



Kith and Kin Connects

May 2010

"Building opportunities for individual growth" in Townsville since 1981

KITH AND KIN ASSOCIATION LIMITED

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EVENTS CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

MAY

- **3 - May Day Holiday**
- **7, 14, 21, 28 - ArtWorks! art workshops at Wulguru Community Centre**
- **10, 17, 24, 31 - Mental Health Art Workshops at Wulguru Community Centre**

Disability party on verge of historic win

(From ABC 26 March 2010)

A political party for people with disabilities is on the cusp of winning its first seat in an Australian parliament.

The Dignity for Disability Party looks set to pick up a seat in the Upper House of South Australia's Parliament.

That will be a historic result and one that will bring mixed emotions for supporters because the party's lead candidate died during the campaign.

Kelly Vincent, 21, is almost certain of winning a seat in the Upper House, which would make her South Australia's youngest parliamentarian and the state's only MP in a wheelchair.

"They would have to put a ramp at Parliament House," she said.

"They would have to change the rules. There'll be no more standing votes or standing. There'll be no more standing as far as I'm concerned.

"So big changes are going to happen just purely if I get elected."

The Adelaide Hills playwright has found herself on the edge of victory after her party's lead candidate, Dr Paul Collier, died in the second week of the election campaign.

Dr Collier was an author and historian who spent years fighting as a disability advocate in Australia and the UK.

He suffered a fatal brain haemorrhage unrelated to his quadriplegia.

Ms Vincent says Dr Collier has left an important legacy.

"A lot of people have said to me: 'How do you feel that some people see you as using his death to swell your votes or sympathy votes?'" she said.

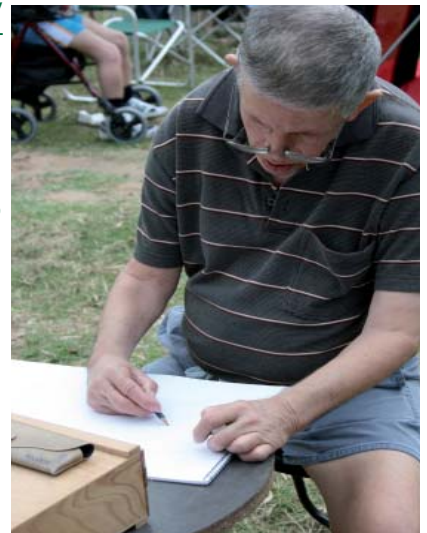
"I do not consider them sympathy votes. I consider them honour votes because of course we want to honour Paul and everything he stood for."

The near-victory has stirred up mixed feelings for Dr Collier's sister, Joanne Harvey.

"It's a little bit overwhelming at the moment because of course we would have loved Paul to have been here, because he still had so much work to do," she said.

"He's not there but I know that he's inspired young Kelly. And listening to her you can hear Paul inside of her coming out, being a voice for the people."

Disability groups are hoping the re-elected Labour Government will sit up and listen.



This month's featured photos are from the ArtWorks! art retreat at Bivouac Junction. See the office to borrow the camera and put your photos here.



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Robbi Williams from the Julia Farr Association says the party will bring greater attention to disability issues. "Like when Senator Nick Xenophon was first elected to the Upper House in South Australia, that clearly brought attention around the issue of poker machines," he said. "And so similarly having a person coming into Parliament in South Australia with a very specific passion and concern around disability issues, that is going to bring a greater focus

onto the debate." Once the result is confirmed, Dignity for Disability will become the first party with a disability platform to win a seat in any Australian parliament and will join the growing cross-bench in South Australia. At the last federal election in 2007, the Sydney-based Carers Alliance Party ran candidates in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and Western Australia but did not win any seats. Carers Alliance secretary Mary Lou Carter says Dignity for

Disability has given her party momentum. "I just hope that Dignity for Disability might be able to have someone from their group run with the Carers Alliance or otherwise register a federal political party," she said. With the vote not yet confirmed, Ms Vincent is not getting ahead of herself just yet. "Whether we are not or are elected, we have raised our profile a lot in this election and we've raised a lot of awareness," she said.

ArtWorks! Update

20/05/10

Australia's Biggest Morning Tea

A morning tea will be held next Friday 28th May.

A gold coin donation and a plate of food to share would be appreciated to contribute towards the fight against cancer.

We have some muffin mixtures if anyone would like to volunteer to make them.

Raffle tickets for sale: 50 cents each.

First prize: coffee mug set.

Second prize: two sets of a coffee mug and a bowl.

Third prize: one boxed coffee mug.

A month has passed since we attended the Bivouac Junction Artist Retreat.

The retreat was a success and enjoyed by all who attended.

ArtWorks! is looking at doing something similar again in the future.

Everyone has been painting for the Townsville Show and we

have until the 6th of June to put in our entry forms.

If you have not finished your work or would like to do another we can submit the entry form and you will still have time to complete them by mid-June.

Good luck to all entrants.

Kith and Kin ArtWorks! has started another project with Queensland Health for Mental Health Week.

The project also has a drama group with the Full Throttle Theatre Company and a music group on Mondays at the Old Courthouse Theatre.

Each group will go for 12 weeks and the outcome is to have a showcase of drama, art and music during Mental Health Week later in the year.

This project is open to anyone in the Townsville community with any form of mental illness.

Please ask Ann Burke or phone 4722 0101 if you are interested in attending so a referral can be forwarded to Queensland Health.

These workshops are free and

lunch or morning tea is included.

Ann and the ArtWorks! Team - Jacki, Cate and Jade.

ArtWorks! is held every Friday 9am-12pm at the Wulguru Community Centre, Edison Street, Wulguru.

ArtWorks! Upcoming Events - Mark these in your diary!

June/July: Townsville Show

September: ArtWorks! Annual Art Awards, Disability Action Week

November: Melbourne Cup Day Hat Parade, ArtWorks! Official Christmas Breakup

November/December: International Day of People With a Disability



Quality Assurance

Kith and Kin have commenced reviewing of policies and procedures in accordance with DSSQ's Disability Service Standards.

Standard four was reviewed in April. This standard deals with the right to privacy, dignity and confidentiality in all aspects of life. Key service standard indicators for this standard include:

* a privacy and confidentiality policy that is consistent with relevant privacy legislation and principles.

* proactive practices to ensure that the dignity of service users, in relation to their individual needs and circumstances, are respected.

* service users are provided with information regarding the collection, storage, disposal and accessibility of personal information.

* the service provider does not disclose information about service users without their informed consent.

Minor changes have been made, standard five is currently under review.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU...



May

Andy Bean
Salmah Bin Tahal
Vern Ellevsen
Dianne Fraser
Heather Harker
Nancia Hunter
Ilonka Kasuba
Sam Mamoose
Tracey McNicol
Jordan Robertson
Julie-Maree Stevens

KITH AND KIN CLASSIES...

FOR SALE: Fridge, 440L, freezer under, \$75;
single colonial-style timber bed, \$50;
self-standing pine mirror, \$10 (see Nancia)

WANTED: kitchen chairs (wooden pref), towels, household goods (see Janne)

WANTED: Video camera, working condition, donation (see Sally)

WANTED: Male bike, decent condition (see Janne)

Please take your submission into the office, or email to pr@kithandkin.com.au

Cooking Corner

Filled crepe with ricotta, chocolate and strawberry

For Masterchef fans - have a go at making this delicious dessert from the show.

Ingredients

200g ricotta
1/4 cup icing sugar
100g dark chocolate, roughly chopped
8 strawberries, diced
1/2 lemon, rind finely grated
115g plain flour
2 tbs caster sugar
2 eggs
300ml milk
25g butter, melted
Icing sugar to serve

Method

Combine the ricotta, icing sugar, dark chocolate, strawberries and lemon zest in a bowl.

Combine the flour and sugar in a bowl, add the eggs, milk and butter, whisk to make a fine batter.

Heat an oiled frying pan over a med-high heat, using a ladle, spoon enough batter to thinly cover the frying pan, cook 1-2 minutes or until lightly golden and cooked then flip over and cook the remaining side.

Repeat with the remaining crepe mixture.

Spoon the ricotta mixture into the centre of the crepes and fold to create a parcel.

Plate and dust with icing sugar to serve.

Thanks

Kith and Kin Association Limited would like to thank Rebel Hair salon on Stuart Drive, Wulguru for supporting the ArtWorks! program by agreeing to display and sell bookmarks. Bookmarks are still available from the Kith and Kin office as well for \$5 each. All proceeds go towards keeping ArtWorks! running.

Kookalangie Dreamtime

Kith and Kin's own Shane Sibley has recorded and produced his own CD, entitled Kookalangie Dreamtime. Shane wrote all of the songs himself for his didgeridoo, in the traditional storytelling style of his Aboriginal background. The CD features many animal-inspired songs. Shane will be selling the CDs for \$16.50 and busking at the Willows Markets.



Kith and Kin Connects



IF you would like to write a story for Kith and Kin Connects and wish to include photos, please see Jade in the office to borrow the digital camera... REMEMBER we accept fictional and non-fictional stories from both clients and staff, with or without photos.

You were warned, you are doomed... and on Free Comic Book Day, nothing will save you!



Volunteers Required

Kith and Kin Association Limited will be holding a sausage sizzle at Dan Murphy's on Saturday June 12th to raise much-needed funds for ArtWorks! Volunteers are required to help cook the sausages

A Little Light Relief...



Yoda kitteh sez



Random thought for the day:

If all the world is a stage, where is the audience sitting?

and serve the public between 9am and 4pm. If you are able to help, even just for a few hours, please contact Jade in the office ASAP. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

DO you have any suggestions for regular newsletter sections, any topics you would like to see articles about or any other ideas to make Kith and Kin Connects a more valuable tool for you?

If so, please see Jade in the office or phone 4722 0101 or email your ideas through to pr@kithandkin.com.au

Contributions for the June issue are due by C.O.B Monday June 7.

Meet a Staff Member

Name: Ann Yoxall

How long have you been with Kith and Kin? 15.5 years - three years volunteer, 12.5 years paid administration.

Were you born in Australia? Yes. In Charters Towers so am a local.

Favourite music? Rock and roll but really any sort except for headbanging.

Favourite movie? Beaches.

Favourite book? Don't really read books any more, just English magazines like Pick Me Up.

How do you de-stress? Meditate and listen to relaxation tapes, spend time in the garden.

Any hobbies? Don't get enough time but have tried many different crafts, eg. silversmithing, silk printing, leadlighting, raffia hat making.

First job? Cafe attendant - Coles Cafeteria after school and

Saturday mornings.

Worst job? Housemaid in Trans Hotel when travelling around New Zealand.

Favourite quote? Thinking is bad when thoughts drive you mad.

Life motto? Live for today.

Goal for 2010? To get through it to 2011.

If you would like to be featured in our 'Meet a Staff Member' section, contact Jade in the office.

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Kith and Kin Connects would love your feedback! Call Jade on 4722 0108 or email pr@kithandkin.com.au