



BUCKETTS WAY Neighbourhood Group Inc.

October 2021 Newsletter



L to R: Dianne Nielsen, Vicki Harris, Robert Sparke, Donna Kemp, Ian Parks & Jodie House

2021 BOARD OF MANAGEMENT & AGM

BWNG's Annual General Meeting was held on Monday 27 September 2021, with 18 community members, volunteers and staff in attendance, plus three more via video link.

The volunteer Management Board for the next twelve months was chosen and announced, featuring Beverley Fagan, Ian Parks, Dianne Nielsen, Donna Kemp (President), Jodie House (Vice President), Vicki Harris (Secretary), Robert Sparke (Treasurer).

The Management Board oversees the strategic direction of BWNG is responsible for ensuring that the organisation meets legal requirements and remains accountable to our donors and stakeholders, including the NSW State and Federal Governments.

We extend our congratulations and thanks Donna Kemp on five years of service on the BWNG board, serving four of those years as president. Robert Sparke and Jodie House are not too far behind in years of service, having served on the board four years and three years, respectively.

TWO NEW FACES JOIN THE BWNG TEAM

We are pleased to welcome two new team members to BWNG. Anne-Marie and Leanne have joined our staff as Ageing and Disability Services Trainees, and are working toward Certificate III Individual Support as part of their role.

Leanne and Anne-Marie will be working with client, providing services and supports field, as well learning about the administrative side of the organisation. We're pleased to have them on board, and are sure they will be valued members of the team.



Leanne



Anne-Marie

EATING WITH FRIENDS NEWS

As they say; 'You can't keep a good thing down.' We're pleased to announce that 'Eating With Friends' will recommence this month. 'Eating With Friends' was put on ice in response to the COVID-19 crisis in 2020. It briefly resumed in for July and August in 2021, before again being postponed due to COVID-19.

The next 'Eating with Friends' lunch is scheduled for Friday 29th October at 'Land & Sea Café.' If you feel like a nice lunchtime outing at a very affordable price, please call us to reserve your spot. Ph: 6558 2454.

MEALS ON WHEELS

If you are approved for a Home Care Package (HCP) you can choose to use some of your funding for Meals on Wheels. All you pay is a \$3 co-contribution (per meal) which goes towards the cost of ingredients. Our friendly volunteers deliver meals (both frozen, and freshly-cooked are available) Monday to Friday. They get to know the people on the delivery run, and like to have a chat, too. If you would like to know more about this service, phone **6558 2454** to talk to Community Connectors, Nicole and Christine, about your options.



A SNAPSHOT OF SERVICES OVER 12 MONTHS



Home Care Package

21 % of hours of service provided were funded through a Home Care Package



CHSP

29% of hours of service provided were funded through the Commonwealth Home Support Programme



NDIS Funding

49% of hours of service provided were funded through the National Disability Insurance Scheme



Brokerage

<1 % of hours of service hours were provided through a brokerage arrangement with other providers

Meals on Wheels

2,823
Hot
Meals



1,684
Frozen
Meals



> 900
Hours spent
in delivery



Health Transport

580
Trips
to Medical
Appointments



1,684
Kilometers
Driven to medical
appointments



> 2,000
Hours
Driven by
Volunteers



MCC DISABILITY INCLUSION PLAN

MidCoast Council (MCC) is currently renewing its [Disability Inclusion Action Plan](#) (DIAP) and the 'Have Your Say' page is now live.

This page includes a survey for people living with disability and another for family/friends, carers, service providers and interested community members to provide feedback for the Action Plan.

In order to make the MidCoast a more inclusive and accessible place, MCC need to hear about the barriers people are facing and the more people they hear from, the better.

If you would like a printed copy of the survey please contact our office on Ph: 6558 2454.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE OLDER PERSON 2021

1st October each year is International Day of the Older Person.

This year's theme is 'Digital equity for all ages' – meaning that it is important for people of all ages to have access to technology, as well as the training necessary to navigate digital tools.

If you already know a little bit about using your phone or computer, you can enhance your skills through 'Be Connected' (An Australian Government Initiative aimed at increasing the confidence, skills and online safety of older Australians in using Digital Technology).

Their resources include

www.beconnected.esafety.gov.au which is a dedicated website with information and interactive training tools and resources for older Australians, their families and peers, and local community organisations.

Locally, the team at MidCoast Assist, a support service of MidCoast Council, is currently rolling out the second phase of an exciting "Technology in Homes" project, providing funding and support for local seniors to become more connected using technology.

[Technology for seniors at home - MidCoast Council \(nsw.gov.au\)](http://Technologyforseniorsathome-MidCoastCouncil.nsw.gov.au)

SWITCHING FROM CHSP TO A HOME CARE PACKAGE

You may currently be receiving services through the Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP), but did you know BWNG also provides care through Home Care Packages (HCP)?

Although the types of services you can receive through these two funding types is very similar, CHSP is intended for seniors requiring one or two basic services, where HCP's can provide higher levels of care, more flexibility, and also equipment to help you live independently and comfortably.

Seniors approved to receive services through a HCP receive a government subsidy amount based on their level of need. There are four tiers of package, with Level One being the lowest, and Level Four being the highest.

You can request an assessment for a HCP, whether you're already receiving services or not.

It is important to know that there are wait times for a HCP, so it can be beneficial to enquire about it now rather than later when you might need it more urgently.

If you are interesting in accessing a HCP, call My Aged Care on 1800 200 422 to request an assessment.