

The New Link

St George Association

For People with Physical Disabilities Incorporated

"Capabilities Conquer Disabilities"

Vol. 68 No.46

June 2009

Future Programmes

May 30	Sat	2.00 pm	Alpaca Farm/ afternoon tea	Tennyson
June 06	Sat	10:30 am	Book Club	Belgreen
June 06	Sat	2:00 pm	Wendy Cornish	Belgreen
June 10	Wed	10:30 am	Wednesday Group	Belgreen
June 16	Tues	7:00 pm	Management Committee	Belgreen
June 27	Sat	10:30 am	Embroidery Group	Belgreen
June 27	Sat	2.30 pm	Annual General Meeting	Belgreen
July 04	Sat	10:30 am	Book Club	Belgreen
July 04	Sat	1.00 pm	Soup Lunch	Belgreen
July 08	Wed	10:30 am	Wednesday Group	Belgreen
July 21	Tues	7:00 pm	Management Committee	Belgreen

Membership Renewals

As reported last month membership renewals are rolling in, along with donations and messages, for which we thank you.

If you have not renewed your membership as yet, please forward payment to our Treasurer, Jenny Chin, 2 Salerwong Place, Ryde NSW 2112. We look forward to hearing from you.

Fees:

Full and Associate Membership for those not fully employed	\$7.00
Full and Associate Membership for those fully employed	\$14.00

The following item was included in the April Issue of **PWD's E-Bulletin**.

"Victoria leads with Build for Life initiative. Victorian Planning Minister, Hon. Justin Madden and Minister for Community Services and Senior Victorians, Hon. Lisa Neville, have announced a *Build for Life* awareness campaign, which includes a Government commitment to assessing the impact of requiring a number of low-cost, or no-cost design features for private housing development.

These design features include step-free entry, wider doorways and hallways and a bathroom on the ground floor which could be fitted with access features in the future. These reforms aim to provide practical and accessible housing for all Victorians over the course of their lifetime.

A regulatory impact statement in relation to these proposed changes will be released for public comment later in 2009. More information about *Build for Life* is available at www.buildforlife.com.au.”

Sounds like a good initiative and it will be interesting to see the results of the public comment later in the year.

Also included in their Bulletin – “PWD wins tender to operate Hotline/CRRS Services. PWD is pleased to be able to inform members and colleagues that it has been successful in its tender to operate the National Disability Abuse and Neglect Hotline (Hotline) and the Complaint Resolution and Referral Service (CRRS) on behalf of the Commonwealth Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs for a further 2 year period after the current contract period completes on 30th June 2009.

The Hotline provides an Australia-wide telephone hotline for reporting allegations of abuse and neglect of persons with disability who use government funded services. These allegations are referred to an appropriate authority for investigation.

The CRRS is an independent complaint resolution service for persons with disability who use Commonwealth funded disability employment and advocacy services.

PWD has been operating these services on behalf of the Commonwealth since their establishment in October 2001 and July 2002 respectively. Under its new contract with the Commonwealth, PWD will continue to operate these services until 30th June 2011. The Hotline and CRRS operate independently of PWD’s other services.

You can contact the Hotline and CRRS on Free-call 1800 880 052, or for TTY 1800 301 130 between 8.00 am and 8.00 pm, seven days a week, no matter where you live in Australia.”

PDCN in their recent publication LIVE! reported of their community consultations recently held in Lismore, Orange and Wagga Wagga, where they gained great feedback on the needs of people with a physical disability in these regions. Some of the issues covered were Transport, lack of Services, the Built Environment/Housing, Health and Wellbeing.

As you can imagine whilst we may have problems in the city, rural areas certainly face difficulties in gaining services, or having access to services, lack of transport, inadequate Respite options, lack of accommodation options. Such consultations provide valuable data, which can be used and hopefully help achieve necessary changes.

PDCN is also interested in feedback about GP Examination Tables (which I have mentioned before) I am sure most members would have experienced difficulties in accessing Doctors’ examination tables – so your thoughts are valuable. The other items is “How wheelable is your community?” by the Ministerial Advisory Committee on Ageing (MACA). Both surveys are accessible on their website www.pdcnsw.org.au – or if you do not have access to a computer, you could send comments to PDCN 3/184 Glebe Point Road, Glebe NSW 2037. I encourage you to respond.

Patricia Byrne

Future Programmes

Saturday May 30 2.00 p.m.

**Tanglin Lodge Alpacas & Afternoon Tea
128 Tennyson Road, Tennyson**

www.tanglinlodgealpaca.com.au
tlodgealpaca@optusnet.com.au

As mentioned last month this is a farm where Cheryl and Geoff Uren are breeding alpacas.

The venue is accessible and parking is available.

Devonshire tea will be served and the cost including entry fee is \$9.00 per person. From all reports it is well worth a visit. The booking requires a minimum number of 15 people so we do hope you will be able to come.

Please ring **Patricia Byrne on 9150 5512** so you can be included on the list

Directions: Travelling from Sydney two options to find the farm.

1. Go by Bells Line of Road and turn right at Kurmond Road - refer UBD Map 48 and Map 64 shows left turn to Tennyson Rd (a short drive on Right) OR

2. Via Windsor Rd - refer Map 86 - go over Hawkesbury River Bridge, now halfway round the right hand curve go left into Freemans Reach Road - follow the Map 66 - Right at Gorricks Lane and then sweep left into

Kurmond Rd, go past Spinks Rd and Meadows Rd - Map 48 - then right at Tennyson Rd. The lodge should be along on the right - Map 64 and 48.

If you have any need to ring Tanglin Lodge the telephone number is Ph: 02-4756 6929.

Book Club

**Saturday, June 6 – July 4 10:30am
Belgreen 40-42 Chalmers St, Belmore**

Members attending the Book Club continue to enjoy their discussions and sharing their love of reading. Some reviews follow, which we trust you will find of interest.

“Never Say Die” by Chris O’Brien. Harper Collins (2008). I had a particular interest in this book – Professor O’Brien having performed surgery on my late Dad.

This is an autobiography of Chris’ life and his subsequent rise to fame as a world-renowned head and neck surgeon and his regular appearances on the TV series “RPA”.

A warm and at times amusing account of his modest upbringing in Regents Park, his years as a doctor, his devotion to his wife and family, his dedication to the treatment of head and neck cancer and his involvement in “RPA”. But primarily, it is his journey as a patient diagnosed with a malignant brain tumour in 2006 at age 54, and his “never say die” attitude to this life-changing episode in his life. An interesting and informative read.

Janet Malone

“Salvation Creek – An Unexpected Life” by Susan Duncan – Bantam (2006)

This autobiography received well deserved acclaim upon its release in 2006. The story of an Australian journalist, who travelled the world covering stories from New York to Greenland, and interviewing the famous. Thus Susan enjoyed a busy and exciting lifestyle.

At age 44 Susan’s husband and brother died within 3 days of each other. Heart breaking, funny and very honest, she writes of her battle to cope with grief, her search to find a house “just for herself” and finally finding that home only to find she has breast cancer. It tells of the trials and tribulations of buying a house at Lovett’s Bay on Pittwater and her battle with cancer. The subsequent life and love she finds in this tiny community accessible only by water, is delightful, amusing and fascinating.

A wonderful read – highly recommended.

Janet Malone

“Lady Spy, Gentleman Explorer: The Life of Herbert Dyce Murphy” by Heather Rossitor (2001) Random House Australia. Claims to tell “the most extraordinary Australian you’ve never heard of” and it certainly does. The author is related to H.D. Murphy and had access to family stories and documents. Whilst the story is biased, it is also true, giving us an insight into a man born to privilege, yet forged his own way in the world. It is very enjoyable and gives fresh perspectives to our history. **Maura Outterside**

“Street Lawyer” by John Grisham. Never having read a book by this author but having heard many enthusiastic reports of his writings, I was personally disappointed. The story of a high flying lawyer with a big income and a good lifestyle, who becomes a lawyer who works for a small community organisation, is quite interesting. The change in career brought, of course, a change in lifestyle.

As I said, the story was quite interesting, but did not really hold my interest for the duration of this book. *Anne Buchanan*

Contact can generally be made with the co-ordinator of the Group, *Maura Outterside* please ring **9718 5803**. However, Maura will be away for the June meeting – any enquiries could be directed to *Janet Malone 9787 1042*.

**Social Meeting following the Book Club –
Saturday, June 6 2:00pm
Belgreen 40-42 Chalmers St, Belmore**

The guest speaker from our June meeting should be most interesting. **Wendy Cornish** (one of our newer members, and a member of the Lions Club of Oatley) has kindly agreed tell of her years in the newspaper industry. “Printers Ink Is In My Veins” – do hope you can come along. You are most welcome to bring a friend – afternoon tea will follow the presentation.

**Wednesday Group June 10 – July 8
10.30 am – 2:00 pm
Belgreen 40-42 Chalmers St, Belmore**

The Wednesday Group will be gathering on these dates and enquiries can be directed to Daphne Berger (Co-ordinator) **9718 3678**. Bring your lunch - tea/coffee available at Belgreen.

I’m told the collection of knitted square is growing. Well done to all those busy hands. However, don’t think you have to knit squares to attend! An invitation is always offered if you would like to come along.

**Tuesday June 16 – July 21 7.00 pm
Management Committee Meeting
Belgreen 40-42 Chalmers St, Belmore**

**Saturday June 27 – July 25
10.30 am – 3.00 pm Embroidery Group
Belgreen 40-42 Chalmers St, Belmore**

Unfortunately, the April Embroidery Group was cancelled due to a number of members being unable to attend. However, things are back in action again and there is room for others if you are interested.

Coralie Lewin (our Co-ordinator) is able to provide some great assistance and advice. It really is very rewarding to have the opportunity of learning new skills, or sharing your skills with others. If you would just like to pay a visit you are welcome.

Bring your lunch – tea/coffee available at Belgreen.

**Annual General Meeting
Saturday, June 27 2:30pm
Belgreen 40-42 Chalmers St, Belmore**

This is an important event on the Association’s calendar and you are urged to attend and take part in the election of the Management Committee for the coming year. As you know it is necessary to have a quorum for such meetings, so your presence is important. Afternoon tea will follow.

**Social Meeting following the Book Club –
Saturday, July 4 1:00pm
Belgreen 40-42 Chalmers St, Belmore**

Due to its previous popularity, it is planned to have a **Soup Lunch** again, so there won’t be a guest speaker on this day. A bowl of soup can be very enjoyable on a winter’s day.

If you are attending please let us know as this will help with catering. *Ring Patricia Byrne 9150 5512* – thank you.

Program Report

Colin Beacroft and his wife Deidre attended the May meeting and gave a short talk about the building of the Sydney Harbour Bridge. He also had a most interesting DVD to show, which had some wonderful old footage of this amazing task of building the bridge.

You could not help but marvel at the work carried out by those involved.

Welcome

The Association welcomes another new Associate Member – **Robyn Wall**, and we trust you will enjoy your involvement with the Association, Robyn.

Fund Raising

It is pleasing to report that the recent stall held at Miranda Congregational Church was very successful raising \$660.00 for the Association.

Betty Alwin was in attendance and reports what a great job was done on the day by Yvonne Williams, Margaret Lee and Kerri Robbins. We offer our thanks to them and their helpers for the contribution they continue to make too the Association. Also “thank you” to Margaret’s husband Brian for his

efforts on the day in setting up and packing up, which as you can imagine is quite a job.

Spinning Wheel

The Association has been offered a spinning wheel (at no cost) and we are wondering if there is any member, who would like to have this item. If you are interested please give me a call and we can talk about getting it to you. **Patricia Byrne 9150 5512**

Personal Pats

Unfortunately a few members have been experiencing help problems and our best wishes go to them. Please keep them in your thoughts.

Jack Nolan, Maria Long, Rod Kearns, and Albert Lewin.

Enjoy the simple things!

Management Committee 2008 – 2009

All Correspondence: Hon Secretary 6a Oatley St., KINGSGROVE NSW 2208

All Financial matters to: Hon Treasurer 2 Salerwong Place, RYDE NSW 2112

President	Janet Malone	02 9787-1042
Hon Secretary/Editor	Patricia Byrne	02 9150 -5512
Hon Treasurer	Jenny Chin	02 9888 -5234
Vice President	Peter Meagher	02 9520 -3521
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Betty Alwin 02 9579-4600

Maura Outterside 02 9718-5803

Betty Hill 02 9750-8461

Daphne Berger 02 9718-3678

Bob Tonazzi 02 9311-2555

Welfare Officer: Elizabeth McDonald 02 9747-6268

Website: Stgeorgeassociation.org.au

Patrons: Presidents of –
St. George Master Plumbers & Mechanical Contractors Association
Five Dock RSL Sub Branch
Lions Club of Oatley

Telephone - Belgreen Meeting Room (at meeting times only) 02 9759 9061