



# League News

Cerebral Palsy League of Queensland

Quarterly Magazine

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## GOING CASUAL MAKES DOLLARS (& SENSE)

It's that time of the year again to put your work clothes or school uniform to the back of the cupboard and dust off your best or worst casual clothes for a cause.

Go Casual For A Cause is on again, to be held from 2nd to 9th March.

It is easy to take part:

1. Choose the day that best suits you to hold a casual day during Go Casual week.
2. Advertise your day with posters, brochures, emails and word of mouth.
3. Order your merchandise now by calling 1800 819 086 or filling order form on page 2.

Encourage your local businesses, schools, family and friends to get involved to assist us in making a difference in the lives of Queenslanders with cerebral palsy.

**For more information, call Natalie in the Marketing & Fundraising Department on (07) 3358 8027, 1800 819 086**  
Email [nmason@cplqld.org.au](mailto:nmason@cplqld.org.au) or visit [www.cplqld.org.au](http://www.cplqld.org.au)

### MORE ACCOLADES FOR LEAGUE

The Cerebral Palsy League of Queensland has again claimed the award for Best Special Event at the 2002 Awards for Excellence in Fundraising, held by the Fundraising Institute of Australia, Queensland Branch.

The League was awarded first prize in the special events category for organisations with a total fundraising revenue over \$500,000 for the 2002 Bridge to Brisbane Fun Run.

Our entry will now go on to the Fundraising Institute National Conference, to be held in Canberra during February. It will compete against entries from other states in the same category.

Well done to the Marketing & Fundraising team and all those who helped or participated in the event.

### CLIENTS BENEFIT FROM NEW SUPPORTER



*Left to Right: Shane McGrath, Director of ACCESS One Mortgage Brokers, presenting League CEO, Bruce Milligan with a \$5000 cheque.*

League Supporter and Director of Access One Mortgage Brokers, Shane McGrath, presented League CEO, Bruce Milligan, with a cheque for \$5000 last month. The contribution was a joint effort between Access One Mortgage Brokers and ING Bank Australia.

The McGraths have two, 18 month-old twin sons with cerebral palsy called Jay and Lachlan.

The McGraths met the CEO of ING at a Christmas party and through speaking about their sons, gained support for the

League based on business written by Access One for ING.

Mr McGrath said ING CEO, Vaughn Richtor, had no connection with the League before meeting him and his wife.

Not long after deciding to contribute to the League, the McGraths were presented with a \$5000 cheque from ING.

Through Access One Mortgage Brokers, Mr McGrath hoped to present a contribution from a portion of sales, every month to the League.

Mr McGrath said he didn't know which area the funds would be used in, but that he would like to see it put towards therapies for small children.

"I think that's the most important thing, to get in early and help with development," he said.

"And to shorten the waiting list for therapies for small children."

The McGrath twins are League clients in the Gold Coast region.



Cerebral Palsy League of Queensland

i dream, therefore I am

## CLIENT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

One year ends and another begins- welcome to 2003. The State CCC has a lot to work towards over the course of the coming year.

The most important activity we are getting behind and asking you to join us is a concentrated health campaign.

This campaign is about raising the State Government's and Opposition parliamentary members' awareness of the health and therapy needs of children and adults with cerebral palsy and related disabilities.

The Government tells us to use mainstream health services but medical staff are not trained in specialised responses for people with cerebral palsy.

People are often referred back to the League when attempting to access general health services because there is no expertise available.

As well, heaven help the person with communication difficulties who does not have family support, friends or services to support them when they are hospitalised.

It is time the Government of the day recognised that people with cerebral palsy and related disabilities are not able to access the public health system and receive the support they need like other members of society can.

If the public health system cannot respond, then it is time for the Government to acknowledge the League's expertise and fund the organisation accordingly. Waiting lists for support from the League can be up to two years and up to six months for urgent referrals.

We need your support to take a strong message to the Government.

To all the people who use League services please share some of your personal experiences of accessing mainstream health services.

You can fax, email, write or ring in.

It is through the power of your stories and experience that the League and CCC can lobby Government.

As well as the health campaign the CCC is well on its way to circulating a draft Charter on Consultation for your feedback.

The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Client Convention will be held on the 16<sup>th</sup> of August and this one will be the last one held at New Farm!

On behalf of the State CCC I find myself needing to say a very sad goodbye but huge thank you to Mr Trevor Kidd who has resigned from his position on the League Board of Directors to take up a new Board position in Rockhampton.

Trevor's integrity and efforts in supporting the League, both through family and Board activities, have been second to none.

We wish Trevor and his family a happy future, whatever their journey may be.

Catch you all in the next edition.

B. C. ALBURY

Byron Albury  
Chairman State CCC

### Cerebral Palsy League of Qld

ABN 27 009 942 269  
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New Farm Qld 4005

### Executive Management Team

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## 2nd to 9th March

Merchandise for this year's campaign includes:

- 3 \$2.00 Go Casual for a Cause stickers
- 3 \$2.00 'I Would If I Could' Go Casual for a Cause stickers
- 3 \$4.00 Cerebral Palsy League of Queensland pens
- 3 A3 posters
- 3 Information brochures
- 3 Point of sale boxes

### To register for Go Casual For A Cause

(Please tick the applicable box(es))

- I will take part in **Go Casual For A Cause 2003**
- Send me \_\_\_\_\_ **Go Casual** stickers @ \$2 each
- Send me \_\_\_\_\_ **I Would If I Could** stickers @ \$2 each
- Send me \_\_\_\_\_ Pens @ \$4.00 each
- Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ counter sales boxes

\*Each counter box contains 20 Go Casual pens, 100 'Go Casual' stickers and 50 'I Would If I Could Go Casual' Stickers

### Your Contact/Delivery Details

(please print)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation/Department (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Post Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

(for Go Casual update emails only)

Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Work ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Home

Fax: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Please send your completed **Go Casual For A Cause** form to:

The Go Casual Coordinator,  
Marketing & Fundraising Department  
Cerebral Palsy League of Queensland  
PO Box 386, FORTITUDE VALLEY QLD 4006  
or  
Fax (07) 3358 2495  
or  
PH: 1800 819 086 during business hours

## PAULY'S TALENTED RELEASE



*Pictured: Pauly Mangan, 10, of Eatons Hill.*

Ten year old Pauly Mangan, of Eatons Hill recently produced his own musical CD titled 'You & Me', for sale to raise funds towards a Hart Walker, Laptop and special communication programmes.

"He may have a body that will not work for him but his mind is so clever," Pauly's mum, Debbie Mangan, said in a letter to the League.

Pauly is very proud of his CD, she said.

Pauly discovered music at the early age of two, with a microphone and a few of his Dad's Beatles songs.

"I love my music, I think it's good and it's something I really enjoy," Pauly said.

"My Dad and I wrote songs together and we have many more to come."

The money raised from sales of 'You and Me' will help Pauly's parents to purchase new equipment, including a laptop, and special programs to help him communicate with teachers, and a Hart Walker to help him become more mobile.

**'You & Me' can be purchased for \$10.00 by calling the Mangans on (07) 3264 8001.**

## FROM THE PARENTS & GUARDIANS ASSOCIATION

Welcome to the New Year.

The Labrador Units are being refurbished and the expected date of completion is September 2003. Accommodation is still available as the refurbishment will be on an individual unit basis. Unit 2 is completed and a report from a parent has been complimentary.

Please phone Carol Roper on (07) 5532 2088 for bookings.

The CEO will provide an update on the current status of New Farm property at the Extraordinary General Meeting to be held on Friday 7 March 2003 at 7.30 pm in the Recreational Hall at New Farm. Please make every effort to attend as this is an important opportunity to ask questions and learn about present projects.

It is with great relief to all the residents, parents and friends of Sevenoaks to know that the new telephone system is working well. Sincere thanks go to Jan Landsberg for her persistence and fundraising efforts.

In regard to the future of Sevenoaks, the Department of Housing is focusing on innovative housing models and has expressed its commitment to fund an options study on the future potential of the site.

One goal for this year will be a project to raise awareness of the lack of health and therapy services for people with cerebral palsy within

the public health system. More details will be available at our Parents and Guardians meeting on 15 February 2003 and at the Extraordinary General Meeting.

We hope this year will bring us closer to some progress with the Fig Tree Pocket project and I do sincerely hope that those clients who have applied for Lifestyle Support Packages will have some success in obtaining assistance from DSQ.

In regard to Children's Services in the metropolitan area, there is to be one regional manager for the combined north and south regions with a program coordinator appointed in each region. The Strathpine office is expected to relocate to Chermside which is the preferred location. We would like to hear from parents from these regions. Your presence and contribution at our meetings would be much appreciated.

I look forward to seeing you all at the next Parents and Guardians meeting on Saturday 15 February 2003.

Sincerely,

Joan Williams  
President  
Parents and Guardians Association

### POSITIVE MOVE FOR ACCESS NORTH

On 3<sup>rd</sup> February Access Employment Service North moved to a new premises at 6 Edmondstone Street BOWEN HILLS (next to Kennards Hire).

Our new site is fully accessible and we believe the larger facilities, easy access and proximity to on-street parking will be a positive change for Access clients and staff.

Access is within easy walking distance from Bowen Hills train station and Brisbane City Council bus lines.

All other contact details remain the same.

**For more information about our service, please call Lisa McFadyen - Manager on:  
Tel: (07) 3252 4766  
or Mob: 0413 201 060.**

## GAMBLING FUND BENEFITS CEREBRAL PALSY LEAGUE COMMUNITY

The Gambling Community Benefit Fund approve approximately \$8M each quarter to non-profit organisations across the State of Queensland for projects that will benefit local communities.

In 2002, the Cerebral Palsy League of Queensland received grants to assist people with cerebral palsy to meet their goals and to improve the service provision administered from regional offices across the state.

Funds received aided safety, business services, administration, carers/volunteers, adult services, the Seating Assessment Clinic, Information Services, Camp Have a Chat and communication services.

Projects included the provision of equipment for Business Services such as a folding machine for Printabout and a labelling machine for Adept Packaging.

These items will ensure Business Services stay competitive on the open market, through increased efficiencies and volume of production.

League clients employed with these busy enterprises can also continue to increase their skills with the new technology.

Adept packaging had a visual fire alarm installed to improve safety for the hearing impaired, as well as, hand dryers to decrease the risk of falling injuries.

Equipment Technology Services (ETS) received funds to assist with wheelchair manufacturing testing standards, while a child on the Sunshine Coast received a standing frame, which will be returned to the Equipment Library once she outgrows it.

Professionals in the Wide Bay area can assist the League's movement towards a 'no lift' policy,

as well as people with their mobility, through the use of an electric hoist and instructional video, also funded by the Gambling Community Benefit Fund.

New PCs and Laptop computers boosted administrative assistance for several sites and have become vital items of equipment to keep confidential client records, collect data necessary for accountability, for everyday correspondence and Internet communication.

Other projects included a PA system for use by all regions, a new telephone system for the Toowoomba office, the reproduction of Parent Information Kits and the Picnic in the Park BBQ lunch held in appreciation of carers and volunteers.

## SEATING ASSESMENT MOBILE CLINIC

Getting information to people with cerebral palsy living outside the Brisbane metro area is always a challenge.

The Seating Assessment Clinic was recently awarded a grant to purchase a van that will be fitted out to accommodate wheelchairs

and other seating equipment for a mobile clinic.

The Assessment Clinics will visit rural areas during the year, saving families the time and expense of travelling to Brisbane to trial equipment for their seating needs.

*Below: The Seating Assesment Clinic Van.*



## ON-LINE AUCTION SITE GOES LIVE

February will see the introduction of a new on-line auction to the League web site.

There will be a wide range of items for auction including sporting memorabilia, gifts, holidays, jewellery and much, much more.

Items will be displayed with a photo, the latest bid and the closing date.

Visit [www.cplqld.org.au](http://www.cplqld.org.au) and click on the on-line auction icon.

If you would like to donate anything for auction on the site, please call Karen Cochrane in Marketing and Fundraising on 1800 819 086.

Happy bidding.

## CHEST HARNESS SAFETY

Jenni Dabelstein  
Marketing Manager, ETS Australia

Following notification of a tragedy in New South Wales involving the prescription and use of a harness on a person's wheelchair, the League formed a working party to examine the harness issue in Queensland.

This group was made up of experienced physiotherapists, with a combined total of over 80 years experience in the disability field.

The goal of the working party was to develop a League response to the harness safety issues, and the outcomes of this group were as follows:

### **Production of a brochure "Safe Use of a Chest Harness".**

This will be supplied with all chest harnesses sold or prescribed through the League; and is posted on the ETS Website at [www.cplqld.org.au/ets](http://www.cplqld.org.au/ets)

### **Production of prescription guidelines for harnesses.**

These will be distributed to all League therapists, and will be included in future seating workshop manuals.

### **Production of a written equipment checklist.**

This assists and documents the process whereby clients and caregivers receive education, instruction and safety guidelines regarding the safe and appropriate use of equipment before commencing use.

It is anticipated that the working party will continue in 2003, with a broader scope and the goal of developing comprehensive Equipment Prescription Policies to cover all types of specialised equipment.

**To receive a copy of the brochure "Safe Use of a Chest Harness", please contact your League Therapist or Regional Office, or Michael De Lacy (Senior Professional Physiotherapy) on 3358 8045.**

## SEVEN OAKS UPDATE

A new Friends of Sevenoaks local community support group of 12 ladies living in the Fig Tree Pocket area organised an extremely successful cocktail party on September 14, which over 200 people attended. Sponsorship included Pradella Constructions, BDO Kendalls and Patrick Dixon Real Estate, as well as many generous donations.

Funds raised are being used to purchase new ceiling hoists, air conditioning for the clients' TV/recreation area and kitchen, and a digital camera.

Funding was also received from The Honda Foundation to purchase two standing hoists.

The Gambling Community Benefit Fund, funded the purchase of 10 adjustable height beds for clients, which have improved comfort for clients, and workplace health and safety considerations for staff.

We also appreciate the ongoing support from the Edinburgh Castle Pastime Fishing Club.

The Year 8 students from Brisbane Grammar School visited Sevenoaks

to present a cheque for funds they raised by holding a lunchtime hamburger stall at the school. While they were at Sevenoaks, they enjoyed meeting clients and helped clean the BBQ area.

They decided to adopt the ongoing maintenance and upgrading of the BBQ area, and assist with recreation support for clients as a project for 2003.

The annual Melbourne Cup Fundraiser held at Sevenoaks was a runaway success.

More than 80 of our regular supporters attended to raise funds for the purchase of a new kitchen appliance, which will make the preparation of the increasing number of modified meals required by clients, easier.

New energy efficient, heat pump water systems, funded by The Sylvia & Charles Viertel Charitable Foundation, replaced the old, energy guzzling ones, and will not only provide a better and safer hot water supply for Sevenoaks residents, but should also reduce the electricity bill considerably.

## "SOMETHING TO SAY"

The Australian Group on Severe Communication Impairment's (AGOSCI) biennial conference, 'Something to Say', will be held in Sydney from 20<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> March in Sydney.

The conference has attracted a wealth of international & national speakers including Executive Board Members from the International Society of Augmentative and Alternative Communication (ISAAC).

"This is a conference that people with cerebral palsy and related disabilities and their family and carers find useful to attend – it's not just for professionals," Anne Mackay, Sales Manager of ETS Australia in Geebung, said.

Mrs Mackay is a member of AGOSCI and attended conferences held by AGOSCI in previous years.

"The AGOSCI conferences are usually very practically based and not too theoretical."

Clients and staff may apply for funding approval through the Staff and Client Training and Development (SACTAD), by contacting Leanne Ceccato for a form on 3385 8050.

Funding is also available to assist people with disabilities to attend the conference, from the Commonwealth Department of Family and Community Services, as detailed on the AGOSCI Conference Website.

Qantas has been appointed the official airline for the AGOSCI 2003 National Conference and offers discounts of up to 40% off the full economy fare to delegates of the conference, travelling domestically.

[www.agosci2003.org](http://www.agosci2003.org) hosts information on registration, pre-conference workshops, fees, travel, accommodation and contact details, for the conference.

## PARTYING ON BEHALF OF THE LEAGUE

With the party season over for another year, the League would like to thank those individuals, and companies which took part in the inaugural Join the Party celebration.

Supporters from around the state took part in the event by collecting donations from participants at their own Christmas parties or end of year break-ups. The League and our partners in this event - the Endeavour

Foundation, were happy with the response from the community and hope to further build the event this year.

As part of the Join the Party celebrations, the League and Endeavour held a party at Riverside Receptions on Monday 2nd December to launch the International Day for People with a Disability.



*From left: Jean Little, Don and Alice Shields enjoying the hospitality at the Join the Party party on 2nd December 2002 at Riverside Receptions.*

### MARY'S STORY

I had an on going health problem with my ankles, which could only be rectified with the use of specially made orthoses.

I was told the League's waiting list was two years long and even when I was 'classified' as an urgent 'case' because of the pain levels I was experiencing, I could still be waiting six months or more.

I was informed by a League professional that it would be quicker if I accessed the public health system.

What followed was four weeks of going back and forth between the League and hospital using teleconferences.

Meanwhile, I was still in great pain and nothing was being done.

The hospital admitted they did not have the expertise and referred me back to the League (who does not have the funding and resources to meet people's needs).

Once I decided to 'pay' for a service provided by the League at the full consultation rates things got going. The League was able to make me an interim caste to keep my ankles in a decent position, which reduced the pain I was experiencing, while I waited for an appointment with the hospital.

I got a result but there was an awful lot of unnecessary going back and forwards between the players.

I only got the expertise I required because I decided to pay for it.

I receive a disability pension. What does this mean for people who require urgent health related therapy services but do not have the means to 'pay' for it?

It seemed that only when I went to the hospital's orthorist with a League physiotherapist did he understand the specifics of how cerebral palsy has affected me.

He did not really know what cerebral palsy is in anymore detail than a generic textbook would state.

The League is able to provide me with a level of confidence in any treatment that I seek. What happens to people who use the public health system? I do not believe they get what they need or the expertise that they have come to expect from League services. It is time for the Government to respond urgently to a growing need for specialised medical and therapy services. Despite health officials thinking they can do the job I believe there are too many people being disadvantaged and falling through the gaps.

Mary Poulton is a member of the Metro South Adult Services Client Consultative Committee.

*By Mary Poulton*



Don't forget that when you book any travel through Flight Centre's "Take Off" 1800 number, 1 per cent of the total price of your booking will be automatically credited to the League. Flight Centre offer specially trained and accredited Travel managers who develop and manage all of your travel requirements. This includes all airfares, coach travel, cruises, accommodation, tours, weekends away, package holidays, car hire, travel insurance and much more. Call Flight Centre to book or contact Natalie Mason in the Marketing and Fundraising Department for promotional stickers or fliers.

The League received its first commission cheque to the value of \$108.30. Thank You to all those who have booked travel through Milton Flight Centre.

## THIESS HOME MODIFICATIONS PROJECT

By John Pashen CFSS South - SWOT THIESS, a major Australian construction company, is presently raising money for clients of the Cerebral Palsy League of Queensland in Townsville and surrounding communities.

In addition to the fundraising, THIESS is assisting clients of the Cerebral Palsy League in Townsville and surrounding areas with home modifications.

The home modifications must be related to a specific functional need of the client of the Cerebral Palsy League and may include access modifications (paths or ramps), bathroom and kitchen modifications, or the installation of grabrails or handrails.

THIESS has not specified what they will or will not consider rather, in their good nature, have left the process open and will consider all requests.

THIESS asked the Cerebral Palsy League to compile a list of home modification needs from clients and families.

The Cerebral Palsy League will forward this information to THIESS and they will contact clients and families directly, to negotiate what degree of assistance can be offered with home modification requests.

If you are a client of the Cerebral Palsy League in Townsville or its surrounding communities, and you would like more information about how THIESS can assist you with home modifications, contact :

John Pashen (Occupational Therapist - Statewide Outreach Therapy Services) Ph: 07 3347 7200 Email: [swots@cplqld.org.au](mailto:swots@cplqld.org.au)

## KITCHEN LAUNCH

Local Member for Capalaba, Michael Choi MP conducted the official opening of the new kitchen at the Capalaba Day Service on the 29<sup>th</sup> November 2002.

MP Choi acknowledged the generous contribution to the project made by the Gambling Community Benefit Fund, and organisation Fisher and Paykel.

Almost 80 clients, family members and staff of Capalaba Day Service, as well as a number of people from the local community 'Joined the Party' to celebrate the official opening.

The new kitchen is designed around the needs of people with a

physical disability enabling them to participate fully in cooking classes, developing skills in simple meal preparation or just to use the facilities on a day to day basis.



Bruce Milligan CEO, David Tranter, Garth Calvert and Michael Choi MP "launch" the kitchen.



### Gelart Xtra

By Jenni Dabelstein  
ETS, Marketing Manager

For children with physical disabilities, participating physically in all the little activities that make up each day poses a challenge.

Because it is difficult to participate fully in daily life, they often miss out on many opportunities for spontaneous social interactions with their family and friends.

That's where the Gelart Xtra comes in.

Imagine a piece of mobile equipment that you could sit or stand in, that moves high and low, that tilts in space and grows with your child from 1-8 years of age.

Imagine that this piece of equipment looks great, is easy to operate and adjust, and fits under the bed or in the cupboard when you're not using it.

Imagine that you only have to have this one piece of equipment in your house, but this one piece

of equipment will enable your child to physically participate in almost every aspect of daily life.

This is the process that started our agency partners at Gelart on a quest to design the Gelart Xtra.

But they didn't just imagine it - they really did it. Gelart Xtra is here!

ETS now has a Gelart Xtra ready for demonstration and trial.

For more information on the innovative Gelart Xtra, call ETS on 07 3637 6360 or go to the website at:

[www.cplqld.org.au/ets/otherproducts/seatedpos/xtra](http://www.cplqld.org.au/ets/otherproducts/seatedpos/xtra)



## NATIONAL BANK AWARDS

### PRESENTATION



*Above: Cascade Place's Volunteer Program received \$1000, presented by Raelene Boyle in November.*

## PRD EXCELLENCE

Welcome to a New Year and a new look Payroll Donation Program.

After last years name change, there are some new additions to the Payroll program.

First, is the introduction of the Payroll Ambassador Program.

There are many outstanding staff donating within the many companies that assist the League, either contributing above and beyond the call of duty or who have been contributing to the Donation Program for many years.

The Payroll Ambassador Program aims to recognise these contributions and highlight the achievements of staff within each contributing organisation. We will see the start of inductions into the new program in February.

In other exciting news, a big thanks goes to QANTAS whose staff have embraced the concept of Payroll Donations statewide. Pilkington Glass have also recognised the contributions of their Queensland staff by putting a news article in their own national magazine - Focus.

Each quarter, many of the companies whose staff contribute will also be recognised for the special role they play in facilitating the contributions.

The Payroll of Excellence for this quarter include:

- ACI Glass
- BSG Australia
- Claypave
- Hans Continental Smallgoods
- QANTAS
- Sealy of Australia
- Smorgon
- Maryborough City Council

**If you know of any companies that may wish to participate in the Payroll Donation Program, please contact Rebecca Lucas, Payroll Donations Officer, on 3358 8099.**

## PORT OFFICE HOTEL CONTRIBUTES

The Port Office Hotel in Brisbane has come up with an innovative and exciting way to assist the Cerebral Palsy League of Queensland as well as other Queensland charities.

On the last Tuesday of each month, The Port Office Hotel, on the cnr of Edward and Margaret Streets will be holding fashion events.

This will include informative talks from designers around town on fashion trends, tips and tricks as well as advice on hair, make-up and accessories.

Nicolle Toohey, the Sales and Marketing Manager of the Hotel, sees this as a way to assist local

charities as well as establish a more cross sectional profile for the hotel.

The League will charge guests \$10 and all money will go to the League thanks to the generosity of the Port Office Hotel and its sponsors which include a magazine, Absolute Vodka and Fix Champagne.

Guests will receive cocktail and canapés on arrival, a great show, and a goodie bag to take away at the end of the evening.

For more information, and bookings please contact:-

Karen Cochrane  
Marketing and Fundraising  
(07) 3358 8125

## NEW DONOR MANAGER

The League would like to welcome Peter Wall, Donor Relations Manager, into its Marketing and Fundraising Department. Peter will be specialising in

Bequests, which form an important part of the overall donations made to the League.

If you have, or would like to make, a donation to the League in the form of a bequest, Peter is available on:  
07 3358 8093, 1800 819 086, or email: pwall@cplqld.org.au

## THANK YOU ETS VOLUNTEERS



*Rene Corrie (Clerical-Tech Aids), Maureen Carroll, Anna Clauson, Jim Reaney (Volunteers), Garrie Wolstenholme (TA Supervisor) and Anne Mackay (Marketing).*

Volunteers can be found in almost all League services at present, in a wide range of jobs that actively engage their skills and contribution of time and energy. ETS, the Equipment Technology Service located at Geebung on Brisbane's north side, would like to thank the

three volunteers who help them out on a regular basis.

Anna Clauson, Jim Reaney and Maureen Carroll are all keen volunteers, who the ETS staff are extremely grateful to, for their much needed help.

### WORKPLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY UPDATE

The League recently incurred a significant increase in its WorkCover premiums. This is directly related to the levels of WorkCover claims submitted by League employees.

A number of League staff attended information sessions conducted by the Division of Workplace Health and Safety, on the Manual Tasks Involving the Handling of People Advisory Standard 2001, which took effect on 1 March 2002.

"No worker should fully lift a person, other than a small child unaided," the standard states.

As a guide, workplaces are adopting 16 kg as the limit for one person to lift, alone.

By implementing this standard across the League, and working with clients and families, all clients and all staff will benefit from a safer workplace.

Some common control measures to reduce risks to staff and clients will include:

1. Using a shower chair or a bath hoist;
2. Reducing the number of transfers when assisting with personal care;
3. Reducing the distance when pushing a wheelchair; use level concrete paths and lifts instead of ramps;
4. Providing vinyl floor covering where hoists are used; changing the position of the furniture in a room to allow more space for transfers;
5. Training staff to reduce risks to clients when a client falls or loses balance;
6. Alternating work postures and tasks during a shift;
7. Using ramps, vehicle hoists and shower chairs to reduce transfers;
8. Using good body posture and back care principles during tasks performed in confined spaces;
9. Encouraging the client to select clothing that makes it easier to assist with dressing.

## FROM THE CEO

Happy New Year to you all and welcome to what promises to be a very positive and exciting year for the League.

While we still need to manage our finances carefully, I am convinced that the worst of the League's financial problems are now behind us.

I think we now have the opportunity to "shift up a gear" and tackle the many projects and issues that are positive and developmental to help build a better organisation and enable us to provide better services to our clients.

This year, I believe we will make significant advances towards achieving the vision that the Board and I outlined for the League last year, such as:

### A service provider of choice

Clients choose to come to the League for services and support because it is a responsive and dynamic organisation providing quality services to clients.

### An employer of choice

Staff choose to work for the League because it is a good place to work.

**The League adapting and responding to the changing nature of the broader environment in which we operate.**

### Australian of the Year

On behalf of the Cerebral Palsy League of Queensland I would like to offer our heartfelt congratulations to Professor Fiona Stanley on her award as Australian of the Year.

Professor Stanley is well known to many people in the League and the Australian Cerebral Palsy Association for her work, study and research into the causes and prevention of birth defects and major neurological disorders, particularly cerebral palsies and patterns of maternal and child health.

Professor Stanley is a fine ambassador for Australia and for the need for further research into the causes of cerebral palsy.

**Bruce Milligan - Chief Executive Officer**

## TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

### NEURODEVELOPMENTAL TREATMENT COURSE

LEAGUE staff and other individuals recently completed a six week training course in Neuro-Developmental Treatment (NDT), through the Brisbane Royal Children's Hospital, to benefit people with cerebral palsy and related disabilities, and train others in its use.

League Senior Professional Speech Pathologist, Katy Caynes, attended the course throughout January and will attend further training with overseas facilitators to become a qualified trainer in NDT.

Staff who attended the course were required to cover their own registration costs, however, The Edward Courbald Charitable Distributions Fund, managed through Perpetual Trustees, granted funds for the partial registration of 14 therapists.

To apply for the course, applicants were required to have at least two years paediatric experience; provide reasons for attending; level of experience; numbers of children with neuromotor impairments they provided service to; previous information and education regarding NDT, as well as organisational support.

The training will promote research into best practice for individuals with cerebral palsy, and is expected to reduce staff turn over by providing training to assist in quality service provision, and ensure greater continuity of service for children and their families.

The NDT approach involves the therapist analysing the motor, sensory and cognitive impairments that impact on the

achievement of functional skill development.

NDT emphasises therapeutic handling which focuses on making desirable movements more possible while preventing undesirable ones.

Through repetition of handling and appropriate movement experiences, the individual learns to develop greater movement control and functional skills.

The NDT approach is an interactive process among the involved individual, the carers, and the interdisciplinary team.

The League supported staff attending the course in the form of paid annual leave, and registration support.

#### WHAT IS NDT?

NDT is a therapy approach for individuals with cerebral palsy and neuromuscular disorders that was designed by Mrs Berta Bobath (PT) and Dr Karl Bobath (Physician) in the 1940s in England.

This approach involves the therapist analysing the motor, sensory and cognitive impairments that impact on the achievement of functional skill development.

NDT emphasises therapeutic handling which focuses on making the desirable movements more possible while preventing undesirable movements.

### NEW TRAINING POSITION FILLED

The League filled the new position of Training and Development Manager in its Human Resources department, with Peter Mulholland, who will be providing valuable training and strategy proposals for all departments and services.

Mr Mulholland commenced a series of meetings with League personnel last week, detailing his position with central and regional locations.

Mr Mulholland proposed to help streamline and coordinate training and management practices within The League, whilst working to access money to support the training budget both directly and indirectly.

He stated his intention to conduct a comprehensive training needs analysis within regions, groups and job roles throughout the organisation, and to provide the basis for a two year training program, working with various strategies and budgets.

Mr Mulholland hoped to act as a facilitator, to identify and share the

talents and skills of individuals amongst others within the organisation, and form a proactive process designed to develop a multi-skilled team to better serve the needs of its clients.

The list of training and development objectives for the 2003 calendar year which form part of a larger human resources plan are:

- 3 Set up & implement Registered Training Organisation (RTO) project
- 3 Training resources audit
- 3 Training Needs Analysis (TNA)
- 3 Traineeship program
- 3 Develop & implement Management development program
- 3 Implement plans for basic training
- 3 Workforce planning
- 3 Career path development
- 3 Skills Audit

## TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

### GETTING THE MOST OUT OF YOUR SERVICE

An empowerment package has been developed and presented by Michelle Harris for people who use the adult accommodation service in south Brisbane.

The package explores legal and organisation issues, impacts of services on family and friends, analysis of the types of staff that exist and how to best manage them and how all of these elements interact to impact on someone's quality of life.

Conflict Management and communication skills are developed through solution suggestions incorporated into the program.

The original participants made some exciting recommendations to develop mentoring relationship between existing and new clients to the service system.

It was also proposed that clients take on the training and facilitator roles themselves in presenting the package to other service users.

As a result an application was submitted to the Gambling Community Benefit Fund to support 8 people who use the service to obtain Certificate IV in workplace training and assessing.

The grant was successful and Directions Australia completed the training with participants.

Additionally, the package has been reworked to be a 2-day event and was co-presented by Michelle Harris and Karin Swift, an existing service user, to other clients.

This also proved to be very successful.

Since the qualified trainers have finished they have formed a training coalition and have taken on an active role in the training of their own staff.

It is hoped that they will also be involved in the training of personal care assistants who work for the service.

The project has only really begun and is already proving to be a huge success.

**For more detail, please feel free to contact Michelle Harris, Manager, League Adult Accommodation Service - South**



### Certificate IV Workplace Trainer and Assessor Graduates

John Rynn, Joan Leonard, Mary Poulton, Christine Cameron, Joan and Mark Mansfield (LAAS North), and Byron Albury completed Certificate IV in Work Place Trainer Assessor on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December.

*Back: Frank Price (Trainer), Sue Marshal (Support Worker & Participant), Joan Mansfield  
Front: Joan Leonard, Christine Cameron, Byron Albury, John Rynn, Mary Poulton and Mark Mansfield.*

### NEW PROMO VIDEO FOR CAMP HAVE A CHAT

Camp Have a Chat will have a new marketing tool thanks to funding provided by the Gambling Community Benefit Fund.

The editing of Camp Have a Chat 2001 will offer a marketing tool to the League, assisting to raise awareness of the importance of the camp to professionals, families and other service providers, as well as to attract funding for its continuation.

The Fund further assisted non-speaking children by granting funds to upgrade equipment in the Communication Board Service.

**If you would like to help support Camp Have a Chat, please contact Ms Wendy Webster, Speech Pathologist on 33477228 or the Marketing and Fundraising on 33582495.**

### THANK YOU

The League would like to acknowledge the very special funding bodies which have helped greatly over the last year. These include:

- The Edward Courbald Charitable Distributions Fund (NDT)
- NRMA (Digital Pipe Bender)
- Sylvia and Charles Viertel (Access Employment Pre-Employment Workshops, Hot Water System for Seven Oaks, Equipment Pool items for Adults North)



*Garrie Wolestenholme, working the Digital Pipe Bender at ETS, funded by NRMA.*

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## DATES TO REMEMBER

Date	Event	Location
2nd - 9th March	Go Casual For A Cause	State Wide
3rd August	Bridge to Brisbane Fun Run	New Farm Park
11th - 17th August	Cerebral Palsy Awareness Week	State Wide
16th August	Annual Client Convention	New Farm
27th - 28th September	BV 100 Canoe Race	Wivenhoe Dam



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- Knowing more about cerebral palsy and/or the League
- How my social club can become involved
- How I can make a provision for the League in my will
- How I can assist the League through Volunteer work

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**Thank you so much for caring**  
**Donations are fully tax deductible**