather in working with you, so we can support you. There is usually a paper file and a file on the computer.

All files are kept in a secure place and only the staff have access to them. If at any time you would like access to your file, we are happy to arrange it for you. When we have a quality assurance audit, your written permission will be sought before anyone can access the file.



Useful Information

Rye Foreshore Market

Rye Foreshore Market
Saturday, 02 December 2023
07:30 AM to 01:00 PM

The Rye Foreshore Market is one of the community fundraising activities for the Rotary Club of Rosebud-Rye. It is held on the first Saturday of each month and has been running for over 20 years. The market is organised by Rotary volunteers and all income received from stall hire is used for community service projects. The intention is to serve both stallholders and the community.

The Rye Foreshore market is classified as a 'Make Bake and Grow' market. We aim for 70% of stalls to sell homemade or home-grown goods.

Rye Foreshore, Point Nepean Rd (across from the Rye Post Office) on the foreshore, Rye, 3941



Make your own sustainable Christmas decorations

Saturday, 02 December 2023 | 01:00 PM to 03:00 PM



Looking for ways to save money and have a zero waste Christmas? Come along to this fun workshop where you can create your own sustainable Christmas decorations. Materials supplied. Please wear weather-appropriate clothing as this workshop will be outside.

Register using this link <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/make-your-own-sustainable-christmas-decorations-tickets-715805522587?aff=oddtcreator>
Eco Living Display Centre, The Briars, Mt Martha, 450 Nepean Hwy, Mount Martha, 3934

Pickleball

Do you want to play Pickleball? We have all levels playing with us from absolute beginners to the more advanced.

We play on Monday and Tuesday 1pm to 3pm, Thursday 11.30am to 1.30pm. No need to book just bring your self and your smile.

We play at Sorrento Community Centre and all equipment is available, a coach is present most sessions so if you're new to Pickleball or an absolute gun, you are welcome to join us for a game or 10!

When: Monday, 04 December 2023 | 01:00 PM - 03:00 PM, Monday, 11 December 2023 | 01:00 PM - 03:00 PM
Sorrento Community Centre, 860 - 868 Melbourne Road, Sorrento, 3943

Useful Information

Music in the Park 2023

Saturday, 09 December 2023 | 01:30 PM to 09:30 PM



Music In The Park returns to Mornington Park for a third year in a row with a huge line up including The Veronicas, The Cat Empire, Budjerah, Kaiti and Pierce Brothers. This family fun, community event is the passion project of Mornington local Tones And I who organises and curates the event every year. This year it's part of ALWAYS LIVE, a state-wide celebration of contemporary live music supported by the Victoria Government through Visit Victoria.

This event is part of ALWAYS LIVE, a 17-day state-wide celebration of contemporary live music supported by the Victoria Government through Visit Victoria.

Mornington Park - Schnapper Drive, Schnapper Pt Drive, Mornington, Mornington, 3931,

Gardening Chat Club - Hastings Library

Thursday, 07 September 2023 | 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM



Recommended for adult audiences.

Do you love gardening and growing things? Do you love to chat to likeminded people over a cuppa?

Join our new gardening chat group and we will meet monthly to talk about plants, gardens and gardening resources.

Free, bookings essential. Contact
Hastings Library
5950 1710
hastings.library@mornpen.vic.gov.au

December 13

Note: If you can't make it on the day, please let us know, so that your tickets can be freed up for others to attend

- Wednesday, 13 December 2023 | 02:00 PM - 03:00 PM
Hastings Library, High Street, Hastings, 3915

Useful Information

Somerville Christmas Carols



LEISURETIME
POOL MAINTENANCE
info@ltpool.com.au

SOMERVILLE FAMILY DAY

SOMERVILLE CHRISTMAS CAROLS
FRUIT GROWERS RESERVE
DECEMBER 15th, 6PM

CHARLIE SILLY PANTS
LOCAL SCHOOLS & TALENT
SANTA & THE GRINCH
THE GIVING TREE
COMPETITIONS
DJ DARREN WATSON
FOOD VANS

SOMERVILLE MOBILE
FOR ALL YOUR SALES, NEW/REFURBISHED DEVICES, REPAIRS & ACCESSORIES
SOMERVILLE CENTRAL, NEXT TO COLES

DESIGN TO PRINT SOLUTIONS
GROW YOUR BUSINESS THROUGH PRINT
designtoprintsolutions.com.au

Friday, 15 December 2023 | 06:00 PM to 09:00 PM

A free community event celebrating Christmas!

Come and enjoy:

- entertainers
- food trucks
- school performers
- dancers
- Santa
- The Grinch
- face painting
- competitions
- D.J. Darren Watson

And more!

We will have a Christmas tree on a ute set up for toy and dry food donations that will be distributed to local families by PAC and St Andrews Church. Somerville Fruit Growers Reserve, Edward Street, Somerville, 3912

Mornington's Christmas Festival



Sunday, 17 December 2023 | 10:00 AM to 05:00 PM

Mornington's Christmas Festival will be filled with festive activities and entertainment for the whole family!

With Main Street closed for the day, attendees can expect a lively atmosphere and a wide array of entertainment options.

From captivating street performers like stilt walkers, jugglers, dancers, and face painters to the much-anticipated appearance of Santa Claus at the 3MP Giving Tree zone where you can donate vouchers and gifts for the Mornington Community Centre.

There will be something for everyone to enjoy. Groove to Indigenous performer Gange Giri and his Digi DJ vibes, music from local original artists and of course the sights and sounds of Christmas.

Mornington's Christmas Festival will be a vibrant community-driven celebration, fostering a sense of togetherness and spreading the joy of the holiday season.

Families and individuals alike can look forward to a day filled with entertainment, music, and festive cheer. Main Street, Mornington, 3931

Useful Information

Community Carols in the Carpark

17 December 2023 | 04:00 PM to 08:30 PM

Bring the family along to celebrate all things Christmas in a casual environment where everyone is welcome.

From 4pm

- Animal Farm
 - Face Painting
 - Sausage Sizzle
 - Ice cream
 - Tea/Coffee
 - Indoor market stalls for last minute Christmas gifts
- BYO chairs, picnic dinner and drinks. Plenty of free parking and onsite toilet facilities.

From 6pm

- Meet Santa for a photo and tell him your wishlist!
 - Join in the singalong of all your favourite carols as Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus arrive
- All members of the community are welcome regardless of their race, gender, cultural, religious background or sexual orientation.
- Event will proceed onsite regardless of weather (event will move indoors if necessary).
- This event is a gift to the community from Bayview Church, supported by Mornington Peninsula Shire.
Bayview Church, 1 Inglewood Crescent, Rosebud, 3939



Games in the Shade

Saturday, 23 December 2023 | 10:00 AM to 04:30 PM



Take a moment in the shade to connect with family and friends over a game. Available every day during the summer school holidays and on the weekends throughout summer.

- Saturday, 23 December 2023 | 10:00 AM - 04:30 PM
- Sunday, 24 December 2023 | 10:00 AM - 04:30 PM
- Tuesday, 26 December 2023 | 10:00 AM - 04:30 PM
- Wednesday, 27 December 2023 | 10:00 AM - 04:30 PM
- Thursday, 28 December 2023 | 10:00 AM - 04:30 PM
- Friday, 29 December 2023 | 10:00 AM - 04:30 PM
- Saturday, 30 December 2023 | 10:00 AM - 04:30 PM
- Sunday, 31 December 2023 | 10:00 AM - 04:30 PM
- Monday, 01 January 2024 | 10:00 AM - 04:30 PM
- Tuesday, 02 January 2024 | 10:00 AM - 04:30 PM
- Wednesday, 03 January 2024 | 10:00 AM - 04:30 PM
- Thursday, 04 January 2024 | 10:00 AM - 04:30 PM
- Friday, 05 January 2024 | 10:00 AM - 04:30 PM
- Saturday, 06 January 2024 | 10:00 AM - 04:30 PM
- Sunday, 07 January 2024 | 10:00 AM - 04:30 PM
- Monday, 08 January 2024 | 10:00 AM - 04:30 PM
- Tuesday, 09 January 2024 | 10:00 AM - 04:30 PM
- Wednesday, 10 January 2024 | 10:00 AM - 04:30 PM
- Thursday, 11 January 2024 | 10:00 AM - 04:30 PM

Useful Information

Games in the Shade

- Friday, 12 January 2024 | 10:00 AM - 04:30 PM
- Saturday, 13 January 2024 | 10:00 AM - 04:30 PM
- Sunday, 14 January 2024 | 10:00 AM - 04:30 PM
- Monday, 15 January 2024 | 10:00 AM - 04:30 PM
- Tuesday, 16 January 2024 | 10:00 AM - 04:30 PM
- Wednesday, 17 January 2024 | 10:00 AM - 04:30 PM
- Thursday, 18 January 2024 | 10:00 AM - 04:30 PM
- Friday, 19 January 2024 | 10:00 AM - 04:30 PM
- Saturday, 20 January 2024 | 10:00 AM - 04:30 PM
- Sunday, 21 January 2024 | 10:00 AM - 04:30 PM
- Monday, 22 January 2024 | 10:00 AM - 04:30 PM
- Tuesday, 23 January 2024 | 10:00 AM - 04:30 PM
- Wednesday, 24 January 2024 | 10:00 AM - 04:30 PM
- Thursday, 25 January 2024 | 10:00 AM - 04:30 PM
- Friday, 26 January 2024 | 10:00 AM - 04:30 PM
- Saturday, 27 January 2024 | 10:00 AM - 04:30 PM
- Sunday, 28 January 2024 | 10:00 AM - 04:30 PM

The Briars Picnic Area

The Briars 450 Nepean Highway, Mount Martha, 3934

Point Nepean Portsea Market

Located in one of the State's most picturesque settings, this market has so much to offer.

Flowers bunched and potted spill out onto the walkway at the entrance, music can be heard in the distance. Follow the sandy road through the stalls, stopping to have a chat to the bakers, makers and growers you meet along the way.

A foodie's delight, be sure to come hungry.

When

- Sunday, 19 November 2023 | 09:00 AM - 02:00 PM
- Sunday, 21 January 2024 | 09:00 AM - 02:00 PM
- Saturday, 09 March 2024 | 09:00 AM - 02:00 PM
- Saturday, 30 March 2024 | 09:00 AM - 02:00 PM
- Saturday, 08 June 2024 | 09:00 AM - 02:00 PM

The Point Nepean Quarantine Station, Coleman Rd, Portsea VIC 3944, Portsea, 3944



Peninsula Film Festival

The Peninsula Film Festival, proudly presented by Lexus of Brighton, is back at the Village Green this Summer.

Saturday February 3, the popular, outdoor film festival will be held at the Rosebud Village Green. The public are invited to bring their friends, a picnic blanket and enjoy up to 20 short films, all judged live by a panel of celebrity judges with monetary prizes awarded. Live music, food trucks, local beer and wine and market stalls will feature at the short film festival. Gates open at 5.00pm, tickets are \$10pp for general entry or \$150pp for entry to the fully catered VIP ticket (limited number and must be 18 or over to enter the VIP marquee)

Visit website for ticket link. <http://www.peninsulafilmfestival.com.au/>

PFF wishes to advise films on the Saturday are unclassified. PFF advises parental discretion, viewers recommended to be aged 15+.

A Friday night launch at Rosebud Cinema (Fri Feb 2) and a Sunday Filmmaking Workshop (Sun Feb 4) will also run as part of the Festival, see the website for more information.

Saturday Feb 3, Village Green, Rosebud, Village Green, Nepean Highway and Rosebud Cinema Rosebud, Rosebud, 3939



Useful Information

Flinders Fringe Festival 2024

Following the success of the inaugural festival in 2023, the Flinders Fringe will bring a burst of creative and fringy excitement to the coastal village once more over the weekend of 23-25 February.

More than 10 venues throughout the village will host creative events and 'happenings' including comedy, theatre, sing-a-longs, exhibitions, performance art, cabaret, and festival picnic concert. Something for all ages and tastes.

- Friday, 23 February 2024 | 08:00 AM - 11:00 PM
 - Saturday, 24 February 2024 | 08:00 AM - 11:00 PM
 - Sunday, 25 February 2024 | 08:00 AM - 08:30 PM
- Flinders Village, Cook Street Flinders, Flinders, 3929



Friday Friendly

Connect with other locals at our Friday Friendly group. Enjoy complimentary tea, coffee and biscuits in our warm and cosy library while chatting about your current favourite reads, what you're listening to, watching or what's on your reserved list? Our team will be on hand with reading recommendations from the Warm Winter Read list and conversation starters to help get the ball rolling.

It's fun, it's free, it's the Friday Friendly!

- Friday, 01 December 2023 | 02:00 PM - 03:00 PM
 - Friday, 08 December 2023 | 02:00 PM - 03:00 PM
- Carrum Downs Library, 203 Lyrebird Drive, Carrum Downs, 3201



Upcycled 'Scrappy' Christmas Wreaths for adults

With more than 6,000 kilograms of clothing and textiles being sent to landfill every ten minutes, we have found a fun and artistic way to reuse it. Come along to Frankston Library and learn how to make a Christmas wreath from fabric and book scraps that will help divert textile waste from landfill. Take your creation home, hang it on your door or wall for all to see and discuss the simple and fun purposeful actions we can all make.

This is a FREE event however bookings with the Library are essential due to limited places.

Frankston Library
0397841020

libraryevents@frankston.vic.gov.au

Saturday, 02 December 2023 | 01:00 PM - 03:00 PM
Frankston Library, 60 Playne St, Frankston, 3199



Useful Information

Wednesday Board Games

Our selection of board games gives you the chance to enjoy classics or try something new!

Bring the whole family and enjoy the relaxed library atmosphere as you spend the day playing board games.

No need to book, just come along!

• Wednesday, 06 December 2023 | 03:00 PM - 04:30 PM

Seaford Library, 1/6R Broughton St, Seaford, 3198



High Street Uniting Church Christmas Fete

Join us for our annual Christmas Fete! We will have Christmas raffle, handmade goods, morning tea, sausage sizzle, coffe van, books, cakes, condiments, Christmas gifts, children's activities, Trash 'n' Treasure, and more!

All are welcome!

Saturday, 09 December 2023 | 09:00 AM - 01:00 PM

High Street Uniting Church, 16-18 High Street, Frankston, 3199



Big Day Out for Dogs & Canine Christmas Market 2023

Big Day out for Dogs is back for 2023 - This is a community event hosted by Dogs Victoria where our grounds are open to the public so everyone can come along and celebrate everything about our four-legged friends!

Held at our premises KCC Park in Skye on the Westernport Highway, the event is aimed at showcasing Dogs Victoria affiliated clubs and their breeds and to present the sport of dogs and all the activities that you can get involved in. This event provides the opportunity for the public to come along with friends and family and meet Dogs Victoria members and their dogs, see the dogs in action and learn what Dogs Victoria is all about. The event also provides information and education about responsible dog ownership and the opportunity to meet and greet a range of different dog breeds.

The public are encouraged to bring their dogs (well behaved on a lead!) as there are many activities that they get involved in and have a go on the day such as agility, dancing with dogs, scent work and much more.



Useful Information

Big Day Out for Dogs & Canine Christmas Market 2023 cont.

The Canine Christmas Market is one of the main elements of the day where you will find market stalls filled with doggy related items for you and your pooch.

- Dog Breed and club displays
 - Dog shows and competition
 - Dog sport demonstrations (agility, lure coursing, rally, trick)
 - Activities for your dog to have a go at
 - Canine Christmas Market
 - Fun competitions and entertainment for the whole family
 - Education programs for responsible dog ownership
 - Dog training & behaviour tips
 - Canine Museum and Laurie Luxmore Library will be open
 - Variety of food trucks
 - Dog Christmas photo booth
- Sunday, 10 December 2023 | 10:00 AM - 04:00 PM
655 Westernport Highway, Skye, 3977



Cars & Coffee

Event : Cars & Coffee-

Venue : 688 South Road Moorabbin 3189

Event Date : 03-12-2023

Time : 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Type : Victoria

Description:

Let's finish the year with a Bang!!! Marque Collective's Cars and Coffee event is the perfect place for car enthusiasts and coffee lovers alike. Held on the first Sunday of every month, this event is a must-visit for anyone in the area looking for a fun and unique way to spend their Sunday mornings. From vintage classics to modern sports cars, there is something for everyone at this event. Car enthusiasts will love getting up close and personal with some of the most stunning vehicles around, while those who simply appreciate good design will marvel at the beauty and craftsmanship of each car. But Marque Collective's Cars and Coffee isn't just a great place to admire cars and enjoy coffee - it's also an important part of the local community. By bringing together car enthusiasts from all walks of life, this event helps to foster a sense of community and belonging among those who share a common interest. Whether you're a long-time car enthusiast or just looking for a fun and unique way to spend your Sunday mornings, Marque Collective's Cars and Coffee event is not to be missed. With its stunning collection of vehicles, great coffee, and welcoming atmosphere, it's the perfect place to connect with like-minded individuals and indulge your love of cars.





Useful Information

Feedback Survey

Southern Disability Advocacy always wants to get your views on the work we do with and for you.

This Survey is a chance for you to tell us anonymously and in writing if you think we could improve. We hope you will take the time to fill it out and post it back to us. It should only take a few minutes to complete.

1. Is the Newsletter helpful & interesting to you?
2. Tell us if there are topics or items you like us to include in future Newsletters
3. Do you feel comfortable asking us for help?
4. Do you find it easy to get support from us when you ask?
5. Do you feel safe with us?
6. Have we ever done something that upset you or made you angry?
7. Would you feel comfortable telling us if we upset you?
8. Do you know someone who could support you tell us if we upset you?
9. Can you think of anything to improve the advocacy work we do for you?

Thanks for your time. We will consider all the feedback we get and use it to improve the work we do.

Summary of our Policies & Procedures

The Policies & Procedures are the documents that guide the work that Southern Disability Advocacy does for the people it supports. We review these from time to time, so that we can make sure we are doing a good job. Part of doing a good job is asking you about what you think of our work, and then changing our Policies & Procedures if it will make us a better advocacy agency.

If you would like to help us review the Policies & Procedures, please call us at the office: we will be really happy to talk about this with you.

The Headings of our Policies and Procedures are:

- 1. Statement of Purpose:** this explains what all our work is trying to achieve and why we exist as an agency.
- 2. Privacy, Dignity & Confidentiality:** explains what we do to keep your information private.
- 3. Committee:** is the group of people who are the boss of Southern Disability Advocacy, and who make the big decisions about the agency.
- 4. Occupational Health & Safety:** this is about how we keep ourselves safe and the people we work with.
- 5. Financial Management:** describes how we keep safe and spend the money that we receive from the government to run Southern Disability Advocacy.
- 6. Quality Assurance:** explains what we do to keep doing a good job for the people we work with.
- 7. Accessing Southern Disability Advocacy Services:** describes how we decide if we can work with someone who might need our help and the steps we go through to work out exactly what we will do for them.
- 8. Valued Status:** describes the work we do to make sure that we help people we work with to be valued and respected, by the community.
- 9. Participation & Integration:** describes what we do to assist the people we work with to be part of the community.
- 10. Support & Skill Development:** explains how we assist the people we work with to learn new skills, especially about advocating for themselves.
- 11. Complaints, Disputes & Feedback:** describes how someone can make a complaint about us or tells us if they like or don't like something we have done.
- 12. Data Management & Document Retention:** explains how we keep information and what we do with it when it is no longer needed.
- 13. Staffing Matters:** describes the things relevant to the workers at Southern Disability Advocacy in their jobs.
- 14. Media:** says what we do about communicating with the media



Organisational Structure Southern Disability Advocacy

Committee of Management

Anat Green (Chairperson)

Alsa Obarcanin (Ordinary Member)

Evan Lowenstein (Treasurer)

Southern Disability Advocacy is managed by a community based Committee of Management that is elected annually. The Committee is responsible for overall strategic directions, policy development, financial management, risk management and the hiring and oversight of staff. The Constitution establishes the procedures for election of the Committee members. Membership of the Committee is open to all Members of the Association.

The constitution establishes the procedures for election of the committee members. Participation in elections to the committee is open to all members of Southern Disability Advocacy. The committee encourages people who are interested in contributing to the governance of the program to consider joining the committee. Please contact the office if you are interested.

Staff

Kerry McLinden (Program Manager)

Lisa Thomas (Advocate)

Staff are responsible for decision making processes and activities as outlined on their position description, and so are responsible for the day to day running of the program by putting into practice the decisions of the Committee.

Southern Disability Advocacy is part of the National Disability Advocacy Program funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services.

The opinions expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of the Australian Government Department of Social Services.

Sender: SDA, PO Box 161, Bentleigh 3204