

news

Summer
Edition
2012

achieve
australia

60
ACHIEVING
FOR SIXTY
YEARS



Life Changing
moves into the
Community

Achieve Fire
Safety Plans

Araluen Officially Opens

Disability expectations – Australia ranks poorly

A recent report released by PriceWaterhouseCoopers (PwC) titled 'Disability expectations - Investing in a better life, a stronger Australia' measures Australia against the rest of the world – and it's not a pretty picture. The report also looks at ways to deliver the newly proposed National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

The report revealed:

- Employment participation rates for people with disability ranks Australia 21st out of the 29 countries surveyed who are part of the Convention on the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).
- Almost 50% of people with disability in Australia live near or below the poverty line. This is more than double the OECD average of 22%.

- Australia has a lower level of spending on long-term care for people with disability under the age of 65.
- Denmark, Sweden, Norway and the United Kingdom spend double the amount on mental health care compared to Australia.

The report advocated for a broad 'cultural change' within Australian society in order to facilitate necessary and long overdue reform in the disability sector.

These changes are reflected by Achieve Australia's long-term projects such as the purchase of Araluen for Day Programs and the proposed redevelopment of Crowle Home.

At Achieve Australia, we agree with the proposed PwC solutions to tackle disability exclusion.

These include:

- increasing awareness among the general community
- educating society as a whole
- shifting attitudes towards genuine community inclusion for people with disability

We believe the community is behind these changes to create a more inclusive society. This was reflected in a recent survey conducted by Woolcott Research that showed 98% of people in the Ryde area felt that people with disability have a right to live within the community.

As stated in the conclusion of the report, Achieve Australia upholds that 'disability policy at all levels of government should address the systematic dismantling of all of the barriers that prevent people with a disability from full, active citizenship.' Only then will the people we support be able to truly achieve a meaningful and valued life.

In this issue

Feature

Disability Expectations – Australia Ranks Poorly	2
Message from the CEO	3

Reports

Locals Sympathetic to Belmore Street Redevelopment	4
Meet John Alexander – Our New Patron	5

New Board of Directors Announced	5
Anne Bryce Goes National	
Achieve Community	
Beyond the Square	6
Watching the Sunrise	
Ramping up our Social Media	7
Focus	
Housing Strategy	8
Achieve Fire Safety Plans	

Star Achievements	10
Achieve Events	11
It's a Date	14
How you can help	15

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**Message
from
the CEO**



60 years of achievement



2012 marks 60 years since Achieve Australia and its predecessor organisations, The Crowle Foundation and Achieve Foundation, began making a difference in the lives of people with disability and their families.

The Crowle Foundation was established on 29 November 1952 with the official opening of Crowle Home by Governor, Lieutenant General Sir John Northcott. Since then, the organisation has produced a history filled with inspiring stories, fundraising initiatives and built many friendships.

Achieve Foundation commenced 12 years later in 1964. Formerly known as Hornsby Challenge, the organisation later became one of the first in Australia to initiate de-institutionalisation and move people with disability into community-based accommodation and employment.

We are now entering a new chapter of existence and expertise.

Our Day Programs have now completed the transition from Belmore Street to Araluen for innovative educational programs, activities and opportunities for skill development. We're also continuing to liaise with local colleges, TAFEs and community businesses to look at ways to further enhance our programs. Everyone is settling in really well and anyone who has visited the new site in Epping will agree that the happy grins of both staff and participants are contagious!

As you are aware, Achieve Australia is also about to embark on the Crowle Home redevelopment. The exciting transformation of the property into a new residential dwelling complex will allow people with disability to live within the community; ultimately achieving social inclusion. This is in line with our overall Housing Strategy, which aims to improve the stability of tenure, create accessible and integrated community living and provide family home ownership opportunities. More information about our Housing Strategy can be found on page 8.

To celebrate our 60th anniversary, we have initiated a number of online fundraising campaigns to raise funds for Achieve Australia's programs and services in the community. You can now establish your own fundraising events or ask friends to make a donation to Achieve Australia in lieu of gifts for life's milestones. We've also established 'Achieve Month', which provides you the opportunity to set yourself a goal and ask family and friends to support you by making donations to Achieve Australia. Read the 'How You Can Help' section of this edition of Achieve News to find out more.

Of course, we will also be celebrating our 60 year milestone on 29 November 2012, which will include the launch of a book about our journey. If you have any photographs or memorabilia you are willing to loan us for publication or exhibition or if you would like to share your personal story about your involvement with our organisation, please contact Sunita Menezes on **02 9034 1600**.

Anne Bryce

“ We are now entering a new chapter of existence and expertise. ”



Locals Sympathetic to Belmore Street Redevelopment

A recent survey* conducted with people living in the areas surrounding Crowle Home in Ryde has shown that almost everyone polled (98%) felt that people with disability had a right to live within the community. This is consistent with Federal and State government policy which stipulates that people with disability should no longer live in institutionalised/segregated accommodation.

Crowle Home, a residence for 23 people with disability in Belmore Street, Ryde, is old and unsuitable and needs to be closed down. As you are probably aware, Achieve Australia is planning to redevelop the property. The Belmore Street proposal features apartments ranging from one to three bedrooms. A total of 470 units are envisaged, with 47 reserved for people with disability.

This innovative approach will deliver three important outcomes:

- It will more than double the number of people with disability who can live there (up to 60 people);
- The funding will come from private sources (putting less burden on the taxpayer);
- The resulting financial security will benefit those supported by Achieve Australia and their families by funding more housing within the broader community.

Parking will be available onsite, which means street parking will be better than the State government's requirements. All perimeter trees are to be preserved and more will be added. The heritage aspects of Crowle Home will also be preserved.

In the recent survey, most people were in favour of this redevelopment, with only 28% against. Of the people surveyed, 86% agreed that the chance to live in their own home is a dream come true for many people with disability. Also, 83% agreed that living within the community changes the emotional well-being and level of confidence of people with disability.

The results of this survey are loud and clear. The local community sees the advantages of moving from segregated accommodation to social inclusion for people with disability.

*This was an independent survey by Woolcott Research (n=300, with a maximum error at the 95% confidence level being + 6% (5.8%).

Meet John Alexander, our new Patron

At the official opening of Araluen in November last year, John Alexander MP, Federal Member for Bennelong was announced as Achieve Australia's new Patron.

Mr Alexander has shown strong support to Achieve Australia since his election as the local Federal Member in August 2010. In the past, he has attended annual Crowle fetes, been a guest at one of our DisabiliTeas to promote the National Disability Insurance Scheme and participated at Achieve Australia's recent 10th Annual Golf Day.

Mr Alexander's support to Achieve Australia in the past has been greatly appreciated and we look forward to his assistance in creating community awareness about the ways we support people with disability to achieve a meaningful and valued life.

As part of his new role as Patron, Mr Alexander will continue to attend activities and events for the organisation, including Achieve Australia's 60th anniversary celebrations in 2012.



John Alexander MP,
Federal Member for Bennelong

New Board of Directors Announced

At our recent Annual General Meeting, six Directors were appointed to the Achieve Australia Board. The Directors will hold their positions for a three year term.

Congratulations to the returning Directors:

- Ian Rutter (Chairman)
- Ian Richmond
- John Cameron
- Dina Hayes

Welcome to our two new Directors who joined the Board in September last year:

- Professor Patricia O'Brien
- Peter Smith

Anne Bryce goes National

Our CEO, Anne Bryce, has been elected to the National Board of National Disability Services (NDS). The announcement about Anne's successful election was made at the NDS CEO Conference on 5 December 2011.

Anne's strong values based experience in the disability sector holds her in good stead to contribute strongly to the NDS Board.

As the term is for three years, Anne's membership of the Board will coincide with what is widely regarded as the most significant reforms of the Australian disability service landscape. This role is of the utmost importance for Achieve Australia.

Congratulations Anne!

Advertise here

Rates start at \$150.
Contact us on 02 9034 1600.

Beyond the Square

On 23 November 2011, approximately 60 people with disability and their carers performed 'Invisibility' on Parramatta Riverside Theatre's main stage. Seven people from Achieve Australia participated. This was the culmination of three terms' worth of work within Riverside's Beyond the Square program.

The show explored what it means to be invisible and visible, to be unseen and seen, to have no voice and to be heard. It was a mix of live action, dance and movement, combined with video footage of personal interviews with participants and reality TV show sketches.

After the show, there was live music, karaoke, dancing and a BBQ provided in the courtyard.



Max Shortus and Robert Woods performing onstage.



Teresa and Karen were thrilled to meet members of the Channel 7 news team.

Watching the Sunrise

Karen Murray and Teresa Walton were lucky to meet the Channel 7 news team recently at Hornsby Westfield. Karen shared her experience with Achieve News.

"Last Thursday, I had a photo with Mark (Ferguson), me, Teresa and Natalie (Barr) at Hornsby Mall.

One of my school friends told me that 'Sunrise' were around the corner in the food court, so we went there for lunch.

I said "It's my birthday on Friday - someone sing 'happy birthday' to me!" So Mel (Melissa Doyle) sang 'happy birthday' to me.

I watch Sunrise every morning. I like Beretts (Mark Beretta) and Mel and Kochie (David Koch) and Grant Denyer and Natalie. I like Beretts because he talks on the microphone all the time about the car races.

I got a card from Mark saying "Hi Karen, happy birthday from Mark and Natalie." Teresa got a big card too.

Mark shook my hand and I said "Thank you to Sunrise for coming out."

Ramping up our Social Media

At Achieve Australia we know the importance of keeping you informed about our organisation and the wider disability sector. To achieve this, we have enhanced our communications across the internet to make it easier for you to access information.

Achieve E-News

In addition to our quarterly edition of Achieve News magazine, we have established monthly e-newsletters to keep you up-to-date. Achieve e-News features profiles about the people we support, redevelopment and property updates, as well as information about the disability sector. Feel free to subscribe via our website:

www.achieveaustralia.org.au

Achieve Blog

The Achieve Australia blog is an online journal that contains numerous stories, articles and opinion pieces about the proposed redevelopment, National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), updates from the Vintage and Value Enterprises and other information about our organisation and the wider community. Stories are added to the blog regularly and we welcome your comments and feedback. Visit the blog at

www.achieveaustralianews.org.au

Twitter - @AchieveAus

For those unfamiliar with social media, Twitter is a micro-blogging website that provides information as it happens. 'Tweets' are 140 character bursts of information similar to the words that appear across the bottom of your TV screen when watching the news. We currently have over 1,140 people following the tweets Achieve Australia posts online about various topics. If you have a Twitter account, you can follow us at

www.twitter.com/AchieveAus

Facebook

Facebook is a very popular social media website that allows you to connect with friends to share photos, videos and links to information online. We now have over 100 'Likes' for the Achieve Australia Facebook page, meaning that over 100 people receive notifications when new information is posted to our webpage. You can 'Like' us at

www.facebook.com/AchieveAus

'Achieve TV' on YouTube

YouTube is a video-sharing website and Achieve Australia regularly creates videos to capture inspiring stories of people we support and provide information about our property developments. You can subscribe to our YouTube channel 'Achieve TV' and be notified when a new video is uploaded. View the videos at

www.youtube.com/AchieveAus

Website

On top of everything else, we have a website which contains everything you need to know about our programs and services! Visit us at

www.achieveaustralia.org.au



2011 Annual Report
Available for viewing online

Housing Strategy

Under the Achieve Australia Housing Strategy, the organisation aims to own at least 50 housing properties for the purpose of the provision of supported housing for people with disability.

This is a cornerstone goal which means:

- Improved stability of tenure and improved living circumstances and choice for people with disability.

- People with disability will be living in an integrated community where they are able to more readily access local services, develop relationships and integrate with the broader community.
- Opportunities will be created for people with disability and/or their family to invest in ownership of homes within the Achieve Australia supported accommodation program.

“We build,
we own,
we operate,
we maintain.”

The initial housing development plan represents the provision of the necessary housing capacity to accommodate the remaining residents at Crowle Home.

The plan also represents the first two years of a wider housing program that Achieve Australia has embarked on.

Achieve

Fire Safety Plans

“From fire drills conducted across community homes in December 2011, reports show that full evacuations were completed between 30 seconds to three minutes. This is an excellent result.”

The tragedy that occurred at Quakers Hill Nursing Home has produced nationwide concerns about fire and safety across community service facilities.

At Achieve Australia, safety of the people we support is our highest priority. This includes monitoring safety issues around the home and risks associated with fire.

In an emergency situation, chaos quickly takes over, so it is important to plan ahead to reduce panic and increase survivability.

The NSW Fire Brigade enforces that all residential homes, hospitals, commercial premises and nursing homes must have a fire management and emergency evacuation plan. The evacuation process must then be practised at least twice a year to ensure everyone has the best chance of a safe escape.

Achieve Australia has enlisted the help of First 5 Minutes; an advisory company who are an industrial leader in Fire Safety Management.



Ena knows where to find her fire extinguisher in case of emergency

First 5 Minutes have visited all of our worksites to develop a fire response strategy and provide training to key personnel in fire management.

Here are the Fire Safety Plans in place across our sites:

Crowle Home

- Signage, smoke alarms, fire extinguishers and ceiling mounted automatic sprinklers are strategically placed around the grounds and buildings.
- There is an automatic back-to-base alarm to the NSW Fire Brigade.
- All staff and residents have been trained about evacuation procedures. Emergency evacuation drills have been conducted so that everyone knows what to do if an alarm goes off.
- Twice a year, a site inspection for fire risks is conducted. Corrective actions are immediately set in place to address any identified hazards.

Araluen

- A thorough emergency response program is being finalised by First 5 Minutes. In the interim, Achieve Australia's OHS Manager has developed a suitable Fire Safety Plan.
- Signage, smoke alarms and fire extinguishers have been installed at several locations around the site.
- An evacuation plan has been put in place. In case of a fire, all staff and attendees will evacuate the building and meet at the corner of Brigadoon Court and Brigg Road.

Meadowbank and Marrickville Factories

- Signage, smoke alarms, emergency sirens, fire hoses and extinguishers are installed at both facilities.
- The factories have evacuation plans in place and both have run successful fire evacuation drills. In each case, the factories were safely evacuated to their muster point within three minutes. Ongoing evacuation trials and drills will be implemented twice a year as required by WorkCover.

Community Living

- Smoke alarms and fire extinguishers are installed in all residential homes. Batteries are changed twice a year.
- Fire evacuation plans have been developed for all community homes, with at least two escape routes identified. Fire evacuation drills are implemented twice a year, but in some instances these are conducted monthly to ensure the people we support know what to do in an emergency situation.
- A Fire Risk Assessment Process has been implemented. This is a visual assessment tool, which requires staff to conduct a check of all powerboards and electrical equipment in the house to identify any potential hazards. If a hazard is identified, corrective actions are immediately taken to ensure the home remains at the highest level of safety.

Do you have a Home Escape Plan for your family?

In the event of a fire, a working smoke alarm used in conjunction with an escape plan will greatly increase your chances of getting out safely.

- Include two means of escape from each room.
- Make sure that windows and screens can be easily opened.
- Provide alternatives for anyone with disability.
- Decide on a safe outside meeting place. E.g. near the letterbox
- Practise your plan at least twice a year, making sure that everyone is involved.

Source: NSW Government - Fire & Rescue NSW, www.fire.nsw.gov.au

Life Changing Moves into the Community

Robyn and Susan Sherwood Double Joy

To say that twin sisters Robyn and Susan Sherwood were excited to move into their own home in the community after living at Crowle Home for 30 years would be an understatement. "I'm happy in the house!" Robyn announced enthusiastically to our camera crew in December.

While their parents, Kay and Harry Sherwood were hesitant about the move at first, a combination of their daughters' enthusiasm and

the accessible nature of the new house soon turned them around.

"They are just so happy," said Kay. "And they have made friends with the two ladies that are already there."

"They've acclimatised better than I thought they would," added Harry. "I thought that the tears were going to come there for awhile, but they never came."

After a week of living in their new home, Robyn and Susan said they liked their rooms and the staff. "We like our new house. We're settling in alright."



Robyn & Susan Sherwood

Vicki McKerrell Happy to have her own home



Vicki McKerrell

Since moving into a house in Carlingford with friends in September last year, Vicki McKerrell has developed new hobbies and become more confident. She is involved with meal preparation, banking, shopping and power walking with staff members. Vicki has also started gardening and adopted the custom of picking a flower from "my own garden" to give visitors.

With Vicki living at Crowle Home for 45 years before transitioning into the community, her parents, Jo and Don found the whole process to be "very professional."

"We were pretty open-minded just to let it all happen," said Jo.

"But we had to have a couple of meetings that to me were unhurried. Vicki was involved. We had to wait until Vicki made up her mind about things and everyone sat patiently."

"The main thing is that Vicki's happy," added Don. "When she's happy, we're happy."

Videos

displaying the thoughts and emotions of those involved in the transition process can be viewed on 'AchieveTV' at www.youtube.com/AchieveAus

Achieve Events



Celebrating the opening. L-R: David Rafferty, Peter Smith, The Hon. Andrew Constance, Anne Bryce, John Alexander, John Cameron

Official Opening of Araluen

On 29 November 2011 over 90 people attended the official opening of Achieve Australia's new Day Programs facility, Araluen, in Epping.

Previously run as a Wedding Function Centre, the magnificent building was purchased by Achieve Australia in April last year. It was then refurbished to improve the overall accessibility and suitability for use as a Day Program facility for people with disability. The refurbishment has included the installation of a lift, ramps, new external pathways, upgrade of lighting, installation of two new accessible bathrooms, an upgrade of a third bathroom and a full refurbishment of the commercial kitchen.

We were privileged to have the event officially opened by The Hon. Andrew Constance, Minister for Disability and Minister for Ageing.

"The programs and activities conducted at Araluen will enable more intimate and individualised learning and development opportunities," said Mr Constance. "Day Program facilities like this are vital in enabling people with a disability to participate in their community."

Our Day Programs have now completed the transition from Belmore Street to Araluen. Operations Manager, Nathalie Neveu, said that there was a great atmosphere during the initial days of the move.

"It was like they had graduated to the new place. Program participants were cheering their friends as they entered the building. It was amazing!"

“It was amazing!”

'The Good Life As I See It'

Photography Exhibition

The Official Opening was made that much more meaningful when 'The Good Life As I See It' Photography Exhibition was presented by University of Western Sydney (UWS) students, Bianca Gardner and Jackie Tannos. The exhibition is the result of a three month photography project that involved weekly engagement between Day Program participants and UWS university students. The project was very successful with participants and students working together to raise money for digital cameras, visiting various locations to take photographs reflecting 'the good life' and assisting with the curation of the exhibition.

The 'Good Life As I See It' photography project was successful in receiving a 2011 UWS Partnership Award. The award recognises outstanding partnerships between the University, external organisations and individuals, particularly in Greater Western Sydney.

Congratulations to everyone involved.



10th Annual Golf Day

Our supported employees who assisted on the day.

On 6 October 2011, we held our 10th Annual Golf Day at Killara Golf Course. To celebrate the milestone, we were joined by 100 enthusiastic golfers, including John Alexander MP, Federal Member for Bennelong who also stepped out of the office for the day to show his support to Achieve Australia.

With a nice and early 7am registration and breakfast, the golfers hit the course at 8am. While the weather looked a bit unpredictable throughout the morning, we were very lucky that the forecasted rain held off until everyone had completed the 18 holes of the course.

Unfortunately, our Ambassador and MC for the afternoon, Duncan Armstrong, had become ill and was unable to attend the event. Our auctioneer, Scott Gibbons (a.k.a. Mr Sold) came to the rescue; changing his flights to Sydney and stepping up to the plate as our MC, in addition to auctioneer, on such short notice. Thanks Scott!

After playing golf, everyone enjoyed a delicious two course lunch and bid to their hearts' desire on fantastic donated live and silent auction items, including artworks donated by Day Program artists Cameron Sadigh and Andy Taylor. There was also the opportunity to win a wine fridge containing six bottles of international wines; all you had to do was purchase the key that unlocked the lock guarding the fridge. All eighty keys were purchased and there was one very excited golfer when he discovered he had purchased the winning key.

The winning teams walked away with some great prizes, as well as bragging rights for another year. Congratulations to Team Ingham for winning the Perpetual Sponsor's Cup for the second year in a row.

Thank you to everyone who supported us for this event, making our 10th Annual Golf Day a day to remember.



Special thanks to the following:

Major Sponsors

- Count Charitable Foundation
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- Able Liquid Waste
- Austbrokers Sydney Pty Ltd
- Kerry Ingredients
- McCarroll's Automotive Group
- Lyons Road Dental Surgeon
- Macquarie Community College

Supporters

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- Bob Trent
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- Philip England
- Robert England
- St George Eastwood
- Strathfield Golf Club
- Susie Dee
- TASTE Living
- Tony Rafferty
- Vodafone
- White House Institute of Design



Carmelitta Parker and Ena Pagett at the Eastwood Plaza Stall

'Spread the Word' Week

Every Australian Counts

On 1 December 2011, Achieve Australia supported the Every Australian Counts campaign by hosting a stall outside Eastwood Plaza.

The nationwide aim was to reach 100,000 supporters for a National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) during 'Spread the Word Week' from 27 November 2011 to 3 December 2011.

With the assistance of staff and people we support, Achieve Australia succeeded in collecting 97 signatures of support for an NDIS from people in the local community.

Thank you to everyone who assisted:

- Louise Colnan
- Monika Czaplarska
- Bec Ellery
- Alex Escobar
- Trish Evans
- Erano Flores
- Niluka Makavitage
- Viki Moraitis
- Sue Morgan
- Ena Pagett
- Carmelitta Parker
- Mark Rock
- Leanne Shelton
- Yvonne Thiele
- Russell Wilkinson

Chamber of Commerce After 5 Event at Araluen

On 10 October 2011, Achieve Australia together with Hills School Industry Partnership (HILLSSIP) hosted the region's biggest networking night of the year.

The event was held at Araluen, our new innovative hub for our Day Programs and future Respite, and was attended by over 130 business people across Ryde Business Forum, local Chambers in Ryde, Epping, Eastwood, Hornsby, Chatswood and Sydney Hills Business Chamber as well as the Rotary Club of Epping.

We were very excited to invite local business members into Araluen for a sneak peek of the facility and discover its potential to offer a variety of extraordinary programs for people with disability. We received a lot of positive feedback and many people offered support and partnerships to help us create

socially inclusive Day Programs that integrate the wider community.

John Della Bosca, National Campaign Director of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) was originally attending as a guest speaker, but was unfortunately called away to Canberra for a last minute meeting with Prime Minister Julia Gillard and Tony Abbott! As his replacement, NDIS State Coordinator, Daniel Kyriacou spoke to us about the Scheme, enlightening the crowd about the current poor position of Australia's disability sector and the substantial improvements that could be made with the introduction of a Medicare-type levy for people with disability.

We also heard from Sharon Grocott from HILLSSIP and Cassy Norris who spoke about the importance of forming community partnerships with local high schools to improve



NDIS State Co ordinator Daniel Kyriacou

students' skills and understanding about working in a business.

Overall, the event was very successful. Thank you to everyone from Ryde Business Forum, Hills School Industry Partnership and staff from Achieve Australia for your coordination and support for the evening.

The Spirit of Christmas

Party at Commercial Enterprises



Angie and Maryanne danced the night away

In late November 2011, the Commercial Enterprises team celebrated in the spirit of Christmas with an afternoon of food, dancing and karaoke. After a busy year working hard in the factories, it was a great opportunity for everyone to let their hair down.

There was plenty of laughter around the table as employees enjoyed a meal of roasted meats and salads. This was followed by a delicious chocolate cake and pavlova for dessert.

After the meal, both Supported Employees and Leading Hands headed to the dance floor. The braver people then took hold of



Susie, Chris and Jeremy - some of our talented singers

the microphones and started singing karaoke. We didn't realise that we had such a talented bunch of singers in our midst. There was also some classic air guitar and air drumming going on!

During the party, the managers handed out a range of awards to members of the Labour Hire Sites and to workers at both the Meadowbank and Marrickville factories.

All of our Supported Employees deserve to be applauded for the work they do and we all look forward to a prosperous and busy 2012.

Staff Cocktail Party at Araluen

Achieve Australia staff spruced themselves up for an elegant Christmas cocktail party at Araluen. It was an enjoyable night of schmoozing, dancing and becoming familiar with the new Day Programs facility. Thank you to Crunch Catering for providing excellent food and drinks service.



Debbie Admoni and Carmelitta Parker



Viki Moraitis, Lorraine Baldacchino and Anne Bryce

It's a Date!

Eastwood Community Information Expo -

22 March 2012 @ 10am-1:30pm

Achieve Month - 1 - 30 April 2012

Annual Needlecraft Sale and Grand Bazaar - 5 May 2012

The Sun-Herald City2Surf - 12 August 2012

Annual Golf Day - 30 August 2012

Annual Crowle Fete - 3 November 2012

Achieve Australia 60th Anniversary Ball - 29 November 2012

View the online calendar on our website for full details about these events and more -

www.achieveaustralia.org.au

Annual Crowle Fete

The weather was nearly perfect when we held our 56th Annual Crowle Fete on 5 November 2011. Numbers through the gate seemed a little down on previous years, however the turnover was good and customers steady. We had over 40 volunteers helping on the day plus volunteer staff. We raised over \$13,000 from the event. Thank you to everyone involved, including those who helped with baking, attended on the day, collected money, helped to set up the stalls and ran the food stalls.

A special thank you to Kelmeny Walker for stepping up in the final few weeks to help out with the event!

Movie Fundraising Night at Event Cinemas

On 14 December 2011, we hosted a fundraising evening at Event Cinemas, Macquarie Centre.

Thirty-five people attended the function, which included canapés upon arrival, raffle prizes and the private screening of new release film, 'New Year's Eve'.

It was a very enjoyable event, raising nearly \$600 from ticket sales and raffle tickets for Achieve Australia.

How you can help

Fundraising Campaigns

Achieve Month April 2012

Have you always wanted to climb the Sydney Harbour Bridge, shed those extra kilos or quit smoking and have yet to achieve it?

Achieve Australia's Achieve Month in April 2012 gives you the opportunity to reach your personal goals with the support of family and friends. Simply come up with a challenge you'd like to succeed in, create a fundraising page and ask everyone you know to sponsor you!

Visit www.achieveaustralia.org.au and click on the 'Achieve Month 2012' link.

Araluen Respite Appeal

Achieve Australia purchased the Araluen last year with the dream of developing it into a new Day Program facility and weekend

Respite. While our Day Programs have successfully transitioned into the complex, the next step is to establish the Respite; but we need your help.

To make a donation to the Araluen Respite Appeal, please visit www.achieveaustralia.org.au and click on the 'Araluen Respite Appeal' link.

Celebrate Milestones with a Difference

In lieu of gifts for birthdays, weddings and anniversaries, you might like to ask family and friends to make a donation towards the programs and services we provide for people with disability.

To get started, please visit www.achieveaustralia.org.au and click on the 'Special Occasions' link.

In Memory

Often the family and friends of a loved one, whose lives may have been touched by someone with disability, choose to celebrate their memory in a very special way. Achieve Australia welcomes these heart-felt donations in the honour of lives lost.

Please visit our website at, www.achieveaustralia.org.au and click on the 'In Memorium' link.

Advertise in Achieve News

Advertise your local business in the next edition of Achieve News. **Rates start at \$150.** For more information, please contact our Fundraising and Marketing Manager on **02 9034 1600.**

Achieve Australia Donation Form

Your gift is Tax Deductible – a receipt will be sent promptly.

PO Box 1029
Eastwood NSW 2122.
Fax: 02 9874 8870
CFN – 21023

TO DONATE ONLINE – www.achieveaustralia.org.au

I would like to make a donation of \$ to Achieve Australia.

A cheque is enclosed (payable to Achieve Australia Ltd)

Please charge my credit card

Visa Mastercard

Name on card:

Signature:

Card Expiry date: /

Please post a tax receipt to:

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Please update my address in your records.

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