



'OUT & ABOUT WITH ABILITY'

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3 December International Day of Persons with Disabilities

10 December Human Rights Day



3 December a free BBQ at PWD ACT

**To Celebrate the International Day of Persons
with Disabilities**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR NOVEMBER

During the past month PWD Act's main focus has been the December 10th Launch of the Employment Project Report. Our major coup has been securing the Parliamentary Secretary for Disabilities, Bill Shorten, to launch our report. He was the top of our list of choices for this task as we felt his high profile could give our report greater coverage in the community. The venue, the ACT Legislative Assembly, has been booked and I will be speaking to some caterers in the next week or two to organise a deal with them. Entertainment is also being organised this week.

The first draft of the report has been corrected by Margo, Sue and Kylie and will be returned to the printers shortly for corrections to be made and another draft produced for approval. The final report will be printed a week before the launch.

The board simply has to approve the guest list for the launch and the recipient list for the report and approve a budget. I hope all of the board will be able to attend the launch of our major project.

Another event we are in the process of planning is for International Day of Disability on December 3. Maida has had the idea of hosting a free sausage sizzle lunch instead of a morning tea. We can use the area outside our building and invite all members and organisations from the centre to join us to celebrate I Day. It shouldn't cost any more to put on than a morning tea would. We are planning to invite a prominent person with a disability to speak to our gathering.

I attended a meeting of the ACT Disability Advisory Council on Tuesday 27 October at 11 Moore Street in Civic. The ACT DAC Chair, Trevor Robinson, invited PWD ACT because they wanted to create an opportunity for different disability community groups to meet and interact.

Justin Le Couteur
President



PWD ACT'S WORK WITH WATS CONSORTIUM

People With Disabilities ACT is pleased to work closely with the Wheelchair Accessible Taxi Service (WATS) Consortium to develop the taxi issues that impact on people with disabilities.

Our Board Vice President Ian Trehwella PWD ACT'S representative on the Taxi Industry Review Reference Group.

The ACT Government has decided to undertake a comprehensive review of the operation, regulation and licensing of ACT taxi services.

A review is considered to be necessary due to the number of complaints that are regularly received about poor taxi service levels and performance and comments from some operators in the taxi industry that they are struggling to operate viably. Some sectors of the industry have also been critical of the current regulatory arrangements and have argued for a revised model to improve service standards.

On 4 August 2009 the Government issued draft terms of reference for the ACT Taxi Industry Review and sought comments from interested members of the community. The period for public comment on the draft terms of reference closed on 21 August 2009. The draft terms of reference document for the Review and Reference Group is provided at http://www.tams.act.gov.au/move/public_transport/taxi_industry_review TAMS is establishing a Reference Group to oversee the Review and in order to ensure the views of key stakeholders are considered. Known as the Taxi Industry Review Reference Group it will be established with membership comprising a representative from each of the various stakeholder interest groups. The Reference Group will provide input into the development of a draft Issues Paper which will be released for formal public discussion and submissions in due course.

At this stage it is expected that the Reference group will initially meet in early December.

Should you require any further information Mr. Wayne Daly may be contacted on telephone 6207 6931 or via email at wayne.daly@act.gov.au



AVIATION ACCESS WORKING GROUP (AAWG)

The Hon Anthony Albanese MP, Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government and the Hon Bill Shorten MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Disabilities and Children's Services, have together established the Aviation Access Working Group (AAWG) to provide advice to government on disability access policy, the relevant legislative framework and practical measures that can be taken to improve the access to air services for people with a disability.

REPORT MEETING 5 November 2009.

1. Information Guidance.

The CASA representative offered to publish information about guidance for disability solutions in aviation publication (CAP). Information about Braille and deafness communications will be provided to CASA. Other disability groups can also provide information to airline representatives.

2. Rex Airlines Presentation

Due to the configuration of the SAAB aircraft used by REX airlines it is necessary to provide 48 hours notice to travel if you have a mobility aid. The number of mobility aids will not be limited on each aircraft but only 2 assistance animals will be allowed. The weight of the mobility aid is important because the loader for the luggage can only lift 140 kgs. If there is enough notification negotiation can occur about travel for heavier mobility aids.

A medical certificate will be needed by people with temporary disability. Companion Card holders will be able to access the cheapest fare available for the carer. Passenger facilitators will be allowed on aircraft to assist with loading and unloading passengers.

3. Aviation Security.

Designated drop off points for people with disabilities are restricted by airport security and may change in the event of security events.

Adelaide airport has produced a pamphlet about Special Assistance Information and "airport ambassadors are available to assist people with disabilities from their car park

through the AAL Terminal if Supervisor (phone 8308 9262) is contacted before the day of travel”.



THE RADIO READING SERVICE FOR CANBERRA AND WAGGA WAGGA



Radio 1RPH now extended to Wagga on 89.5 FM

The broadcasting licence has been extended to cover the Wagga Wagga region.

Radio 1RPH began broadcasting to Wagga on Saturday afternoon May 9, 2009. The official launch of the station took place on May 21st at the CWA rooms, Wagga Wagga.

This licence is an extension to our existing licence and so it is necessary for the programmes to originate from Canberra. However, now that the station has been put into operation, we hope to add newspapers and other information from the Wagga area to our existing newspaper readings. We welcome any suggestions from our Wagga listeners.

Our transmitter is situated at the northern end of Willan's Hill, Wagga Wagga. Radio 1RPH shares transmission facilities on Willan's Hill with the Wagga community radio station 2AAA-FM.

HISTORY OF THE PROJECT

It was Bob Hargreaves who initiated the Wagga project about 10 years ago when he negotiated with the then ABA (Australian Broadcasting Authority) to extend our licence to Wagga. Bob moved away from Canberra before the licence was granted and the baton was passed to the then Manager John Coleman, President Jean Bennett and technical staff Don Hunt and Malcolm Walker.

We hired ARFC Pty Ltd as technical consultant. ARFC purchased the necessary equipment and proposed arrangements with other users of the tower on Willan's Hill and 2AAA-FM to share facilities. After the technical and logistic issues were solved a legal problem concerning the use of the site emerged and this required much work by Robert Altamore to resolve.

People With Disabilities ACT

Invites you to a

FREE BBQ



*To Celebrate the International Day of Persons
with Disabilities*

Date: **Thursday 3 December 2009**

Time: **12 – 2pm**

Place: **At the BBQ area**

Outside at the end of Building 1
Collet Place
Pearce Community Centre

RSVP: by Monday 30 November, Phone: 6286 4223

or email: pwdact@shout.org.au

ACTION BUSES EVERY 15 MINUTES

The ACT Government's trial of a new, high frequency weekday bus service, REDEX, commences Monday 16 November.

REDEX buses run every 15 minutes from 7am and 7pm between the Gungahlin Market Place and Canberra Railway Station in Kingston, via Mitchell, Northbourne Avenue, the City, Russell and Barton.

All REDEX buses are low-emission, wheelchair accessible and provide bike racks and on-bus information screens.

Travel on REDEX buses is free for the first week between 9am and 4.30pm to encourage commuters to use the service in off-peak periods.

A bus timetable and guide to specially marked REDEX stops is available from the ACTION website at www.action.act.gov.au or by calling 13 17 10.

REDEX will be trialed until 30 June 2010 - including the school holidays, but not the Christmas and New Year period.

Authorised by Liz Clarke, Business Manager, ACTION, Department of Territory and Municipal Services

ACT HUMAN RIGHT COMMISSION'S
HUMAN RIGHTS FORUM

“FULFILLING RIGHTS AND ACCESSING JUSTICE”

Where: Legislative Assembly
When: 10 December 2009

Five years on, the impact of the Human Rights Act on the ability for all members of our community to access justice and fulfill their rights

Speakers include:

The Government's view—Simon Corbell MLA, Attorney General

A judicial view—Justice Richard Refshauge, ACT Supreme Court

The profession's view—Anna Haynes, pro bono coordinator, Clayton Utz

Issues for Disadvantaged Canberrans—Amy Kilpatrick, Homeless Persons' Legal Service, Welfare Rights & Legal Centre

Issues for Indigenous Canberrans—John Roe, Aboriginal Justice Centre

RSVP by 3 December

MAKING A COMPLAINT TO THE ACT HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

Your Complaint must be submitted in writing in order for the Commissioner to act on it. It is not essential that you use the complaint form, but it is recommended, the form will help you to provide the information they need. Or, you can visit the Human Rights and Discrimination section of the website, and click on 'How to Make a Complaint'

www.hrc.act.gov.au

human.rights@act.gov.au

Postal Address: GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601

**WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE TAXIS COMPLAINT LINE,
THROUGH CANBERRA CONNECT
PHONE: 13 22 81**

To make a complaint, please phone Canberra Connect on 13 22 81 (you can also use TTY 6207 0494 or the National Relay Service 133 677, or the Translating Interpreter Service 13 14 50). The Canberra Connect operators now have a WATs complaint form and will collect relevant information from you. Canberra Connect will put together all the statistics and will make a monthly report to Kerry Bell, the Manager of Public Transport Regulation at TAMS.

They will also give you the direct complaints numbers for each Taxi network so you can also make your complaint direct to the taxi service if you wish to do this as well. Don't JUST do this, or the statistics will not get back to TAMS.

TAMS has begun to impose fines where appropriate as well

PAT ON THE BACK

Hamish McDonald, a Senior Sport Consultant for the Australian Sports Commission and one of Australia's greatest and most respected Paralympians. Hamish is a member of the Australian National Paralympic team and is currently the World Champion in seated shot put. He has competed in every summer Paralympic games since 1992, holds two gold medals and was named the 2003 Male Athlete with a Disability of the Year after breaking his own World Record in at the 2002 World Championships. Hamish went on to retain his World Title at the 2006 IPC World Athletics Championships in Holland.

As well as being an exceptional sportsman, Hamish is also an exceptional person. He works at a local, national and international level to educate others, raise awareness, and dispel common myths regarding people with a disability.

Hamish is currently a member of the International Paralympic Committee Athlete Commission. He has also been involved with the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) since 1998, travelling to two refugee camps on the Thai/Cambodian border. Hamish also represented the World Anti-Doping Authority (WADA) at the 2003 South Pacific Games as an athlete ambassador to help raise awareness of drugs in sport.

Hamish recently travelled to several islands in the Caribbean and South Pacific to implement sports programs for athletes with disabilities. A legend both on and off the track, Hamish McDonald is a true inspiration to us all.

The above article is taken from: BLITS E-Newsletter October 2009

PWD ACT ACTIVITIES OVER THE PAST MONTH

- 10/11 PWD ACT Board meeting

- All through November PWD ACT have organised 3/12 I Day BBQ
- All through November PWD ACT have organised 10/12 Launch of “ Making Diversity Work’ A study of employment of people with disabilities in the ACT Public Service

GETTING INTO THE ARTS

THE RADIANCE DANCE PROJECT 2009

Present their upcoming performances on **Wednesday 2nd December** at 11.30am & **Saturday 5th December at 2pm at The Belconnen Theatre.**

These performances are **free**, accessible and no bookings are required.

The Radiance Dance Project is a 40 week inclusive community arts project open to women with and without disabilities in the ACT region using the mediums of creative dance and movement theatre and culminating in two public performances. It is an annual one off project offered each year since 2005 by independent community arts worker Morgan Jai-Morincome with co-facilitator Min Mae and funded in 2009 through ArtsACT.

For more information contact Morgan Jai-Morincome

Tel: (02) 62951601 Mob: 0400455965

E: morganjaimorincome@gmail.com

Web: www.expressivearts.com.au

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

Something for everyone!

WALK AGAINST WANT ON THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY

When: *Thursday December 3*

From 9:30 am

After the walk join us for a community picnic lunch on the Eucalypt lawns

Where: *National Botanic Gardens*

Get involved!

1. Come on the day, enjoy a walk through the Gardens, and join us for a community picnic on the Eucalypt lawns
2. Get a team of walkers together from your school, organisation or workplace and join us!
3. Promote the Walk against Want in your group newsletter and website
4. Contact Jeff Thompson - jthompson@lead.asn.au – for more information or to volunteer to help us out on the day
5. Please join us on the day to Walk against Want and enjoy taking steps against poverty!

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY AT THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF AUSTRALIA

Friday 4 December all day from 3.00 pm

In recognition of International Day for People with a Disability, the National Gallery is offering free entry to Masterpieces from Paris for people with a disability and their carers. Please register at the front desk on the day.

For information on access please call (02) 6240 6519 | Exhibition Gallery

Sunday 12 December 5.30 pm

Free Special Auslan sign-interpreted tour introducing the Masterpieces from Paris exhibition.

Bookings essential (02) 6240 6519 | Exhibition Galleries, (meet in Gallery foyer)

ACT COMMUNITY ARTS OFFICE AND ACT HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION INVITE YOU TO THE OPENING OF ARTIST/PROOF

A dynamic visual arts exhibition celebrating **International Day of People with Disability** exploring concepts of identity, accessibility, connection, wellbeing and acceptance

Artists: Cranleigh School, Black Mountain School, Paperworks, Dagmara Anders, Paul Bilton, Giselle Burningham, Keith Carfrae, Judith Ann Daniells, Diana Davidson, Dr Possum, Jenni Heckendorf, Rebecca Hill, Pauline Mager, Mitchearte, Ralph Nelson, Keith Reece, Vijaya Sen, Jenny Snell, and touring artist Harrison Saragossi (QLD).

Exhibition to be opened by: ACT Greens MLA Amanda Bresnan and Disability and Community Services Commissioner Mary Durkin

An evening of entertainment with; drumUp, Heart and Soul Singers, Monkey Drum, dance artist Katie Senior and the Dream Angels, and musician TJ James. Also launching **Through a Different Lens** 2010 community film making project with National Film and Sound Archive guest speaker - register to tell your story through a different lens!

5.30 - 7.30 pm Friday 4 December 2009

RSVP 02 6173 3300

info@belconnenartscentre.com.au

Exhibition is open from 3 December, continuing until 20 December 2009

Paper marbling workshops: 9am 12pm, Sun 6, Tues 8 and Sun 13 December (bookings advised)

Meet the Artists: 1pm Saturday 12 December

Gallery Hours: 10.00am 6.00pm Tuesday - Sunday

Supported by the ACT Government, ACT Community Arts Office, ACT Human Rights Commission, Disability ACT, FAHCSIA and the Belconnen Arts Centre



ELECTRIC WHEELCHAIR SPORTS

REGULAR FIXTURES

Wheelers meet fortnightly on Saturday mornings during school terms to play soccer, rugby and hockey.

Everyone who uses an electric wheelchair is welcome to come along and play.

Regular fixtures are fun for everyone:

They provide beginners with a wonderful opportunity to learn the skills and rules of the games and give seasoned players an opportunity to hone their skills. Experienced players help younger players to develop. Come and join in the fun

When: Fortnightly on Saturday mornings -during school term

Time: 10.30 am - 12.00

Where: Lake Ginninderra College Gymnasium

For more details about the ACT Wheelers please contact any of the following:

Coach - Terry Gallagher

Mobile: 0417 218 654

**PWD ACT Memberships are still FREE for people with disabilities!
Please contact us if you would like to be a member.**

FREE PWD ACT MEMBERSHIP DEFINITION OF DISABILITY

PWD ACT uses the Disability Discrimination Act definition of disability, this broad definition includes:

- Physical
- Intellectual
- Psychiatric
- Sensory
- Neurological, and
- Learning disabilities, as well as
- Physical disfigurement, and
- The presence in the body of disease-causing organisms.

This covers a disability which people:

- Have now,
- Had in the past (for example: a past episode of mental illness),

- May have in the future (eg: a family history of a disability which a person may also develop).

USEFUL WEB LINKS

www.dhcs.act.gov.au/disability_act/serviceswww.concessions.act.gov.au/

www.communitiesonline.org.au/index.php

www.accesscity.org.au

www.canaccess.org.au

Ausport.gov.au/disability

www.specialolympicsact.org.au/

www.actwheelers.org.au

www.mpowerdome.com.au

Please support the organisational members who support PWD ACT

PWD ACT'S Latest Organisational Members

**Woden Community Service
Inc**

26 Corinna Street, Woden ACT

Visit: <http://www.wcs.org.au/>

Ph: 02 6234 6820

ORGANISATIONAL MEMBERS

Organisational Name	Address	Email Address	Phone:
ACT Deafness Resource Centre	PO Box 3239 Weston ACT 2611	actdrc@iimetro.com.au	6287 4395
ACT TPI	PO Box 5792 Turner ACT 2606	secretary@acttpi.org	6286 3593 / 6291 9185
ACT Down Syndrome Ass. Inc	PO Box 717 Mawson ACT 2607	admindsa@actdsa.asn.au	6290 0656
Advocacy for Inclusion	PO Box 3653 Weston Creek ACT 2611	info@advocacyfoinclusion.org	6286 9422
Belconnen Community Service	26 Chandler St Belconnen ACT 2617	Karen.etheredge@bcsact.com.au	62640200
Brocklebank's Woodcraft	8 Fitzherbert Pl Bruce ACT 2617	hugh_brocklebank@hotmail.com	6251 6369
CHC Affordable Housing	PO Box 6239 O'Connor ACT 2602	chc@chcaffordablehousing.com.au	6248 7716
Community Events Calendar	communityeventscalender.com.au	communityeventsteam@communityeventscalender.com.au	62558287
Nationsheart Christian Community	Crn Maclaurin & Eggleston Cres Chifley ACT 2606	.nationsheartc@onnect.org.au	62531672
Nican	PO Box 110 Mitchell ACT 2911	info@nican.com.au	6241 1220
Om Physic	8 Yabtree Pl, Isabella Plains ACT 2905	info@omphysic.com.au	6248 7716
RSI & Overuse Injury Association of the ACT	Griffin Centre, 20 Genge St, Canberra ACT 2601	rsi@cyberone.com.au	6262 5011
Sharing Places INC	PO Box 704 Mawson ACT 2607	admin@sharingplaces.com.au	6290 1964
Stroke Association of ACT	PO Box 220 Deakin West ACT 2600		6269 2636
Tandem	PO Box 3501 Weston Creek ACT 2611	admin@tandem.org.au	6287 2870
YMCA Canberra	Crn Maclaurin & Eggleston Cres Chifley ACT 2606	brett.bowden@ymca.org.au	6281 0124

Arthritis ACT

PO Box 4017 Weston Creek ACT
2611

info@arthritisact.org.au

6288 4244

PWD ACT CONTACT DETAILS

POSTAL ADDRESS

PO Box 717
Mawson ACT 2607

OFFICE LOCATION

SHOUT
Building 1
Pearce Community Centre
Collett Place
Pearce

Phone: 02 6286 4223

Fax: 02 6286 4223

Email: pwdact@shout.org.au

Website: www.pwdact.org.au

“For people with disabilities,



by people with disabilities.”

PWD ACT NEWSLETTER

PWD ACT’s newsletter is an easily read, compact and timely way of keeping members and supporters informed about our advocacy work, issues and coming events. We strongly encourage people with disabilities to send feedback on systemic advocacy issues directly to us on the above contacts. Please send us an email if you would like to receive your PWD ACT newsletter ‘Out & About With Ability’ electronically, as this will save our environment. This newsletter is provided with the assistance of the ACT Government through Disability ACT.



dhcs | ACT

department of
disability, housing &
community services