

# COMMUNITY *News*

## March 2022 - EDITION 42



### Riverboats Music Festival 2022

During the Riverboats Music Festival, 18 – 20 February, we had 22 people volunteer at our gazebo raising funds and awareness of our Opening Doors Project and Social Enterprises. We have been a community partner with the festival for 5 years and our gazebo gets a prime spot at the entrance to the Riverboats Music Festival in the stunning Aquatic Reserve. Our volunteers sold raffle tickets, blankets and sun hats, all of which contributed to raising \$2,600 across the weekend. We really appreciate the opportunity to participate in this great event which attracts lots of people to our area. A big thank you to our volunteers and to everyone who purchased tickets or items over the weekend.

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# A Message FROM OUR CEO

Welcome to our 42nd Edition of the newsletter.

January and February have been very challenging months for many people. COVID cases have had a very large impact on our community for the first time during the pandemic. We have felt it at CLRS with 54 cases having been experienced by clients and staff in these 2 months alone. This is why we are committed to supporting our clients and staff to have their 3rd dose vaccinations. All of our staff are on track to meet the mandatory vaccination requirements brought in by the Victorian Government, which reflects our dedication to making sure we keep our clients and community safe.

In the last newsletter, I spoke about our new Strategic Plan. As part of this plan, we have refreshed our vision and values. Our vision is now **'to empower individuals and families to live the life they choose in a community enriched by the inclusion of all'**. This is a small but important change to our vision which puts our clients and families first ensuring our focus is 'client first at all times'. We have also updated our values. They are now:

- Collaboration We partner, connect and coordinate in support of our services, organisation and community
- Accountability We are professional, ethical, honest and responsible
- Respect We value and celebrate individuality
- Flexibility We provide innovative and responsive services to meet individual needs

This is also a small change with 'Wellbeing' being replaced by 'Collaboration' and the words used to describe what we mean by 'Respect' being updated so we are valuing and celebrating and not just recognising and valuing everyone's individuality.

We will be focusing on how we demonstrate our values over the course of this Strategic Plan and look forward to sharing these stories with you.



## OPENING DOORS PROJECT

### Barry St Update

The development at Barry Street in Echuca, is moving along at an incredible pace. The four units now have their bricks and their roofs nearly complete. CERNO, the project managers, and Bourke Builders have been working extremely hard to ensure that there have been no supply issues and the timelines of the project are maintained. The project began in October 2021 and is expected to be completed in mid April 2022.

The clients who are moving into these units have been completing site visits, when COVID has allowed, to keep an eye on the progress of their units. These individuals are looking forward to moving in, in the near future. With the build scheduled to be completed in mid April, we will soon be working out if we can hold an official opening. We are really hopeful that this can happen this year but we will also be creating a virtual tour, just in case!



# School Holiday Program

The January Club Teen Vacation program brought smiles to many faces when the young people enjoyed an array of fun activities. The group visited Aquamoves swimming pool in Shepparton, particularly enjoying the waterslide, Picnic Point where they fished and participated in bush activities, cooking, dancing and a trip to Bendigo to Gurri Wanyarra - Kangaroo Flat Swimming centre.

The Club Teen program aims to upskill participants to develop age appropriate independent daily living skills; build and maintain friendships and support to access the community to keep themselves safe.

In late January, the staff and clients worked together to cook a BBQ lunch, make lamingtons and decorate a delicious-looking pavlova. This was an opportunity for the young people to practice hand hygiene, putting on gloves, cutting food, preparing food and practicing social skills.

A huge shout out to all our young people who attend our Club Teen programs and the wonderful Club Teen staff who support our young people in having fun and learning new skills.

The After School program runs Monday to Friday from 3pm – 6pm. Transport is available from local schools to Club Teen.

The Vacation program runs Monday to Friday from 8am – 6pm in school holidays. (Not on Public Holidays)

If you want to learn more about the Club Teen Program, call our Club Teen Program Leader on 5480 2388 or Club Teen mobile 0400 804 696 or email [support@clrs.org.au](mailto:support@clrs.org.au)



## Feedback from a young persons family

*'Our daughter loves going to Club Teen and it has helped us as a family to be able to work and have a safe place for her to go to after school and school holidays. Many thanks to all the people involved in this program'*



# CLRS Volunteer Opportunities

The Recyclability Op Shop needs volunteers on:

- Fridays between 10am - 3pm
- Saturdays between 10am - 1pm

Murray River Tea Rooms needs volunteers on:

- Saturdays between 9am - 12.30pm
- Market Sundays 9am - 12.30pm

Fundraising Committee is looking for new members.

- This committee helps to develop and deliver fundraising initiatives throughout the year, being particularly involved in our Annual Dinner planning and preparation.

If you have one hour or more a week free and would like to volunteer, please contact:

Liz Rowsell - Volunteer Coordinator  
03 5480 2388 or email - [lrowsell@clrs.org.au](mailto:lrowsell@clrs.org.au)

## Opening Doors Project CAR RAFFLE

# WIN

### A 2022 TOYOTA COROLLA ASCENT SPORT HATCH!

TICKETS  
**\$25ea**

Permit No. 10578/21

VALUED AT  
**\$27,350**  
incl. on road costs



Community Living & Respite Services

**DRAWN: 17 JUNE 2022**

2022 TOYOTA COROLLA ASCENT SPORT HATCH.  
COLOUR: ECLECTIC BLUE. 100% of ticket sales go to the Opening Doors Project.

Scan the QR Code to purchase your tickets via Trybooking:  
<https://www.trybooking.com/BWLJY>



PARTNERS:



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## CLRS Board Vacancy

CLRS is now recruiting for interested community members to join our Board. These positions provide an exciting opportunity to volunteer your skills and expertise to support the strategic leadership of disability support services in our local community.

Board members are expected to:

- Have the financial acumen to read and understand CLRS financial statements and to otherwise help the Board fulfil its fiduciary responsibilities
- Attend at least 6 meetings a year and read Board materials in advance of Board meetings and to come prepared to ask questions and participate in discussions
- Serve on at least one subcommittee of the Board
- Responsibly represent CLRS to their respective communities and to advocate for CLRS's vision and services as appropriate

It is anticipated that a commitment of 3 – 4 hours per month is required including meeting time.

All Board work, including meetings, can be completed remotely.

To submit an expression of interest, or for more information, contact Gillian Noelker on 03 5480 2388 or Email: [ea@clrs.org.au](mailto:ea@clrs.org.au)

**Applications close Friday 1 April, 2022**