



# June Newsletter 2017

## EDITORIAL



Hi Readers,  
and welcome to the Winter Edition.  
Congratulations to Colin Hiscoe for being elected to sit on the Victoria Advisory Council  
Congratulations to Jane

Rosengrave for winning The Funds in Court: Inspire Awards.

On April 3<sup>rd</sup> some members of Reinforce went to the Vic-Market to take photos and have lunch for Melbourne Through the Eyes of a Friend. To our members to let you know that Terry Neil - Stanton passed away on May 17<sup>th</sup>. To everyone that knew Terry he was a great Self-Advocate with a great sense of humour (Rest In Peace).

We would like to hear from our members what you like about the newsletter? If you would like to receive the newsletter by email? I will make sure you get a copy.

Send in your email address to

[gipsygirl88@bigpond.com](mailto:gipsygirl88@bigpond.com) or  
[sw@reinforce.org.au](mailto:sw@reinforce.org.au)

If you wish to know more about Reinforce please see our website -

[www.reinforce.org.au](http://www.reinforce.org.au)

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### WHAT'S IN THIS NEWSLETTER

Editorial from  
Janice.

Birthday  
column.

Colin  
Article.

Jane and  
Amanda  
Article.

Melbourne  
through the  
eyes of a  
friend.

We wish congratulations to Janice Slattery for reaching 60<sup>th</sup> on June 25<sup>th</sup>.



We wish the following members a happy birthday for the coming months of May and June:

Colin Hiscoe: May 27<sup>th</sup>.

Kelly Geoghegan: June 7<sup>th</sup>.



**If there are any members who wish to have their birthdays put in the birthday column Let me know your name and your birthday date and text me 043980600**

## **Victorian Disability Advisory Council – Colin Hiscoe**

I am proud to announce that I have been selected to sit on the Victorian Disability Advisory Council which is set up to advise the Minister Martin Foley Minister for Housing Disability and Ageing.

Last week at a meeting VDAC talked to the Minister about its work plan for 2017. The Plan tells the Minister what the council will do and when it will do it.

The Council will talk about the standards disability identifier. The Standard disability identifier helps services to know who has a disability and where they are. The council wants to ensure that people with a disability are fully represented on this committee and listen to what people with a disability have to say.

The council talks about disability rights

The council wants jobs for people with a disability.

The council wants housing rights for people with a disability.

The council wants good education and schools for people with a disability.

The council wants people with a disability to be healthy.

The council wants good transport for people with a disability

The council wants the National Disability Insurance Scheme to work.

The council wants people with a disability to be happy.

The council meets and talks about what it wants.

The council keeps minutes of its meetings, Minutes say what happened at council meetings



The council writes and talks to the Minister.

The Council writes and talks to all of the Victorian Government.

With my role at Reinforce, my involvement with the Self Advocacy Resource Unit (SARU) & also Victorian Self Advocacy Network (VSAN) I hope to represent all people with an intellectual disability who I come in contact with.

If you have any issues or concerns that you would like me to talk to the council about you can ring me on 0409-099-402.

## The Funds In Court: Inspire Awards

Congratulations to Jane Rosengrave, Reinforce member who was awarded the Inspire Award for Disability Advocacy 2017.



*The Inspire Awards®*, founder is Miranda Bain on behalf of Funds in Court, a division of the Supreme Court of Victoria. The awards in their second year, and recognise a person 18 years or older, based in Victoria, who identifies with a disability and is well respected in their field of work/interest and community. Nominees are acknowledged not only for their professional contribution to their work but for their outstanding leadership

*qualities, role modelling and mentoring. The awards also provide an important opportunity to raise awareness about disability issues more broadly across the community and, ultimately, support the development of an inclusive Australian society.*

*The award categories include, Law, Human Rights, Disability Advocacy, Visual Arts, Writing, Sport, War Veterans, Emergency services, and Volunteering.*

## **Melbourne through the eyes of a friend:**

Reinforce had a fantastic start to the filming their awareness raising documentary on May 4th.

A BIG thank you goes to Terry Melvin (film maker), Tony Gee (volunteer) Nelly (volunteer), Reinforce members & friend; who helped in the production of this shoot.

We started in Ross House talking about self-advocacy issues that we all feel strongly about.

We then made kind of protest signs on these issues, like, ' We all deserve to be treated equally' and 'Nothing about Us without Us' or 'Change through Music'.

We were filmed taking these signs down to Degraives Lane. It was so much fun. We gave out 'Save the Date' Postcards for Reinforce's Melbourne through The Eyes of a Friend: Film launch & Photography Exhibition (November 28th to December 1st in Ross House, fourth floor).

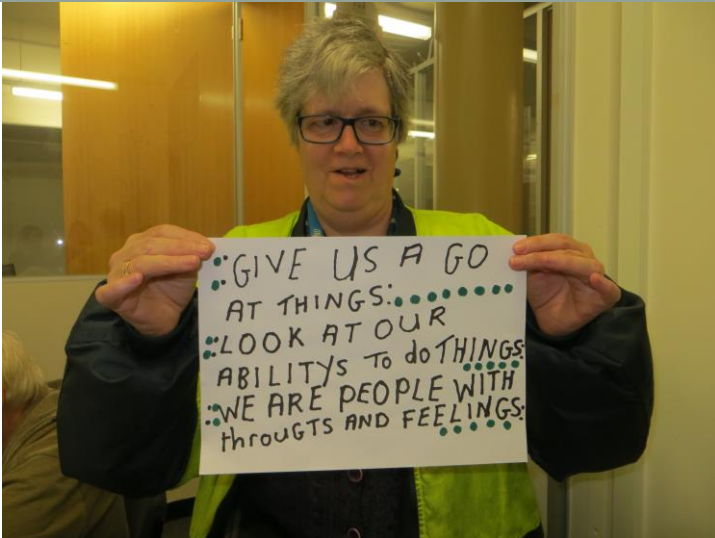
(This project is supported by Melbourne City Council).

Reinforce made some new friends that day as many people stopped to ask what we were doing and why; including a visitor from Indonesia!

Please let us know if you would like to come to our Film launch & Exhibition by emailing:

[sw@reinforce.org.au](mailto:sw@reinforce.org.au) or giving us a call on 03 9650 7855

Stay tuned for the next exciting event to be announced!



Amanda Miller:







## ART

On the 19<sup>th</sup> of April at Ross House all of us went to a room on the third floor and we all got ready for a painting session. Many members came and made their choice of picture. Some people did drawings and others did painting and writing. I drew a Star Trek ship and self-advocacy and legal rights signs. I also painted a poster for 30 years of Raising Our Voices. This was a new experience for me.

Amanda



My name is Jane I am an indigenous women from the Yorta Yorta Tribe and a member of Reinforce. I also did a painting that was in indigenous dotting. It was of sisters and brothers going to their organizations for counseling. To my sisters and brothers out there I want to say "feel free as a bird to go out and get help if you are in a violent situation because there are organisations out there that will help." Jane sold one of her paintings on the day and said It was a deadly deadly day and I enjoyed it.

Jane

