

weeroona

Taking Time to Care



Sandy (back row, 2nd on left) with fellow members of Dancing Wheelies Inc. See page 4 for more details.

WHAT'S INSIDE:

Page 2	Manager's Report
Page 3	Weeroona Happenings
Page 4	Upcoming Events
Page 5	Human Service Standards & General Info
Page 6	Baby Bridges News
Page 7	Committee Members Info
Page 8	Contact Details & Info



FROM THE MANAGER

Hi Newsletter Readers,

I hope your Christmas break was a happy time and that you have survived our recent hot and humid weather.

2015 is shaping up to be a very exciting year here at Weeroona.

We have our Chill Out Zone happening at the moment and it is gaining popularity. Puzzles Café is due to start in early February and Weeroona Playdate also starting in February. Puzzles Café is especially timely with the NDIS due to begin rollout in Queensland next year.

Another exciting development is a Weeroona and Children's Therapy Centre partnership that supports ongoing Therapy services in Gympie. Therapists will be delivering services to the community, every Tuesday at this stage, from rooms in our new building. Please call the friendly staff at the Centre for an appointment.

Weeroona has a number of desks available (used, but good quality) , free of charge to anybody that requires one for home. Andrea will be able to give you details if you call the office.

That's all for now,
Greg.

WEEROONA HAPPENINGS.

Puzzles Café

*"Putting the pieces together"
Helping to understand and prepare for the NDIS*



First piece Friday 6th February
9.30 - 11.30am

Join us for morning tea
and

- A time to chat and relax
- A place to gather information on the introduction of the NDIS
- Explore how best to prepare
- A chance for you to ask your questions and to share information with others in open discussion

At:

weeroona

16 Red Hill Road, Gympie

Limited places. Please let us know if you are coming on 5482 2451
We may be able to help with transport.



Some happy smiles at our Christmas Party.

WHEELCHAIR DANCING IS COMING TO GYMPIE—EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST REQUESTED

Sandy has been learning to wheelchair dance and will be holding classes in Gympie from mid year. Partner dances are either Duo (two partners in chairs), Assisted (for people who need someone to assist them in their chair) and Combi (one person in a chair partnered by an able bodied person).

Dances include Waltz, Gypsy Tap, Rumba, Cha Cha, Barn Dance, New Vogue and line dances. Dances are modified to suit people's individual abilities.

If you are interested in attending please contact Sandy at

Weeroona.

ALL WELCOME—YOU DO NOT NEED A PARTNER TO ATTEND.

Check out Dancing Wheelies at www.dancingwheelies.com.au

If you are interested in volunteering your help please also contact Sandy at Weeroona.



The Children's Therapy Centre is delighted to be working in 2015 in the new premises of Weeroona.

We have been undertaking an outreach therapy service in Gympie 1 day a week on a Tuesday for the past 8 years. This has been part of our disability service agreement . The Centre began on the Sunshine Coast 26 years ago so we have a long standing community reputation for providing a high quality and specialized service for children with disability. We offer speech language pathology , occupational therapy , physiotherapy and family support. This year we will provide our Gympie service for children with moderate to severe disability from rooms in Weeroona. It is anticipated that early in the year we will be able to expand from 1 - 2 days a week and also offer paediatric therapy for families/ children who are seeking a private therapy arrangement. We have rebate arrangements in place with Medicare , and we are a registered Better Start Provider. I would like to take to take this opportunity to thank all at Weeroona for making our move so smooth and the very friendly welcome we have had since our arrival in the building .

If you would like to know more about our service please do not hesitate to call the Director or Senior Therapist of the Children's Therapy Centre on 54417199

Human Service Quality Standards

Standard 5: Feedback, Complaints, and Appeals

Weeroona Staff listen to people and take on feedback as a source of ideas for improving services and activities.

All feedback whether positive or negative is welcomed. If you do not tell us, how can we improve what we do or know when we have it right.

Weeroona has a number of ways that you can provide feedback to us:

- Speak with any staff member or with our Manager Greg
- Via email or letter
- Complete a Compliments and Concerns Form.
- At any planning meeting.
- At any Annual Review Meeting e.g. FSP, QCC
- You can speak with the auditors during our Disability Service Audit
- Via our Staff Exiting Feedback Form

Remember any feedback is good.



Our Chill Out Zone has been growing in popularity as a way for people to avoid the heat or have a quiet space for lunch.

We have a collection of games and things to do.

Opening times for 2015:

Mondays: From 9am (excepting the 4th Monday of the month—from 12:30pm)

Thursdays: From 9am

Fridays: from 12:30pm

(If you would like to pop in outside of these times, give us a call first to see if the Zone is available.)



BABY BRIDGES

Baby Bridges is a 2 hour x 6 week program for Families and their child/children under school age, with a developmental delay or disability. A formal diagnosis is not necessary to attend Baby Bridges.

The next Baby Bridges program will start in February 2015.

There are still places available.

**For more information
please contact Tammy
Phone 5482 2451**



PLAYDATE

**We would like to invite families who care for young children (0-5yrs)
with a developmental delay or disability to a monthly playdate.**

When: 9.30am—11.30am on the 4th Monday of each month

Where: Weeroona, 16 Red Hill Road, Gympie

Come and meet other parents and their beautiful children, chat with guest speakers, have a cuppa and share some morning tea

First play date is Monday 23rd February 2015

—Hope to see you there!

Please phone 5482 2451

If you would like more info

Introducing Weeroona's Committee Part 1

Robyn Allen *President*

Joined Weeroona's Committee in June 2007.

Robyn wants to be involved in helping to make a difference in a persons life.



Robyn has a Bachelor of Arts, Australia & the Asia-Pacific Region and In March 2015 begins post-graduate study (externally) in Disability Studies, majoring in 'Autism Spectrum Disorder' with Flinders University. Robyn's current job is Team leader at Avenues Lifestyle Support. Robyn says working in the disability field has given her an insight into the lives of people with disabilities, their families and the challenges they face.

Robyn sees the future for Weeroona as a disability organisation, moving forward into the NDIS. We also need to ensure we don't lose sight of what we are here for - providing the best support for each individual we work with and ensuring the transition to NDIS is as painless as possible for all concerned.

Eric Streat *Treasurer*

Joined Weeroona's Committee in October 14.

Eric is a self-funded retiree, and has lived in the Gympie region since January 2004, after relocating from Victoria. He had almost 30 years' experience with the National Australia Bank, in a variety of roles - in branches and administration (in Queensland) to the bank's Information Technology section in Melbourne.



Eric is involved with Links Community Services and Jobmatch Gympie as Treasurer on their Boards, and as a volunteer with Gympie Family History Society. Eric is also involved in sport, being Treasurer and Life Member of Gympie Valleys Cricket Club.

Graham Engeman *Committee Member*

Joined Weeroona's Committee in October 2009.

Graham wanted to be part of Weeroona because of the valuable work it does as a community organisation supporting local families with disability . Graham was a Councillor from 2008-12 on Gympie Regional Council and has resided in the Gympie Region for 32 years.

Graham is currently self-employed mostly as a consultant with a speciality in Council Planning; an Auctioneer; Project management of small sub-division; Business oversight and financial management of hospitality and farming; livestock sales and is a partner in a family beef breeding operation.





All Aboard Gympie Region

The Learners Action Group and the Early Childhood Teachers Association have officially launched the

All-Aboard-Gympie-Region On-Line Family Directory

The On-Line Directory is a fantastic directory which provides the location and contact details for a wide range of services available to all families in the Gympie Region.

Just google— All Aboard Gympie Region Directory and you'll find it or go to:

http://www.ecta.org.au/_dbase_upl/All-Aboard-Gympie-Region-Online-Family-Directory.pdf

Weeroona's Contact Details:

16 Red Hill Road, (PO Box 172), Gympie Qld 4570

Ph: 5482 2451 Fax: 5482 2020 A/H: 0407 667 377

Email: info@weeroona.org.au Web: www.weeroona.org.au



'Like us' on Facebook to keep up with what is happening ; for ideas of things to do & to keep informed about upcoming events, training and news items.

You are welcome to submit ideas & contributions to the newsletter.

If you have something in mind, contact Trish or Kerry.

Compliments, Concerns or Complaints

We welcome all feedback, it helps us improve our service. If you have something to say, let us know by having a chat or completing a Compliments and Concerns Form or a Complaints Form, both are located at the desk in reception.