



## Engaging Community



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# A Message from The Chief Executive



Mark Kulinski, Chief Executive

*Hi everyone,  
I trust this message  
finds you well and  
that, like me, you are  
enjoying Spring and  
the warmer weather.*

At this point in time, I cannot help but be grateful for everything and everyone that makes Community Living Australia what it is today. I am proud and humbled to be leading an organisation committed to supporting our clients and families to be their very best and thrive in their local communities. Without your support we would not be in the strong position that we are in today.

I want to take this opportunity to update you on our progress and discuss some of the exciting things happening across the organisation. Firstly, the NDIS is now operational in all our regions and we are seeing a steady increase in new and

existing clients transitioning and utilising our services. We take great pride as an organisation in being able to support people to get the most out of their NDIS plans.

Secondly, there have been some great events happening across the organisation — and there are also some exciting ones to look forward to! Most notably the recent SALA 'Myriad' exhibition held at the Adelaide Convention Centre. It was a wonderful showcase of more than 150 pieces of magnificent artwork by over 60 people living with disability and I would like to thank everyone involved in making the event possible. We also recently supported the CLA Foundation in hosting their annual charity golf day which raised over \$13,000, with 19 teams and close to 100 people coming out to support the event at the Murray Bridge Golf Course.

In terms of current and upcoming events we are hosting Annual Information Sessions throughout November and December in each of our regions. These sessions provide our stakeholders with the opportunity to hear in detail our achievements over the 2017/18 financial year as well as our plans for the future in how we will continue to remain a quality provider of services that is focussed on meeting the needs of our clients. Additionally, I know it seems hard to believe but Christmas is now also fast approaching and with this we will once again be participating in many of our local community Christmas pageants — providing

our clients with the opportunity to engage in exciting community events.

In closing, I want to wish our Tri States teams the best of luck in their campaigns at the Tri State Games during November — I am sure you will do us all and yourselves proud.

Thank you again for your continued support of Community Living Australia and I hope you are encouraged and inspired as you read the outstanding stories in this newsletter and hear about some of the amazing work and achievements our clients and staff are doing on a daily basis.

All the best,



Mark Kulinski

# Acknowledging a Champion: Farewelling Bob After Many Years of Service

*A hallmark of Community Living Australia has always been the wonderful, dedicated, and passionate staff who support our clients to achieve their goals.*

We are saddened to announce that Bob Butler, who has been with us as a Support Worker for over 15 years, advised of his retirement from our Murraylands team in this previous period.

A morning tea was held in the Murray Bridge office to thank Bob and present him with an acknowledgement of service trophy.

"I am truly proud to have worked for Community Living Australia (previously Community Lifestyles) over the last 15 years.

I am equally grateful for the many staff and clients I have supported over this time and I wish everyone well for the future," Bob says.

Murraylands Regional Manager Molly Baulch thanked Bob for his commitment to clients and families and wished him well for the future.

"I would like to thank Bob for his commitment to our clients and families over many years. He has been such a valued member of our team and I wish him well for the future.

We will miss Bob but I am sure he will continue to have an even greater impact in our community in the years ahead," Molly says.

Community Living Australia Chief Executive Mark Kulinski also thanked Bob for his service to the organisation.

"Although it is sad to see Bob go, it is heartening to see, hear about and know that there are people like Bob in our communities and working for our organisation. There is no doubt in my mind that Bob has had a significant positive impact in the lives of so many of our clients and in the lives of his colleagues. He is a great example for us all.

On behalf of all Community Living Australia staff, clients, and families, I would like to sincerely thank Bob for his service to our organisation and clients over many years," Mark said.

Thank you Bob and we wish you all the best for the future.



*Bob, Mark and Molly at Bob's farewell morning tea*

# Michael Steps Up in South Australian Parliament

Community Living Australia Marketing Team member, volunteer and current client Michael Reardon spent a week in SA's corridors of power recently.

Mr Reardon, along with over 80 other participants from across South Australia had the opportunity to experience life as a Member of Parliament for one week debating key issues including euthanasia, abortion, and wage transparency.

Michael spent the week in the Legislative Council and had many personal highlights including being the main sponsor of the Wage Transparency Bill and being a Presiding Officer.

"Being a part of Youth Parliament has brought me great personal joy. I had always been interested in politics but until now had never had an opportunity to pursue it in this way.

My two key highlights of the program were being the main sponsor for my team's Wage Transparency Bill while also being able to be a Presiding Officer which was both interesting and challenging," Mr Reardon says.

Community Living Australia Chief Executive Mark

Kulinski said Michael's achievements are a great example of what people with disability can do despite the barriers they face.

"I would like to congratulate Michael on his outstanding achievements not only as a member of the Youth Parliament but also as an employee and volunteer with Community Living Australia.

Importantly, Michael demonstrates what people living with disability can achieve when they have goals, are provided with quality and personalised support and demonstrate perseverance," Mr Kulinski said.

Michael has been volunteering in the Community Living Australia Marketing Team for 2 ½ years and we want to congratulate him on being successful in securing part time casual employment in the team until February 2019 and for securing full time employment in the ACT Government in 2019 and beyond. Michael will be making the big move to Canberra in February next year and we wish him every success.

Well done Michael on your achievements — we look forward to watching your progress!





# Celebrating Another Successful SALA Exhibition

Community Living Australia recently held our annual SALA Exhibition titled 'Myriad' at the Adelaide Convention Centre.

The event showcased the outstanding work of over 60 artists living with disability from across South Australia. Displaying over 150 paintings, photos, mosaics and sculptures, Myriad was the largest exhibition of artwork by people with disability in our state this year.

Importantly, this year's event was a great opportunity to highlight artists of all abilities and showcase their work in a public setting. The opening event was well attended with close to 200 guests coming to enjoy the artwork that was on display.

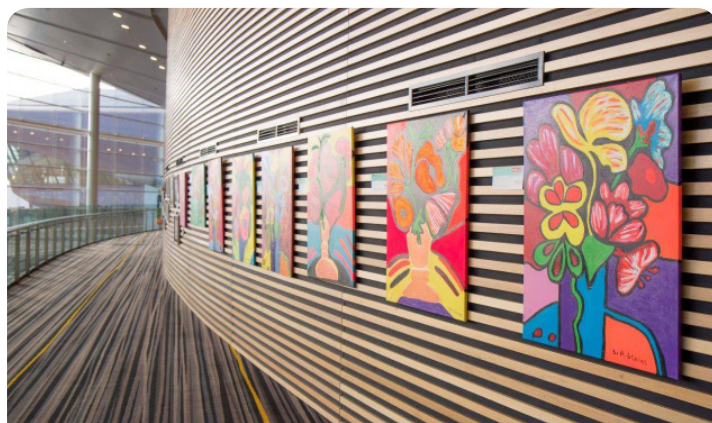
"Community Living Australia is proud to have hosted another SALA Exhibition in 2018 and I would like to sincerely thank all the wonderful artists for their outstanding work that was put on display." Bill Rowe, Chairperson of Community Living Australia.

"I would also like to thank the Adelaide Convention Centre for their support enabling us to utilise their facilities during the exhibition", Bill added.

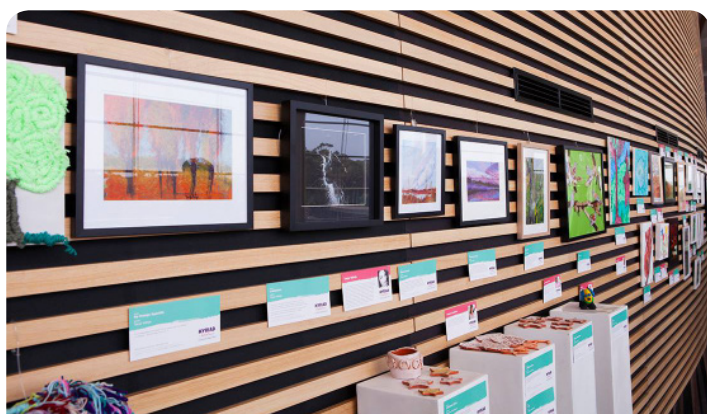
Well done everyone on a successful SALA Exhibition and we look forward to hosting again in 2019.



*Roslyn with her mosaic which sold at the opening*



*Myriad spanned the entire 80 metre length of the skyway*

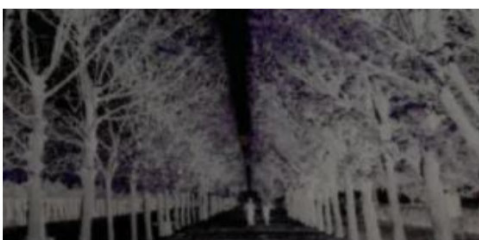
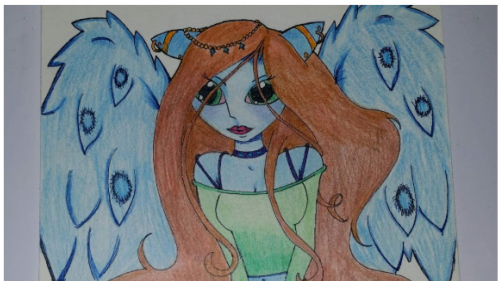
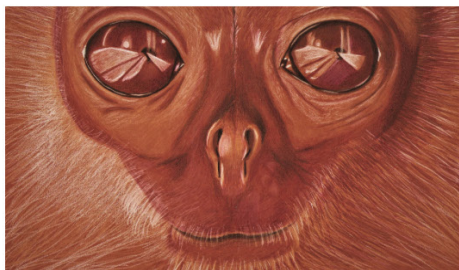


*Approximately 80 artists displayed 150 pieces at Myriad*



*Lassa beside a selection of her paintings by mouth*





A small selection of the work displayed at Myriad



# Website Launch

*Community Living Australia is pleased to announce that we have launched our brand new website!*

With a simpler interface and fresh new look, finding the information users need will now be easier than ever before. We have designed a website which will be more engaging and better tailored to users' needs.

The new website is an important step forward in helping the organisation to remain competitive in a highly digital environment.

This new website ensures that we can remain a provider of choice for our clients and families. We have achieved this by displaying information which is relevant to their needs.

People being able to find us easily online is something we are strongly committed to and the new website helps us to best do that.

Check it out at [claut.com.au](http://claut.com.au).

## The Benefits of Art

*Southern Metro Day options had a much-needed injection of artistic talent recently.*

Domanny decided it was time to show off her painting skills.

As you can see by the photo, Domanny loves to use painting as a way of expressing her creativity.

Art can be such a powerful developmental and therapeutic tool providing people with disability with an alternative means of communication and self-expression whilst also supporting them to develop their motor skills and cognitive ability.

These exciting creations have formed a big part of Domanny's activities and we are sure they will continue to do so in the future — with the creation of many more beautiful artworks no doubt being just around the corner.



*Domanny in her element*



# Phil's Wish Comes True

Phil, one of our South East clients, recently had his wish – to enter this year's SALA Exhibition and make the five-hour journey to Adelaide for the official opening – come true.

Phil has always been a keen artist and entered artwork into our SALA exhibition last year, but due to distance had not been able to attend the exhibition in person.

Phil was thrilled to not only see his artwork on display but to appreciate the amazing work his fellow artists produced.

Phil's achievements demonstrate Community Living Australia's commitment to enabling all clients to access their community despite any challenges.

It is absolutely wonderful to see Phil being provided with the opportunity to attend the SALA Exhibition in person and for his own work to be displayed.

Providing our clients with the opportunity to achieve their goals is an important part of what we do and we congratulate Phil on his outstanding achievements.

Well done Phil on entering SALA and making the trip to Adelaide. Keep up the great work!



*Phil making the trip into Adelaide*



*Phil beside his work at the Myriad official opening*



# South East Clients Enjoy a Weekend Away in Adelaide



*Clockwise: Michael, Natalie, Kayte, Michelle, Scott and Nathan*

Four Community Living Australia clients: Kayte, Michael, Scott, and Nathan from Mount Gambier made the 500km trip to Adelaide for an enjoyable weekend away with support workers Nat and Michelle.

Highlights of the trip included visits to Monarto Zoo, the Port Market and a cruise on the Dolphin Explorer, with the most exciting of all: seeing Priscilla Queen of the Desert — The Musical live on stage.

This was a great time away for all involved and a good opportunity to explore other parts of South Australia and enjoy a well-earned break.

It is important to be able to provide our clients with opportunities and experiences like this and to be able to work with them to set and achieve these types of goals.

Everyone had a fantastic time away and we are certain that they will be looking forward to their next exciting adventure.



# Basketball Finals Come to a Close

Many of our clients participate in the Great Southern Basketball Association based in Goolwa.

The season has recently come to an end with the grand final decider being contested by the Kings and Dragons — it was an even and well contested match all the way through.

After a hard-fought contest, the Dragons managed to come out victors with a one-point win to secure the premiership.

Everyone involved had a great season taking every opportunity possible to improve their skills each week.

There was also a great sense of excitement among the players, their families, supporters and volunteers who did such an amazing job in making not only the grand final but the entire season possible.

Congratulations to everyone involved this season. We look forward to seeing more of our clients participate in the competition next year.

Well done to all.



*Clients Amanda (No.7) and Rory (No.9) with their team, the Dragons*

# Revamped Respite Service Re-opens in Murray Bridge

Community Living Australia is pleased to announce that a revamped accessible respite guest home has just been re-opened in Murray Bridge.

Available to both children and adults with disability, the venue is fully accessible and boasts some great facilities including a nice, large outdoor area, vegetable patch, basketball ring, arcade game consoles and modern facilities.

The refurbished accommodation will make a big difference to our clients and people with disability in our local communities providing them with access to a greater variety of services.

As much as providing a needed break and support to people with disability it also provides an opportunity for them to build relationships, skills and independence.

Having a respite service in the Murraylands is a great outcome for our clients and families. It will enable them to better access the local community.

The opening of our revamped respite facility demonstrates our strong commitment to the local community and to ensuring that we can continue to provide our clients and families with the highest quality services focused on meeting their goals and realising their dreams.

The redevelopment of this venue would not have been possible without the provision of a generous grant by the Community Living Australia Foundation. We appreciate their commitment to providing funds to enhance the lives of people living with disability in the local community.



*Large outdoor and undercover areas*



*Plenty of indoor and outdoor entertainment*



*New accessible amenities*



# Speedway Action at Murray Bridge

Some of our Murraylands clients recently took the opportunity to have a night out at the Murray Bridge Speedway.

This is always a great place for anyone who loves all things cars and speed and our clients were no different.

The roar of a motor combined with the excitement of a great local crowd makes the speedway a worthwhile event if you're a budding car enthusiast.

The event was as always very well attended by the local community and an exhilarating atmosphere was shared by all.

A big thank you goes out to the Mobilong Rotary Club who very generously donated the tickets and organised for our clients to attend.

Developing relationships with local community groups and businesses such as the Mobilong Rotary Club is a priority and is extremely beneficial in being able to support our clients to access the community.

We are very thankful and appreciative of the support given by the Mobilong Rotary Club and look forward to continuing our association.



*The gang enjoying the comfort of the corporate box*



*Rev-head heaven*



*The gang had a fantastic time thanks to the Rotary Club of Mobilong*

# Supporting Healthcare Heroes — A Worthwhile Cause



Community Living Australia is proud to have been the main sponsor of Nova Entertainment 5AA Radio Show's Health Care Heroes initiative.

The initiative acknowledges, publicises and rewards the achievements of many South Australians who work in the health, disability, and ageing sectors.

Community Living Australia Chief Executive Mark Kulinski said the organisation was very pleased to be the main sponsor of the campaign.

"I am very pleased that we were the main sponsor of the Healthcare Heroes initiative. This was a great opportunity for us to be a part of a state-wide campaign that recognised the achievements of many wonderful South Australians who work in these sectors.

Without the support of these fantastic people, our community would not be as strong and vibrant as it is.

It was also a great opportunity for our brand to be associated and placed as an authority within the sector in regards to recognising and acknowledging best practice.

I would like to thank all South Australians who work in these sectors — including our very own support staff. We are very grateful for the support you provide," Mr Kulinski said.

Congratulations to everyone who was nominated and received awards.



# Work Hard, Play Hard

*Sean, from Middleton, is loving life – especially when it comes to work and keeping an active lifestyle.*

Sean works at Mobo Group Scrap and Salvage Goolwa, two days per week.

While he has many responsibilities, Sean's regular tasks include housekeeping, restoring donated goods for sale and pulling things apart for scrap.

Outside of work, you're likely to find Sean shooting some hoops, cycling, and hitting the gym at the FIT Fitness & Health centre.

Fitness & Health centre.

It is great to see Sean getting so involved in his community and getting fulfilment from his work. This is just one great example of the work our team is doing in the region to support clients in achieving their goals, being active in their community and increasing their independence.

Sean provides a great example for how people with disability can become more active and involved in their local community and as a team we are excited to continue to support more clients to achieve this level of community engagement.





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