

myBurdekin.com 2016

NQ Sports Ability Games



Back row (from left): Kerrie, Steph, Jane, Nicole, Jason, Vasi, Ally, Andrew, Jarrod, Andrew, Mark, Sharmaine, Glenn, Sharon and Sarah.

Third row: Toni, Fraser, Geraldine, Peter, Leona, Lizzie, Belinda, Fina, Diane, Jasmine.

Fourth row: Leanne, Catherine, John, Gaylene, April, Joy, Geoffrey, Emily

Front row: Stephen Sue, Teneill

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NQ SPORTS ABILITY GAMES CONT.

On 22nd June, participants from different North Queensland teams travelled to the Burdekin to participate in one of the biggest events of the year, the myBurdekin.com 2016 NQ Sports Ability Games.

This year there were teams from Bowen, Ingham, Townsville and the Burdekin. The event was held at the Multipurpose Shelter. Burdekin Mayor Lyn McLaughlin officially opened the games with Keely Johnson singing the national anthem.

Throughout the day, we were all kept very entertained by MC John Furnell and thanks to Bruce Reid for ensuring the safety of the Service User's and fellow athletes throughout the day.

All the teams participated in soccer, bocce, T-ball, relays and ball games.

THANK YOU!

A big thank you to everyone who supported the myBurdekin.com 2016 NQ Sports Ability Games.

Gold Sponsor: MyBurdekin.com

Silver Sponsor: Wilmar Sugar.

Bronze Sponsors: Queens Hotel, Wassmuth Automotive and Burdekin Tiles & Bathroom Ware.

Flexi Friends: Toyworld Ayr, Brandon's Travel, Earthorne's Sportspower, Spearitt's Jewellers, Dominique's Flowers & Funk, Amcal Pharmacy Ayr, Moda Interiors, Ayr Camping World, Campbell's Showcase Jewellers, Penny Lane Homewares, Dotty Daisy Flowers, Glen Dell, Butterfly Blue, Empower Studio and Harvey Norman Ayr.

Burdekin Blue Team took the lead early on in the day, but Ingham saved their energy and took out the winning place.

It was very close with Ingham winning on 790 points, Burdekin Blue in second on 770 points, Bowen and Burdekin Red tied in third on 745 points, fourth was Townsville 1 on 660 points and Townsville 2 in fifth on 580 points.

Everyone had a great night with a lovely dinner served by the Lion's Club of Ayr and enjoyed the night boogying to DJ T-Ready (Teneill) and watched Queensland win the State of Origin!

The day was a great success and was enjoyed by all. The 2017 Sports Ability Games will be held in Bowen.

Meal donations: Domino's Ayr and Red Rooster Ayr

Cash donations: Phelan's Pies Ayr, Coles and Woolworths.

Catering: Domino's Ayr, Red Rooster Ayr and the Lion's Club of Ayr and the Lion's Club of Home Hill.

Team Shirts: SPORTF1RST Ayr.

Official Opening: Mayor Lyn McLaughlin.

Master of Ceremonies: John Furnell.

First Aid Officer: Bruce Reid.

Entertainment: Keely Johnson and Michael Woods.

Townsville 400—V8s

Flexi Queensland Service Users; Bob, Mark F, Mark P, Blade, Margaret, Gavan and John travelled up to the Townsville 400 V8 Supercars. The event features high octane V8 Supercars racing through the streets of Townsville. Bob who is a keen Holden man and Mark P who is a Ford man had great delight in debating on who would win the races on the weekend. Bob had the last laugh as the Holden Red Bull Racing team won both races. Blade was really impressed with the Hot Wheels car they had on display and wanted to take it home with him. John impressed us with his knowledge of cars, informing us with the names of most of the cars on display. A great day was had by all and are looking forward to next year's event.



Johnny and Jesse checking out the Hot Wheels car at the Townsville 400.





Bob with the WD-40 girls at the V8s



Connect with Flexi!

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 Flexi_QLD

Flexi Team 2016

Change is a constant state here at Flexi Queensland so we have some new members to welcome to the team:

Lifestyle Facilitators: Brittany, Helen, Richard and Tracey.

Centre Team: Sarah - Trainee Receptionist and Administration Assistant.

Welcome to the Flexi Team!

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

September

Sunday 11th September

FREE Family Fun Day

Saturday 17th September

Flexi Awards Night

Tuesday 20th September

JNR Beach Activities

Tuesday 27th September

JNR Water Play

Thursday 29th September

JNR Bowling

October

Saturday 15th October

Riverway and T15 Defence
Air Show

Families need to ensure registration for attendance and payment of activities is completed at least a fortnight before the scheduled date.



IMPORTANT EVENT INFO

Please RSVP/Express your interest to the Service Delivery Office as soon as possible for each activity. A 50% deposit is required to secure your spot. All activity pricing is based on four Service Users attending the event. Once all RSVP's are received Flexi will advise if the final event price differs from the original quote where less/more than four Service Users have RSVP'd to attend.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have spoken to your DSF at the Service Delivery Office and have identified that you have the hours available to attend any events.

You understand that the following conditions apply if you need to **cancel your attendance** to an event:

- **With Notice Cancellation:** 2 office days' notice prior to event 50% reimbursement of activity cost. In the event that we are able to find someone to attend will get 100% reimbursement.
- **Short Notice Cancellation:** Less than 2 office days' notice prior to event 0% reimbursement of activity cost. In the event that we are able to find someone to attend will get 100% reimbursement.
- **No Notice Cancellation:** 0% reimbursement

Other important information:

Everyone must meet at the Hangout 15 minutes prior to the departure time.

Please ensure that you wear appropriate foot wear, bring a coat or jumper, have money to buy dinner and bring a water bottle, hat and sunscreen (where applicable).

Travel Matrix - To help Service Users and families understand the costing of Flexi Activities and Events Flexi have developed the below travel matrix. The Matrix displays the costs of one vehicle traveling to Townsville based on the award unit cost of 78c/kilometre. This cost is then shared across the number of participants attending the event.

Ticket Costs - Also when costing an event Flexi need to consider covering the cost of the LFs ticket, this is also incorporated into event pricing.

	Rate per km = \$0.78		Ayr to Townsville Return = 200 kms			
	Number of Service Users					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Cost	\$ 156.00	\$ 78.00	\$ 52.00	\$ 39.00	\$ 31.20	\$ 26.00

UPDATE FROM THE CEO

In reflecting on the achievements and plans ahead to share with you in this newsletter, I am overwhelmingly proud to be a part of the Flexi Queensland community, made up of the Staff, the Board of Directors, all our Service Users and their families.

The Directors and I reflect at our monthly Board meetings on the performance, achievements and challenges of Flexi Queensland and the 30 June 2016 marked the end of one of the most successful financial years for many years. This success has been on many levels – increased diversity of services being delivered to an increasing number of Service Users (young children through to our older residents), the recruitment of new staff with desirable skills and attributes, as well as the promotion of existing staff to new roles with more responsibility to enable these additional supports to be delivered, and a solid financial bottom line. Not forgetting changes to the organisations structure that have been necessary in the preparation for the roll out of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). The Directors and I are all very confident that Flexi Queensland will hold a strong course throughout the next few months as Service Users, families and staff transition into this new world of NDIS.

NDIS Update

Over the last few months the Centre Team and I have been focusing on the changes the organisation needs to make for the NDIS. We have been working with consultants Linda Hayes and Ken Leigh from CSA to ensure our processes and systems are ready to meet the requirements by NDIS. Staff training sessions on NDIS have also been held for the Centre Team and Lifestyle Facilitators. Flexi Queensland received its NDIS registration on 13 June 2016 and is able to offer the following wide range of services (including many new types of supports):

- Assistance with daily personal activities
- Behaviour support
- Assistance with daily life tasks in a group or shared living arrangements
- Development of daily living and life skills
- Early intervention supports for early childhood
- Assistive technology specialist assessment, set up and training
- Participation in community, social and civic activities
- Management of funding for supports in a participant's plan
- Therapeutic supports
- Accommodation/Tenancy assistance
- Assistance to access and maintain employment

- Assistance to integrate into school or other educational program
- Assistance in coordinating or managing life stages, transitions and supports
- Assistance with travel/transport arrangements
- Household tasks
- Physical wellbeing activities
- Training for independence in travel and transport

With the roll out of NDIS in the Burdekin to commence in less than a month on 1 October 2016, Flexi Queensland is fulfilling its commitment to assist our existing Service Users and families with the transition to NDIS. All Service Users have been listed with NDIS and should expect to receive a letter and/or a phone call from a person from National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) as the start of their transition. Joy Cornford and I have been meeting with Service Users and families and working with them to prepare for their important Planning Meeting to be held with a NDIA Planner. At the Planning Meeting the NDIA Planner will discuss the goals and aspirations of the person with a disability and the supports required for them to achieve those goals for the next 12 months. Their Plan developed from this meeting will then outline the supports that the person will receive under the NDIS. Joy and I have met with 20 families to date and have many more with booked appointments. If you wish to make an appointment with Joy and I to discuss your preparations for NDIS please contact the office.

Service Delivery Update

Aside from the NDIS preparations, all staff at Flexi Queensland continue to focus on providing quality, meaningful and fun opportunities and life experiences for our Service Users. Since the last newsletter much has been happening behind the scenes to secure funding to be able to maintain and extend the range of activities and services available for Service Users during their support.

Teenage Hangout

Service Users have been working hard with Steve Setter to set up a teenager area at the Hangout. This area is equipped with a smart TV, Xbox 360 and many new games for all age groups, as well as two computers with internet access. Service Users are supervised in this area and families have been contacted to give their consent around classification access for games and movies. This area provides an opportunity for Service Users to catch up with their Flexi friends: sharing common interests, researching topics and information for homework or surfing the net for the latest YouTube clips.

To be continued on page 6

UPDATE FROM THE CEO CONT.

New Wheelchair Accessible Minibus

Flexi Queensland is fully aware of the ongoing need to be able to provide transport for our Service Users to get around and about locally and to Townsville as part of delivering our support services. George Christensen phoned me recently to advise of Flexi Queensland's successful grant application (completed by Teneill Ready and Hana Armstrong) through the Federal Government Building Stronger Communities Program. This grant is assisting with the cost of wheelchair access modifications and other accessories to a new Toyota HiAce Minibus which has been leased by Flexi Queensland. The Minibus is currently being modified in Townsville and it is hoped to be on the road in the next few weeks.

Speech Therapy Services

The Building Stronger Communities grant has also assisted with the purchase of equipment and resources to assist with the setup of Flexi Queensland's new speech therapy service. This new service will be set up at the Hangout and commence following the roll out of NDIS. Stephanie Gianni will be the speech therapist – many of you already know Stephanie through her current Lifestyle Facilitator role. People can access this service through their NDIS funding and fee for service. Flexi Queensland will also be looking into registering with private health insurers and Medicare in due course.

Disability Action Week 2016: Family Fun Day (11 September) & Flexi Awards Night (17 September)

Teneill and Hana were also successful in their grant application to Queensland Government for Disability Action

Week 2016. This grant has enabled Flexi Queensland to cover all the costs of holding the community Family Fun Day event again in 2016 at Anzac Park with free entry to the event and no charge for the range of amusements on offer. I encourage you to come along between 1.00pm and 4.00pm on Sunday 11 September and have some fun with family and friends, there is something to suit all age groups

As part of Disability Action Week 2016, Flexi Queensland is holding its Annual Awards Event, this year's theme is "Under The Big Top" and I look forward to seeing everyone in their best outfits – some of you may even want to add a touch of Circus to your outfit. Following on from the success of this event in 2015, the larger venue of the Ayr Showgrounds has been chosen and the cost to attend has been kept at minimum so Service Users can bring their families along for a fun filled evening to celebrate the great achievements so far in 2016. Information has been mailed out to families but please contact the Office if you wish to attend.

If you have any ideas or suggestions about new activities or services you would like to see happen at Flexi Queensland please let one of the Centre Team know – we are always looking at ways we can improve our services to you.

Sue Collier

Wheelchairs for Kids

Flexi Queensland are still collecting cans and ring pulls, if you have any to be collected please contact Stephen at the office.

CURRENT RING PULL TALLY
As at 30th August 2016

Raised: \$356.85
for Wheelchairs for Kids.



We have raised enough funds for our first wheelchair!

ONLY \$43.15 to go for our SECOND WHEELCHAIR!

To learn more about Wheelchairs for Kids visit www.wheelchairsforkids.org



14-16 Ross Street Ayr Qld 4807
Office Number: 4783 5866
Free Call Number: 1800 210 637

About Flexi Queensland:

Flexi Queensland is a specialist disability support service with a wealth of knowledge in meeting the needs of people with disability. Flexi Queensland supports children and adults with a disability, individuals experiencing mental illness, and those who are ageing in a wide range of life areas – along with their parents/carers and families.

About Wheelchairs for Kids:

Wheelchairs for Kids are a group of retiree volunteers in Australia that use ring pulls from the tops of cans to make and distribute up to 300 wheelchairs per month to poor, disabled children in developing countries. Millions of wheelchairs are needed, and every single one makes a difference. Please help. Every \$200 raised gives a child the freedom of mobility and liberates a carer.

Flexi Queensland is a NDIS registered provider.

**Flexi Queensland is a collector of ring pull cans for
Wheelchairs For Kids.**

www.wheelchairsforkids.org



Amusements

**MELVILLE'S
FARM
LASER TAG
& WATER SLIDE**

Stalls Include

**HEALTH
SERVICES
SPORTING
CLUBS
& MORE**

**SAUSAGE
SIZZLE
& SNOW CONES**

Also Available
Free of Charge



FOR FULL EVENT
DETAILS VISIT:

www.facebook.com/



FOR MORE EVENT
DETAILS VISIT:

Instagram: [flexi_qld](https://www.instagram.com/flexi_qld)

DISABILITY ACTION WEEK 2016

FREE FAMILY FUN DAY



SUNDAY 11TH SEPT
1:00pm - 4:00pm
ANZAC PARK



Funded by



**IT ALL
STARTS
HERE.**



**Queensland
Government**



STEP RIGHT UP

Please Join Us Under The Big Top

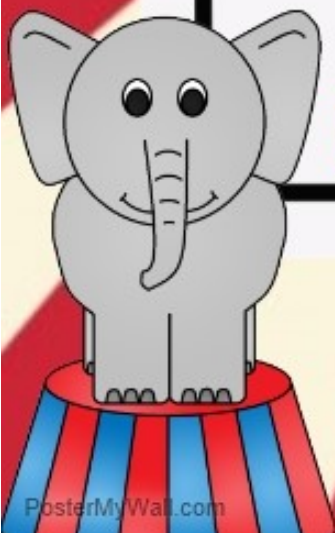
**Flexi Queensland
A w a r d s
N i g h t**

17th Sept 2016

**4:00pm - 10:00pm
Ayr Showgrounds
Hall**

**\$25 a head
Contact Office
for Family Rate**

RSVP: 17th Aug 2016



ON THE GROUND



One Year @ Flexi 4

Catherine, Sue, Nicole and Emily having a dance to celebrate the girls living in Flexi 4 for one year.



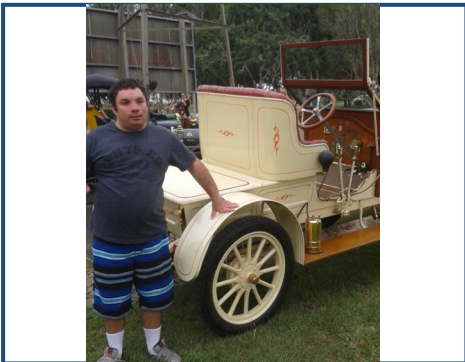
Junior Group Cooking

Ally assisting Matilda in cooking pancakes in May 2016.



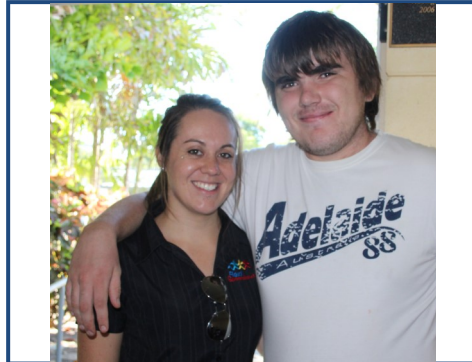
Soccer

Service Users vs Lifestyle Facilitators soccer match in June 2016 with the winners being the Service Users.



Boys and their Toys

Fraser enjoyed checking out all the cars in town in July 2016.



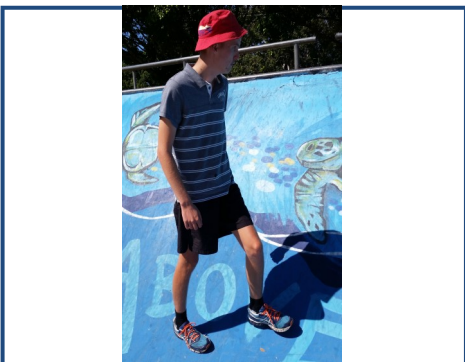
Farewell

Jasmine and Darian at Jaz's Farewell party. Miss you Jaz!



Flexi Duck

Flexi participated in the Rotary Duck Race this year. No placing but he sure looked cool!



Skate Park Fun

Steven enjoying a nice walk around town and checking out the skate park in July 2016.



Junior Group Craft

Gwen enjoyed participating in craft at the Burdekin Library in July 2016.



Goodbyes

Belinda saying goodbye and best wishes to Zandra. Hope retirement is treating you well Zandra!