

Physical Disability Australia Ltd
P O Box 38
Willawarrin NSW 2440
Phone: 02 6567 1500
Fax: 02 6567 1500
Email: pda@pda.org.au



Physical Disability Australia - Bulletin October 2011

Contents-

- News
 - [National](#)
 - [International](#)
 - [State](#)
 - [NSW](#)
 - [Victoria](#)
 - [Queensland](#)
- [Conferences and activities](#)
- [Subscribe](#) [Unsubscribe](#)

Welcome to the October edition of PDA's e-bulletin.

The NSW Liberal Government has released their first budget since winning power earlier in the year. You can read more about the \$2.8 Billion that has been invested in Ageing and Disability Services in the NSW section.

This month there are several interesting activities and conferences coming up, including PDA's own Annual General Meeting in Canberra on November 26th.

I hope you enjoy this edition of the bulletin.

Supporting people with disability to try work

Source: Media release The Hon Jenny Macklin MP, September 9, 2011

From today people applying for the Disability Support Pension (DSP), other than people with a severe disability or illness, will have to show they have tried to get help to find work before they can be eligible for the disability pension.

To read more:

http://www.jennymacklin.fahcsia.gov.au/mediareleases/2011/pages/supporting_people_disability_to_work.aspx

Government funding gives people with disability internal representation

Source: Australian Human Rights Commission, September 28, 2011

People with disability and their representatives will share in \$300,000 in Australian Government funding over three years to attend key international forums on human rights.

"This funding, under our National Disability Strategy, will support delegations representing peak disability and advocacy organisations to better represent the needs of people with disability internationally," Senator McLucas said.

To read more: http://www.humanrights.gov.au/disability_rights/convention/funding.html

Fluoride linked to health problems

Source: From MP Ann Bressingtons website *<http://www.bressington.net/>*

Have you been led to believe that fluoride is added to our drinking water to improve dental health? Are you aware that there is extensive research linking the intake of fluoride to numerous health conditions, including osteoporosis, hormone disruption and has been confirmed as a neurotoxin? Are you aware that the fluoride added to South Australia's drinking water by SA Health is fluorosilicic acid, which is a toxic waste product of the superphosphate (fertiliser) and aluminium industries?

To learn more: http://www.bressington.net/sub/Policies/Fluoride_in_our_drinking_water.htm

NSW Ombudsman Bruce Barbour says boarders are dying with no dignity

Source: The Daily Telegraph, August 17, 2011

By: Vikki Campion

NSW Ombudsman Bruce Barbour yesterday revealed some of the state's most vulnerable people had been exposed to physical and sexual assault, intimidation, bullying and harassment by staff and other residents in a damning report on boarding houses.

To read more: <http://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/news/sydney-nsw/nsw-ombudsman-bruce-barbour-says-boarders-are-dying-with-no-dignity/story-e6freuzi-1226116321611>

Call for ban on sterilising disabled

Source: The Age, September 7, 2011

By: Michelle Griffin, Social Affairs Editor

The federal Disability and Sex Discrimination Commissioners Graeme Innes and Elizabeth Broderick have called on the Attorney-General to ban the sterilisation of children - unless there is a compelling medical reason - regardless of whether they have a disability, and of adults with disability without their informed consent.

To read more: <http://www.theage.com.au/national/call-for-ban-on-sterilising-disabled-20110906-1jvx8.html>

Street by Street – National Neighbourhood Support Program

Source: Warringah Disability Newsletter, August 2011

The focus is linking people in the same street through practical helping tasks such as taking the bin in and out, hanging washing, getting a few items from the shops, or getting mail from the letter box. Community centres, service clubs, neighbourhood houses, community health centres, scout and guide groups, and voluntary associations are participating. Neighbours (not volunteers) are invited to form a simple informal network across Australia – 100 groups by end of 2011, 1000 by end of 2012. Obtain information and the Participants kit at www.civilsociety.org.au/StreetbyStreet.htm.

[Top](#)

Pension rate rise will cost unemployed and disabled

Source: Brisbane Times, September 19, 2011

By: Peter Martin

Australia's 3.4 million pensioners can loosen their belts from tomorrow. They'll get a pay rise of \$19.50 a fortnight. But those claiming Newstart unemployment benefits and student allowances will only get an extra \$11.73 a fortnight.

Read more: <http://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/national/pension-rate-rise-will-cost-unemployed-and-disabled-20110918-1kg5k.html#ixzz1YdVxA2oF>

Telecommunications Review – have your say

For those who live in rural and regional areas, the Telecommunications Review is interested in hearing your views on your telecommunication needs.

Consider the National Broadband network and if it will enhance or disadvantage you, consider telephone and other methods of communication also.

If you wish to put in a submission follow the link here: http://www.rtrc.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2011/09/2011-12_Regional_Telecommunications_Review_issues_paper_web.rtf

Or if you would like to supply PDA with comments for our submission, please do so. Closing date is 1 December.

Launch of discussion paper on new anti-discrimination law

Source: Attorney-General's Media release

Attorney General Robert McClelland and Minister for Finance and Deregulation Penny Wong today launched a public discussion paper to seek community views on the consolidation of Federal anti-discrimination laws. Submissions on the discussion paper can be made until 1 February 2012.

To read more:

http://www.attorneygeneral.gov.au/www/ministers/mcclelland.nsf/Page/MediaReleases_2011_ThirdQuarter_Launchofdiscussionpaperonnewanti-discriminationlaw

[Top](#)

Don't DIS my ABILITY 2011 – Ready to go

Source: Disability Council NSW newsletter

More than 100 events will be held across NSW this year as part of the State Government's Don't DIS my ABILITY campaign to celebrate the diversity and achievements of people with a disability.

The theme for this year's campaign is technology and independence recognising that social networking is increasingly helping people with a disability to connect and overcome isolation.

For further information about the Don't DIS my ABILITY ambassadors, events and activities, visit www.DontDISmyABILITY.com.au or join in the conversation on facebook or twitter.

Minister calls on employers to give people with disability a go

Source: Australian Network on Disability, Issue 8, 2011

Minister Ellis also recently launched a study commissioned by the Dept Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) into "*Employer perspectives on recruiting people with disability and the role of Disability Employment Services*".

The findings of this report showed that many employers still believe people with disability will be less productive than their counterparts without disability. These employer attitudes have changed very little since similar research was conducted in 2007.

To read this report in full:

<http://www.deewr.gov.au/Employment/ResearchStatistics/ProgEval/Pages/EmployerPerspectiveSonDES.aspx>

The Cinema of Isolation: A History of Physical Disability in the Movies

The cinema of isolation: A history of physical disability in the movies

Author Martin F. Norden

Publisher Rutgers University Press, 1994

ISBN 0813521041, 9780813521046

Product Description

"Offers an historically detailed examination of how Hollywood has depicted the physically disabled experience . . . thoughtfully argued and well documented. . . . Anyone interested in how mainstream movies have shaped our images of the world ought to carefully read this fine book."

--Douglas Gomery, author of *The Hollywood Studio System*

[Top](#)

To read more: <http://tinyurl.com/3qjwu96>

A History of Disability

A history of disability
Corporealities: Discourses of Disability
Author Henri-Jacques Stiker
Publisher University of Michigan Press, 1999
ISBN 047208626X, 9780472086269

The increasing number of scholars, policy-makers, and political activists who are concerned with questions of physical and cognitive disability will warmly welcome Henri-Jacques Stiker's book, the first to attempt to provide a framework for analyzing disability through the ages.

The book traces the history of western cultural responses to disability, from ancient times to the present.

To read more about the book and/or buy it: http://www.amazon.com/History-Disability-Corporealities-Discourses/dp/0472110632/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1317780750&sr=1-1

International News

Sainsbury supermarket introduces Braille signage for blind customers

Source: <http://www.theretailbulletin.com> September 23, 2011

Liverpool, UK: A Sainsbury's store in Liverpool has become the first UK supermarket to use Braille signage to benefit blind customers. The signage for the store's food and drink range was unveiled at the supermarket's Woolton store.

To read more: <http://globalaccessibilitynews.com/2011/09/23/sainsbury-supermarket-introduces-braille-signage-for-blind-customers/>

[Top](#)

New South Wales

Wanted: your feedback on ADHC Lifestyle Planning Policy

Source: Warringah Disability Newsletter, September 2011

Stronger Together: A new direction for disability services in NSW 2006-2016 commits Ageing, Disability and Home Care (ADHC) to provide a disability service system that is sustainable and responsive to the needs of people with a disability, their families and carers.

Consequently ADHC wants to implement a Lifestyle Planning Policy developed after broad consultation with people with a disability, families, carers and service providers, to reflect a person-centred approach to service delivery. This policy is proposed to be progressively implemented across all disability services funded and operated by ADHC, starting with ADHC operated accommodation services.

ADHC wants feedback from stakeholders on the Lifestyle Planning Policy's progressive implementation across all disability types in NSW via a short questionnaire to be completed by 14 October 2011. See

www.adhc.nsw.gov.au/about/strategies/person_centred_approach/lifestyle_planning_policy. For information, contact pcaconsultations@fac.nsw.gov.au phone 1800 605 489.

NSW Budget 2011-2012 – A record \$2.8 Billion investment in Ageing and Disability Services

Source: PDCN bulletin No 59.

This year's Budget features the start of the NSW Liberals & Nationals Government's record funding program to rebuild disability services, with \$2.02 billion to be invested over the next five years; the largest funding commitment to disability services in NSW history and the most significant ever made by a State Government in Australia.

Read more:

<http://www.pdcnsw.org.au/images/stories/documents/investment%20in%20ageing%20and%20disability%20services.pdf>

Strong response to disability strategy

Source: Disability Education and Employment News, No 11, Vol 7

A Ministerial Memorandum has been issued committing NSW Government Departments and Agencies to the National Disability Strategy being developed by the Council of Australian Governments (COAG).

Read more: http://nsw.psnews.com.au/Page_NSWpsn23810.html

Victoria

Melbourne Citymission employment service

Melbourne Citymission has commenced a new program to assist people with a disability into finding a pathway into work, education and training. This program is a free service and is not connected with a Job network provider, we operate out of Pascoe Vale and are currently taking on referrals. We offer free vocational counselling and assist people with finding work. You are able to self refer.

For more information check out: <http://www.melbournecitymission.org.au/What-We-Do/Our-Programs-Services/Children-Family-Community-Services/Community-Integration-and-Inclusion/The-Bridges-Program>

You can also contact Richard Dzwonkowski
Bridges-Into Work Program
Tel: (03) 9304 1523
Rdzwonkowski@mcm.org.au

New Chair for Disability Advisory Committee

Today, VCOSS hosted a press conference to mark the release of new reports by the Victorian Taxi Inquiry, including the report of the VCOSS Taxi Forum held in July this year. Professor Allan Fels spoke about the concerns raised by taxi users, including poor service and unaffordable fares.

Copies of the reports are available on the Taxi Inquiry website:
<http://taxiindustryinquiry.vic.gov.au/web36/home.nsf/headingpagesdisplay/publications>

[Top](#)

Queensland

Queensland disability strategy released

Source: Disability Rights Blog, September 27, 2011

The Queensland Government has released its Absolutely Everybody plan which is linked to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and is intended to be how Queensland delivers on its National Disability Strategy commitments

<http://www.communities.qld.gov.au/disability/key-projects/absolutely-everybody-enabling-queenslanders-with-a-disability>

Conferences and activities

Annual General Meeting of Physical Disability Australia Ltd

When: Saturday 26th November, 2011
Time: 5pm start at **Novotel Hotel**.
Where: 5 Northbourne Avenue, Canberra, ACT, 2601
RSVP: Tel 61 2 6245 5000 or pda@pda.org.au

Keeping the Lights On: Impact of increasing electricity costs for people with physical disability

What: A panel discussion with Ann-Mason Furmage (Physical Disability Council of NSW), Carolyn Hodge (Public Interest Centre), Jim Connolly (Financial Counsellors' Association of NSW), Christine Regan (NSW Council for Social Service)
Where: Meeting Room at 184 Glebe Point Road (St Helen's Community Centre) Glebe
When: Wednesday 19th October, 6pm (with refreshments from 5.30pm)

Panel presentations will be followed by the Annual General Meeting which will commence at 7pm

You are welcome to remain for the AGM if you wish

Secure your attendance by phoning (02) 9552 1606 or email lachlan.hazelton@pdcnsw.org.au

[Top](#)

Sign Language 1 and 2 in Chatswood

Source: Warringah Disability Newsletter

- What: 1 is a short introduction to Auslan and the Deaf community, 2 further communication skills – taught by Deaf teachers only.
- Where: Chatswood High School, 24 Centennial Avenue, Chatswood.
- When: Wednesdays on 19 Oct to 30 Nov, 7pm-9pm.
- Cost: \$145 regular, \$112 concession.
- RSVP: Contact the Deaf Education Network on 8833 3630.

Holroyd Disability Sports Expo

Source: Warringah Disability Newsletter, September 2011

- What: The Holroyd Disability Sports Expo will showcase inclusive sports and modified games suitable for people of all abilities and all ages. Come and try: AFL, basketball, rugby league, softball, sportsability games, traditional indigenous games, wheelchair sports as individuals or teams (of up to 15 participants).
- When: Wednesday 2 November, 10.30am-1.45pm/
- Where: Merrylands Sportsground, Burnett Street, Merrylands.
- Cost: Free lunch, plus refreshments and fruit available throughout the day.
- RSVP: Registration is essential so contact Paul Spiteri, Holroyd City Council's Disability Services Officer, on 9840 9913, TTY 9840 9988, or email paul.spiteri@holroyd.nsw.gov.au for information, registration form etc. Registration closes 18 October or when maximum entries are received.

Conversations | Connections | Communities (CCO) Seminar

Source: Warringah Disability Newsletter, September 2011

- What: If you want to: Know what inclusion means, theory and practice? Achieve real inclusion within our communities? Change the attitude of society towards valuing people with disabilities? Create sustainable enterprises that value people and benefit communities? Share your ideas and come away with new ideas? Think deeply and develop strategies that enrich the lives of people with disabilities and the community?
- When: 15 & 16 November, 9am registration for 9.30am–4.30pm
- Where: Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club, 117 Ryedale Road, West Ryde. Free onsite parking, opposite West Ryde train station.

[Top](#)

Cost: Low Wage / Income Support \$40, People with disabilities / family \$60, Professional \$100
RSVP: Register at <http://pathwaystoleadership.com.au>. Supported by Centre for Disability Studies, House with No Steps, Inspiring Communities, Sylvandale Foundation, Path to Leadership,

Strengthening your team through diversity – mini conference

Source: Nican website

Where: BMW Edge, Federation Square, Melbourne
When: Friday 2nd December 2011 10am – 1pm (Doors open at 9.30am)
Cost: In the interest of equity and access, the Mini-Conference will be a free event. However delegates must register beforehand.

To Register: www.dsrf.org.au Registration closes 5pm Friday 25th November 2011

What: Focusing on diversity and participation to achieve better health outcomes for people with disability, the Strengthening your team through diversity Mini Conference aims to:

- examine person-centred approaches to participation and diversity;
- showcase innovation in delivering inclusive and accessible grassroots, community-based sport and recreation programs for all;
- present research findings relevant to health, disability, diversity, sport and recreation;
- present case studies, best practice and research on barriers and enablers to active participation and social connectedness; and
- discuss ideas for sector collaboration to achieve better health outcomes for people with disability through sport and recreation with a focus on diverse population groups.

Mini-Conference updates will appear regularly on www.dsrf.org.au

Deaf Festival 2011

Source: Community Builders NSW newsletter

What: Join this inclusive, celebration of the cultural and linguistic diversity of people who are deaf and hard of hearing through a family-friendly fair day.

When: 15 October, 10:30am – 3:00pm

Where: Southern bank of the Parramatta River between Church Street (Lennox Bridge) and Wilde Ave/Smith Street (Barry Wilde Bridge) Parramatta

More info: http://www.communitybuilders.nsw.gov.au/15954480705785_5.html#content-start

[Top](#)

FREE Membership!!!

Want to become a member of PDA? Does your organisation want to become an associate member?

Then contact PDA at pda@pda.org.au or go to our website: www.pda.org.au and complete the form and return to us. It's free if you have a disability and \$27.50 if an organisation.

Subscribe or Unsubscribe to PDA Bulletin.

Unsubscribe - Please send a reply email with Unsubscribe in the subject heading to communications@pda.org.au and I will do so as soon as possible.

Subscribe - We also encourage any interested parties who would like to receive future bulletins to send an email with subscribe in the subject heading to communications@pda.org.au and the email they wish to subscribe and they will be added to future bulletins.

Thank you and Regards
Joanne Hutchins
Communications Officer
Physical Disability Australia Ltd.
communications@pda.org.au

[Top](#)