

CHANGING LIVES TOGETHER

MARCH 2015 ISSUE 08



BEDFORD PHOENIX

Together we're building a better and brighter future for our people

BIGGER AND BETTER

South Australia's business community shows its support at the Bedford Big BBQ

KICKING GOALS

Our soccer stars take to the field for the Phoenix Cup

Welcome

Welcome to our first edition of 'Changing Lives Together' as a newly amalgamated organisation - Bedford Phoenix Incorporated. We have undergone some very exciting changes in the past few months, bringing Bedford Group and Phoenix Society together. With these two iconic South Australian names joining forces as one, we have established ourselves as a leading disability services provider under the NDIS and the nation's second largest Australian Disability Enterprise.

With more locations, activities and people than ever before, the Executive team and I have visited all sites to get to know everyone and see firsthand what they do. Everyone was very welcoming and we found we were reminded of just how similar our organisations are, reinforcing our belief that we will be bigger, better and stronger together. We are able to offer greater flexibility, choice and a more secure future for the people we serve.

We have also formed a new Bedford Phoenix Board, committed to bringing about the best outcomes for the future under the NDIS. I would like to thank former Bedford Chairman Colin Dunsford and former Phoenix Chairman, Graeme Bethune for all of their hard work and commitment to our organisations. Their legacy has helped **set up** a bright future for thousands of people with disability.

While this is a 'new beginning' there are some things that will never change...we're very thankful that the community's support has been unwavering throughout this transition period. Your donations allow us to continue creating a more positive future for those who turn to Bedford Phoenix for a hand up. Be proud of your contribution because it truly does change lives!

We hope you enjoy looking through this edition and seeing what we've been up to in the past few months. Apart from the amalgamation we've been very busy recognising our high achievers at the Phoenix awards celebration, we held one of our best fundraisers to date and there's been some great opportunities to get involved in community events.

Watch this space for some very exciting updates on changes under the amalgamation. **Until then, wishing you a very Happy Easter and a well deserved break over the long weekend!**

Sally

Warm regards

Sally Powell
Chief Executive

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THIS EDITION

We're Loving...

Feel Good Friday

Every person who works at Bedford Phoenix has an amazing story to tell and we love to share these with you on our Facebook page - www.facebook.com/bedfordgroup. 'Like' our page and meet the members of the Bedford Phoenix family #feelgoodfriday



Silverwater

Our Bedford Phoenix site in Silverwater, New South Wales is going from strength to strength working with world renowned brands and undertaking huge volumes of work. We've even had our Chief Executive Sally out on the floor lending a helping hand.



Urban Development Institute of Australia (South Australia)

Thank you to the UDIA (SA) for making Bedford Phoenix your charity of choice for 2015. We really appreciate the continued support!



The Adelaide Crows

A big thank you to Adelaide Football Club players Nathan Van Berlo, Daniel Talia, Rory Atkins and Jake Lever for visiting our Port Lincoln site. The Bedford Phoenix team was thrilled to kick the footy, get some autographs and have their photo taken with these Crows legends!



New Cafeteria

We're very excited to continue expanding our business services under the Bedford Phoenix amalgamation as we have now launched an in-house café at our Torrensville site. This is a fantastic opportunity for more people with disability to learn about and gain skills in the hospitality industry.

Joining Forces

Have you heard the news? Two of South Australia's leading disability organisations - Bedford Group and Phoenix Society - have joined forces to become bigger, better and stronger. The official amalgamation took place 31 December 2014 and we are now one organisation under the name Bedford Phoenix Incorporated.

Katherine Ring,
Packaging
Employee,
Torrensville

"We have the opportunity to get more work in and meet other people, so I'm very excited about us joining together."



Matthew Clisby,
Packaging Employee,
Torrensville

"I am excited about Bedford and Phoenix working together as a team... COWABUNGA!"



**Hailey Hutchinson
Turner, Packaging
Employee, Pooraka**

"More kids can come from school into the workforce."



Andrew Herewane,
Manufacturing
Employee, Gepps Cross

"Everyone's excited that we're joining up and it's going to be bigger and better."



**Kymerley Tutty, Accounts
Assistant, Panorama**

"Everyone gets along really well. With all of the new businesses, people with disability have a lot more opportunities to gain more skills."



Sarah D'Cruz,
Administration/
Packaging Employee,
Pooraka

"We will be a much stronger organisation under the NDIS."



As Australia's second largest disability services provider...

- Bedford Phoenix offers meaningful employment to 1,262 people with disability across 17 sites in metropolitan/regional SA and NSW.
- Day Options facilities enhance the lives of almost 100 people with high support needs in five locations across the state.
- Nationally Accredited Training is delivered to approximately 200 students annually.
- Supported accommodation provides a home to more than 160 people with disability in South Australia.
- School to Work transition programs help 225 students with tailored, caring work experience each year.

Now the amalgamation is official, we have started the process of bringing our systems and people together. Our number one priority remains unchanged... changing the lives of people with disability through real work, training and life skill programs. We want to reinforce there will be no change to day to day activities; that this is about greater opportunities and flexibility, and better service.

Bedford Phoenix is committed to building a better, stronger future together, and is very excited about the opportunities we can offer. Together, we will build the best and brightest future for our people that we can, ready for the NDIS.

If you have any questions about the amalgamation you can contact us on the Bedford Phoenix Hotline by calling (08) 8275 0280 or email hotline@bedfordphoenix.com.au.

Scan the QR code for a video update on the amalgamation from our employees and staff



Rising Up

The 2014 Phoenix Awards Days were once again held at the end of year with great anticipation and excitement surrounding this event!

Phoenix Whyalla was held first celebrating the achievements of employees as well as service awards at the Centrals Football Club. Once MC Nathan Aston had concluded the official program, the Whyalla employees surprised everyone by taking to the stage to present the staff members with their own awards. A brave move and one that was enjoyed by everyone – congratulations to all the winners!

The Metropolitan Awards Day was held the very next day at the Entertainment Centre. Paul Stevenson put on a good show for everyone in the audience, and we farewelled

and thanked the outgoing chairman, Graeme Bethune, for all of this years of dedication and service to Phoenix. We also heard from Sally Powell, Chief Executive of the new Bedford Phoenix who outlined the exciting new direction of the amalgamated organisation.

Service awards were given to 32 recipients, ranging from 10 years of service to an outstanding 40 years of service to Phoenix. 40 years was awarded to three people from metro sites, Peter Harris, Carmen Regnier and Paul Gabbusch, and one from Whyalla, Pauline Treleavin. Big cheers were also heard when the achievement awards were announced.

The winner of the Gordon Reid Medal was Justin Appleton and a full profile can be found on him on page eight.



School to Work Transition Program Award

Awarded to the student who this year as a participant in the Phoenix School to Work Program has demonstrated outstanding commitment to learning about work and a desire to succeed in future employment at or external to Phoenix.

Sponsored by the Education Trust Fund
Chloe Grigg - Elizabeth

Sponsored by the Education Trust Fund
Samantha Muscat - Whyalla

Work Health & Safety Awards

Awarded to the employees, who, over the past twelve months, have displayed the largest contribution towards the development of safe work practices within the workplace for the protection of themselves and their fellow workmates.

Sponsored by Coopers
Robert Jenkins - Torrensville

Sponsored by the Jim Griggs Memorial Trust
Wayne Jaksic - Elizabeth

Sponsored by the Jim Griggs Memorial Trust
Sheldon Hein - Gepps Cross

Sponsored by the Jim Griggs Memorial Trust
Andrew Nield - Whyalla

Environment Awards

Awarded to the employees who, over the past twelve months, have displayed the largest contribution towards the identification and/or implementation of sound environmental practices within the workplace for the benefit of the environment and to assist in the ongoing sustainability of the earth's natural resources.

Sponsored by the E E Bone Award Trust Fund
Dale Pritchard - Torrensville

Sponsored by the E E Bone Award Trust Fund
Jared Hepden - Whyalla

Quiet Achievers Award

Awarded to the employee who, over the past 12 months, has quietly achieved outstanding outcomes and commitments to their allocated work area with minimal fuss.

Sponsored by the Belinda Marie Winter Trust Fund
Dimity Pullman - Torrensville

Sponsored by the Belinda Marie Winter Trust Fund
Tim Sarkies - Elizabeth

Sponsored by the Belinda Marie Winter Trust Fund
Terrie Downing - Gepps Cross

Sponsored by the Belinda Marie Winter Trust Fund
Steven Walter - Whyalla

Special Merit Awards

Awarded to the employees who, over the past 12 months, have made every effort to achieve the highest level in their personal development and the pursuit of their employment goals.

Sponsored by the Jim Griggs Memorial Trust
Brett Semola - Gepps Cross

Sponsored by the RT Patterson Fund
Scott Litchfield - Whyalla

Most Improved Employee Awards

Awarded to the employees who, over the past 12 months, have achieved the highest level of personal development and demonstrated considerable improvement in attendance, punctuality, effort, personal relationships and work habits.

Sponsored by the Phoenix Women's Auxiliary
Mel Berry - Torrensville

Sponsored by the Phoenix Women's Auxiliary
Felicity McLean - Elizabeth

Sponsored by the Phoenix Women's Auxiliary
Luca Raghianti - Gepps Cross

Sponsored by the Phoenix Women's Auxiliary
Karen Thompson - Phoenix Connect

Sponsored by the Phoenix Women's Auxiliary
Bianca Babidge - Whyalla

Employee of the Year Awards

Awarded to the employees who, over the past 12 months, have excelled in their dedication to the ideals of Phoenix Society, demonstrated commitment towards Safety, Quality, Leadership and desire to succeed.

Sponsored by Firebird Charitable Fund
Katie Frost - Torrensville

Sponsored by the Education Trust Fund
Sharon Hughes - Elizabeth

Sponsored by the Belinda Marie Winter Trust Fund
Stephen Andrews - Gepps Cross

Sponsored by the Education Trust Fund
Corrina Mackaway - Whyalla

The Gordon Reid Medal

Awarded in special recognition of a Phoenix employee who has consistently demonstrated the ideals of Phoenix Vision by rising above their disability to set an example to their fellow workers of being able to succeed against great adversity.

Sponsored by the Gordon Maxwell Reid Trust Fund
Justin Appleton - Elizabeth



SA Governor
Hieu Van Le &
Justin Appleton

And The Winner Is...

The Gordon Reid Medal is the highest honour to receive at the Phoenix Awards Day, awarded to someone who rises above their disability and succeeds against great adversity – a real embodiment of the Bedford Phoenix ethos. This year's winner was a shining example of this can-do mentality, with Justin Appleton from the Elizabeth site taking out the award.

Justin has been with Bedford Phoenix since 2003 and has worked his way up from the stores area, to operating the pump truck, the electric pump truck and he now operates the walk-behind forklift. Taking on this latest role means the whole site relies on Justin to bring their work in to the floor. This has increased his workload and responsibility significantly but Justin takes it all in his stride and completes all tasks with a minimum of fuss and never complains!

Justin has cerebral palsy, with some limitations in one arm and small vision issues, but his motivation, commitment and work ethic go above and beyond any setbacks he experiences.

Other employees see Justin going about his work and the things he achieves and this encourages everyone to learn new things and develop their skill set.

Justin's job is physically demanding – he is on his feet all day – but this doesn't stop him getting active on the way to and from work. He rides his bike to work each day, rain hail or shine.

As usual, Justin was humble about the award saying, "I enjoy my job and get a lot out of going to work each day, that's the most important thing to me."

Congratulations Justin, a deserving winner!

Years Of Service ^{AWARDS}

Bedford is a life changing organisation because of its people... extraordinary people who dare to dream and never give up on achieving their goals. With these qualities, plus dedication and passion for the job we make a real difference in the community. This enthusiasm is acknowledged every year at our Years of Service Awards, and this year 150 Bedford workers were rewarded for the time they've dedicated to Bedford on International Day of People with Disability (3 December).

Staff and employees were given certificates recognising every five years they spend at Bedford. These award ceremonies took place across all of our sites and range from five years to 45 years – an incredible achievement by all!

Tieneke Inkenharg was one of three Bedford employees who received an award, celebrating 45 years of valued service with the Group.

"I started here when I was 19 and worked in the sewing area. There's been a lot of changes in the work we do – it's always changing and I'm always learning," Tieneke said.

"I'm always meeting new people. It's fantastic being able to move around and work in different areas. I like to help out the new people when they start too so I think of myself as a bit of a mentor."

Tieneke said that while many things have changed over her 45 years with Bedford, she is already looking forward to the next five years when she will celebrate 50 years of service.

Our Panorama site was home to the largest number of recipients and once the official proceedings of the day were complete it was time to party! The Directions Dance Academy kicked things off performing routines to some rock 'n' roll classics. Bedford Personnel Officer and resident DJ Matt Davies then got the dance floor cranking with some fresh beats. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed busting out moves to some absolute classics right through to the hits of today!

Thank you to everyone who was involved on the day especially the

Rotary Club of Mitcham who came out to Panorama to cook a BBQ for all in attendance and donated \$500. The support we receive from the community and those who work for us is truly amazing and it is the reason why we can continue to change lives of people with disability in our community.



45 year recipients Tieneke Inkenharg & Kevin Dent



5 year recipients



Directions Dance Academy

Home Is Where The Heart Is

Worrying about your child is part and parcel of being a parent. Will they be happy? Will they make friends? Will they be able to find a good job? Where will they live? But, for the parent of a child with disability, their concerns are often greater and more complex than you and I could ever imagine.

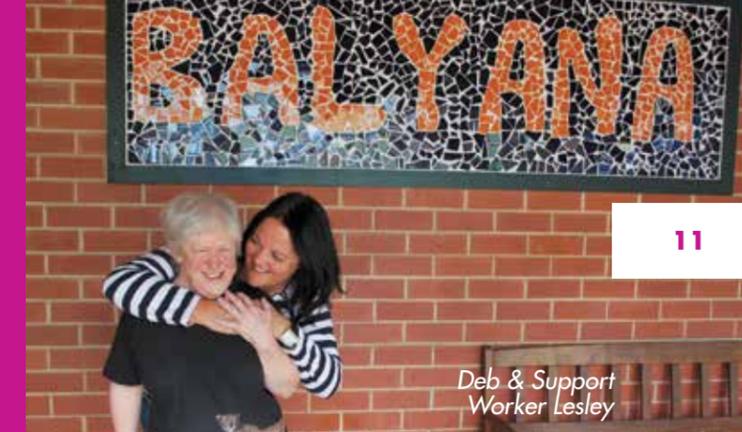
Margaret



Help us change lives

We need your financial support to give comfort to parents like Margaret and hope for a safer, more independent and happier life for the hundreds of South Australians that rely on us, just like Debbie has. This Easter I ask you consider making as priceless gift - one which will open new doors and bring hope to the lives of people with disability and their families at this special time of the year and beyond.

Bedfordgroup.com.au 1300 300 023



Deb & Support Worker Lesley

This is a list Margaret is all too familiar with caring for her daughter Debbie. Debbie has been employed at Bedford Phoenix since 1980 and until recently lived at home with her mother.

Margaret is part of a generation of aging parents who have provided a caring loving home for their children's entire life. She recently made the painful decision that she no longer could continue in that role with her own health on the decline.

The worry of who would be there to support and provide a safe home for Debbie was real and overwhelming.

Thankfully the supported accommodation facility, Balyana, was able to provide a solution for Debbie and Margaret. First, Balyana provided respite for Debbie so she could familiarise herself with living away from home and learn practical independent living skills. After repeated visits and lots of one on one support, Debbie became comfortable in her new surroundings and now lives full time in a safe, happy environment that provides a caring nurturing home. In providing a home for Debbie, we've also provided peace of mind to Margaret.

"Debbie has always worked at Bedford Phoenix, she loves her work and the people she works with and now loves coming home with her friends. She is happy and if Debbie is happy I am happy."

*"Moving Debbie to Balyana was the hardest decision I have ever had to make but I know Bedford Phoenix is there to help Debbie beyond my lifetime and the relief this gives me is too great for words. My decision was the right one - **I trust Bedford Phoenix with Debbie's future.**"*

"Bedford Phoenix isn't just about going to work; it's about so much more, learning new skills that can give independence and making lifelong friends that will be there when I can't!"

Thank You For Supporting Our Christmas Appeal

The Garton family would like to say a huge thank you to all of the generous donors who gave to the Christmas Appeal. Their story was shared to a large audience in The Messenger, The Advertiser and even The Today Show! We were so touched to receive your donations along with messages of love, hope and joy on our Christmas Appeal Baubles. Your support has been life changing for the community's most vulnerable people, giving them opportunities to grow, learn and succeed. Thank you!



Bigger And Better

For more than a decade, South Australia's business community has attended the Bedford Big BBQ to raise funds for people with disability. It's the flagship event of the year and we were thrilled to return to Adelaide Oval to host this infamous occasion.

Troy Tyndall, Sally Powell & Bronte Manuel



On 20 February over 500 supporters rallied together to change lives while enjoying a gourmet BBQ, premium wines and the opportunity to network.

This was a Bedford Big BBQ like no other with fantastic attendance and the formal announcement of the amalgamation of Bedford and Phoenix. Bedford Phoenix employees were in attendance at the BBQ helping out and mingling with all of the

guests. The employee group especially enjoyed speaking with MC and Bedford Phoenix ambassador, Amanda Blair who spoke enthusiastically on stage about all of the new friends she had made and recognized their support.

After meeting our employees and hearing about the exciting opportunities Bedford Phoenix can now offer across the state, guests reached deep into their pockets



The Bedford Big BBQ volunteer team

Bedford Big BBQ

raising money through the wine wall, raffles and auctions. Our live auction, conducted by Toop&Toop Real Estate's Troy Tyndall and Bronte Manuel, saw some fast and furious bidding on a number of items, including a home theatre system (donated by The Good Guys Marion) and a VIP game day experience (supplied by Coca-Cola Amatil).

We were blown away by the support of the community, with this year's BBQ raising a phenomenal \$60,000! These funds will be used where they're most

needed, which includes providing more opportunities in the areas of training, employment, accommodation and life skills for those who need a 'hand up.'

Thank you to our major sponsor NAB, everyone who donated a prize and to all who attended the Big BBQ. With your help Bedford Phoenix continues to change the lives of South Australia's most vulnerable people.

Save the date:

The next corporate event on the calendar is the Big Battle which will be held on 29 October at the National Wine Centre. For further details please contact Events Manager, Juli Roberts on (08) 8275 0352.



The Good Guys Marion table



NAB table



Jenny Mizon, Michael Keelan & Matthew Clisby



Amanda Blair with Big BBQ volunteers

RECIPE Russian Easter Bread

Serves:
6 people

Prep:
2 hours 30 mins

Cooking:
25 mins

Ingredients

- 2 (7g each) sachets yeast
- 1/3 cup (75g) caster sugar
- 3 1/3 cups (500g) strong baker's flour
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 cup sultanas
- Grated rind of 1 lemon
- 4 eggs
- 150ml milk
- 60g unsalted butter, softened

Coloured Eggs

- 4 eggs
- 1 teaspoon food colouring



Method

1. Place yeast in a bowl with 50ml warm water and 1 teaspoon of the sugar. Set aside for 15 minutes or until bubbles appear on surface.
2. Sift flour into a large bowl and add remaining sugar, 2 teaspoons salt, cinnamon, sultanas and rind. Stir in dissolved yeast, 3 eggs, milk, butter and 100ml water.
3. Flour a board, turn out dough and knead with your hands for 5 minutes, until you have a soft dough.
4. Place in a lightly greased bowl, cover with plastic wrap and set aside in a warm place for about 1 hour or until doubled in size.
5. Remove dough, place back on board and knock it back by pounding a couple of times with your fists. Divide dough into 2 long strips, plait together and place on a large, greased baking tray. Leave to rise for a further 1 hour.
6. Meanwhile, make coloured eggs. Place eggs in a saucepan of cold water with food colouring and bring to the boil. Simmer for 10 minutes, remove from heat and allow to cool in pan for 1/2 hour.
7. Preheat the oven to 190°C.
8. Lightly beat remaining egg. Set coloured eggs down the centre of the plaited bread and brush with beaten egg. Bake for 25 minutes until golden.
9. Serve warm with butter.

Kicking Goals

You hear the roar of the crowd as you manoeuvre the ball around your opponents and race towards the keeper, kicking the ball past him and... **GOAL!!!** This is the exhilarating feeling a number of South Australians with disability experienced playing soccer in the Phoenix Cup.



Bedford Group Shot



Ben Waters, Cameron Watson, Fabio Ferreira, Pablo Sanchez Alberto & Dale Patterson

The Phoenix Cup is an annual event bringing together more than 150 participants from all over Adelaide who don't always get a chance to meet and spend time together. It's a great opportunity to interact with the other disability enterprises and service providers and share a bit of friendly rivalry on the field.

Held in November last year at Ladywood Reserve in Modbury, the Phoenix Cup brought together 14 teams from across the state comprising the Phoenix Society, Bedford Group, Orana, Leveda,

EBL, the Special Olympians, Inclusive Sport SA and the Football Federation of South Australia.

The Phoenix Cup was born out of a lack of opportunity for people with disability to get involved with soccer and 2014 marked the sixth year the Phoenix Cup has run, growing from just four teams to 14 over the period.

Bedford and Phoenix each entered three different teams from across our sites and players found time for regular catch ups to train and put their soccer skills into practice for the big day.

This effort certainly paid off as all of our superstars managed to impress Adelaide United players Fabio Ferreira, Cameron Watson and Pablo Sanchez Alberto who were also in attendance at this event.

43 games were played in total and none of this would have been possible without the 20 volunteers that turned out on the day, as well as family and friends who came to support the teams and games.

The Special Olympians won the day, beating the Gepps Cross Rebels 4-2 in the exciting final. Congratulations to the winners and all of the teams who played on the day!

Elizabeth Wanderers



Gepps Cross Rebels



Torrenville Tigers



Phoenix Women's Auxiliary Movie Night

Date

Sunday 24th May, 6:30pm
Doors open at 5:30 for pre movie drinks and nibbles.

Cost
\$20

Address

Regal Theatre
275 Kensington Road
Kensington Park

Movie

Woman in Gold
Starring Helen Mirren, Ryan Reynolds, Daniel Bruhl, Katie Holmes, Max Irons, Tatiana Maslany

Tickets are available from 18 Ashwin Parade Torrensvile, or contact Nathan Aston 0488 179 831 or naston@phoenixsociety.com.au

This fund raising event is organised by the Phoenix Society Inc Women's Auxiliary Committee.



ABOUT YOU

Would you prefer to receive this magazine by email?

By choosing to receive your copy of Changing Lives by email, we reduce our print costs, meaning we can direct more funds into supporting people in need. If you'd like to receive future editions of Changing Lives via email, please send your details to feedback@bedfordgroup.com.au

Want to get involved?

If you would like to take a tour of Bedford Phoenix or have a chat about opportunities to get involved, please contact Lauren Marshall, Relationship Manager on (08) 8275 0221 or lmarsall@bedfordgroup.com.au

Updated your contact details?

Have you recently moved house, changed your email address or got a new phone number?

Please ensure we can keep in touch by sharing your new details with us by calling 1300 300 023 or email jmizon@bedfordgroup.com.au

ABOUT BEDFORD PHOENIX

BEDFORD PHOENIX
615 Goodwood Road,
Panorama SA 5041
Australia
PO Box 23, Melrose Park
SA 5039

t (08) 8275 0211
f (08) 8460 0134
e feedback@bedfordgroup.com.au
w bedfordgroup.com.au
phoenixsociety.com.au

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Elise Partington,
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Michael Mullan

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I would like to make a single donation today of:

- \$35 \$50 \$100 \$200
 \$500 my choice of \$ _____

or

I would like to join Bedford Phoenix as a **Life Changing Partner** and make a monthly contribution by credit card of \$ _____ (donation will be debited on the 15th of each month)

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Please return the completed slip, together with your donation in the enclosed reply paid envelope to:

**Bedford Phoenix, PO Box 23,
Melrose Park, SA 5039.**

Donations over \$2 are tax deductible, and if received prior to 30 June, can be included in your 2014/15 tax return – your receipt will follow shortly.

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