



# March Newsletter 2017

## EDITORIAL



Hi Readers.

Welcome to our Autumn Edition. We hope all our members had a good Christmas and New Year & are ready for a fun and exciting new year. Having a Say Conference was on the 8/9/10 of February.

There were lots of sessions and on Wednesday they had the official opening, and Welcome to Country. On the last day we had Robert Martin from the Our Voice Committee and his people from New Zealand About Closing down Caloundra, and also we had the Red Faces Competition final.

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)

**Disclaimer** All information contained within the Reinforce newsletter is as accurate as possible and is provided in good faith, however it is not guaranteed. Reinforce does not recommend any product, activity, organisation, service or item – such details are provided with the Reinforce news for general information and interest only.

### WHAT'S IN THIS NEWSLETTER

Editorial  
from Janice

Birthday  
Column

Melbourne  
Through the Eye  
Of a Friend.

Having a say  
Conference

**Birthday Column:**

***We wish all the Reinforce members a very happy birthday for the upcoming months.***

**John Slattery**



**On reaching 60 on 2<sup>nd</sup> of March.**

**Susan Arthur: 9<sup>th</sup> of March.**

**Norrie Blythman: 15<sup>th</sup> of March.**

**Maryanne Huggins: 28<sup>th</sup> April.**

**Luke Stone: 29<sup>th</sup> of April.**



**If any of the members would like their birthday mention in the birthday column just text me u birthday and your name to (0439806000**

## **Melbourne through the Eyes of a Friend**

Reinforce got a grant from the City of Melbourne to do a photo and video presentation called Melbourne Through the Eyes of a Friend. For this we'll be going around the City of Melbourne taking photos and video about what life is like for people with an intellectual disability. The photos and video that we collect will be shown at a presentation at the start of December in the Hayden Raysmith Room at Ross House to celebrate International Day of People with a Disability.

We will be having a number of events during this year to do filming and collect photos about the issues that people with ID face in and around Melbourne.

The next event will be in May (to be confirmed). At the event we will be filming around Ross House and Degraeves Street Melbourne.

We would like to encourage members and friends of Reinforce to come along and help us make the photos and video as well as coming to the final presentation.

If you are interested please contact the Reinforce office on 9650 7855 for more info or email us at [sw@reinforce.org.au](mailto:sw@reinforce.org.au) and please leave a message if we are not here thanks

Sue Arthur President

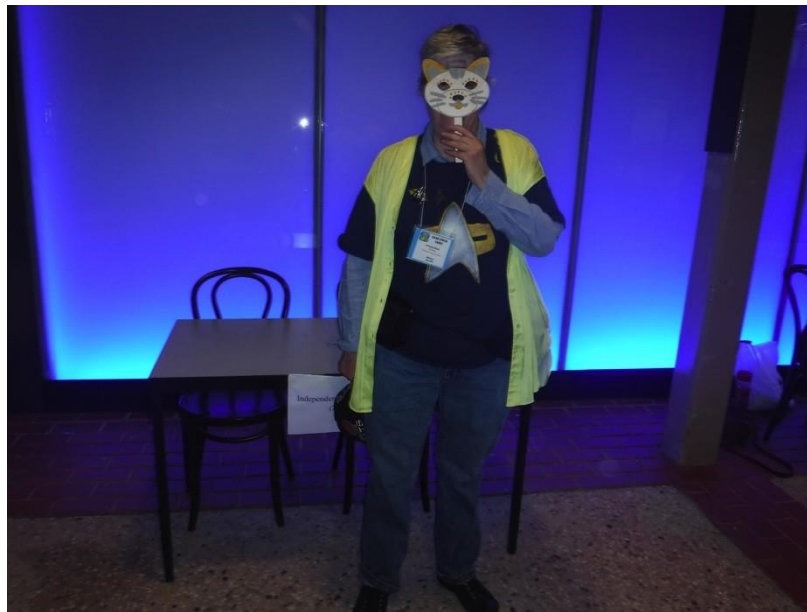
On the 3<sup>rd</sup> of February Reinforce had a morning tea at Sally and Tony's place in Canterbury, where we brainstormed ideas for our project, Melbourne Through the Eyes of a friend.





## Having a Say Conference – Reinforce

On the 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of February some members from Reinforce went down to the Having a Say Conference in Geelong and we stayed at the Vue Apartments. On our first night in Geelong Reinforce went out to a cafe called Hogbreath to celebrate Julie and Amanda's birthday.



On the Thursday morning at the having a say conference we had the Doug Pentland and David Banfield award presentation.

Congratulation to Stephanie Challis for winning the award.



On the Wednesday after the conference there was Red Faces auditions where there was a lot of singing and dancing. We congratulate Justin and Andrew for coming second with dancing queen from ABBA.



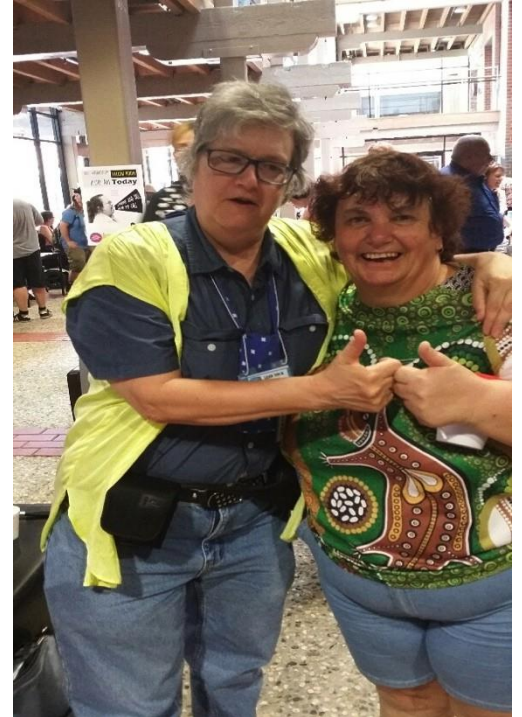
Friday morning at the closing ceremony Robert Martin and the people from New Zealand gave their presentation on closing down Caloundra.

Reinforce did a presentation on networking at the Having a Say Conference, and also the Powerful Parents Self Advocacy Group (PPSAG) told their life stories about having their children taken away from them.





At the having a say conference their were also Come and Try activities and here is John trying Wheelchair Basketball for the first time and Janice's first time on a Harley Ride.



Amanda and Jane hanging out together.



Heather and Janice hanging out together.