Caladenia Dementia Care

Providing superior services to enhance the quality of life for people living with dementia

MAY 2010

Like our new look?

Did you notice our new masthead? Our change in name from Caladenia Day Centre Inc to Caladenia Dementia Care was approved in December 2009. To go with our new name we felt the time was right to update our masthead to a "friendlier" look. We have kept our trademark Caladenia flower to make recognition easy. We are very happy with the finished product and thank GRV printers for their assistance in getting it right.

Since our last edition we have farewelled a few staff members; Anne Welsh, our long time Administration Assistant (see story on page 3), Ron Gardner, our Monday driver; Maree Simmons, our Sunday program Leader, and Chantelle Monks, one of our Activity Assistants. All will be greatly missed and we wish them well in their future endeavours.

To add to our new look we have employed Ron Batrouney to assist us with driving, and Cheryl Watt has taken on the administration role. We have advertised for a new Activity Assistant and hope to have our new person on board soon. New volunteers Kate Jeffery, Carole Worthington and Alicia Randell have also joined the Caladenia family. Welcome to all.

We hope that in the near future we can complete our new look by turning the soil for our respite centre. Fundraising for the centre is occupying a large slice of our think tank; we know how much this would mean to the families of our members.

ABC GARDENING EXPERT VISITS CALADENIA

John Patrick (John Patrick Landscape Architects), Sarah Yeates (Manager) and Hamish Russell (Deputy Chair)

We were recently lucky to have John Patrick from the ABC's "Gardening Australia" visiting Caladenia. John was escorted around our grounds by Sarah and Dr Hamish Russell, Caladenia's Deputy Chair.

John was a senior lecturer at Burnley College throughout the 80's and has written many successful gardening books. He runs his own landscaping company, and he and his staff have been designing the landscaping plan for our new respite centre. The landscaping has to take many things into account - such as safety for our guests and club members, drought tolerance, usable outdoor space for games; fragrance, shade and reminiscence.

The plans look fantastic so far - and we thank John and his team for their expert assistance.

DID YOU KNOW THAT WE RUN A MONTHLY CARER'S MEETING OPEN TO ANYONE LIVING IN THE AREA AND CARING FOR A LOVED ONE WITH DEMENTIA. RING US ON 9727 2222 FOR MORE INFORMATION

My Caladenia Journey

In 1991, Caladenia Founder Trish Maggs asked me if I would help the Manager with some typing to ease the workload in the office. The typewriter was on a small table in a dark corner of what is now the Carer's Room. This led me to being asked to attend the Committee meetings as Minute Secretary which I did until 1996 when I was encouraged to stand as Secretary of the Committee. In 1994 funding became available and I was officially employed as Administration Assistant. Not wanting to combine my paid employment with my volunteer role, I resigned from the Committee in 1999. With the advent of computers for other staff, my typing/computer work decreased and my clerical work increased. I was more than happy to accept the challenge of organising payroll for staff and financial reports for Committee.

1998 saw the official opening of the extension to Meadowbank House. The gleaming kitchen, the large comfortable lounge and dining rooms with their magnificent views of the Dandenongs provided a more efficient and pleasant setting for the programs. How proud we were of this area!

I was chosen for Life Membership of Caladenia in 1999 – an honour I treasure. In my 19 years involvement at Caladenia I was privileged to work with amazing staff and Committee. They have all given me the utmost support and encouragement over the years.

I've seen programs increase with extra times and days; weekends and holidays and I know that under the leadership of Manager Sarah Yeates and her team the quest for improvement is never ending. The most challenging of these is the provision of overnight respite centre.

Some highlights of my time at CDC: my Wednesday lunches; morning teas (especially those yummy cheese scones!); my cuppas with Sarah; my daily welcome from "Maggs" – Sarah's golden retriever; watching the Caladenia garden grow – especially Bill's re-positioned roses! The pride in the first professionally printed Caladenia Newsletter by GRV Printers; Reconciling and balancing the Bank Statements – yes I know, pathetic isn't it! And being involved in the choice of a very competent replacement for Administration Assistant – Hope you enjoy the position, Cheryl.

I retired from my position in December 2009 and now I am settling beautifully into the next stage of my life. With grandchild Number 6 due to arrive in October, life will be full of joy.

Anne Welsh
Lady of Leisure

Caladenia 1000 fundraising day

Since 1993 George Hume, one of Caladenia's Board members, has been organising an annual fundraising tournament for Caladenia named the Caladenia 1000. Prior to this year, a total of over $43000 had been raised. This year, through the generosity of the bowling community, $2300 was raised towards Caladenia's respite centre.

George puts a great deal of effort into organising the tournament, including the highlight - the raffle with a million prizes! Our sincere thanks to George for all his work on our behalf.

President's Report

Caladenia's staff and volunteers continue to provide amazing services, support and programs to people living with dementia. Recently I had the opportunity to join the extended Thursday evening group at the conclusion of their meal. It was intriguing to see the staff and volunteer interaction with the group and to hear how decisions were made on the program content for the next weekly meeting. Each participant was offered an opportunity to contribute to these decisions, some providing more input than others. In conversation with the Club member sitting opposite me at the table it became apparent that we had some common background, both of us had served two years National Service in the Army during the Vietnam era. I found it interesting to hear of his experiences as an Artillery gunner at Puckapunyal.

You will be pleased to know that our migration to a company structure was completed on December 16, 2009. This was the culmination of months of effort from members of the Board of Directors (previously known as Committee members).

In particular I want to recognize the contribution made by Hamish Russell (Deputy Chair) who coordinated the process with Lucy Hunter, representing the legal firm DLA Phillips Fox, who provided pro-bono services to Caladenia. Of course Caladenia, as you knew it, still maintains its vision and standards of care, caring and service for people living with dementia.

Our overnight respite centre project progresses with detailed building design almost complete and fund raising activities being developed. Please contact us if you are able to help us with experience or skills in any of these areas.

Thank you for your interest in Caladenia. We appreciate your support. Please contact me if you have any questions or suggestions for the Board of Directors (Bus. 9816 9377 or home on 9817 2580).

Harry Moyle
Chair

What would a respite centre mean to you?

If you are caring for a loved one with dementia, you understand the need for a local respite centre, where loved ones will be well cared for while you have a break for whatever reason. An interstate wedding, a trip overseas to see your family, a weekend away, that operation you have been putting off, or just a few days to yourself for a change. You may not be looking after anyone with dementia, but you may have friends or relatives who are. You know that it's a full time job and they do need to get a break.

It would be so nice to know that the management team who run Caladenia's fantastic day programs have a facility right here in Mooroolbark that you can turn to. Plans are in place, fine details being discussed and decided. This will be the only facility and service of its kind in the Shire of Yarra Ranges.

The need for dementia services is only going to increase with 141 new people being diagnosed with dementia daily. Dementia is one of the fastest growing sources of major disease, overtaking coronary heart disease.

Donations to the Respite Centre Appeal.

What is stopping us? I'm sure you guessed – it's those dollars that we need to raise. Our target is $1.5million. All donations of $2 and over are tax deductible.

Your donations so far have kicked off the Appeal and will make a difference. Please feel free to send us a donation now; any amount you can donate will be greatly appreciated. However we will be sending you a full information pack on the respite centre outlining all the "Special Opportunities for Giving" shortly. We will be inviting you to partner with us in this project. Without substantial donations this project will not happen. The Board will happily discuss naming rights with individual or corporate donors.

How you can help?

We are also inviting people to join our Fundraising Committee to help manage, plan and host fundraising events. Do you have any ideas or contacts you think could be of value to our Fundraising Committee please ring and let us know. Also do you know of any Community Groups who might host a fundraising event for us? All assistance and ideas are greatly appreciated.

Together we will build a safe, familiar respite centre which will be here to service generations to come.

Sarah Yeates - Manager

THOUGHT OF BECOMING A CALADENIA MEMBER

To celebrate our new name and status **Caladenia is not charging a membership fee until 30 June 2010.** All members receive newsletters to keep you up to date with the latest information from Caladenia.

Just send this section into Caladenia, PO Box 685 Lilydale 3140 and we'll do the rest.

Please send me information on joining Caladenia Dementia Care as a member.

Name: .....

Address: .....

Thanks to our volunteers – we couldn't exist without you

National Volunteer Week 10-16 May 2010

Acknowledgements

Thank you to Harry Moyle Pty Ltd, for great financial advice and a generous donation towards our respite centre. Thanks to Andrew Watson for donating the cost of Caladenia's registration of trademark. Thanks to Lucy Hunter, DLA Phillips Fox for pro bono work during our migration to company structure.

Our members have been lucky enough to have many groups to entertain them in the past few months, including Bellringers entertainment, the Red Apple Singers, Concert Players and the Inasmuch singers. The members and volunteers thoroughly enjoy these treats—and so do the staff!

For our Easter raffle we received donations of a beautiful basket full of goodies from the local Member for Evelyn, Ms Christine Fyffe, and bottles of wine from Andrew Watson. We thank them both—the raffle raised $113 and two very happy winners.

Our Christmas respite centre fundraising campaign raised over $11,000 and we thank all who donated.

A Volunteer Perspective - Peter

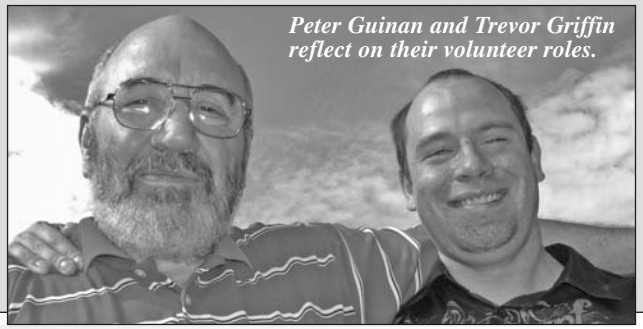
Peter volunteers each Thursday both in the program and on the bus. He calls Thursday his "Caladenia Day" and is always happy to help us out with extras when we ask.

I was born Peter Thomas Guinan 34 days before the outbreak of the 2nd world war. My eldest brother suggested that I was one of causes of the war. I was born in Liverpool England, which makes me a Scouse. My blood is red, which makes me a Liverpool FC supporter.

In 2002 I took early retirement. My Dad was old school. We were raised with the understanding you only get out of life what you put in. Do to others what you will have done to your self. In early 2003 I found myself volunteering for work at Eastern Volunteers in Ringwood. It was suggested I try Caladenia, which is 10 minutes walk from our house. I had fallen on my feet. Caladenia and I were made for each other.

I have been asked what do I get out of Caladenia. It is a sense of belonging to a special place and returning some of the good things that have happen to my family and I. My advice to outsiders is get involved with older people it will make you feel younger and improve your life.

What makes Caladenia so special? The Caring and wonderful Staff.



Peter Guinan and Trevor Griffin reflect on their volunteer roles.

A Volunteer Perspective - Trevor

Trevor volunteers in the program on Tuesdays, Thursdays (both day and evening programs) and is our bus jockey on Tuesday afternoons and Fridays and makes himself available to fill if necessary.

Trevor was born at the Lilydale Bush Nursing Hospital in 1979.

He went to school at Dorset Primary School and Heatherwood School in Donvale.

After leaving school, Trevor worked at Lighthouse Beads in Mooroolbark and for a time did light assembly work in Scoresby.

Trevor was inspired to volunteer with us by his Grandmother, who attended Caladenia, and Trevor felt that he could make a contribution. How right he was!.

After trying us out, Trevor said that he decided to stay because he likes the Members, enjoys socialising with them and was made to feel very welcome.

Trevor says that working at Caladenia makes him feel good, knowing he is helping people and contributing to their enjoyment of the day. Trevor enjoys being a bus jockey, assisting the Members on and off the bus.

Trevor likes to tell people that at Caladenia the members are well looked after and that he feels it is a happy place to work.

Trevor would like to thank everyone for the opportunity to volunteer at Caladenia and believes it is the best thing he has done.

We would like to say how much we value and appreciate Trevor's contribution and that we are very fortunate to have him here as part of the Caladenia team.

Yes, I would like to make a gift of: ☐ $50 ☐ $75 ☐ $150 ☐ Other $ .....

Enclosed is my cheque / money order payable to **Caladenia Dementia Care**
All donations over $2.00 are tax deductible (DGR 900 237 377)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

_____

POSTCODE _____ TELEPHONE _____

For more information please telephone 9727 2222. Please return to:
CALADENIA DEMENTIA CARE., PO BOX 685, LILYDALE VIC. 3140

PRIVACY
Caladenia Dementia Care recognises the importance of your privacy and the safeguarding of your personal information. If you wish to change your mailing address or discuss privacy issues please call 9727 2222.

I am interested in the following:

- ☐ Receiving Bequest Information
- ☐ Becoming a financial member
- ☐ Receiving an Annual Report
- ☐ Becoming a volunteer
- ☐ Receiving a Caladenia Information Kit
- ☐ Sponsoring an issue of the newsletter