The official newsletter of i.d.entity.wa

Residential Services Plan: e Next Staa

The previous issue of *identikite* had I information about the impact of Perth's current housing crisis and of direct care staff shortages on i.d.entity.wa's residential services. It is my much happier task to tell you of some of the creative solutions to those issues that we have been developing. In their absence, a number of residents and families would face much longer delays in accessing the benefits that the Residential Services Plan (2005 – 2008) will bring them.

Residents, families and/or staff, as appropriate, have been consulted about most of the possibilities at this stage, and will be consulted about the rest of them before long. It is uplifting to be working with people who are concerned about their own family member's well-being and about other individuals' and families' needs as well.

Increase in Resident **Numbers**

In five of i.d.entity.wa's 28 existing houses, there is the possibility to increase the number of residents by one person. In four cases, this involves the office/sleep shift room moving to another part of the house to create an additional bedroom. In the fifth house, an empty bedroom can be made available for an additional resident, if bathroom renovations can be done.

The result of these changes (if all of them prove to be appropriate) is that a

By MAUREEN JEWELL

Executive Director

number of current residents can move to more appropriate housing, and five new people who have Accommodation Support Funding (ASF) can move out of their family home. In the current housing crisis, this action will reduce theirs and their families waiting time by many months.

As those new people will bring new funding to the organisation, staffing levels at the houses will be appropriate into the future. (In some cases, that will actually mean that somewhat poor existing staff ratios will be improved.)

The additional funding will also boost i.d.entity.wa's financial viability.

Improved Use of Staff Resources

In addition to participating in the non-government disability organisations' workforce planning initiatives (see p.5), i.d.entity.wa has its own Workforce Planning Working Party that has introduced many strategies to improve recruitment of staff. As well, the Residential Support Services are now reviewing all staff rosters to ensure that they are as efficient and effective as possible. One result is likely to be that a number of staff will be working across more than one house (in order to offer them a reasonable number of hours' work on an ongoing basis).

Quite a number of shifts cannot be filled at the moment, due to the difficulty in recruiting casual (relief) staff. The review of rosters will reduce the pressure on casual staff (as well as permanent staff) and should provide more consistency in houses.

Summary: There are other strategies that i.d.entity.wa has developed, too. It is important to be as creative and innovative as we can be, given the potential (and actual) difficulties. All of them have been, or will be, discussed with residents, families and/or staff, as appropriate.

Reflection: Over the first 12 months of implementation of the Residential Services Plan, there has been a good deal of change in the residential services. Almost all of it has been approached with at least a little trepidation by residents, families and staff. (For some, there has been a good deal of trepidation.) On every occasion but one, each resident's new, long-term option has quickly been demonstrated to be of advantage to them. (In the one exception, the impact is more difficult to identify.) In almost every case, the person's move has allowed benefits to be achieved for the remaining residents in their previous home, as well as for the residents they have joined.

i.d.entity.wa remains committed to its undertakings that are stated in the Residential Services Plan: that staffing

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To contact the Board, please write to: The Chairperson, i.d.entity.wa PO Box 5 South Perth, WA 6951 board@identitywa.com.au

"identikite" welcomes contributions from families, carers and clients, whether it's your view on current issues, or a personal experience you would like to share with other readers. Your comments on the content of "identikite" are also valuable, together with suggestions for any issues you would like to see covered in the future. We look forward to hearing from you soon! Write to or fax:

The Editor, "identikite", PO Box 5, South Perth, WA 6951. Telephone: (08) 9474 3303 Facsimile: (08) 9474 3315 Email: paed@identitywa.com.au

Lotterywest grant puts children in the shade

The children who use our respite service in Riverton welcomed Spring this year with extra enthusiasm, thanks to Lotterywest.

With part of \$20,000 funding from Lotterywest, we have erected sails in the back year of our Riverton house to provide a shade area for the children to play in.

The funding also enabled us to buy a range of new toys suitable for children with disabilities for both children's respite centres in Riverton and Nollamara. Other items bought were equipment and furniture (such as a shower commode and beds).

SUE DENNY, Executive General Manager, Finance



School Holiday Program sponsored by Lotterywest. Thank you very much for your generosity.



Respite residents and staff at our Riverton Children's Respite House enjoying a fine day outdoors under the sails erected with Lotterywest funding, from left, Rochelle (foreground), staff members Agata, Danika and Ida, residents Daniel and Michael (seated).

Residential Services Plan: The Next Stage

• FROM PAGE 1

levels will remain appropriate (or even be improved), and residents will continue to receive appropriate quality of care from i.d.entity.wa while the changes are taking place, and into the future. That non-negotiable commitment may make it easier for people who are feeling apprehensive about a change.

This second phase of the Plan will see an increase in the number of residents who move, as well as the changes that I have outlined above. i.d.entity.wa sincerely believes, and is committed to ensuring, that they are in the best interests of current residents and of people waiting for accommodation, and are important for i.d.entity.wa's viability into the future.



New Family Counsellor Andrew Lipczynski.

Hello identikite readers!

Thank you for the opportunity to tell you a little bit about myself and my role with the Family Counselling and Pastoral Care team.

My wife and I have returned to Australia after ten years abroad. We

Meet our new Counsellor

sold our home in the green fields of County Antrim, Northern Ireland and moved home to blue skies and sunny days in Perth to have our baby, Anna, who was born in June 2006.

In my previous positions as counsellor to the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, the Causeway Institute and Cruse Bereavement Care, I have had the opportunity to be with people as they worked through painful and confronting issues. Our problems are often different but in our humanity we are the same, we struggle as we make sense of very difficult times in our lives. My role as counsellor in Northern Ireland has given me unique experiences and training in dealing with difficult issues involved with bereavement, grief, suicide, sexuality, relationships, behaviour and marriage, among others. I have also trained others in counselling and communication, giving people skills to better cope in their work and daily

As part of the Family Counselling & Pastoral Care (FC/PC) team, along with Eileen Dielesen I am available

to families who may be experiencing difficulties.

The FC/PC service is committed to helping families and individuals work through their problems and concerns and also offer care and support before these issues come to seem unmanageable.

FC/PC work in a professional and holistic way to ensure individuals and families receive the spiritual, emotional and practical support they seek. You can give us a quick call to access counselling, pastoral care, support groups or our referral service, and know your call will be treated sensitively and in confidence. Often a problem shared is a problem halved, and most of us feel better when we have spent some time sharing our stories with others.

Please feel free to call me or Eileen Dielesen on 9474 3303 if you need someone to talk to. We are contactable during office hours or can return your call if you would like to leave a message.

ANDREW LIPCZYNSKI, Family Counsellor & Pastoral Worker

Advent Mass

ou are invited to join with many of the residents who are supported by i.d.entity.wa staff, their parents and friends in celebrating an Advent Mass on **Friday 1 December 2006**. There will be carol singing following the Mass and also supper.

This is an evening of fellowship and fun.

Venue: Good Shepherd Church

Where: Corner of Morley Drive and Altone Road, Lockridge
Time: 7.30pm, and supper is generally concluded by 9.15pm

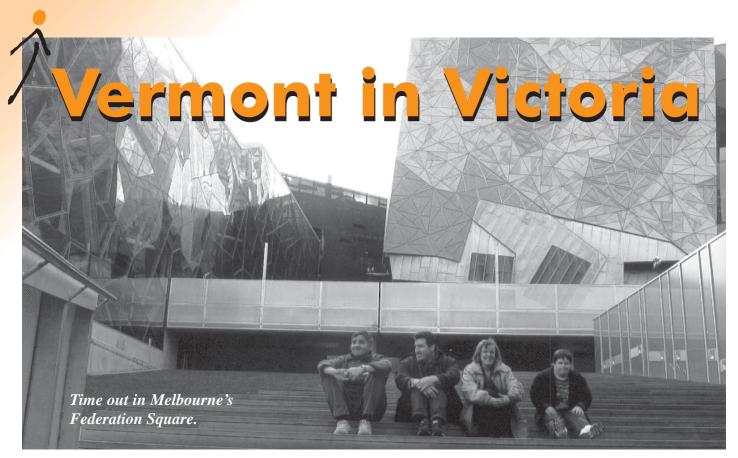
If you are able to attend you will be most welcome. If possible would you please bring a small plate of food to share for the supper.

If you have any inquiries please call Andrew Lipczynski on 9474 3303.

In Memoriam

It is with much sadness that we acknowledge the death of Christopher Williams and Joe Healy.

We at i.d.entity.wa extend our heartfelt sympathy to their family and friends and pray you may find comfort and strength during this time of loss.



A fter weeks of excitement, planning and sticking stars on a countdown chart, Eddie, Mandy, Liz and Harold were boarding the plane bound for Melbourne and towards what can only be described as an awesome holiday. By the end of the flight we had secured a dinner date on the Saturday night at the home of the Senior Flight Attendant and had been showered with attention from the rest of the crew with drinks and goodies.

This holiday was a five-day trip into which we probably packed more than a week's worth of sightseeing, and a time where we experienced the residents making valued choices about where they would like to go and what they wanted to see. We were delighted to see them enjoy each other's company and create the memorable moments of a group of friends enjoying time away together.

Some of the activities included a night at the Crown Casino where Harold won more on the poker machine than he put in and his smile was priceless, a tram ride around the city, walks through the gardens and parks, Captain Cook's cottage, Chinatown, The Queen Victoria Markets where Mandy loved the shopping and bought new clothes, breakfast by the river, the Rialto Observation Tower, a river cruise down the Yarra, an excursion to the Dandenongs where we rode the "Puffing Billy" train, a night at the MCG where we saw Collingwood beat the Brisbane Lions and where Eddie cheered until the last minute of the game, and an evening at the Regent Theatre to see the Lion King which we all loved, but particularly Liz who hasn't stopped talking about "the big king" since we got back to Perth.

Back home we made individual scrapbooks of memorabilia and photographs, and the residents are continually looking at them and re-living their experiences with each other and their families. Lara and I have repeatedly delighted in recalling all the timeless memories, endless laughter and unique highlights of a wonderful time shared by a group of wonderful friends.

ELAINE NEEDHAM and LARA HOLPER, Staff, Vermont Street, Nollamara

Carers Movie/ Coffee & Cake Mornings

Two movie mornings were held, the first one in June at the Hoyts Cinema Carousel Cannington. A great time was had by the ten parents who enjoyed watching *The Breakup*, a romantic comedy with Jennifer Aniston and Vince Vaughn. We enjoyed a very large slice of cake and some coffee after the movie and a time for everyone to connect and enjoy socialising with carers who really understand.

The second morning was held North of the River at the Greater Union Megaplex Innaloo. Six carers attended this morning and met before the movie to enjoy some cake and coffee at the Dome Café in the complex. We all enjoyed the movie *Lake House* with Sandra Bullock and Keanu Reeves, but there was some confusion at the end of the movie trying to grasp the concepts!

We plan on conducting more of these mornings as all the carers really enjoyed the opportunity of meeting with other carers, taking some time out of their busy lives, and nurturing themselves.

EILEEN DIELESEN, Family Counsellor/ Group Facilitator

Workforce Planning for Support Workers in the Disability Services Sector

The following article is an edited version of an "ACROD News Update" dated 28 July 2006.

Workforce Planning Progress

The report on "Workforce Planning for Support Workers in the Disability Services Sector", commissioned by ACROD WA, is available at www.acrod.org.au/Divisions/WA/Archive/2006/Review06.pdf

While the review focussed on disability support workers, the recommendations have a much broader impact on disability service providers and the difficulties faced with remuneration, training, funding arrangements and promoting the availability of work in the sector. These various issues frame an ambitious but important agenda.

CEO Strategy Group

The ACROD CEO Strategy Group being formed to support and progress the workforce planning agenda has now been finalised. Maureen Jewell is one of ten CEOs on the Strategy Group.

Estimating the total cost of salary increases

Recently ACROD representatives (Gordon Trewern, Debbie Karasinski and Carlo Calogero) met with DSC's Director General (Ruth Shean) and other members of her executive to consider ACROD's preliminary estimation of the total salary increases required to remunerate disability support workers appropriately. The terms of reference are below.

Terms of Reference

- 1. Develop an across-sector wage comparison table for effective net salaries for direct support workers in:
 - a. disability sector;
 - b. aged care sector; and
 - c. child care sector.

Taking account of base pay, overtime and commuted allowances, and other benefits, including fringe benefits associated with the fact that organisations have Public Benevolent Institution status.

- 2. Quantify funding required in achieving competitive wage rates for direct support workers in the disability services sector in comparison to the aged care and child care sectors
- 3. Report findings to Disability Services Commission for feedback to the sponsor group.

Even more pampering at The Deck!

How lucky have we been to receive another lot of funding from Carers WA to take yet another group away to The Deck for an over-the-top pampering weekend!

Five mothers and I drove to Yanchep on the Friday afternoon, and upon arrival there were a lot of whoops of delight at the joy of discovering what a luxury place they had arrived at.

It was only a short while later that they got out the champagne and nibbles and quickly settled into the idea of relaxing and pampering. We tried to get the barbecue happening, but hmmmm – no gas! Oh well, under the grill went the yummy chicken kebabs and sausages on the stove. Everyone enjoyed a great meal with yummy hot apple crumble and custard to finish.

Later we got together for a small session to remind everyone why they had come, and candles were lit by each mother to honour a part of herself that she was choosing to nurture for the weekend. And of course I gave my usual harsh lecture of the absolute importance of pampering and nurturing oneself — an essential task to remain a well carer in the long haul!

Some of the mothers took off early Saturday morning for a beach walk. After a lovely relaxing meditation, two wonderful ladies, Rosemary and Shelley – students from the Australian College of Natural Therapies – arrived to give a fabulous workshop on the Living Essences remedies and then pamper everyone with a treatment and some Quantum Healing. They even offered me a treatment and of course I gladly accepted – it was total bliss! I highly recommend it.

We enjoyed a yummy lunch and in the afternoon three angels arrived – one to give reflexology, one to give massage and one to give manicures and pedicures. Everyone was totally relaxed by late afternoon and then out came the champagne and nibbles, which were enjoyed whilst the mothers shared in a session something meaningful they had brought along. We then headed out to the cinema to see a movie and afterwards enjoyed a delicious meal next door at Oscar's restaurant.

On the Sunday morning we wound up with a very long and relaxing meditation. This group also needed a lot of persuasion to leave The Deck. We headed off to visit Yanchep Park where we enjoyed a lovely walk and visited the koala enclosure, and then off to Yanchep Inn for a







delicious lunch. There was nothing but smiles on all the – by now – very relaxed faces. There was a bit of begging going on from some of the mothers who did not want to leave! Everyone was totally relaxed and de-stressed and with glowing faces and big smiles.

Congratulations to all these mothers for having the courage to pamper themselves and take time out from their very arduous roles as carers of a child with an intellectual disability.

Again, a very big THANK YOU is extended to the owners of The Deck in Yanchep for their amazing generosity in providing their holiday home at no cost. Without this generous support we could not have conducted this weekend. We are very sad that this will be the last occasion we can use the home, because it is now on the market to be sold.

Many thanks to Carers WA for the funding, Grand Cinemas Currambine for the discount vouchers, Oscar's restaurant for the discount dinner, Rosemary and Shelley from the Australian College of Natural Medicine for their time donated to facilitate the Living Essences workshop.

Thank you to Claire Purdy for so generously giving to us again so much of her own precious time to give reflexology and also Renee van Vlijmen who gave us yet again a lot of her own time to pamper these mothers so lovingly. Special thanks also to Leeza Galatis for the delightful treat of manicures and pedicures – an unexpected last minute bonus for the mothers! May God bless you all over and over and over.

EILEEN DIELESEN, Family Counsellor/Group Facilitator

July School Holliday Fun

For two weeks during July, the Recreation Service ran three camps and six day-outings for the children on the School Holiday Program.

Our first two camps were held at South Yunderup in a beautiful house on the canals. If you had a keen eye, you could spot dolphins swimming past our back verandah!

The children participated in activities such as boat cruises, trips to the cinema, picnics and walks on the beach. They also enjoyed numerous table tennis matches and board games at the house and were treated to the occasional meal of junk food!

The third camp was held at Bunbury, which gave us the opportunity to explore the Leeuwin-Naturaliste region. Of course we couldn't head down that way and not stop off at the Margaret River Chocolate Factory for a few yummy treats! The kids had a fantastic time during the three-day camps, and parents and siblings appreciated the respite. Day Outings during the July school holidays included a trip to Fremantle, a session at Rolloways, trip to Yanchep National Park, a day at Perth Zoo and a Circus Tricks Workshop.

The Circus Tricks workshop, run by *Cirque Bizirque* in Fremantle, gave eight children on the program an opportunity to learn how to perform circus tricks like the pros! Our instructor Renee was very patient in teaching us how to juggle but not many of the group (including staff!) managed to master the skill.

The children were also taught to use various circus apparatus, spent some time jumping on the trampolines and practiced hanging upside down on the trapeze. They all jumped at the opportunity to 'hang around' inside big red strips of material hanging from the very high ceiling. Some of the children managed to wrap themselves inside the material and make a cocoon to sit in!

By the end of the morning the children had impressed everyone with their new skills and were reluctant to end the session. A big thanks to *Cirque Bizirque* for running such a fun workshop.

We would like to thank our dedicated group of volunteers who help out with the school holiday activities - without them we would not be able to run the program, so we cannot thank them enough for their contribution.

If you are interested in volunteering with the Recreation Service or would like more information on the School Holiday Program, call Marie Martin or Jo Sharland at the Kensington Office on 9474 3303.





GO ON!!

efore I start, I would like to say a huge **THANK YOU** to the people who helped me to make David Crossland's "**WISH**" come true! Nina and Ed, you guys are truly amazing, **THANK YOU!**

A huge **THANK YOU** to Justine and Dennis (my family) for making us feel so welcomed, you are truly special for letting us stay in your home - **THANK YOU!** Luke and Jack, **THANK YOU**, our little "tour guiders"!!!

Also the Kimberley cowboys, my eldest son, Adrian Shaw (Springvale Station), my nephews, Damien and Ryan Gray (Yakkamunga Station), my adopted son Brett Pocock (Ruby Plains Station), Owen and Luke Shelley (Yeeda Station), Nanna Jona Kelly and Aunty Georgie Kelly a huge **THANK YOU**!

Here is how it all started...

My eldest son Adrian works on Springvale Station just outside Halls Creek in the Kimberley. He was lucky enough to be photographed by a professional photographer and his photo was used in the 14th August edition of TIME magazine. Of course I took this

Jenni and David enjoy one of Cable Beach's legendary sunsets.

magazine to work to show off my "big baby"!

Young David found these pictures very meaningful to him, as he had met Adrian on several occasions while out and about. Then David said to me "Jen, I wish I could go there and see what Adrian does, and you know what Jen, I wish I could see him ride the bulls at a real bush rodeo" My response was "Really? You Wish! Mmm." "Yes Jen" was David's reply.

David's WISH stayed stuck in my mind for days... "I wonder if Nina (Coordinator) and Ed (Manager) would let me take him," I thought.

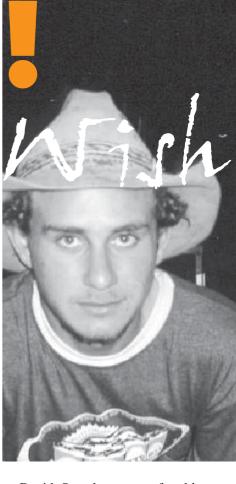
I asked my youngest son, Ryan "Would you mind if David comes on our holiday with us to Broome?" His response was "Please mum, let him come with us, he can see all the cowboys and he can borrow Adrian's lucky hat! Let him come with us mum, I'll help you look after him!" So that's when I rang and asked Nina and she said "YES", but hang on I have to ask Ed too!!! BROOME here we come! ...also David and his cowboy hat!

We flew out on Virgin Blue on 17 August; only one hassle: Dave refused to put on his seat belt! "Jen I don't want to, what happens if the plane crashes? How we gonna get out?" Quite loudly this was said. The guy behind me said "He's got a point there"... everyone giggled. Off we went, with seat belt on... The flight was great, and so was David.

There were so many – *PRICELESS MOMENTS* – here are just a couple I would like to share with you…

- Off to the Roey for tea all the cowboys were there to meet us!
- Hats were taken off for David and his eyes lit up, not to mention his beautiful smile!

Of course my eyes filled with tears for the respect these cowboys had given

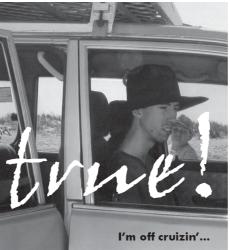


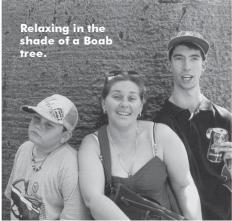
to David. Once he was comfortable with the cowboys and his RUM & COKE (a real cowboy's drink) I didn't exist! He went inside the hotel and had a dance with the cowboys, he then came to me and said "Jen, I'm going to the nightclub with Adrian, do you want to come? "Of course" I said, "I'm right with you David."

- "Off to the Broome rodeo... Young Owen came out and got David, "Come on Cowboy Dave let's go." Umm "what about us?" "Oh Jen, I'll see ya inside"; off David went leaving us standing outside in 50 degree heat! He had a ball, he even told me," Jen I'm gonna ride a bull today"... "I don't think so David" was my reply.
- While in China Town shopping, a full blood aboriginal man came up to David and asked him for a smoke. I told him he doesn't smoke, but David's face lit up "Jen did he think I was a real cowboy?" I told him "Yep I think so, it's the hat you're wearing, only cowboys wear those hats!"

David also met a new nanna in Broome, her name is "Nanna Jona". She made David feel so welcome and taught him about the aboriginal life and culture in Broome. He got some Boab

Adrian and David.





The Cowboys

nuts from her and a lovely afternoon tea.

The sunsets on Cable Beach were fantastic, even better with a beer in your hand! We had a wonderful time and next

before I go I'd like to say...

"David,

Thank you from my heart for making me feel wonderful inside. You are truly a magnificent man, and yes David... you are my special cowboy friend."

year maybe we could do it again. Just

JENNI TOWNSON, *Sleep Shift, Mary Crescent, Beechboro*



Parents Commonlinks Groups

Pampering activities coming up

The Commonlinks support group was held at the Riverton Children's Respite House in Riverton in August and six parents attended.

We had some guest speakers from the Inclusive Education Team Canning Education District Office. Their talk was excellent and everyone gained valuable information and understanding.

Everyone enjoyed the long meditation/relaxation which commenced the morning and put everyone into a receptive space. Parents readily shared the challenges and joys of parenting a child with a disability. A delicious home-made morning tea was served and enjoyed by everyone, thanks to the dedicated and caring staff at Riverton Children's Respite House.

We plan on having pampering activities such as massage, reflexology and reiki at the next meeting, which will be held in November.

These groups are offered to parents/carers who are supporting their son/daughter (of all ages) at home. We meet every two months and newcomers are very welcome to join us. There is no cost involved.

Please phone Eileen Dielesen or Andrew Lipczynski on **9474 3303** if you are interested in coming along.

EILEEN DIELESEN, Family Counsellor/Group Facilitator

Queensiand

Ā

Earlier this year the Recreation
Service managed to secure some
Disability Services Commission funding
to organise the first-ever interstate trip
for The Social Club. After much
planning and preparation, it was
arranged that two staff members and
one volunteer would accompany 12
Social Club members to the Gold Coast
from 10 to 17 June 2006.

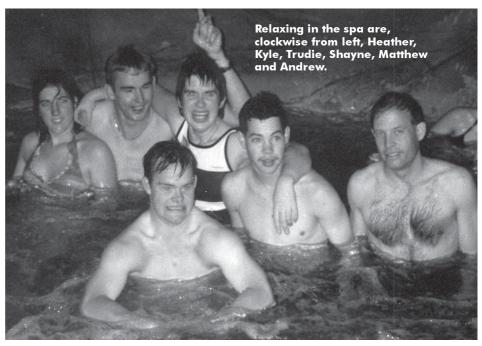
We all met at the airport for a hectic check-in before saying our goodbyes and boarding our Qantas flight to The Gold Coast. Arriving late in the evening, we made our way to our accommodation (*Breakfree Diamond Beach Resort*, in Broadbeach) to check in, organise rooms and unpack. We finally made it to bed at 2am and consequently had a good lie-in the following day!

In the morning the members explored the resort and were happy to report back that it had beautiful spa and pool facilities. The spa got quite a workout over the next seven days, with most members spending time in it every night! We also discovered the Pacific Fair Shopping Centre at the end of our street (how convenient!) and spent far too much money at all the fantastic shops.

We spent a full day at Movie World, browsing the shops and riding on the attractions. A few members had the courage to go on the Scooby Doo Rollercoaster, while one even BRAVER member and one of the staff were daring enough to ride the Lethal Weapon! We also got the opportunity to meet many Movie World characters including the guys and girls from Scooby Doo, Marvin the Martian and Austin Powers.

Seaworld was next on the itinerary where we caught a monorail to the park entrance. We watched a great waterskiing performance, saw lots of dolphins, watched a seal show and of course rode some scarier rollercoasters! The members again took the opportunity to spend up big in the many shops.

The much-awaited trip to Dreamworld came next where we spent a full day exploring the park and its many attractions. One member got a fake tattoo applied but assured us he



will one day get a real one! No-one was brave enough to ride the 'Tower of Terror' (most of us agreed it was scary enough just WATCHING the ride!) but we managed to have a go on the 'Wipeout' and venture onto a 'Raft Ride' where some members got soaking wet! We were also lucky enough to see the studios where Big Brother is filmed and even walk across the 'eviction stage'. A few of the members were disappointed to discover they weren't allowed to see the actual Big Brother house, as they apparently had secret plans to jump over the wall to visit the housemates!

That evening some of the members and staff went out to a local nightclub for a night of partying. They had a great time dancing and socialising and a couple of the guys were lucky enough to score a dance with some lovely ladies.

The last theme park on the agenda was Wet'n' Wild which was full of exciting water activities and even a wave pool. The weather was a bit too cool to explore the entire park but some of the members were keen enough to take on the challenge of a waterslide or two (As a result we had some very chilly people desperately trying to dry off in the sun!).

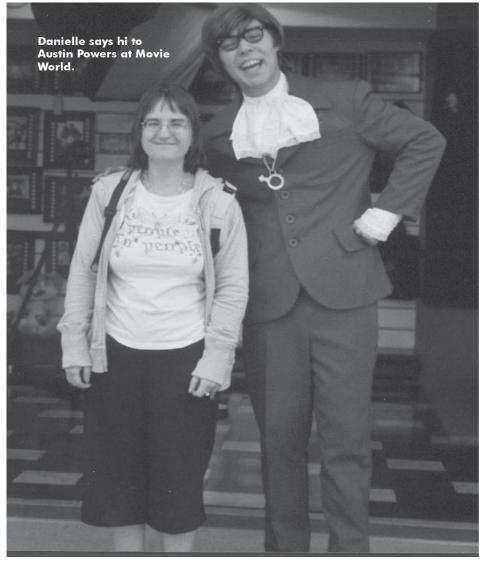
We celebrated our last evening on The Gold Coast with a lovely meal at an Italian Restaurant before heading back to the resort for some birthday celebrations. One of the members was completely taken aback by her SURPRISE birthday party and we indulged in lots of birthday cake and champagne to celebrate. However with a VERY early departure the next morning, everyone had to be in bed at a reasonable hour.

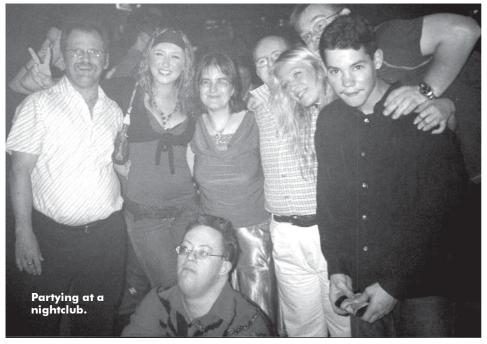
Packing up and leaving the resort was bittersweet, with the members eager to return to their families in Perth but sad that the holiday was over. We arrived back at Perth Airport tired and weary but ON TIME, and all in ONE PIECE! Families waiting eagerly at the airport were excited to see us all and the parents were soon all given a detailed recollection of our wonderful trip. The Recreation Service hopes to make The Social Club interstate holiday an annual event and we anticipate lots of interest being shown in next year's trip.

We must take this opportunity to thank Robbie Butt who volunteered his time for the trip. He was a fantastic help to the staff and helped ensure the Social Club members had a terrific holiday. Robbie regularly volunteers with The Social Club and his contribution to the program is invaluable.

For more information on The Social Club, please contact Marie Martin or Jo Sharland at the Kensington Office on 9474 3303.

dventures





Invitation to

6 The BIG Picture

This forum will provide the chance for you to have your say. Please give us the opportunity to answer your questions.

Proposed Agenda Items at this stage include:

- Presentation of Annual Report
- Presentation on Phase 2 of the Residential Services Plan
- Residence Agreement
- Alister McLean Foundation Update

We would love to hear from you if you have any other issues you would like to discuss. Please contact reception on 9474 3303 or email us on ed@identitywa.com.au The details of the event are as follows:

DATE: Sunday, 26 November

2006

TIME: 2.00pm - 4.00pm

VENUE: The Meeting Room

i.d.entity.wa's

Administrative Offices

46 David Street, Kensington

We look forward to seeing you there on the day!

Little SIBS Fun Day

Seven very happy and energetic Little SIBS aged 6 to 8 years came along to Kensington to enjoy a lovely fun day. We started with decorating pikelets with lots of sugary delights, played games and enjoyed some morning tea.

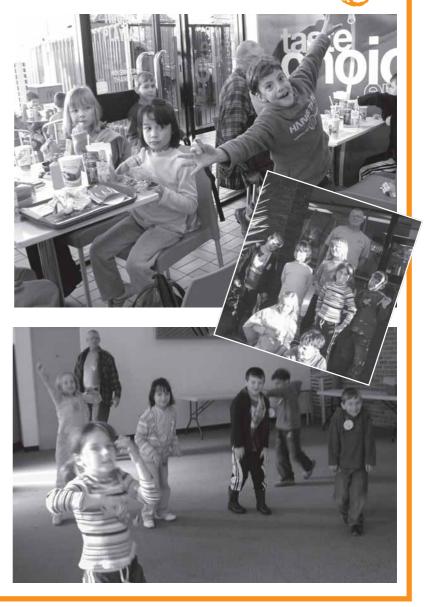
After morning tea the children did a session where they each put up a photo of their sibling and one of themselves, and then we brainstormed what was the same and what was different and learnt how different was okay. The children showed a lot of love and respect for their siblings.

We then headed out in the bus and visited McDonald's for lunch and then later to the Beach House Kid's Fun Centre in Osborne Park. What a brilliant place! They had a great time negotiating all the indoor equipment and driving the 'little' bikes around the 'race track'.

This fun day was a wonderful opportunity for the children to come together and meet with other children in the same situation. This takes away the isolation for these children and gives them the opportunity to normalise their experiences and feelings. They also get to be treated as very special SIBS and have a lot of fun.

Afterwards we stopped for an ice cream at McDonald's. Thank you all for a very special fun day and hope to see you all again for the next one! Big thanks to Lotterywest for yet again generously funding this day and to McDonald's for their discount lunches.

EILEEN DIELESEN, Family Counsellor/ Group Facilitator



Yes! I would like to "MAKE A DIFFERENCE" for people with intellectual disabilities and their families.

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