



advocacy in action

Newsletter

Volume 23, January 2009

Multicultural Disability Advocacy Association of NSW

**Inside
this
Issue**



Welcome
Page 1

Special Olympics
Page 2 & 3

Writers Group
Breath and Shadow
Page 4

Disability Standards
Page 5 & 6

Eurobodalla Arts
Action Co-op
Free Cars for Needy
Families
Page 7

Welcome to Issue 23 of the AIA Newsletter

My apologies for not getting a newsletter to you sooner; it has been quite a few months and I thank you for your patience.

Recently I went on holiday, mainly because I was burnt out. With doctors visits, 3 jobs and everything else going on in life I had to get away. I went to Queensland – Brisbane, Hervey Bay and Surfers Paradise. I stayed at the YHA (Youth Hostel Association). I didn't want to come back.

The YHA is cheap, clean and some of them are even disability friendly.

If you would like to find out how to join the YHA (membership is \$32) or to find out the hostels that are accessible give them a call on 02 9218 9000 or visit www.yha.com.au or your local office.

I am living with my mother at the moment for a little emotional support. Living back at home has its drawbacks as some of you may know; the lack of privacy is one of them.

Does anyone else have a story about living with a carer? I would love it if you would write in and tell me. It would give me a little normality to hear someone else's story.

MDAA contact details are at the bottom of page 3.

James

This is your newsletter. It needs your assistance. I want to find out what's happening in your area; I want to hear your voice, I want you to have your say. Send your contributions to;

Email: james.gallagher@inet.net.au

Mail to: James Gallagher,
c/- MDAA, PO Box 9381,
Harris Park NSW 2150

The Special Olympics

Special Olympics Australia is part of a global movement started by Eunice Kennedy Shriver (sister of President John F Kennedy).

Mrs Shriver believed that people with an intellectual disability were far more capable and deserving than people thought. So in June 1962, she invited 35 children with an intellectual disability into her own backyard. Known as Camp Shriver, the day camp gave the children a chance to explore their capabilities through sport. By 1968, Camp Shriver had developed into an international competition. Today, Special Olympics Inc brings together over 2.25 million athletes in 169 countries. Every year over 30,000 competitions are held throughout the world with athletes able to compete in 26 Olympic-type sports. That makes this not-for-profit organisation the world's largest sports training and competition for people with an intellectual disability.



Special Olympics athletes have the opportunity to compete at a World Games. The World Games operate on a four year-cycle.

Many people confuse Special Olympics with the Paralympics, but they are in fact very different.

- Special Olympics is only for people with an intellectual disability. The Paralympics is mainly for athletes with physical disability.
- Special Olympics welcomes all participants regardless of their skill level. The Paralympics is for elite athletes only.
- Special Olympics provides year-round training and competition and athletes compete at local, regional, state, national and international competition. The Paralympics holds one international competition every four years.
- Special Olympics is the only organisation allowed by the International Olympic Committee to use the word "Olympics".

Quick Facts — Special Olympics Australia

* Special Olympics Australia was established in 1976 celebrating their thirty-year anniversary in 2006.

* Special Olympics Australia hosts 4500 athletes in 46 regions across Australia

* In Australia, around 1000 volunteers provide sports training and competition every week. They also work on committees, manage events, raise funds and create communities.

* In Australian Special Olympics there are twelve official sports: athletics,

basketball, bocce, cricket, golf, gymnastics, sailing, soccer, softball, swimming, tennis and tenpin bowling.

- * Winter sports are also being developed.
- * Athletes can compete in more than one sport.
- * Training takes place every week in every region.
- * The next National Games will be held in Adelaide, South Australia in 2010.
- * In the lead-up to the Games, Sydney hosted the Flame of Hope as part of the global Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics.

More information including local contacts are available on the website;
www.specialolympics.com.au

Or you can contact them at their office;

Special Olympics NSW
C/ - The Secretary
3/34 Tighe St
Waratah NSW 2298

Or;

Robyn Gibbons on (02) 95284262



Your feedback is important to us.

If you have any comments about this Newsletter or if you'd like to make your contribution, give us a call on



Freecall: 1800 629 072 TTY: (02) 9687 6325

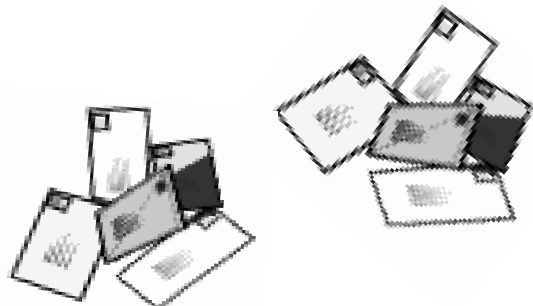
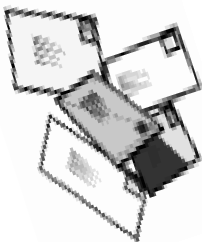
Or send us an email to:

sharon.smith@mdaa.org.au or
james.gallagher@inet.net.au



Or write to us at:

Advocacy in Action
C/- MDAA
PO Box 9381,
Harris Park,
NSW 2150



WOMENS WRITERS GROUP

Do you like writing stories, articles, poems or anything else? Do you just have an interest in the written word.

We are a friendly group, who are getting going and looking forward to expanding and having fun, creative experiences in 2009.

If you're interested in joining us, whether in person for gatherings, or online for chats/ emails, then get in contact with one of our group coordinators.

Hannen

email: women@mdaa.org.au or

phone: 1800 629 072

Joanne Calman:

email: jcalman@bigpond.net.au or

phone: (02) 9820-3761

Kerri Thorne:

email: katmint@tadaust.org.au or

phone: (02) 9692-0842

BREATH AND SHADOW

A Journal of Disability Culture and Literature

What is Breath & Shadow?

Breath & Shadow is a monthly journal of disability culture and literature. A project of AbilityMaine, Breath & Shadow is the only online literary journal with a focus on disability. It is also unique in being the sole cross-disability literature and culture magazine written and edited entirely by people with disabilities. While some literary journals may devote one issue in a year—or ten years—to the disability experience, in Breathe & Shadow you will find poetry, fiction, essays, interviews, drama, and other writing that examines the human experience of living with disability—in every single issue.

The editors of Breath & Shadow believe that personhood in the land of disability can and should present in its multiplicity. Thus, diversity of writing style, content, genre, and category, as well as author demographics, is a goal for each issue. From haiku to slam poem to sestina; from humour essays to memoirs to reviews and commentary; from science fiction to flash fiction to suspense; from interviews with national disability rights leaders to profiles of children's theatre companies—our journal showcases writing by people with disabilities in all its power, complexity, and breadth. And because we believe in cross disability representation—that building a disability culture and aesthetic is enriched by (and indeed, requires) the inclusion of all people with disabilities—we feature writing by children and adults; people with physical, mental, emotional, and sensory disabilities; and new/emergent and established writers.

To find out more about Breath and Shadow, you can look at:

<http://www.abilitymaine.org/breath/index.html>

DISABILITY STANDARDS

Standard 2

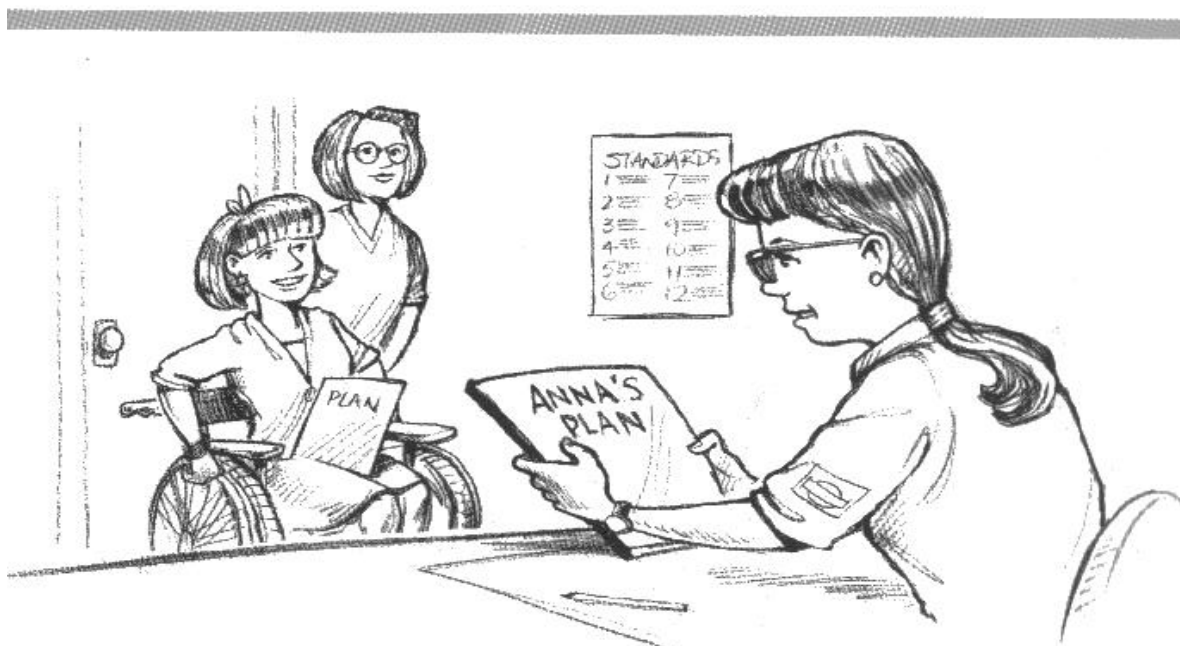
Individual Needs

Each person with a disability receives a service, which is designed to meet, in the least restrictive way, his or her individual needs and personal goals.

This is about: when you get a service, the staff giving you help to do the things you want and to reach your goals.

The service caters for you and what you need. The goals of the service are your goals. The service and staff treat you as an individual. They find out what you want and what your goals are and then help you to get them. The way that they help you is the way which puts the least amount of limits on you.

(We will put more about other standards in future issues of this newsletter.)



EUROBODALLA

Arts Action Co-op

Arts Action Co-op is a group of people with various 'disabilities' who are organising an Arts Project for people with disability (of any sort) in Eurobodalla.

To help the Co-op decide what to organise please fill out their survey. You can get a copy of the survey by writing to:

John Olsen

Moruya Community Health Centre, 10 River St, Moruya 2537 Or

Fill you can fill in the survey over the phone by contacting: John Olsen on; 02 4474 1692 (please leave a message with your phone number if John is not in his office and he will call you back)

FREE CARS FOR NEEDY FAMILIES

Needy families and community groups may be able to benefit from a plan in which those going through a rough patch will be able to borrow small late-model vehicles, absolutely free of charge, to help them get back on their feet.

Australian search engine, Big Roo, has announced that families nationwide, including single parents, will be able to borrow small late-model vehicles, absolutely free of charge.

The Big Roo cars will be made available anywhere in Australia to genuine "Aussie battlers" who need a helping hand to get them 'on the road', literally, to a brighter future. Individuals and organisations providing volunteer services to the community are also eligible.

Those selected will be given a late-model car for up to six months to help them pull their lives together. The cars will be delivered to the families or groups with a full tank of fuel. In addition, Big Roo will meet all vehicle registration, insurance and maintenance costs.

Candidates must be at least 25 years of age; have a clean driving licence; be a responsible, careful and considerate driver; drive at least 400 kilometres a week; keep the vehicle in a clean and roadworthy condition; and be an Australian citizen or Permanent Resident.

Big Roo's spokesman, Tony Tobin, said. "Each car will be decorated with Big Roo logos and colours, so it's important to us who drives the vehicles as they will be representing Big Roo to the public.

"Our aim is to help those who are in genuine need, someone who's trying to get back up on his or her feet, but finding it tough. It's intended to be a hand up, not a hand out".

An online application form for Big Roo's loan vehicles can be found on the Big Roo website www.bigroo.com/Get_a_free_car.308.0.html

For further information please contact:

Tony Tobin, Big Roo, Australian Search Engine, 0422 582 878

If you do not understand this document, please ring the Telephone Interpreter Service (131 450) and ask them to contact the MDAA on 1800 629 072.

ARABIC

إذا لم تستطع فهم هذه الوثيقة، الرجاء الاتصال بخدمة الترجمة الهاتفية على رقم ١٣١ ٤٥٠ وأسألهم أن يتصلوا بـ MDAA على رقم ١٨٠٠ ٦٢٩ ٠٧٢.

CHINESE

如您看不懂此文件，請打電話給「電話翻譯服務台」(131 450) 請他們聯絡 MDAA 電話 1800 629 072。

CROATIAN

Ako ne razumijete ovaj dokument, molimo nazovite Službu prevoditelja i tumača (Translating and Interpreting Service) na 131 450 i zamolite da nazovu MDAA na 1800 629 072.

GREEK

Αν δεν καταλαβαίνετε αυτό το έγγραφο, σας παρακαλούμε να τηλεφωνήσετε την Τηλεφωνική Υπηρεσία Διερμηνέων (131 450) και να τους ζητήσετε να επικοινωνήσουν με το MDAA στο 1800 629 072.

HINDI

अगर आप इस कागज़ात को पढ़कर समझ नहीं पा रहे हैं तो कृपया टेलीफोन सवाद-सहायक सेवा (१३१ ४५०) को फ़ोन करें और उनसे एम डी ए ए (MDAA) को १८०० ६२९ ०७२ पर संपर्क करने को कहें।

ITALIAN

Se non comprendi questo documento, telefona al Servizio telefonico interpreti (131 450) chiedendo di essere messo in contatto con il MDAA al 1800 629 072.

KOREAN

만일 이 문서를 이해하지 못하시면, 전화 통역 서비스(131 450)에 전화하여 MDAA 1800 629 072에 연락해 달라고 부탁드립니다.

MALTESE

Jekk ma tifhimx dan id-dokument, jekk jogħ, bok jempel lis-Servizz ta' l-Interpretu (131 450) u itlobhom jikkuntattjaw lill-MDAA fuq 1800 629 072.

POLISH

Jeśli nie rozumiesz treści niniejszego dokumentu, zadzwoń do Telefonicznego Biura Tłumaczy (Telephone Interpreter Service) pod numer 131 450 i poproś o telefoniczne skontaktowanie się w Twoim imieniu z MDAA pod numerem 1800 629 072.

SPANISH

Si usted no entiende este documento, sírvase llamar al Servicio Telefónico de Intérpretes (131 450) y pedir que llamen a MDAA al 1800 629 072.

TURKISH

Bu belgeyi anlayamazsanız, lütfen Telefonla Tercüme Servisi'ne (131 450) telefon ederek, 1800 629 072'den MDAA ile iliflkiye geçmelerini isteyiniz.

VIETNAMESE

Nếu quý vị không hiểu tài liệu này, xin điện thoại đến Dịch vụ Thông ngôn qua Điện thoại (Telephone Interpreter Service) ở số 131 450 và nhờ họ liên lạc MDAA qua số 1800 629 072.