



News from the Citizen Advocacy Team

As the September breeze signals the start of spring, we are delighted to bring you a fresh edition of our newsletter! While we always aim to keep you updated on our day-to-day happenings, this past quarter has been all about connection, reflection, and setting the stage for what comes next.

It has been an exceptionally productive period behind the scenes. We've been celebrating great new connections made across the community, all while navigating an exciting phase of organisational evolution. We've welcomed wonderful new staff into the team, bringing fresh energy and perspectives to our daily work. At the same time, our leadership has been working hard alongside our Board of Management on obtaining vital funding and securing long-term resources to ensure our essential work continues to thrive.

As we look back on everything we've achieved together, it is the perfect moment to celebrate the strength, heart, and dedication of our community. None of this happens without you, and we are so grateful to have you alongside us on this journey.

We can't wait to share more details on all these stories in the pages below - and we are especially looking forward to catching up with everyone in person at our end of year BBQ in November!

The Citizen Advocacy Team



Meet our New Senior Coordinator

We're delighted to introduce you to our new Senior Coordinator. Carys has been with us for a few months now and is a fabulous addition to our team.

Carys - I'm really enjoying settling into my new role as Senior Coordinator at Citizen Advocacy, where I coordinate matches between people with disability and advocates while also supporting the day-to-day operations of the program.



What I love most about CA is the focus on genuine, meaningful relationships and the positive impact that having someone in your corner can have.

I've loved getting to know the team and learning more about the people we support, and I'm excited to continue growing in my role and contributing to the work we do in the community.



R U OK? Day may have just passed, but the reminder to check in on the people around us shouldn't fade with the calendar.

Taking just a moment to ask a genuine question and truly listen can break down isolation and let someone know they are valued.

Recent Connections

Charlotte and Tilly

Charlotte and Tilly connected quickly at their first meeting, kicking off a promising new friendship! It is always so special to watch two people connect so naturally and share a laugh right from the start. Moments like this remind us why human connection is so powerful.



Ben and Jamie

We recently introduced Ben to his new advocate, Jamie. The guys broke the ice with a casual game of uno, a great way to connect and get comfortable with each other. They are planning some trips out and about soon.



Jane and Christina

Jane and Christina hit it off right away, sparking an easy conversation. Jane shared stories about her big family, great lunch spots, and shopping trips. Christina ended up staying for hours, and they already made plans to hang out again in a few weeks.



Key NDIS Changes: What You Need to Know

The National Disability Insurance Scheme Amendment (Securing the NDIS for Future Generations) Act 2026 passed the Australian Parliament in August 2026. Taking effect from late 2026 through 2028, these reforms update budget allocations for community participation, set tighter 90-day claim submission limits, and introduce updated functional capacity assessments.

The disability community has shared mixed feelings about these changes. While some welcome measures to keep the scheme sustainable, many participants and advocates are understandably, deeply concerned about their choices, the flexibility of their funding, and how the new rules affect planning.



How a Voluntary Advocate Can Help

Navigating these new rules can feel overwhelming. An independent, voluntary advocate can work alongside you or someone you care for, taking the time to explain changes clearly, so the person's choices remain at the centre of all decisions.

Whichever way support is needed, our volunteer advocates and friendly office staff are here to help.

For more information on these NDIS changes click here:
[Securing the NDIS for future generations | NDIS](#)

If you or a family member would like one-on-one help or want to connect with a voluntary advocate, please contact our office today on **9445 9991**.

Annual Christmas BBQ

Our annual Christmas BBQ in the park will be on **Sunday 29th November**.

We will be sending out more information and invites in October and hope to see you there!



Get In Touch With Us



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