

FRIENDS OF ABLE

How your support makes a difference to people with disability

Autumn 2023



ABLE ART

In December, we were thrilled to hold our Able Art exhibition in-person for the first time in three years. Able Art showcases and celebrates the art our clients create.

The official opening was a fantastic success with many of the artists attending from our day services and deafblind services.

We commenced the official opening with a Q&A panel session with two of our clients Alex and Joe, joined by Dr Meredith Prain, Head of the Centre of Excellence – Deafblind, and Creative Arts Therapist, Claire Fraser. Helena Hatzithanssiou, our new Creative Arts Therapist, held a movement exercise with everyone in the audience as they enjoyed ‘Dancing Queen’ by ABBA.

Thank you to our artists for sharing their talents and creativity!

This event would not be possible without the generosity of our community partner Herbert Smith Freehills.

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Placeholder Barcode

TOGETHER WE ARE ABLE

ADVENTURING WITH ABLE



Able's Young Adult Program clients in Tasmania loved their scenic Cataract Gorge Adventure Cruise along the Gorge and Tamar River. They learned about historical landmarks. A highlight

was when the captain provided our clients with the opportunity to have a go at steering the boat!

After the cruise, clients enjoyed a picnic lunch at the



Royal Park, whilst taking in the view of the water and sun.

This adventure was made possible through the Brian M Davis Grant.

CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE - DEAFBLIND

Our Centre of Excellence - Deafblind undertakes research, partnering with universities and people with deafblindness, to look at best practice in working with people who are both deaf and blind, including the use of tactile communication – as seen in this photo.

There is currently a lack of training in deafblindness for

professionals in Australia. Our Centre of Excellence – Deafblind coordinates a national deafblind training working group to address this lack of training. We recently developed a Deafblind Resources course for staff in the health, education, disability and aged care sectors, with generous in-kind support from NextSense.



CELEBRATING 10 YEARS



We celebrate the 10-year anniversary of when Ipswich Community Aid became a part of Able Australia.

Ipswich Community Aid started by helping the community to rebuild after regional flooding, and eventually grew to support vulnerable members of the community.

We are incredibly proud of Able's Queensland team, who have grown our transport services from six to 500 trips per week. We have also developed a partnership with Tunstall Healthcare to deliver personal safety alarms to seniors and people living with disability in the community.

JOHN AND GREG'S PHILLIP ISLAND HOLIDAY

Our Victorian clients John and Greg recently enjoyed a fun-filled holiday to Phillip Island with the support of their Able disability support workers.

They enjoyed going to Panny's Chocolate Factory, the beach, shopping, feeding the animals and visiting the Antarctic Journey at the Nobbies Ocean Discovery Centre.



POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT IS GROWING



Able now has two new Positive Behaviour Support (PBS) Practitioners in Queensland, Regina and Nicky.

Our PBS practitioners help to uncover the reason a client with disability is placing themselves or others at risk of harm or behaving in ways which are unhelpful. Our practitioners provide strategies, e.g. alternative

patterns of engagement, for the client and their support workers.

Regina and Nicky will be working out of our Ipswich office and will be supporting clients to improve their quality of life. Regina and Nicky will help us to grow our PBS services and bring new experience and expertise to help create better days, every day with and for our clients.

THANK YOU FOR SHARING CHRISTMAS JOY



With the generous support of donors like you, we purchased Christmas gifts to bring joy to our clients. Clients loved



their end of year party, filled with music, presents, a BBQ, snacks and even a visit from Santa!

Thank you for making the festive season extra special and bringing so many smiles to our clients' faces.

JOIN ABLE:COMMUNITY



Join **Able:Community** to empower and enable people living with disability in Australia to achieve their life goals.

Each month, your investment will drive initiatives including:

- Giving young people a memorable experience like horse riding, art or swimming lessons.
- Supplying deafblind people with the assistive technology they need for communication and everyday activities.

- Supporting Able's Centre of Excellence – Deafblind in training, advocacy and deafblind research for all ages.

Giving monthly helps Able Australia plan future programs, offers you behind the scenes exclusive updates and gives continued support to people with disability.

Scan the QR code for more information:



A GIFT THAT WILL LAST A LIFETIME

Many people like you, who passionately support Able Australia, consider providing a donation or leaving a gift in their Will that funds many of our life-transforming projects.

Leaving a gift to Able Australia in your Will is a very special way of giving a gift that keeps giving. A gift in

your Will – no matter how big or small – ensures that Able Australia will continue to support and empower people living with complex disabilities.

For Bequest information, please contact us at 1300 220 602 or email fundraising@ableaustralia.org.au.



A SPECIAL THANK YOU

Much of our work is funded through generous donations. If you would like to donate, and share happiness with people living with disability, please use this QR code



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