



PEBBLE



October 2023

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HALLOWEEN



Frankie & Jacquie at Phillip Island Getaway



Welcome

Welcome to the October edition of Pebble.

We hope this message finds you well and in high spirits!

As we enter the final stretch of 2023, it's a great time for us all to reflect on the incredible journey we have had over the past year. Having just returned from family adventures in Bali, I was able to reflect on the countless memorable moments, the day-to-day services and supports which never stop, to our collective experiences which have shaped us into stronger and more resilient teams and communities.

This has been an historic time for the disability community in Australia, with the final report from the Royal Commission recently published, and the NDIS review soon to provide recommendations. Amidst all this, autistic individuals from across the country have been actively participating to ensure their input shapes Australia's first National Autism Strategy which closed on 30th October. We look forward to the findings and will keep you updated as this unfolds.

NDIS Update

What is PACE in the NDIS?

PACE is the National Disability Insurance Agency's new customer relationship management (CRM) system, built by Salesforce to replace Services Australia's existing software. The PACE system has been designed to replace the current SAP CRM business system and promises a simpler and more streamlined way for participants and providers to interact with the NDIS.

Why is the NDIS transitioning to PACE?

The NDIS has determined that the current SAP CRM system is no longer compatible with the operational demands of providing prompt and reliable coverage. The new NDIS customer relationship management system – PACE – is designed to improve the interface between participants, providers, and the NDIA.

What do we know so far about the NDIS PACE system?

PACE will offer a new business system, portal and payment system for NDIS service providers and participants to use as applicable. These changes are designed to be more user-friendly than the existing system and should make it easier for providers to handle their day-to-day tasks and give them more time to provide participants with high-quality services. Following implementation, existing participants will commence their transition to PACE at the point when their plan is reassessed.

PACE Provider Information Sessions

These sessions will provide education on PACE, how the new NDIS system will function and what providers can expect with differences in operation from the previous system

PACE will eventually replace the NDIA's current computer system. We want to make sure National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) providers are ready to support participants when NDIS plans start to be created on the PACE system later this year.

In this session we will:

- Deliver an overview of PACE.
- Examine the key change areas for providers, including system, practice and process changes to be aware of.

For any enquiries regarding this session, please contact events@ndis.gov.au and include the session name in the subject line or visit [PACE Provider Information Sessions | NDIS](#)



Sponsorship Opportunity

As we celebrate inclusion with our upcoming Art Show we have opportunities to you to be a key sponsor for this years event which showcases the talent of our community. If you are interested in supporting this year's event, get in touch, we would love to have you onboard. You can reach us on 1300 577 305 or email us at enquiries@sasi.org.au for further information.

Gold - \$2000 🏆

Logo and Business name to appear on all media and catalogue.

Banner and promotional material displayed at the Opening Night Event

Choice of one framed Artwork that is exhibited for sale.

Silver - \$1000 🥈

Logo to appear in catalogue

Choice of one framed Artwork that is exhibited for sale.

Bronze - \$500 🥉

Logo to appear in catalogue

We appreciate and thank you for your continued support. Our teams and leadership group continue to provide exceptional services, I encourage to keep reaching out if you have any questions or queries, as always, feel to reach out to me directly.

Until next time, stay well.

Warmest regards,

Melissa



Disability Sport and Recreation Festival



Date

Fri 1 Dec

Hours

10am - 2pm

10:00am - 2:00pm

Location

Yarra Promenade
Southbank 3006

Join in the fun at this inclusive, family-friendly event.

Established in 2010 and held annually in celebration of International Day of People with Disability, it aims to promote physically active lifestyles for people of all abilities.

The festival offers a fantastic opportunity for all Victorians, with and without disabilities, to explore and experience accessible and inclusive sports and recreation through interactive activities and information sharing.

Featuring two activity zones with a diverse range of modified sports, it is a wonderful celebration of physically active lifestyles for everyone. Attendees can try out various inclusive sports, meet Paralympians, and enjoy watching teams compete in the Wheelchair Rugby Corporate Challenge.



Parent Support Group

We are thrilled to announce that our Parent Support Group has officially started and we have partnered with The Peninsula Autism Friendship Group to ensure that we reach as many families as possible. Their values align perfectly with ours, and we couldn't be more excited to work together with such a positive and enthusiastic group of individuals.

Our Parent Support Group provides a safe space for parents, carers, friends, or family members of autistic children and/or children with disabilities to come together and share their experiences. It is also a fantastic opportunity for children to join in on the fun and enjoy sensory play in a supportive environment 😊

The group meets every fortnight on Fridays from 10am-12pm at our Mt Martha Hub (750 Nepean Hwy, Mt Martha). Whether you come alone or bring someone along - it's completely up to you! We have some amazing activities lined up for kids of all ages.

As the group grows, we are excited to introduce guest speakers from various areas of the disability sector who will share their knowledge and insights. We believe that learning together is always best when shared.

If you have any topics of interest in mind, please don't hesitate to reach out!

We can't wait to see even more friendly faces at our next session on Friday the 27th of October from 10am-12pm.

If you would like any further information or have any questions, please reach out to us at enquiries@sasi.org.au

PARENT SUPPORT GROUP



Latest Adventures



Halloween Edition!

The witches and ghosts were in all sites and programs. We had a Scarecrow Competition and everyone had a great time celebrating and haunting!



Troy



Staff Members Mich, Lindy and Amanda AKA The Witches of Seaford



Don't miss out on future events - keep an eye on our Client Celebration Calendar by [clicking here](#).

Latest Adventures



Above and below Malcolm



Bryan

Clients often enjoy the structure and routine that our social and recreational programs offer, giving them the chance to meet other people with similar interests, feel included, reduce feelings of loneliness and isolation, practice social skills and develop their understanding of social rules in a safe and supportive environment.

During the last few weekends, clients of all ages attended a range of exciting activities, including Ten Pin Bowling and Arcade Games at General Public, the Melbourne Zoo, Moonlit Sanctuary, the Royal Melbourne Show and Scienceworks. Malcolm (pictured) had a ball hand-feeding the Kangaroo's and Wallaby's at Moonlit Sanctuary.



Jacquie at the Chocolate Factory

The Weekend Getaway to Phillip Island was also a real hit, with clients getting the opportunity to visit the Phillip Island Chocolate Factory, as well as discovering the magic and wonder at A Maze n' Things. Send us an email on enquiries@sasi.org.au to book your next adventure!

Latest Adventures



Luke

Out and about in the Community. After a haircut, Luke, had some decisions to make as in which cake he would choose from his favourite coffee shop



Amy

Amy and Steph (above and below) enjoyed the comfort of the reclining chairs at the cinema.



Steph loves the Disco in Hastings, and she had an amazing time mingling with new people at the venue. She showed off her dance moves with great enthusiasm, and her infectious laughter filled the room.



Stephanie

Recipe of the Month

MISO ROASTED EGGPLANT



INGREDIENTS

- 2 large eggplants, cut into 2cm cubes
- 2 tbsp olive oil
- sea salt, to taste

Miso Dressing

- 3 tbsp white or red miso
- 1 tbsp sugar
- 2 tbsp mirin
- 1 tbsp sake
- 2 tbsp water

DIRECTIONS

- Heat the oven to 200°C (fan-forced).
- Toss the eggplant in the olive oil and season with a little salt.
- Place on a baking tray lined with baking paper and roast for 20 minutes, or until the eggplant is slightly browned.
- Place on a baking tray lined with baking paper and roast for 20 minutes, or until the eggplant is slightly browned.
- Continue to roast for a further 5-10 minutes, or until the miso sauce starts to caramelise
- Remove the eggplant from the oven, transfer to a serving plate, scatter with spring onion and toasted sesame seeds, and serve.

Stephanie Support Worker



Stephanie

How long have you worked for SASI?

Since August 2022.

What does your role at SASI involve?

At SASI **Home to Community** my role is to provide opportunities for clients to practice preferred tasks, increase their independence and confidence and support social participation in their local community events.

I am also involved in **Saturday Recreation** at the Seaford Hub or travelling in the community for special events across Melbourne!

At the **School Leavers Employment Support** I support young adults working towards their career aspirations and practicing interview skills!

If given a chance, who would you like to be for a day?

Taylor Swift.

What TV Show/Movie is you guilty pleasure (yes, time to admit you love it)?

The Office (US).



Three words that best describe you?

Bubbly, energetic and caring.

What is the one thing you cannot resist?

Chocolate!

What do you do when you are not working?

Go to the beach!



Why do you enjoy working at SASI?

The people! Awesome clients and amazing team!

**You're
invited**

Art show

Cube 37 Frankston Arts Centre

NOVEMBER 14-22

Invitation to a Creative Exhibition of Contemporary Art

SASI is pleased to invite you to a vibrant display of contemporary art, celebrating the exceptional work of the autistic and disabled community. This year's exhibition will be open to the public from Tuesday 14th November and concluding on Wednesday 22nd November.

You are invited to participate in a creative exhibition of contemporary art to be showcased at our Event Launch on Tuesday 14th November to celebrate the outstanding art work of autistic people and the wider disability community.



**ENTRIES OPEN 9th
OCT - 4PM 3rd NOV**

Please contact us for details - enquiries@sasi.org.au

Ph 1300 577 305

sasi.org.au/art-show-2023/

Sponsorship Opportunity

As we celebrate inclusion, choice & control, we are looking for Gold, Silver & Bronze Sponsors to support the event. This is a great opportunity to support the local community and gain valuable exposure for your business & brand.



PARENT SUPPORT GROUP

We want to welcome you to the SASI Parent Support Group, in collaboration with The Peninsula Autism Friendship Group. Here, parents of children with autism can come together to share experiences, find answers and build meaningful connections. We understand the journey can be both challenging and rewarding, and we're here to support you every step of the way. We hope to see you there.

Visit us online [sasi.org.au](https://www.sasi.org.au)

Ph 1300 577 305

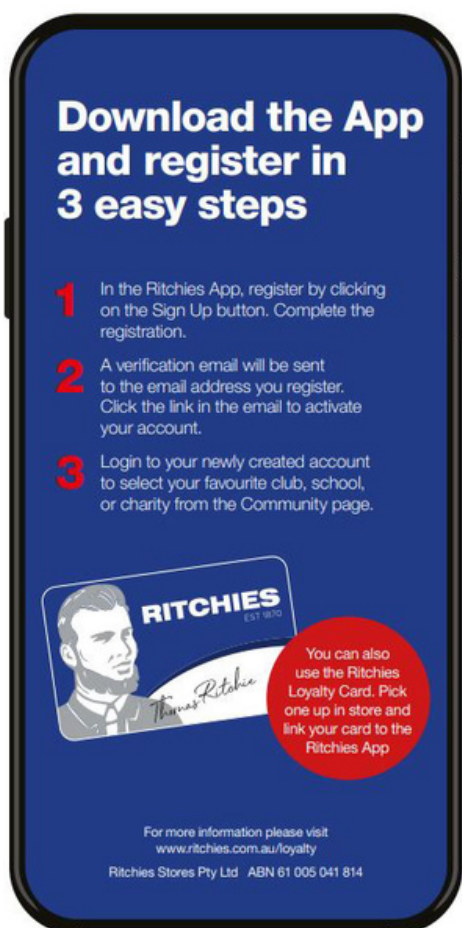
Did you know that you can support SASI while you shop?



Support your local community

Donate to SASI through your weekly shop

Ritchies has been running its successful Community Benefit program since 1993. Over many years it has proven to be the easiest, simplest method to support your favourite club, school or charity.



How do I donate to SASI?

STEP 1

Download the Richies App, register by clicking on the Sign Up button. Complete the registration.

STEP 2

Click the link in your email to verify and activate your account.

STEP 3

Nominate SASI as your favourite charity from the Community page.

Thank you so much for your support.

