



BRAND NEWS

Newsletter of the Cerebral Palsy Association of Western Australia Ltd

**April
2005**

The next issue of Brand News will be published in May 2005. Deadline for content for the May issue of Brand News should reach the Editor of Brand News no later than Friday 29 April 2005.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Group Holidays
Celebrate Family Week
Wet and Wild
A Driving Success
Supporting Young Siblings Project
'What Do I Need To Know?' Project Update
Brandon Steps Out
On the Western Front
Creating 'Opportunities'
Farewell Kathy
Hire Mobility
Children's Respite Recreation Programme
Access Home Loan Scheme
CEO's Corner

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Joe Michell Scholarships

A scholarship was set up in 2003 to honour the significant contribution that Joe Michell made to the Cerebral Palsy Association of Western Australia (CPAWA). This year is the second year that scholarships were presented, and coincided with the launch of the Association's new adolescent team. CPAWA took the opportunity to combine the two events, to acknowledge the significance of young people in our community.

Felicity Denham, Erica Sinclair and Nathan Smith were all awarded scholarships. Felicity and Erica attended the evening, whilst Nathan had career related commitments and was unable to attend.

John Knowles and Swee Michell presented the awards, and both Felicity and Erica addressed the audience, with heart warming speeches and words of thanks.

The evening was a great opportunity to share in the achievements of the scholarship recipients and to talk of the steps that have been taken to establish and further strengthen services for adolescents with cerebral palsy at CPAWA.



Pictured left to right are the adolescent team with the scholarship winners. Kelsey Cotton (OT), Haylee Clark (SW), Felicity Denham, Linda Johnson (SP), Erica Sinclair and Errolyn Boettcher-Hunt (PT).

The Adolescent Team of Kelsey Cotton (Occupational Therapist), Linda Johnson (Speech Pathologist), a representative of the physiotherapy team - Errolyn Boettcher-Hunt, and Haylee Clark (Social Worker / Contact Person) was able to meet with young people and their families, as well as talking about the team's work.

The evening was wrapped up with a fantastically energetic and humorous motivational presentation by Chris Maxwell. Chris asked the audience, "When was the last time you had a check up from the neck up?" He had everyone thinking about how we could all be more complimentary towards ourselves and the people around us.

Overall, the night was a great success and it was wonderful to reflect on the amazing adolescents with whom we have the privilege of working with. The Association encourages all adolescent readers and their families to come along next year, and to keep an eye out for scholarship possibilities at the end of this year.



Scholarship winners Felicity Denham (left) and Erica Sinclair (right) with CPAWA Board Chairperson, Kerry Allan-Zinner.

Haylee Clark
Social Worker and Contact Person
Adolescent Team

Chairperson's report

The last month has been a very busy time at the Association with a number of key achievements that will greatly benefit clients of the Association.

Over the Christmas break the Independent Living Centre, with funding from the Disability Services Commission, advertised its Equipment for Living Grant. We made applications for over one hundred people and I am very pleased to report that of the \$320,000 in submissions made, some \$240,000 has been funded. A second round for the Equipment for Living Grant was recently announced and applications have now closed for funding one-off grants for equipment not normally funded by CAEP, aimed at enhancing functional independence or assisting families in meeting personal care needs or accessing the community. Again, our staff have worked tirelessly to gather applications from clients and families and a substantial number of applications have been submitted.

It was a great pleasure to hear that the Fremantle Dockers have chosen the Association as one of its Charity Partners and beneficiaries for 2005. The Association is very excited with this step, and the alignment of two of Perth's better known sporting and community organisations is seen as being mutually beneficial to both organisations. A formal announcement and launch of this new relationship is expected soon.

I am also pleased to announce that Access Employment has been very successful in securing an additional nine employment places for the coming year: this represents a twenty-five percent increase in the number of employment places, meaning that we will be able to provide more

people with a wider range of employment options and ensuring that Access Employment will continue to be a sustainable operation.

We also commissioned a new group home in Mount Lawley for six residents over the Easter break. Whilst we are now going through the usual 'settling in process', the project has been greatly supported by the clients, their families and staff at the Association. This project is very representative of our continued expansion in the residential services area.

On Wednesday 30 March 2005 at Subiaco Oval the second Joe Michell Scholarships were announced, details of which are the front cover story for Brand News. The evening was also an opportunity to unveil and showcase the new adolescent team at CPAWA. Their groundbreaking work is very exciting and the three young people who received scholarships were a great credit to themselves, their families and the work of the adolescent team. A special guest speaker, Chris Maxwell who has done extensive youth motivational speaking, featured at the evening and made it an inspirational evening.

During March I also had the pleasure of attending and presenting at the Australian Cerebral Palsy Association (ACPA) Conference in Adelaide. One hundred and seventy participants attended from around Australia. The submissions by staff of the Association were of the highest standard and we should be very proud of our staff and the work they presented at the Conference. The Conference was also an opportunity for the ACPA Executive to meet. At this meeting it was resolved to adopt a new



Kerry Allan-Zinner

brand and name for ACPA, now to be 'CP Australia'. New strategies to advance a National Cerebral Palsy Register were developed and ACPA also met with the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare to commence a ground-breaking national study into 'The Need for Therapy and Equipment'. All in all, an exciting future beckons for CP Australia.

I look forward to sharing more exciting challenges and initiatives with readers of Brand News in the coming months.

Kerry Allan-Zinner
Chairperson
Board of Directors

Joe Michell Scholarships continued...



The Cooke family:- Karen, Peta, Graeme and Claire.



The Sullivan family:- Michelle, Shane and Gary.



The Sinclair family:- Kris, Erica and Greg.



The Garcia family:- Darryl, Scott and Karen.



From left to right are Chris Maxwell, Kelsey Cotton, Anita Ghose, Errolyn Boettcher-Hunt, Linda Johnson, Haylee Clark and Paula Dyke.



The Denham family:- Susan, Felicity and Peter.



Jessica Law-Davis and Kelsey Cotton.



The Costanzo family:- Francesco, Melissa and Rosalba.



Swee Michell (left) presents Erica Sinclair with her Scholarship.



Swee Michell (right) presents Felicity Denham with her scholarship.

Heading South

Recently, the Community Access Programme organised two group holidays for clients of the Cerebral Palsy Association of Western Australia, to the south of our state.

The first group took off to Busselton on the very first day of March, returning four days later. The second group went on a short road trip to Mandurah for a four-day weekend at the annual Crab Fest.

The common thread of the two holidays was fun and food, both parties sampling countless amounts

of local and exotic cuisine. Some were even brave enough to experiment and try some different seafood apart from the usual fish and chips. To quote one participant "Crab isn't that bad."

Each time away had its own unique memories. The Busselton holiday gave the group the chance to try their hand at caving, heading into parts of Margaret River's Mammoth cave. The group was also able to admire the magnificent views found at Canal Rocks on the newly built walkway, which gives access over the rocky areas close to the ocean.

The trip to Mandurah for the Crab Fest turned into a great weekend with street theatre, local bands and a 'fantastic' fireworks show on the Saturday evening.

Both holidays had one extra thing in common: nobody wanted to go home! The most notable quote occurred meeting the bus on its return to CPAWA. On opening the door I was greeted with an enthusiastic. "Can I go back NOW!!?"



Loraine and Aimee in Mandurah



Jemima Taylor and a volunteer at Canal Rocks

Each holiday has its different attractions and memories but there are some universal characteristics of any time away. Holidays are an opportunity to experience new places and meet new people; they are a way to escape the routines of everyday life, relax and try different things.

If you are interested in participating in one of the small group holidays run by the Independent Living Programme's Community Access Programme, please call 9443 0287 for more information.

Bronia Karniewicz
Acting Leisure Officer
Community Access



Celebrate Family Week 2005 at The Beach House Kids Fun Centre with us



Date: Friday 13th May

Time: 5.30pm-7.30pm

Where: The Beach House Kids Fun Centre
5 O'Malley Street, Osborne Park
(turn off Scarborough Beach Road at Office Works)

Cost: **No Entry Fee**
(purchase own drinks and snacks at cafe)

Sponsored by The Early Intervention Programme at CPAWA and The Beach House Kids Fun Centre

Therapists/Staff will assist with supervision of your children.

See www.thebeachhouse.org.au for more information on the venue.

RSVP and enquiries to Daniel on 94430383 or Odette on 94430219