

# Happens



## In this issue:

- New venue for Adelaide Hills Day Options
- New service in Renmark
- CLASS Consumer Advisory Group

## A word from the CEO



### Welcome to the Winter edition of CLASS Happens.

It's pleasing that CLASS is involved in some exciting program developments. Day Options is going through review to ensure we are meeting client needs. This will mean that some things may change to ensure we continue to have a person centred approach. Another major achievement is that most staff would have had or are about to have training in Person Centred Active Support.

It is also significant that CLASS has launched our new website. Please have a look at [www.classinc.com.au](http://www.classinc.com.au)

In a past newsletter we have spoken about the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

This scheme provides the single greatest opportunity to improve and increase services to people with disabilities and their carers Australia has seen.

As previously reported, the CLASS Board has endorsed CLASS to fully support the NDIS (of which Management has a full grasp). NDIS came from the 2020 summit where an idea was floated in regards to ensuring there was adequate funding available to meet Australians' needs. In the simplest terms, the idea is that every Australian, if diagnosed with a disability as a child or as an adult, will receive funding for their support needs.

The NDIS will make services for people with disabilities and their families effective, equitable and efficient ensuring the establishment of a new national safety net, providing peace of mind for all Australians

It is said that the NDIS will fix a broken system which is based on responding to unplanned crisis to a system which is rights based and meets basic human needs. With the number of Australians with a severe physical, intellectual and/or

behavioural disability increasing, and the community's capacity to provide informal care is declining. Planning and ensuring there is funding for the future is now necessary.

Things you can do as a client, family member, volunteer, staff or community supporter are;

1. Register on the Every Australian Counts Website [www.everyaustraliancounts.com.au](http://www.everyaustraliancounts.com.au)  
The goal is over 100,000 people registered by October. This will send a clear message to major political parties that people are serious about this and disability funding needs to improve.  
Enclosed is a postcard to join the campaign.
2. Speak with your friends and acquaintances and let them know of the campaign (direct them to [www.everyaustraliancounts.com.au](http://www.everyaustraliancounts.com.au) to register and for more info)
3. Speak with your local Politician and ask them where they stand (there is some useful information at [www.everyaustraliancounts.com.au](http://www.everyaustraliancounts.com.au))
4. Come and hear more at the DisabiliTea events that will be organised across Australia. CLASS are hosting one on Tuesday 2 August @ 10.30am

## From the Editors Desk...

I hope you enjoy this edition of Happens with CLASS! If you have any feedback, or wish to contribute to the next edition, please email [janelle.owen@classinc.com.au](mailto:janelle.owen@classinc.com.au)

Please submit articles for the Spring edition of Happens by Friday 26th August 2011.

In an effort to reduce our paper consumption, please email [janelle.owen@classinc.com.au](mailto:janelle.owen@classinc.com.au) if you would prefer to receive the next edition by email.

Thanks!  
**Janelle Owen**  
*Marketing & Fundraising*

## Dates to remember...

### *Fundraising Events*

TBC	Bush Dance
TBC	Quiz Night
TBC	Cabaret

### *Public Holidays*

5 October	Labour Day
25 December	Christmas Day

Cont'd....

Please get behind this campaign and help us make a difference for every person who has or one day may have a disability.

On another topic I'm very proud to announce that CLASS has achieved Certificate level within the Service Excellence Program which is a Quality based service improvement framework.

Lastly I wish to welcome all new clients and staff and would like to make special mention of the new accommodation service in Renmark. For the staff that have moved on I thank you for your efforts and wish the best for future endeavours.

**Mark Kulinski**  
Chief Executive

## 'CLASS'y new venue!

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Letitia Wagenknecht

**After months of searching the Adelaide Hills Day Options group have relocated!**

The new venue is located in Nairne and along with having great rooms to provide new programs, the venue is leased solely by CLASS which means we can make the venue our own!

Some of the new programs available will be computer skills, arts & crafts and a 'chill-out' room, pictured below, with a big screen TV, Wii & DVD's. In order to accommodate the recreation pursuits of many of the clients there is also a pool table!

The modern amenities within the building are the best we have ever had and will allow us to support clients with higher support needs even better than before!

We are currently in a 'transition phase' from the Scout Hall but we will maintain the lease there to run programs such as music and cooking!

If you would like a tour of the new venue, please contact the CLASS office.

## Honary Member of Rotary Club

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George Rowe

**George Rowe, a CLASS client and volunteer, was made an Honary Member of the Rotary Club of Strathalbyn and wrote this article for the newsletter...**

I am an Honary Member for Rotary.

I am fourth generation from my family in the Rotary Club of Strathalbyn - my Dad and Grandfather are in the same club.

I am also on the CLASS Client Advisory Group.

*George is pictured below with Stanley Schofield, Geoff Ortel and his Dad, Bill Rowe.*



## Renovations at Southern Metro Day Options Venue

**CLASS were successful in applying for \$3,900 through the Rotary Club of Noarlunga East Community Grants.**

The money received will be used to redevelop the outside area at the Southern Metro Day Options Venue which is located within the Christie Downs Primary School.

Thank you to the Rotary Club of Noarlunga East for your generosity! Watch this space for news of the redevelopment!

The Team at Southern Metro have also been busy fundraising for a Pergola and holding two fundraising BBQs at Noarlunga Bunnings.

The pergola is now erected and will be finalised with the grant money just received.

Thank you to all the staff who helped and families who donated their time and goods!



## CLASS Recreation Update

Daniel Gobbett

**The Murraylands Program has smoothly rolled into its third year of service with each camp and day option offering a new story or photo for the dinner table.**

Since the last newsletter, the group have enjoyed weekends in Victor Harbor, Aldinga, Deep Creek, Barmera and Warradale. Some highlights of these trips have been the canoeing in Lake Bonney, toasted marshmallows on the campfire of Stringybark campsite and of course a recent trip to the Beachouse where some were brave enough to hit the waterslides. In the middle of winter!

The Day Options program has been providing a good platform of conversation also with a tour of Monarto Zoo, a night at a Crows game and movie session at the Mitcham Cinemas.

With more clients to be added to the list and another 12 months funding recently acquired, I'm sure there will be plenty more adventures to be had!



## Easier access to CLASS head office

Janelle Owen

**Modifications have been made to the CLASS Head Office providing easier access to everyone!**

In December 2010 CLASS successfully applied for funding through the Employment Assistance Fund to modify the reception desk and front doors.

The reception desk was modified to include a height adjustable desk - there are now two in the office.

The most noticeable change is the installation of automatic sliding doors, which will allow all visitors to enter reception independently.

The Employment Assistance Fund helps people with disability and mental health condition by providing financial assistance to purchase a range of work related modifications and services for people who are about to start a job or who are currently working, as well as those who require assistance to find and prepare for work.



## Mosaicing on the South Coast

Jennifer Simpson

**A group of friends from the South Coast Day Options venue recently started a mosaic project.**

Everyone took turns cutting and gluing the tiles for the initial tile decoration, which we created together.

Amanda and Rebecca spent time preparing all the materials (as pictured below).

Sharon, Elaine, Rebecca & Alecia all worked together as a team.



## Fundraising update

### Meadows Easter Fair

Again CLASS ran the catering in the hall at the four day Meadows Easter Fair. We sold a selection of homemade soups, cakes and of course plenty of scones.

We made \$5,500 profit!

A BIG THANK YOU to everyone (too many to list here) who volunteered their produce, time, homebaked goods and scone making hands!!

### A touch of CLASS @ the Strathalbyn Race Course

On April 27 2011 we held the inaugural fundraising event 'A touch of CLASS @ the Strathalbyn Race Course.

The day was a great success and we raised over \$6,500!

The funds raised will be used to run camps for youth living with disabilities.

Thank you to our major sponsors:

- Adelaide Hills Toyota
- LJ Hooker Strathalbyn
- Revolution Roofing
- Strathalbyn Building & Estimating



And donations from:

- Strathalbyn Pharmacies
- Willshire - Motor Trimmers
- Gavin & Ann Porteous
- Simon & Sharon Taylor

Thank you to Keith Pridham and the staff at the Strathalbyn Race Course for organising such a great day.

### CLASS Disco

We held the first CLASS Disco on Friday 7th May at the Strathalbyn Town Hall. What a great night! Thank you to everyone who helped set up the disco, assisted with transport, and run the evening. Thank you also to our sponsors:

- Fleurieu Camp Drafting Club
- Strathalbyn Football Club
- David Dridan
- IGA Strathalbyn
- Terramin Australia

We still have some money in the kitty for two more discos so watch this space!

### Coming Up

We are in the process of organising the Hookers Hornets Fundraising Cabaret & Auction and the CLASS Quiz Night - look out for the flyers promoting these popular fundraising events!

**Thank you for your continued support!**



## 2011 Tri-State Games

**The 2011 Tri-State Games will be held in the Adelaide Hills.**

The Hookers Hornets will again participate in the week-long event, enjoying opportunities to catch up with old friends and rivals on the field!

There are a small number of spaces available so if you would like to join the Hookers Hornets and attend the Tri-State Games please contact Letitia Wagenknecht or Julie Thompson on 8536 5800.

If you would like to be involved in the Tri-State Games through volunteering on competition days or assisting with fundraising efforts, please call Janelle on 8536 5800 - we would love to hear from you!



## New CLASS Service in Renmark

**Local people with disabilities will have the chance to remain in the region after a support service was recently established in The Riverland.**

The accommodation, which is provided by CLASS, will be home for four people in need of support.

Located on the Renmark riverfront, the property is a beautiful spot to live!

CLASS will provide assistance for shopping and other daily jobs with carers scheduled to work on a full-time basis.

We are thrilled to be providing services in The Riverland and look forward to meeting residents and business owners in the region.



## Person Centred Active Support

Sue Stuart

**Person Centred Active Support is designed to involve people in every day choices and decisions that effect their lives.**

Each CLASS staff member will be trained in Person Centred Active Support over a two day course. The program includes an interactive training assessment that every staff member completes.

The basis of Person Centred Active Support is to design an opportunity plan to suit each individual to achieve their goals and being actively involved within their community, their own homes and their day to day life.

Thus far, the training has been rolled out across the Rowe Street Service and client plans have been implemented.

Team Leaders within each service will spend time with every client to identify their goals and opportunities. These plan will be reviewed on a regular basis.



## Consumer Advisory Group

Daniel Gobbett

Hi everyone, just a quick note to say that our Consumer Advisory Group is coming along really well.

We're getting lots of good information through our representatives being passed on from clients in the services!

Our current members are:

**Marie** – Accommodation Service

**George** - Hills Day Options

**Arron** - Hills Day Options & ILS

**Lynette** – Accommodation Service & Staff Member

**Lisa** - Hills Day Options & Volunteer

**Jim** - CLASS Board of Directors

We are currently looking for new members from all areas of CLASS with different ideas to be involved in our group.

If you are interested but not able to travel to Strathalbyn each month, we may be able to include you via a teleconference. Please contact any of the current members listed above or the CLASS office for more information.



## Kindling for sale!

Advertisement

If you need kindling to get your fire started this winter - LOOK NO FURTHER!

Kevin, a CLASS client who lives in McHargs Creek, has been busy collecting BIG bags full of kindling from his property and is selling it for

**\$2 per bag!**

Take the hassle out of collecting kindling and support Kevin!

Please order your kindling by phoning the office or emailing [info@classinc.com.au](mailto:info@classinc.com.au)



## Community Garden

Janelle Owen

Plans are currently being finalised for the Strathalbyn Community Garden of Wellbeing.

The land is located behind Myranth House on High Street and enjoys a secluded position in the heart of the Strathalbyn township.

The steering committee have met on several occasions to discuss how the garden will work best for the community.

It has been decided that the garden will not be made up of 'allotments for hire', like the community gardens in large cities. It will be a community space, accessible to everyone in the community with opportunities to share knowledge and produce whilst nurturing friendships along the way.

If you would like to be involved, we would love to hear from you. Please contact Janelle Owen on 8536 5800 or [janelle.owen@classinc.com.au](mailto:janelle.owen@classinc.com.au)



## Respite for carers of people with disabilities

### ADVERTISEMENT

**The Lions Club of Robe and District recognises the outstanding work done by carers of people with disabilities and acknowledges the demands placed on carers.**

This project provides opportunities for carers and their families to take a subsidised holiday break of worthwhile duration in Robe.

Respite for Carers of the Disabled project: For eligible carers and their families, the Lions Club will subsidise

accommodation (holiday rental or motel type) during the off-peak time of May to August (excepting June long weekend and July school holidays if already booked). The subsidy applies for a minimum of 4 days and maximum of 7 days. Families can stay longer at the unsubsidised accommodation rate. The subsidised rate is a total of \$90 per night.

Who is eligible?: Carers, their partners and immediate family. Maximum occupancy per property is 2 couples or a family.

If you're interested and want to know more: Contact Commonwealth Respite & Carelink Centre (CR&CC) on 1800 052 222 or CLASS on 8536 5800. Your eligibility will be established and information will be passed on to the Lions Club who will liaise with property owners to arrange your subsidised holiday.



## Consider contributing to Class ...

- Yes, I would like to contribute to Class.
- Yes, I would like to receive information about volunteering for Class.

Mr / Mrs / Miss / Ms

Address:

Suburb:

Postcode:

Email:

Phone:

**Please accept my tax deductible gift of:**

- \$15
- \$25
- \$50
- \$75
- Other \$

Please make cheque/money order payable to Class, PO Box 1166, Strathalbyn SA 5255

Gifts over \$2 are tax deductible. A receipt will be sent shortly. For every dollar you contribute, we can deliver a greater range of services in day activities, participation in local sport and leisure activities, respite and life skills.