

# June 2021

## First Peoples Disability Network and GdA present Human Rights Workshops

FPDN came to Victoria in April for its first face to face human rights workshops. Ballarat and District Aboriginal Co-op and Goolum Goolum Aboriginal Co-op in Horsham were the venues chosen, with the assistance of GdA to make arrangements.



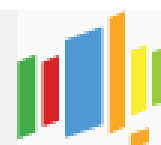
**Pictured above:** Presenters and attendees at the Human Rights workshop at BADAC on April 28.

**Pictured right:** Indigenous Advocate for the DRC Fiona Tipping, EO Deb Verdon, & Kim Wiese at the Horsham workshop.

**Pictured below:** FPDN CEO Damian Griffis & Fiona Tipping



FPDN chose Victoria to launch its Lester Bostock Human Rights face to face workshops. Horsham came first, followed by Ballarat. Shepparton will follow in the coming months. FPDN thanked GdA for its help organizing the workshops and the Co-ops for their hospitality.



Disability Support Guide  
e-Books

Guide to Disability Support

Guide to Home Care

Guide to Aged Care

Guide to Retirement Living  
News / Events/ Products  
Experience & Travel Deals / NDIS

### **Find a Provider:**

Accommodation / Advisors  
Equipment and Technology  
In Home & Community Support  
Mental Health  
Therapies & Specialists

**[www.disabilitysupportguide.com.au](http://www.disabilitysupportguide.com.au)**

**1300 186 688**

## Victoria's first disabled parking permit overhaul in nearly 30 years welcomed

(from ABC news March 21)

The outdated system was considered prone to abuse because each of the state's 79 Council areas assessed disabled parking permits based on different standards. Under the new online scheme, Councils will need use the same state-wide criteria when awarding a permit. National Disability Services CEO David Moody said people with disabilities will be able to get one permit from one source, rather than from three or four Councils, depending on where they wish to park. Under the changes, three-year permit lengths have also been extended to five years, while those with short-term injuries can apply for six, 12 or 24-month permits.

Victorian Roads Minister Ben Carroll labelled the reform 'generational' and said the first big changes to the system in 26 years will ensure more fairness and transparency. The new permits will also include a QR code, which allows parking inspectors to quickly confirm if a permit is valid or not. Councils have begun transitioning to the new system but have until December 2021 to fully implement it.



## NDIS HOUSING OPTIONS WORKSHOPS

in this free, self-paced workshop you can learn about housing for people with disability. With the NDIS, you have more choices about where you live and who you live with. The 12 short video chapters talk about your housing choices, including specialist disability accommodation (SDA). This workshop has been made for people with disability who are looking for accessible accommodation. Family and supporters can use it too. For booklet and information, go to [www.housinghub.org.au](http://www.housinghub.org.au)

**Link:** [www.housinghub.org.au/resources/article/housing-options-workshop?cs=housing-options-workshop&ct=Housing%20Options%20Workshop](http://www.housinghub.org.au/resources/article/housing-options-workshop?cs=housing-options-workshop&ct=Housing%20Options%20Workshop)

Questions about Specialist Disability Accommodation?

Call our SDA Housing Advice Line

**1300 61 64 63**

For people with disability, families and supporters



R	N	I
I	S	G
P	N	I

How many words can you make of 4 letters or more? Each word must contain the centre letter, and each letter can only be used once. There is one 9 letter word to be found. *Believe it or not*, there are more than 40 words possible. Plurals are allowed.

Have fun 😊😊



**Royal Commission**

into Violence, Abuse,  
Neglect and Exploitation  
of People with Disability

**EXTENDED UNTIL  
29/9/2023**

**You can contact the DRC  
directly on 1800 517 199**

If you would like an advocate to support you to engage with the Royal Commission, contact

**GdA on 1800 552 272**

To speak to the  
**Indigenous DRC Advocate**  
call 1800 978 544

This free service can help you understand how the Disability Royal Commission works and to tell your story in a safe space GdA can help you access free legal services & counselling  
**Confidentiality Guaranteed**

## Mandatory access vote a win for disability advocates like Des Ryan, OAM, after years of obstruction

(article courtesy ABC May 1, 2021)

Des Ryan was awarded an Order of Australia for his work in disability advocacy, but he probably can't come to your house. He's spent decades on the Queensland board of Spinal Life Australia travelling the country and pioneering employment opportunities. Through Mr Ryan's advocacy work, he's helped knock down barriers for people with disabilities. But little things: narrow hallways or door frames or even steps, can still hamper him. Mr Ryan, is a partial quadriplegic after suffering a spinal injury when he was 14. His family made the choice to leave the family beach home and build a fully accessible house on a vacant block in Rockhampton's north. Now, thanks to passionate campaigning from Mr Ryan and a group of advocates, those standards will become part of the building code. State and federal public works' ministers voted yesterday to add minimum accessibility standards to the National Construction Code 2022, scheduled to be released on May 10. Building Better Homes Campaign Director Alistair Webster called it "a once-in-a-generation opportunity". "What this means is that the millions of Australians with mobility limitations who currently cannot get access to appropriate housing will have more opportunity to fully participate in community life". It's critical," Mr Ryan said. "If we get this right then (people) are not having to retro-fit houses."



Mr Ryan at his home (pic-Capricornia: Tobias Jurss-Lewis)

## What is Recovery?: A VMIAC Video Series



Join VMIAC as each week they highlight the stories of recovery from lived experience perspectives. These videos are powerful & emotional insights into what recovery means to every individual & how people draw strength & insight from their lived experiences of mental health & wellbeing. [Click here to watch!](#) Or go to [www.vmiac.org.au/what-is-recovery-vmiac-video-series/](http://www.vmiac.org.au/what-is-recovery-vmiac-video-series/)

## Screening at the Ballarat Regent



*Synopsis: Based on the book by Naoki Higashida, this immersive film explores the experiences of nonspeaking autistic people around the world.*

**June 20 at 4.15 pm**

**Subsidised cost \$5**

**[www.trybooking.com/BRBNK](http://www.trybooking.com/BRBNK)**



Royal South Street Society



# THE ARTS FOR ALL COMPETITION

13th to 15th September 2021

**Ballarat Specialist School  
"The Farm"**

Norman Street, Ballarat North

Venue includes accessible facilities,  
wheelchair access and an amazing on  
site café hosted by the students of  
Ballarat Specialist School.

In 2017 Royal South Street Society,  
Australia's oldest Eisteddfod launched  
The Arts for All competitions. Creating  
an inclusive event for people living with  
a disability across all ages, to provide  
them the opportunity to showcase their  
talents in a fun and lively competition.

**Primary, Secondary & Open Age  
groups in Dance, Instrumental,  
Bands, Vocal Solos & Groups.**



CELEBRITY  
ADJUDICATOR  
**Dr Jonathon Welch AM**



Royal South Street Competitions

**130 YEARS**

Pure Performance Gold Since 1891

CREATIVE VICTORIA

**ENTRIES CLOSE 31ST MAY, 2021 • TO ENTER PLEASE GO TO [STARDOM.COM.AU](http://STARDOM.COM.AU)  
or email us at [info@royalsouthstreet.com.au](mailto:info@royalsouthstreet.com.au) or contact us on 03 5332 1054**

Please note: These are tentative dates and Royal South Street Society reserves the right to make changes at any stage\*

## WWDA LEAD Art Prize

Women, girls, feminine identifying and non-binary people are encouraged to submit their artwork on the theme 'We can all be leaders' in a variety of accessible and creative formats. All visual artistic mediums are accepted including paintings, drawings, collages, craft, sculptures, photograph and videos. Entries close July 23. For more details go to the Women with Disabilities Australia website: [www.wwda.org.au](http://www.wwda.org.au) or you can email: [project@wwda.org.au](mailto:project@wwda.org.au) or call/text **0488 417 875**



## What does GdA do?

- \*Help you write a letter or submission to represent your interests
- \*Make a telephone call with/for you or help get info to resolve a concern
- \*Find information about another agency that may be able to assist
- \*Provide information on disability issues
- \*Support people to advocate for themselves

## GdA Office Locations

- ❖ Ararat
- ❖ Horsham
- ❖ Daylesford
- ❖ Ballarat
- ❖ Clunes

**Central Intake 1800 552 272**

[admin@grampiansadvocacy.org.au](mailto:admin@grampiansadvocacy.org.au)

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

Like us on Facebook. Follow us on Twitter or Instagram

