



VOICE

Quarter 2, 2023

From the CEO:

Vivid's geographical footprint covers the townships, and surrounding districts, of Echuca, Swan Hill, Kyabram and Kerang.

The diversity of that area, and the people we support, is matched by the range of services and activities Vivid offers.

This edition of Voice will, I hope, provide you with a sense of the breadth of that variety.

Keep well,

Scott Alexander
CEO

scott.alexander@wearevivid.org.au
Connect with me on [LinkedIn](#)

Presenting..... Vivid

Earlier this month, Vivid did a presentation to the Echuca Moama and District Probus Club at the Rich River Golf Club.

It was an opportunity to inform and educate about the wonderful work we do here to improve the lives of people living with disability.

Congratulations to Sue Green, Peter Quanchi, Shannon Walker, Bel Anderson and Janette Jacobs who all took part in the presentation.



Support Coordination



Support Coordinators at Vivid provide Participants with assistance to strengthen their ability to organise and choose the supports they need to engage fully in life and in the community.

Following a nasty pushbike accident, 13 year old Xavier Edwards spent the last 14 months at the Royal Children's Hospital, but has now returned home permanently. Xavier's injuries has left him a quadriplegic.

Through Vivid's Support Coordination service, Xavier was able to break from his long term stint in hospital and return to Echuca for Christmas last year and also April this year to be with his family.

Support was provided to secure temporary accommodation for Xavier to move into while his long term accommodation was getting modified. Xavier was able to access transport without any financial burden and specialised bed, hoist, commode and a number of other items were organised prior to his return home.

Xavier now has 24/7 supports in place including high intensity support workers to carry out more complex tasks for someone with Xavier's condition. All Therapy Supports have been organised which include an occupational therapy, physiotherapy, speech therapy, dietician, podiatry, clinical nurse and continence nurse and psychology.

Xavier and his dad are now enjoying being home with care all sorted. Being able to see his family and friends again has had a positive impact on Xavier's wellbeing.

It's an absolute delight working with Xavier and his family and we wish them all the very best - welcome home Xavier!



Work Crew cleaning up with Super Clean

Supported Employment is a service provided at Vivid through our Australian Disability Enterprise (ADE), Work Crew. It plays a vital role for people with a disability, particularly those with Intellectual Disabilities, to engage in and maintain meaningful employment in a supported environment.

Supported employment provides a place where participants not only learn work skills, but develop confidence, build capacity, challenge themselves, make friendships and have experiences that they wouldn't otherwise have had. It's about helping participants achieve their goals.

Work Crew offers paid and meaningful employment to adults living with disability at four locations – Echuca, Kyabram, Kerang and Swan Hill. Each site and crew is unique, partnering with local businesses to get the job done!

One such business partner is Echuca's Super Clean Linen Service who employ Work Crew to assist with their linen and industrial work wear cleaning service.

Work Crew Supported Employees perform a variety of tasks at the textile cleaning site including sorting soiled items, garment sorting and folding. The crew are required to think quickly and keep the linen bags full and moving in the queue to ensure productivity is maintained.

Super Clean is the region's leading linen cleaning facility, servicing hotels, clubs, restaurants, industrial businesses and schools in regional Victoria.

Assistant General Manager, Judd Lanyon, said Work Crew has made a big difference operationally at Super Clean and there is every confidence in the work they do.

“Vivid Work Crew come in and get the job done! Initially we had Work Crew managing the pillow case role and I quickly learned that I had underestimated the capability of the crew. They're now taking the lead in sorting soiled linen and we couldn't be happier.”

Supported employment has a really important role to play for people with disability and there are massive benefits to those who have aspirations for independence and social inclusion.

While aspirations for employment rightly aim toward open employment (unsupported), that is not always the desire of participants. Having choice and control in their working environment is a key consideration.



Vivid supports ABMT

Vivid once again supported the Australia's Biggest Morning Tea by hosting events across all Vivid sites.

Thursday 25 May was set to be a BIG morning of coffee drinking and cake eating with the important purpose to raising funds to make a big difference for those impacted by cancer. First up was High Street South at 10:30am. Board Members, Supported Employees, Work Crew, High Street North employees all gathered together; participants and staff from Kyabram made the road trip across to ensure they didn't miss out on supporting a cause that affects so many. The morning tea made extra special by the floral arrangements and home baked goods made by Day Services' program participants. A big thanks to Leanne Lockyer who took the lead in coordinating the High Street South event.

Next up was High Street North at 11am, where staff hit pause in their work schedules and each brought a plate to share, discovering some secret or not so secret baking talents.

Finally, to round out the morning, Kerang was at 12pm with morning tea donated by Lachlan Neil and Natasha Maloney's families.

Our Harrods Lane Day Services site in Swan Hill followed on Wednesday 31 May, choosing to go all in with guests dressing up for the occasion. Work Crew dropped in, downing tools to share in the morning.

A fantastic overall total of \$584.95 exceeding our fundraising goal of \$500 was raised.

Thank you to everyone who joined Vivid in supporting Australia's Biggest Morning Tea. We are looking forward to doing it all again next year.



Strong vibrant communities getting the job done

On Wednesday 26 April, there was a working bee at Vivid's High Street South site in Echuca. Vivid Living, HUB and Day Services, participants and staff joined forces with Bunnings Echuca and Coolabah Turf employees planting new flower beds, laying fresh turf and creating a fire pit area to deliver a renewed space for adults with disability to extend their involvement in outdoor programs.

"The inclusion of our Participants in this community project provided a great opportunity for them to learn new skills in gardening and turf laying. I even rolled up my sleeves and had a go. It was fun for all." Vivid Executive Manager, Commercial Operations, Kylie Liebmann said.

Inclusion Manager, Leanne Lockyer coordinated a beautiful morning tea for the hard working team which was greatly appreciated and enjoyed.

Thanks to Bunnings Echuca for donating all of the garden supplies towards the project. Thanks also to Coolabah Turf, who, through their Community Sponsorship Program, provided the new turf.

"We recognise the importance of our community engagement and partnerships at a local level. We would not be the company we are today without the support of our amazing community and in return we are committed to supporting communities through our Community Sponsorship Program," Coolabah Turf Sales Manager, Drew Elliott said.

"We were thrilled to support Vivid in the redevelopment of their HUB precinct, supporting adults living with disability to engage in outdoor learning programs," Mr Elliott added.



Sensational snaps in Kerang

Capital works

Vivid, High Street South, Echuca.

Works to replace the hall floor at High Street South (HSS) have recently started. Repairs to the ceilings across the site will follow.

Whilst works are in progress, HSS program Participants have relocated to the HUB site.



Membership renewal

Membership renewals for 2023-2024 are now due.

Membership is \$5.00 per year and is not tax deductible. Any additional donation is greatly appreciated and is tax deductible.

To renew or sign up as a new member, visit our website by [clicking here](#).

Vivid Learning, Kerang, recently ran a short course in photography.

The work produced by two of the participants in that course, Natasha Maloney and Zachary Ferguson, is now being exhibited at the Sir John Gorton Library, Kerang.

The Kerang region had been perfectly captured through the eye of the camera lens and the exhibition showcases the wonderful skills the two photographers acquired from the course.

Through the course, Natasha and Zach were introduced to photography, learned how to operate and maintain a camera, how to focus, effects of lighting, selecting and centring subjects. But most of all, they had fun taking photographs.

We are grateful to the Gannawarra Shire Council who have provided the opportunity to showcase the great work of our Participants to the Kerang community at the local Library.

One of many support services at Vivid, Vivid Learning offers adults with disability a range of short courses to help build skills and independence.

Courses are offered in Kerang, Swan Hill and Echuca. They provide a great opportunity to learn new skills while having fun and meeting people.

All framed artwork featured at the exhibition is available for purchase with proceeds going back into programs supporting adults with disability in Kerang to lead great lives.

The Vivid Learning Photography Exhibition will be on display until the end of July.

