

# FOCAL EXTENDED INC

Annual Report  
2014

FOCAL



SINCE 1974  
Supporting people with a disability,  
their families and carers

Celebrating  
40 years



## ***Making it a year to remember...***

- In February we commenced our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations with a Carnivale for our clients, staff, business partners and supporters.
- During July we celebrated our Join Focal Community Event at Browns Park, North Ipswich. The park came alive with Zumba, Life Be In It activities, a free sausage sizzle and fairy floss. This was a thank you to the local community event.
- In October we launched our 40 Years of Focal book commemorating our history and looking forward to our future.
- Our 41<sup>st</sup> Annual General Meeting and 40<sup>th</sup> Formal Dinner celebrations were held at the University of Queensland Ipswich Campus, being the former Challinor Centre site.

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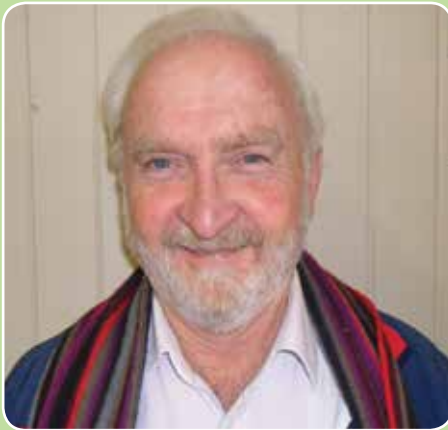
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## Management Committee



**Roy Henderson - President**

I bring to Focal Extended Incorporated over forty years experience from a diverse range of management positions. Over the last twenty years I have served as a volunteer on a variety of committees within the Ipswich and Brisbane Regions. I enjoyed working as a teacher/ therapist aide with children and adults for five years with the Cerebral Palsy League in Brisbane. I was invited to a meeting of the Focal Management Committee and have served as a committee member for 6 years. I enjoy my role as President and have a deep respect and admiration for everyone at Focal. It is a pleasure to be associated with such an ethical, caring and supportive organisation.



**Anthony Swords - Vice President**

I have been a Focal Committee Member for eight years. I am a Psychologist and a Member of the Australian Psychological Society with 30+ years experience in management and professional development roles in the community, health and business sectors. I have an appreciation of the difficulties faced by people with disabilities through both my professional work and supporting a family member with a disability. I believe it's important that every person, irrespective of disability, can more fully participate in society through study, work, relationships and recreation.



**Anita Wheeler – Committee Member**

My name is Anita Wheeler and I am currently a committee member on the Focal Management Committee, having served just over 3 years with the organisation. I am thoroughly enjoying the experience and learning as I go. It keeps me well informed with current events and important issues. I hope my contribution is helping shape the future for Focal, as our main goal is to provide the best quality service for the needs of our clients, carers and families.



### **Denis Ward - Treasurer**

I became involved with Focal Extended Incorporated when I was given 10 weeks respite to care for my daughter Rebecca after I had a hip operation. Focal had just elected a new president Betty McCrindle at the time and Focal was on the verge of great change. I was invited to take up the Treasurer's position, a role I have continued to serve in for the past 9 years. I enjoy being the Treasurer for Focal. Over the years I have seen Focal grow as a leading disability support organisation and I feel being on the committee helps contribute to making a difference in the lives of our clients, families and carers.



### **Wendy Maller - Secretary**

My name is Wendy Maller and I have been accessing Focal's services for 12 years now. I have two boys with autism and one of my sons also has an intellectual impairment. I have enjoyed watching Focal grow over the years to deal with a changing world. I value my time on the committee as it has allowed me to be a part of the growth and development of a service I truly value.



### **Teresa Harding - Committee Member**

I joined the Focal Extended Inc Management Committee in July 2014 and bring a wide range of experiences as an executive and leader in both the private and public sectors. I am currently employed with the Queensland State Government leading a reform and change management program. I am also a member of the Coordinating Organisation for the Disabled in Ipswich (CODI) Management Committee, an active member of the St Mary's College Ipswich, an active Rotarian and a Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

# Welcome

Over the last year, Focal has had many reasons to be proud of our successes and achievements. Focal has continued to deliver core business to a high standard whilst also celebrating it's 40th birthday with the February Focal Carnivale; July community celebration in Browns Park; Annual General Meeting, Tour and Formal Anniversary dinner in October. Focal also published a book "40 Years of Focal" which tells Focal's story from 1974 to 2014.



**Sonja Gilchrist**  
Chief Executive Officer

Celebrating our 40th year of operation has reminded us that our heart is very important in the work that we do, supporting our clients. With the introduction of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) trials in other states across Australia, it has shown us that it is critical operate as a business with a corporate focus. The true challenge for our sustainability into the future is to balance both our heart with our business head - our commitment and passion with our corporate edge.

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***"Focal is a quality organisation who listens to our clients to tailor a program that meets their personal goals and it is important we use both our heart and business head to be sustainable and innovative into the future" says Focal's CEO, Sonja Gilchrist.***

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To prepare for the changing environment ahead we have strengthened organisational capacity; invested in developing staff; coordinated information events for clients, parents and carers; reviewed programs; explored innovative opportunities and held "Focal Futures Planning Meetings" focussing on five key areas of Clients; Programs and Services; Finance; Workforce and Marketing.

The key element is clients, or in the NDIS world, consumers or participants – they will be the empowered decision makers who demand that their goals and aspirations are met. Focal is already focussed on meeting what our clients want, with our Individual Support Plan, now known as "My Plan". So, NDIS will be the same for us on this level however, the administration, finance and marketing functions will be very different.

I take this opportunity to thank our team of dedicated staff and volunteers who focus on providing quality service to our clients. In particular, I thank the Organisational Support Team for their consistent and tireless work in ensuring the best-practice support for our staff and clients. To the Focal Management Committee, it continues to be a privilege working for you and with you. Thank you for your support. Your countless volunteered hours in developing the strategic direction for the organisation, will ensure that Focal continues to be sustainable, dynamic, flexible and responsive in the new market environment.

The challenges for the future are exciting! Listening to our clients and working with them to tailor a personal program for them to live the life that they aspire to, is reflective of Focal's core values.

# Focal Beliefs

## Mission

Focal is committed to actively supporting people with disabilities, their families and carers through high quality, flexible service delivery and authentic advocacy within Ipswich and the surrounding community.

## Vision

Focal engaging the community to be respectful, caring, supportive and inclusive of people with disabilities, and encouraging people with disabilities to live and participate freely.

## Values

- Clients, carers and families first
- Safe, encouraging and inclusive care
- To be open, transparent and ethical
- To be flexible, collaborative and innovative
- Excellence within realistic expectations
- Effective management of resources



*Focal client artwork - collage of hands*

**Independent Pathways Program clients were asked to describe what Focal means to them.**

**F is for...**  
**fantastic, fairness, flexibility, freedom, forgiving, flourish, feel good, family, friendship**

**O is for...**  
**outstanding, open minded, opportunity, original, organised, outcomes, optimism**

**C is for...**  
**companionship, calm, creative, clean, courage, comfortable, charity, challenge, commitment**

**A is for...**  
**amazing, acceptance, able, adventure, appreciate, advantage, assertiveness, alertness, active**

**L is for...**  
**like, laugh, learn, life, longevity, loyalty, lucky, lovable, liberty, leadership**

# Agenda

## 41<sup>st</sup> Focal Annual General Meeting - Commences 3:30pm

### Opening: 3:30pm

1. **Welcome to Country** by Aunty Davina
2. Formal welcome by the President
3. **Apologies** to be read by President
4. Business Arising from 2012/13 Annual General Meeting Minutes
5. **Minutes** of Annual General Meeting 2012/13 to be considered and moved  
Moved.....Seconded.....
6. Invite **Tom Hutton** to talk to Focal's 2013/14 Financial Report  
Motion to move the Independent Financial Auditor's Report  
Moved.....Seconded.....
7. Refer to the Treasurer's report in the Annual report  
Motion to move Treasurer's Report  
Moved.....Seconded.....
8. **President's Report** by Roy Henderson  
Motion to move President's Report  
Moved.....Seconded.....
9. "40 Years of Focal" **Book Launch**  
Acknowledge work
10. **CEO's Report**  
Motion to move CEO's report  
Moved.....Seconded.....
11. Cr Sheila Ireland invited by President Roy Henderson to officiate the **election** of positions on the Management Committee.



## 12. 2013/14 Committee Members Stand Down.

Read and table the Proxy Forms

Election of 2014/15 Management Committee

Nominations for positions of:

President

Vice-President

Treasurer

Secretary

Committee Members (max 3)

- Members requested to raise their hands high in agreement for a proposal.
- Members requested to raise their hands if not in agreement with a nominee.

## 13. Welcome to New Committee Members by the 2014/15 President

14. **General Business**

- Appointment of Financial Auditor proposed to be Owen, Harris and Associates:  
Proposed ..... Accepted ..... Seconded .....
- Date of Next Meeting tentative for Tuesday 24 November 2015

15. **Entertainment** by “Just Singing”, children taught by Patty Hitchenor, Focal Administration and Finance Officer16. President to thank the entertainers and **remind** everyone attending that

- Judith Nissen will be available to sign copies of the “40 Years of Focal Book”
- A tour of the UQ site with particular mention of the Challinor buildings will commence at 4:30pm led by Professor Alan Rix
- All are welcome to join in the High Tea
- Formal Dinner will commence at 6pm for those that have purchased tickets
- Thank you to everyone attending this historical event.

## 17. Meeting Closed

# 2013 Minutes

40th Annual General Meeting of Focal Extended Inc  
Ipswich City Uniting Church, Ellenborough Street Ipswich

## 1. Welcome

The meeting was declared open at 5:45pm.

The President, Roy Henderson, welcomed Members and Guests to the 40th Annual General Meeting acknowledging the past and present traditional owners of the land occupied during the evening. The President provided information to attendees about fire exits, evacuation procedure and location of amenities.

### Attendances:

Cr Andrew Antonioli  
Lachlan Brown  
Shelley Dargusch  
Sue Ellis  
Monica Hattendorff  
Tom Hutton  
Wendy Maller  
Betty McCrindle  
David Parry  
Gregory Powles  
Peta Schaffer  
Judy Spetch  
Alex Tyson  
Denis Ward  
Sue Ward  
Jennifer Williams  
Stuart Locke  
Matthew Kime  
Ian Maller

Cr Cheryl Bromage  
Jim Cummings  
Joanne Deeley  
Sonja Gilchrist  
Roy Henderson  
Sharon MacKinney  
Jodie McCosker  
Tanya Miller  
Cr Charlie Pisasale  
Susan Saunders  
Kerri Siebenhausen  
Tony Swords  
Anthony Vaughan  
Rebecca Ward  
Anita Wheeler  
Russell Swinton  
Tracey Slater  
Mary Cleaver  
Ian Berry MP

## 2. Apologies tabled

Judy Dixon  
Vlado Kovac  
Maria Galbraith-Grindrod  
Beth McRoberts  
Maureen Rackley  
Rosemary Burke  
Graeme Goodger  
Robyn Chinchin  
Mayor Paul Pisasale  
Ashley Jones

Shayne Neumann MP  
Desleigh Hamilton  
Pat Sherlock  
Lionel Rackley  
Sir Llew Edwards  
Dawn Pickering  
Lynda Goodger  
Doug Richardson  
Cr David Pahlke  
Glenna Shaw

Karyn Spreadborough  
Cr Attwood  
Cr David Morrison  
Sean Choat MP  
Brian Ward  
Patricia Hitchener  
Cr Paul Tully  
Cr Bruce Casos

### 3. Proxy forms tabled

Sir Llew Edwards  
Vlado Kovac  
Rosemary Burke  
Dawn Pickering  
Lynda Goodger  
Doug Richardson

Desleigh Hamilton  
Shayne Neumann MP  
Judith Dickson  
Graeme Goodger  
Robyn Chinchin  
Karen Keune

### 4. Minutes of Previous Annual General Meeting

Minutes of the 39th Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 22nd November 2012 were read.  
No business arising.

*Proposed By: Sue Ward*

*Seconded by: Betty McCrindle*

*Accepted*

### 5. Financial Auditor's Report

Tom Hutton, Focal's independent financial auditor presented the financial report outlining the required new format and highlighting pertinent areas of the report. Mr. Hutton confirmed Focal's viability and congratulated the organisation in their financial acumen in these fiscal times.

*Proposed by: Sue Ward*

*Seconded by: Denis Ward*

*Accepted*

### 6. President's Report

Roy Henderson read the tabled President's report to the meeting participants, making particular note that this was the start of Focal's 40th year, with members of the Ipswich community meeting in the very same hall on 15th November 1973 to establish and name the organisation. Roy further acknowledged the vision of that group and invited people to join in the upcoming celebrations throughout 2014.

*Proposed by: Roy Henderson*

*Seconded by: Denis Ward*

*Accepted*

### 7. Treasurer's Report

Roy Henderson tabled the Treasurer's Report from the Annual Report.

*Proposed by: Denis Ward*

*Seconded by: Ian Berry MP*

*Accepted*

## 8. Executive Manager Report

Sonja Gilchrist presented Focal's key achievements for the past year and proclaimed Focal's insurance declaration. Sonja confirmed Focal's continued commitment to being responsive to the needs of people with a disability, their families and carers in providing quality, flexible support and services.

*Proposed by: Roy Henderson*

*Seconded by: Sue Ward*

*Accepted*

## 9. Focal Life Membership for Brian Ward

The 2012/13 Focal Management Committee recommended that immediate past President Brian Ward (6 October 2005 – 4 December 2007) be nominated as a Life Member for his commitment and participation within the organisation.

*Proposed by: Betty McCrindle*

*Seconded by: Denis Ward*

*Accepted*

## 10. Election of 2012-2013 Management Committee

All Committee members stood down and Roy Henderson vacated the position of Chair.

Councillor Cheryl Bromage took the chair to conduct the Election of Officer Bearers.

All Committee positions were declared vacant.

Cr Bromage asked if there were any nominations from the floor.

### **President:**

Roy Henderson was nominated by Anita Wheeler and seconded by Denis Ward. There were no other nominees and a majority vote for Tony Swords.

Roy Henderson was elected as President.

### **Vice President:**

Tony Swords was nominated by Anita Wheeler and seconded by Roy Henderson. There were no other nominees and a majority vote for Tony Swords.

Tony Swords was elected as Vice President.

### **Secretary:**

Wendy Maller was nominated by Tony Swords and seconded by Roy Henderson. There were no other nominees and a majority vote for Wendy Maller.

Wendy Maller was elected as Secretary.

### **Treasurer:**

Denis Ward was nominated by Desleigh Hamilton, Anita Wheeler and Karen Keune, and seconded by Roy Henderson. There were no other nominees and a majority vote for Denis Ward.

Denis Ward was elected Treasurer.

**Committee Members:**

Anita Wheeler was nominated by Denis Ward and seconded by Tony Swords.

Wendy Maller was nominated by Tony Swords and seconded by Roy Henderson. Wendy declined this nomination due to her Secretary nomination and acceptance.

There were no other nominees and a majority vote for Anita Wheeler.

Cr Bromage confirmed that there were two committee member vacancies and invited nominations from the floor. There were no further nominations and Cr Bromage congratulated the new Committee and handed the Chair back to the President.

**11. Welcome to new Executive and Committee Members**

Roy Henderson welcomed the new Committee Members and acknowledged the commitment of these volunteers who will guide the future of Focal.

**12. Financial Auditor for 2012/13**

Owen Harris and Associates were nominated as the Independent Financial Auditor Focal Extended Incorporated for the next twelve months.

*Proposed: Sue Ward*

*Seconded: Denis Ward*

*Accepted*

**13. Next AGM:**

Proposed to be held on the 18th October 2014 at 5.30pm at a place to be confirmed.

**14. Showcase Presentation**

DVD footage was shown of interviews with Focal founders, to be used for the 40th birthday celebrations. The wonderful partnership with the School of Arts and Communication USQ that led to the DVD production was formally acknowledged and Ashley Jones, Dylan MacLachlan, Yolanda Robson and Matthew Jeston thanked for their efforts in their creation of this footage.

**15. Meeting closed:**

The President reiterated that 2014 would be Focal's 40th year of operation and promoted the sub-committee has been formed to plan and co-ordinate the celebrations. He requested that any persons interested in joining the

sub-committee should contact the Focal office during business hours. The President invited all members to the formal dinner being held on 18th October 2014.

*The meeting was declared closed at 6:25pm and all attendees were invited to join the newly elected committee for refreshments*

## President's Report

Good afternoon everyone my name is Roy Henderson and as President of Focal Extended Inc I welcome you to the 41st Annual General Meeting and present my annual report to you.

Firstly, I would like to thank you all for your attendance today at this significant, historical venue where Doctor Challinor, saw his first patient in May 1861. This gives us some idea of the history wrapped in these buildings and the history that is attached to Focal. I wish to acknowledge all those who are not able to attend, but who do form an important part of Focal. Sir Llew Edwards, who has been FOCAL's Patron since its inception forty years ago, sends his apologies for not being able to attend this historic Annual General Meeting. He sends his congratulations and best wishes to us all.



*Roy Henderson - President*

Sir Llew was instrumental in legislating Government for a much better quality of life for those with a disability. That legislation allowed the people that lived in this building and surrounding buildings of the Challinor Centre, to leave an institutional life, where receiving a birthday card was a dream moment for them, to a lifestyle of love and caring in the Community.

When Tony Swords, Sonja Gilchrist and I met with Sir Llew he recalled many fond memories of friendships and witnessed many changes to the disability sector. The founding Committee Members wrote our constitution which we still go by today and they can see that all their work was worthwhile. An extract from 1974 says; '...and so, FOCAL was formed with nothing but high hopes, determination and absolutely no money at all'. This has carried FOCAL through some good and some tough times to where FOCAL is today, a very strong and stable organisation.

I would like to read a few more words from two reports, the first is from Harold Chapman, FOCAL's Interim President in 1973, "Although our Committee is at present, an Interim one, I hope that 1974 (which is almost upon us) will bring a good strong committee, with the backing of both parents and friends, to make this venture a great success".

The second is from Mr Wilkinson, FOCAL's First President in 1975, "By present trends, a strong future for F.O.C.A.L. seems assured, and I wish it every success and am happy to have been associated with its launching". From the very first meeting until today and into the future, FOCAL will continue to take its 'Vision and Mission Statements' very seriously. Our vision continues to provide a service that enables and empowers people with a disability to participate freely within their chosen Community.

Our mission is to support people with disabilities. We achieve this by maintaining diverse programs and introducing new ones. These programs provide a high quality, client focused service maintaining a high standard in organizational management and performance. We continue our strong cooperative and collaborative partnerships with other service providers and community stakeholders including, Ipswich City Council, Queensland State and Federal Government Departments.

The Management Committee at Focal is very aware of the responsibilities we have with our decision making and as a Committee we take our position seriously and our decisions made with careful consideration. We hope other similar organizations, whether government, non-government or corporate are likeminded.

I know that Focal is a very ethical and transparent organization with our Management Committee, Chief Executive Officer, employees and volunteers all working together to achieve desired results. Even though I can't acknowledge every individual and your contributions to FOCAL, I do appreciate your efforts and support. My thanks to all the staff and volunteers for your hard work and professionalism throughout the year.

A special thanks to the Mitchelton Healthy Slimmer's Fellowship Support Group for their continued support. They are a wonderful group of people, who with their donations every year since 1974 have enabled us to provide additional resources for our clients.

I would like to acknowledge the Pro Vice Chancellor of this University, Professor Alan Rix. Professor Rix has offered to conduct tours immediately after this AGM and I would encourage you all to enjoy viewing these historic buildings as they continue to serve the Ipswich Community, but now as our University. Thank you Professor Rix for your generous offer of your time to provide this tour.

As President of Focal I would like to state my appreciation, admiration and respect for our Chief Executive Officer, Sonja Gilchrist and for her commitment and hard work in achieving positive results here at Focal. Sonja continues to build on our strong focus of the best client outcomes and is constantly upgrading and improving practices to ensure this.

I would like to acknowledge the wonderful support and advice we receive from Tanya Miller. Tanya was our first Executive Officer, who built a very strong foundation for Focal and continues to assist us when her busy Executive workload permits. In the words of a famous Focal Board Member and I promised Denis Ward I wouldn't mention his name, "once you are here at FOCAL, you never leave".

I have served on a number of diverse committees over the years, and the FOCAL Management Committee is the most committed, dedicated group that I have had the pleasure of being associated with. To Denis Ward, Tony Swords, Wendy Maller, Anita Wheeler and Teresa Harding, it has been a privilege and an absolute pleasure working with you.

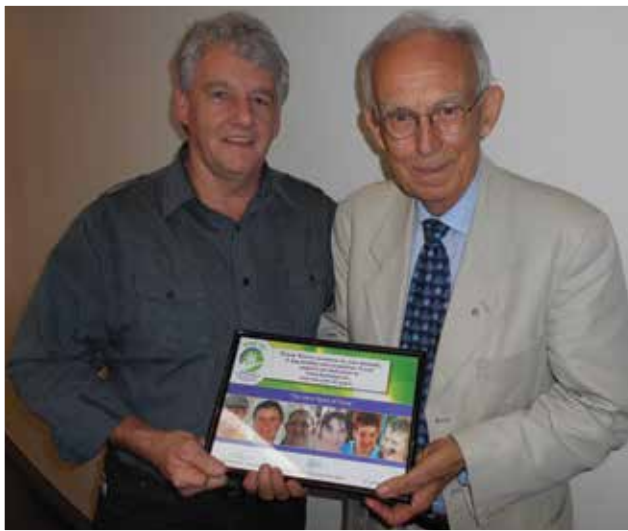
As the people who started FOCAL have passed the mantle on through the years, please consider this, as you vote tonight, remember, your vote is very important to the future of Focal.

In closing, as those committees and members who have served before us had the vision to look to the future, we must also look to the future. NDIS will be happening within the next year or two, but it is nibbling at the heels of FOCAL and like minded organizations now. So, the FOCAL Management Committee have some seriously, important decisions to make and present to the members. Whatever decisions are made, they are made to provide the best continual support and services for FOCAL clients and every member of their family.

To you and your families and friends, have a most enjoyable Christmas and a very happy and prosperous New Year.



Roy Henderson  
PRESIDENT, FOCAL EXTENDED INC.



*Roy presenting Sir Llew, Focal's Patron of 40 years with a copy of the recently published book - 40 Years of Focal.*

## **Management Team**

**Sonja Gilchrist**  
*Chief Executive Officer*

**Alex Tyson**  
*Self Directed and Community Facilitator*

**Brian McKeown**  
*Program Coordinator*

**Kerri Siebenhausen**  
*OSHC Coordinator*

**Anthony Vaughan**  
**Glenna Shaw**  
**Jodie McCosker**  
**Peta Schaffer**  
*Team Coordinators*



## Treasurer's Report

As Treasurer of Focal Extended Incorporated, I would like to present the financial report for the year ending 30 June 2014. In presenting this report I would like to acknowledge the great team that I work with which includes our President Roy Henderson, my fellow Management Committee members, our Chief Executive Officer Sonja Gilchrist and Focal's finance and administration staff.

In addition to continued funding of core services, \$10,000 from QBE foundation was donated to provide training for clients, resources and communication devices. Focal are continuing work on our new property at 7 Canning Street. Pre-wiring and stumping has been completed and work will continue in the 2014/2015 financial year.

Due to careful financial management, the organisation has been able to make provision for building maintenance and development works and for future vehicle replacements. This will ensure that Focal is well placed to continue its provision of supports across the disability community and be viable into the future.

The overall financial position at 30 June 2014 is:

<b>The overall financial position at 30 June 2014 is:</b>	
Retained Earnings	\$ 793,359.37
Current Year Surplus/Deficit	\$ 6,906.29
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>\$ 800,265.66</b>

Owen Harris & Associates have audited the financial accounts for the year ended 30 June 2014. A copy of their audit report and the profit and loss statement and balance sheet are provided for your information.



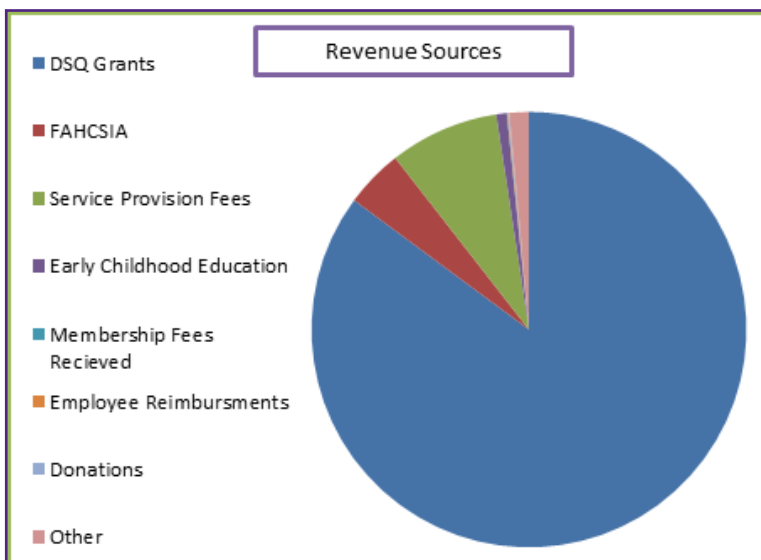
Denis Ward  
**TREASURER**

# Finance

## FOCAL EXTENDED INC.

### INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

	Note	2014 \$	2013 \$
<b>INCOME</b>			
DSQ GRANTS		2,631,546.50	2,342,245.17
FAHCSIA		133,949.00	132,610.00
Service Provision Fees		251,451.23	242,977.49
Early Childhood Education		23,851.00	23,143.00
Membership Fees Received		828.10	749.02
Employee Reimbursements		2,029.36	1,489.35
Donations		2,860.00	1,337.27
		<u>3,046,515.19</u>	<u>2,744,551.30</u>
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>			
Events		1,863.45	1,413.77
Makaton Books Program		-	250.00
Interest Received		33,823.94	31,915.03
Canning Rent		8,250.00	1,950.00
Christmas Party		47.50	-
Fundraising activities		938.73	-
Profit on Sale of Non-current Assets		-	6,362.35
		<u>44,923.62</u>	<u>41,891.15</u>
		<u>3,091,438.81</u>	<u>2,786,442.45</u>



**INCOME STATEMENT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014**

	Note	2014 \$	2013 \$
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
Auditors Remuneration		10,012.20	9,636.00
Advertising		2,248.54	1,939.62
Activity & Resources		10,758.84	5,573.14
Amenities		5,454.79	5,027.27
Bad Debts		-	550.00
Bank Charges		1,312.85	917.28
Cleaning		6,800.00	4,849.10
Client Expenses		670.98	724.18
Client Support		1,380.00	21,475.53
Food & Refreshments		2,115.22	3,272.18
Event Expenses		3,717.75	1,842.67
Depreciation		21,049.00	22,611.00
Information Technology		266.31	112.25
Equipment		7,562.69	2,538.59
Donations		145.45	286.36
Electricity		7,580.31	6,283.71
Employee Expenses		23,120.28	22,619.24
Insurance		14,557.75	14,920.82
Interest Paid		11,585.61	3,282.57
Kitchen Supplies		4,038.42	2,747.10
Mileage		80,020.18	70,438.71
Motor Vehicle Expenses		10,215.35	5,816.59
Operational Expenses		15,535.55	16,983.06
Postage		2,566.32	2,070.59
Printing & Stationery		15,693.43	13,562.34
Rates & Taxes		5,694.84	4,964.87
Maintenance Canning Street		12,313.03	9,012.53
Maintenance - Warrawong St		1,474.07	875.59
Siblings Expenses		132.57	183.35
Subscriptions		4,572.23	4,392.72
Superannuation Contributions - Employees		207,978.57	181,283.65
Telephone		26,439.85	24,344.74
Toys & Equipment		1,899.63	1,710.48
Travelling Expenses		1,586.00	1,858.00
Accrued Leave		32,044.41	78,480.00
Accrued Organisation Expenses		130,000.00	95,000.00
Wages - Administration		346,925.80	527,122.84
Wages - Support		1,433,694.29	1,210,954.62
Wages Co-Ordinator		235,347.07	45,963.82
Salary Oncosts		293,804.31	249,693.38

**FOCAL EXTENDED INC.**  
**INCOME STATEMENT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014**

	Note	2014 \$	2013 \$
Training, Seminars, Conferences		44,254.13	32,715.12
Workcover		47,963.90	61,878.49
		<u>3,084,532.52</u>	<u>2,770,514.10</u>
Profit		6,906.29	15,928.35
Unrealised Loss Solar		-	-
<b>Profit after income tax</b>		<u>6,906.29</u>	<u>15,928.35</u>
Retained earnings at the beginning of the financial year		<u>793,359.37</u>	<u>777,431.02</u>
<b>Retained earnings at the end of the financial year</b>		<u><u>800,265.66</u></u>	<u><u>793,359.37</u></u>

## FOCAL EXTENDED INC.

BALANCE SHEET  
AS AT 30 JUNE 2014

	Note	2014 \$	2013 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	2	1,005,544.25	925,451.47
Trade and other receivables	3	28,181.80	22,906.38
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>1,033,726.05</u>	<u>948,357.85</u>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	4	1,032,717.82	1,006,804.08
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>1,032,717.82</u>	<u>1,006,804.08</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<u>2,066,443.87</u>	<u>1,955,161.93</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Trade and Other Payables		312,515.77	284,262.14
Borrowings		2,920.46	-
Provision for Vehicles		70,000.00	60,000.00
Provision for Buildings		270,000.00	150,000.00
Employee benefits	5	224,249.39	192,204.98
Income in Advance - Non Recurrent Grants		21,047.92	64,923.50
Income in Advance - Recurrent Grants		365,105.58	410,091.63
Makaton Book Fund		176.04	176.04
Siblings Group		163.05	144.27
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>1,266,178.21</u>	<u>1,161,802.56</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<u>1,266,178.21</u>	<u>1,161,802.56</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>800,265.66</u>	<u>793,359.37</u>
<b>MEMBERS' FUNDS</b>			
Retained earnings	6	800,265.66	793,359.37
<b>TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS</b>		<u>800,265.66</u>	<u>793,359.37</u>

**FOCAL EXTENDED INC.****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014****1 Statement of Significant Accounting Policies**

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act QLD 1981. The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historic costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following significant accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless stated otherwise, have been adopted in the preparation of this financial report.

**Plant and Equipment**

Plant and equipment is carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

The depreciable amount of all plant and equipment is depreciated over the useful lives of the assets to the Association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

**Impairment of Non-Financial Assets**

At the end of each reporting period the association determines whether there is an evidence of an impairment indicator for non-financial assets.

Where this indicator exists and regardless for goodwill, indefinite life intangible assets and intangible assets not yet available for use, the recoverable amount of the assets is estimated.

Where assets do not operate independently of other assets, the recoverable amount of the relevant cash-generating unit (CGU) is estimated.

The recoverable amount of an asset or CGU is the higher of the fair value less costs of disposal and the value in use. Value in use is the present value of the future cash flows expected to be derived from an asset or cash-generating unit.

Where the recoverable amount is less than the carrying amount, an impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss.

Reversal indicators are considered in subsequent periods for all assets which have suffered an impairment loss, except for goodwill.

**FOCAL EXTENDED INC.****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014**

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**Accounts Receivable and Other Receivables**

Accounts receivable are recognised initially at the transaction price (i.e. cost) and are subsequently measured at cost less provision for impairment. Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

At the end of each reporting period, the carrying amount of accounts receivable and other receivables are reviewed to determine whether there is any objective evidence that the amounts are not recoverable. If so, an impairment loss is recognised immediately in income and expenditure statement.

**Employee Benefits**

Provision is made for the association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits that are expected to be settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

Employee benefits expected to be settled more than twelve months after the end of the reporting period have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits. In determining the liability, consideration is given to employee wage increases and the probability that the employee may satisfy vesting requirements. Cashflows are discounted using market yields on national government bonds with terms to maturity that match the expected timing of cashflows. Changes in the measurement of the liability are recognised in profit or loss.

Employee benefits are presented as current liabilities in the balance sheet if the association does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting date regardless of the classification of the liability for measurement purposes under AASB 119.

**Provisions**

Provisions are recognised when the association has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured.

**Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

## FOCAL EXTENDED INC.

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

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#### Revenue and Other Income

Revenue is recognised when the amount of the revenue can be measured reliably, it is probable that economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the entity and specific criteria relating to the type of revenue as noted below, has been satisfied.

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable and is presented net of returns, discounts and rebates.

#### Interest revenue

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest rate method.

#### Dividend revenue

Dividends are recognised when the right to receive payment is established.

#### Rendering of services

Revenue in relation to rendering of services is recognised depends on whether the outcome of the services can be measured reliably. If this is the case then the stage of completion of the services is used to determine the appropriate level of revenue to be recognised in the period. If the outcome cannot be reliably measured then revenue is recognised to the extent of expenses recognised that are recoverable.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

#### Accounts Payable and Other Payables

Accounts payable and other payables represent the liabilities at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the association that remain unpaid.

Accounts payable are recognised at their transaction price. Accounts payable are obligations on the basis of normal credit terms.

#### Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of GST. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included as part of receivables or payables in the balance sheet.



**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014**

	2014 \$	2013 \$
<b>2 Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>		
Petty Cash	100.00	100.00
Petty Cash - Vacation Care	242.70	228.45
Petty Cash IPP	100.00	100.00
NAB General Account	63,074.60	29,618.94
ING Direct	214,533.65	535,562.50
Term Deposit - 08	216,625.54	205,917.81
CBA Business Saver	78.87	2,279.94
CBA Online Saver	53.42	53.42
Term Deposit - 83	157,456.02	151,590.41
ING Term Deposit	353,279.45	-
	<u>1,005,544.25</u>	<u>925,451.47</u>
<b>3 Trade and Other Receivables</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Receivables	12,500.20	11,781.60
Clients Funds Receivable	-	3,010.29
	<u>12,500.20</u>	<u>14,791.89</u>
Input Tax Credits	15,681.60	8,114.49
	<u>28,181.80</u>	<u>22,906.38</u>
<b>4 Property, Plant and Equipment</b>		
<b>Land and Buildings</b>		
6-8 Canning Street	671,771.05	652,294.55
<b>Total Land and Buildings</b>	<u>671,771.05</u>	<u>652,294.55</u>
7 Canning Street	261,772.04	242,445.12
Motor Vehicles	94,365.55	94,365.55
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(44,231.55)	(36,605.55)
	<u>50,134.00</u>	<u>57,760.00</u>
Office Furniture & Equipment	136,686.63	134,859.36
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(104,601.00)	(95,844.00)
	<u>32,085.63</u>	<u>39,015.36</u>
Information Technology	28,221.19	21,889.14
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(12,592.00)	(8,368.00)
	<u>15,629.19</u>	<u>13,521.14</u>
Software Package	3,280.91	3,280.91
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(1,955.00)	(1,513.00)
	<u>1,325.91</u>	<u>1,767.91</u>

## FOCAL EXTENDED INC.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

	2014 \$	2013 \$
<b>Total Plant and Equipment</b>	<u>360,946.77</u>	<u>354,509.53</u>
<b>Total Property, Plant and Equipment</b>	<u>1,032,717.82</u>	<u>1,006,804.08</u>
<b>5 Employee Benefits</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Provision for Long Service Leave	122,982.31	100,595.98
Provision for Holiday Pay	<u>101,267.08</u>	<u>91,609.00</u>
	<u>224,249.39</u>	<u>192,204.98</u>
<b>6 Retained Earnings</b>		
Retained earnings at the beginning of the financial year	793,359.37	777,431.02
Net profit attributable to the association	6,906.29	15,928.35
Retained earnings at the end of the financial year	<u>800,265.66</u>	<u>793,359.37</u>

**FOCAL EXTENDED INC.****STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE**

The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the committee the financial report as set out on pages 1 to 10:

1. Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of FOCAL EXTENDED INC. as at 30 June 2014 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that FOCAL EXTENDED INC. will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:

President:



Roy Henderson

Treasurer:



Denis Ward

Dated this

30<sup>th</sup>

day of

September 2014

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF FOCAL EXTENDED INC.

### Scope

I have audited the financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of FOCAL EXTENDED INC. for the year ended 30 June 2014, as set out on pages 1 to 11. The Committee is responsible for the financial report and has determined that the accounting policies used and described in Note 1 to the financial statements which form part of the financial report are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act QLD 1981 and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. I have conducted an independent audit of the financial report in order to express an opinion on them to the members of FOCAL EXTENDED INC.. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used are appropriate to the needs of the members.

The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the requirements under the Associations Incorporation Act QLD 1981. I disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this audit report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

My audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial statements and the evaluation of significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1, so as to present a view which is consistent with my understanding of the Association's financial position, and performance as represented by the results of its operations and cash flows. These policies do not require the application of all Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis. It is not practical for FOCAL EXTENDED INC. to maintain an effective system of internal control over donations and fund raising activities until their initial entry in the accounting records. Accordingly, the audit in relation to donations and fund raising was limited to the amounts recorded.

### Independence


In conducting my audit, I followed applicable independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

### Audit Opinion

In my opinion, the financial report presents fairly in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 of the financial statements, the financial position of FOCAL EXTENDED INC. as at 30 June 2014 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended.

In my opinion, the financial report presents a true and fair view of the financial position of FOCAL EXTENDED INC. as at 30 June 2014 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

**Name of Firm:** Owen, Harris & Associates  
Accountants & Auditors

**Name of Principal:**   
Tom Hutton CPA

**Address:** 220 Brisbane Street, West Ipswich

**Dated this** 9<sup>TH</sup> day of SEPTEMBER 2014

## Partners and Supporters

Partnerships are at the heart of any successful community organisation and Focal is fortunate to have many strong partnerships within Ipswich. Focal has formed and been a part of many partnerships - large and small, short term and long term and with organisations, individuals, funding bodies and politicians. While all these relationships are valued and support Focal to provide responsive and creative services, Focal would like to highlight a few special partnerships in 2014.

### Individual

Focal's most important partners are the people we work with each day. Our primary value is "clients, carers and families first". To uphold this value Focal staff work with clients and families to identify their goals and aspirations, develop plans to achieve their dreams and together provide supports that allow for positive growth and fulfilment.

### Parent and Carer Resources

Through working with Claremont, Goodna, Ipswich and Ipswich West Special Schools Focal has been able

to continue to plan and provide free workshops for parents and carers in 2014. This initiative has been positively received and continues to connect people with information and resources to improve their lives. One carer who attended a workshop valued "finding out more about organisations that I did not know" and another said "if we don't know what is provided we don't use them".

Ongoing My Time funding and support through the Cerebral Palsy League has ensured the MyTime Men's Group is available to male carers in this region. This group provides a valuable space for carers to come together, share experiences and gain support. It is hoped the funding will continue into 2015 as this is an area of support that has historically been overlooked. Members have said they benefit from the opportunity to be with other likeminded men in the same situation and value time to socialise and talk.

For 16 years Focal has joined with other key organisations to plan and provide activities for siblings of people with a disability. This year saw this partnership grow to include Mission Australia and Carers Queensland. The benefits

of this group are varied for siblings and families. One parent identified that by their child attending the siblings activities "they feel they are special. Afterwards they are much more friendly, helpful and understanding with their brother who has a disability". Another parent said their child valued the time to "meet and talk about stuff they normally wouldn't talk about... Having fun without the family pressure". This is an unfunded yet essential program that Focal will continue to seek financial support for.



*Siblings Group on an outing*

## Fresh Futures Market

Focal valued the opportunity to be a lead organiser in this event. This is only the second year the Fresh Futures Market has been held. It attracted 52 stall holders, provided workshops and entertainment and had over 345 attendees. The planning committee with representatives from over 15 organisations shared a vision and worked closely together to provide this successful event for clients, families and the community. It is hoped that this event will continue to evolve in 2015 to engage even more schools, people with disabilities and their carers.



## Supporters

Focal is fortunate to be supported through donations of funds, goods and time, pro-bono services and by creating opportunities for clients. The supporters include interested individuals in the community, clients, parents, carers, and organisations.

All supporters are thanked for their significant contributions which allow Focal to thrive and expand. Some request to remain anonymous which Focal respects, and others are shown in the table on page 31.



*Sonja Gilchrist, Sam Elfstrom and Anthony Vaughan at the 2014 Fresh Futures Market*

**Participants described the Fresh Futures Market as “exciting”, “informative”, “exceeded expectations”, “impressed with the variety of stall holders and the amount of free stuff on offer!”, provided “information for the present and future” and said it gave “enough information in a fun way” for people to make informed choices.**

## Acknowledging Focal's Partners and Supporters

Aftercare	Ipswich Regional Advocacy Service (IRASI)
Alara Queensland Limited	Ipswich Spare Parts
APM	Ipswich Special School
Anglicare	Ipswich West Special School
Ausblue	Life Without Barriers
BTA Sales	Judith Nissen
Bunnings Booval	Mission Australia
C.A.T.S	Mitchelton Evening Healthy Slimmers Fellowship Support Group
Careers QLD	Nationality Disability Coordinating Officer
Centacare - My Future Life	National Disability Insurance Scheme
Cerebral Palsy League	National Disability Services Queensland
Claremont Special School	Neighbours at Canning and Warrawong Streets
Compassion Connection Church	Neil Duddy
Commonwealth Respite Carelink Centre	Office of Early Childhood Education and Care
Department of Communities, Child Safety & Disability Services	Office of the Public Guardian
Department of Social Services (formally known as FaHCSIA)	Open Minds
Disability Community Awareness	Ozcare - Mozart and Goodna Integrated Family Services
Don Evans Plumbing	Plants Plus
Endeavour Foundation	Queensland Disability Network
Evocca College	Redbank Plain State High School
Fassifern Community Centre	Salvation Army
Frank and Jeff's Tyres	School Transitions Officer
FSG	Sean Choat MP - State Member for Ipswich West
Goodna Special School	Shayne Neumann MP - Federal Member for Blair
House with No Steps	Strategic Mental Health Action Group
Ian Berry MP - State Member for Ipswich	Systemet Management Services
Institute for Healthy Communities Australia Certification	The Public Trustee Office
Ipswich City Council including Mayor Paul Pisasale and Councillors Cheryl Bromage, Sheila Ireland, Andrew Antonioli and Charlie Pisasale	Tom Hutton and Associates
Ipswich Driving Range	UnderSeage Media and Marketing
Ipswich Interagency Network	University of Queensland Ipswich
Ipswich Independent Youth Services	University of Southern Queensland Springfield
Ipswich Massage and Herbal Support	Walk on Wheels

# Individual and Group Programs for Adults

## Steven's Story

Steven is a young man who has a love of cars particularly the Nimbus. The closing of Salisbury Wreckers was a significant loss for Steven after going there one day a week for the past 8 years to see his Nimbus. His Nimbus was purchased for him by the Salisbury Wreckers staff. Focal and Steven started to look for another home for his Nimbus. With some negotiation and management, Ipswich Spare Parts at Blacksoil agreed to assist Steven and store his Nimbus in a safe location in their yard. Over the past 12 months Steven has developed relationships with the staff. They gave him a staff shirt and cap to wear when he is onsite. Steven enjoys going to the Wreckers every week, chatting with the staff and looking at the new cars that come into the yard. He is supported to maintain his Nimbus by washing, vacuuming and checking the oil and water.



*Steven and his Nimbus*

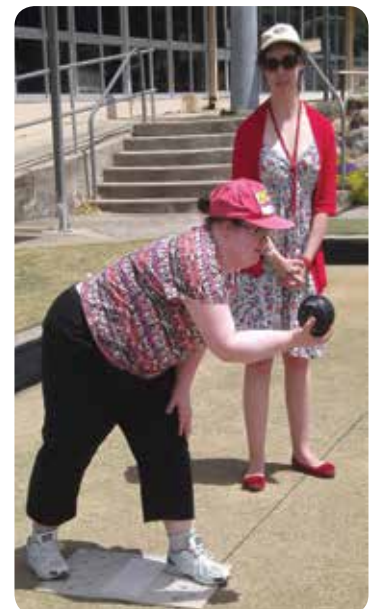
## Stepping Out Program

2014 has seen participants engage in a range of social and life skills. The group have also engaged in a range of community and fundraising events. The fundraising has been for additional resources as well as community causes. This has allowed participants to develop skills in planning, budgeting and social engagement through the following:

- Fundraising Events: Bunning's Sausage Sizzles, Cake sales, Living Fundraising, Epilepsy Queensland Fundraising, RSPCA Cupcake Day
- Community Event: Ipswich Festival Parade, Ipswich Show and the EKKA
- Volunteer work
- Jamie Oliver's Ministry of Food
- Social days and evenings
- Guest Speakers

The Stepping Out Group have made a significant contribution to the planning process for monthly programs and are developing their leadership skills with the support of their workers. Each session one participant and one staff member are the 'leaders' for that days activities. Everyone takes a turn in learning how to motivate the rest of the group to engage in the activities.

**Jodie McCosker - Team Coordinator**



*Amy is bowling while Shelby looks on*



## Handyman Group

### Highlights

- Participants of the Handyman Group have formed great friendships and enjoy meeting up each week
- Participants are learning new skills with the purchasing of tools and equipment
- Healthy choices are encouraged when the group create lunch together each week
- All participants are involved
- The group have enjoyed working on specific projects and also the general maintenance and odd jobs around 6 Canning Street Community Centre

**Anthony Vaughan - Team Coordinator**



*Greg Powles assisting Patrick Richardson*

## Independent Pathways Program (IPP)

IPP has grown this year with 14 clients actively participating in it. More than half of the clients have a diagnosis of ASD which has influenced the program and how it is delivered. Some changes that have been put in place include more physical, social and sporting activities, which has provided opportunities to model appropriate behaviours in team and social settings. Cooking features strongly in the program as it is an activity that uses all of the senses through the whole process from planning, purchase, preparation and the sharing of meals. Team work and communication are important factors and everyone has a role and responsibility in each of the activities. We are actively linking suitable clients with Disability Employment Services and seeking appropriate volunteer activities for others.

We often receive positive feedback from families about the benefits of the program. In particular one client's family commented that their family member actually enjoys coming to the program, and another family was surprised that their daughter is still at IPP as they have not engaged in other programs for more than 2-3 months. IPP was a last resort for them after a long line of attempts elsewhere. This is a good indicator that we are on the right track in providing a program that is meeting the needs and aspirations of the clients.

**Peta Schaffer - Team Coordinator**



*Tom and Jamont working in the Warrawong Street garden*



## Independent Living and In Home Drop In Programs

The Independent Living and In Home Drop in Support Programs have expanded over the past year. The provision of services to clients has increased and the staff team focussing on personal care has also grown.

The main function of the programs are to enable clients to become more independent and to sustain the independence they currently have. We have been fortunate to have been provided with the following feedback from one of our Service Users.

### Brian McKeown - Program Coordinator

*"I have been involved with Focal since 2006. I was a participant in the Independent Pathways Program for a couple of years, which helped me identify other goals for my long term future. I am currently receiving support from Focal in a variety of ways through the Community Living Initiative funding. This has included Focal staff supporting me to move into independent living in the Ipswich area, and providing me with staff to assist me to remain on my own. In particular staff have supported me to maintain my unit, with things such as washing and cleaning. I have recently been supported to attend a Job interview, unfortunately I didn't get the job but the experience of the interview process has been very helpful. Focal staff have also assisted me to access other services in the community as part of my personal growth and development. This has included identifying and supporting me to attend Artius. Staff assist me with planning trips and identifying and accessing additional supports that I have used in Darwin on a recent visit. Focal talk with me to identify more long term goals, and we are looking at how I can use my current Gym membership to help me improve my physical health. We are also looking at ways to help me reach one of my long term goals which is to pass my Abseiling exam".*

**Clinton Radloff, September 2014**



Clinton Radloff - 2014



## Horizons Program

The Horizons program caters for clients with high support needs and currently has 11 participants. The program operates from 6 Canning Street, three days per week. Great progress has been made with individual client development, group inclusion and Horizons equipment upgrading.

Clients, families and staff planned a much longed for sensory area. The completion of this area has provided a creative and practical outlet to explore sensory rich activities for participants. Focal also upgraded and increased our equipment to reflect our clients' needs and interests.

One of these developments is a vegetable and herb garden that clients are learning to look after.

The staff in Horizons work synergistically with clients to support them to build friendships within the group. As many of our clients have challenges with communication skills, these relationships are very important.

We further build on these skills by taking bus trips into the community such as Atkinson and Wivenhoe Dam, Jindalee water park, as well as many Rosewood and Ipswich park visits. This further facilitates

our client's integration in the community while having fun and exciting excursions.

We are fortunate to be a short walk to Browns Park which is an All-Abilities park that we utilise weekly. This walk gives staff an opportunity to teach road safety skills, group responsibility and individual freedom of choice. We also receive a monthly visit from a Bunnings team member who brings crafts and activities for the group to engage with.

**Glenna Shaw**  
Team Coordinator



*Ben Holdsworth*



*Albert Wallace, Sean Bradley and Key Worker Julie Ott*

# Programs for Children

## Out of School Hours Care Program

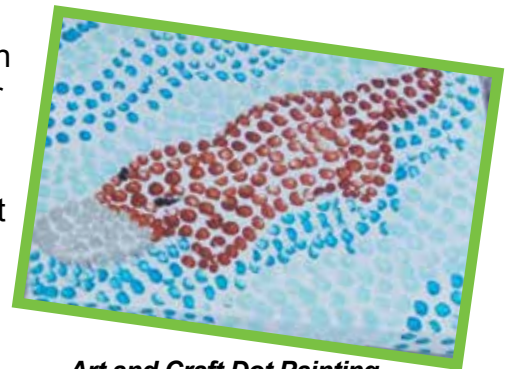
The **Out of School Hours Care Program**, incorporates the After School Care and Vacation Care programs for children with a disability. The After School Care program caters to children aged 12 to 18 years and operates during the school term. The Vacation Care program consists of two age groups, Juniors (5 to 11 years) and Seniors (12 to 18 years), and operates during most of the school holiday periods.

At the **After School Care Program** the children and staff plan the activities for the week and the children choose which activities they would like

to do when they arrive to each session. This flexibility and choice allows the staff to cater to all of the children. After a particularly busy day at school, some of the children just want to relax and do quiet activities, whilst others still have energy to burn and need more physically challenging games.

Just to name a few of the wonderful activities the children have been participating in over the past year: Loom Bands - which have been a very popular and regular activity, Art and Craft - including painting, collage and chalk drawing, UNO – this card game is an absolute favourite and is

requested almost weekly, outdoor play and sports - such as the swings, soccer, basketball, tiggy and I Spy, cooking – such as pikelets which are fun to make as a treat for afternoon tea, listening to music CD's, singing and dancing, computer games, xbox and wii.



*Art and Craft Dot Painting*



*Art and Craft Easter Baskets*



*Outdoor Play*

## Vacation Care Program

During our Vacation Care programs over the past year, the children have been able to participate in a range of activities and experiences. The December 2013 program hosted an end of the year celebration day, it is one of the biggest days of the year in our calendar. Santa visited and presented gifts to the children. Thank you Santa for making this day so special for the children. Also, amongst the festivities we had a big Bubble pit, which was a huge hit, and a lovely visit from Old MacDonald's farm animals.

We would like to thank the Compassionate Connection Church for donating the Christmas gifts for the children, their continued support over the years makes this day a very special one.

Throughout the rest of the year, we enjoyed many of our regular activities such as: swimming

at Leichhardt Pool, Arts and Craft, Winter Pyjama Party, Life Be In It, Cooking and theme days, Ten Pin Bowling and trips to local parks for sports and sausage sizzles. We also introduced some new activities to the program: An excursion to the Just Jump trampoline centre at Redbank Plains – all of the children who went had a great time and have asked to go again.

We trialed a music and movement workshop, Ty from Activate Entertainment worked with the Senior group to put dance moves to music and used green screen technology to make it look like the children could fly like superman, and he does all of this using an Ipad and electronic whiteboard. Ty works with the children to produce and edit the videos on the Ipad. They learn lots of skills and have heaps of fun in the process.

I would like to take this opportunity to Thank all of the hard working and dedicated staff that help to make the OSHC programs possible. In particular, Julie Francis. Julie has been the Team Leader for the Senior vacation care program for many years and stepped down from role in January 2014. Julie shared with all of us her wisdom, sense of fun, caring nature and professional attitude over many years, and will be greatly missed by all of the vacation care children, parents and staff.

It is with much pleasure and gratitude that I would also like to thank the staff at Ipswich Special School, with the continued support we receive each year, Focal is able to consistently provide an accessible program to children and families.

**Kerri Siebenhausen**  
**OSHC Coordinator**



*Jump Castle Centre*



*Canada Theme Day*



*Life Be In It*

# Highlights

Inaugural General Meeting of Friends of Challinor Aid League held on 21<sup>st</sup> February

74

Representations to Main Roads Department & MLA for Ipswich West to provide a pedestrian crossing for Challinor residents resulted in erection of warning signs

77

Effective representation made to Queensland Government to change wording referring to people with disabilities in legislation

79

Campaign against increases in Challinor Centre maintenance fees

81

Focal report outlined steps to be undertaken when moving people from institutions into community settings

Vacation Care Program introduced on an ad hoc basis

Friends of Challinor Aid League became F.O.C.A.L. Inc. with a by-line "Assisting Intellectually Disabled People and Their Families"

86

73

Strike of Challinor staff in September results in many community volunteers stepping in

A public meeting on 15 November looked at what could be done to improve the lives of Challinor Centre residents

75

Emergency Account and Birthday Schemes established to support residents

78

"E.C. Skewes - Focal Medal" awarded in recognition of innovative design

80

After 4 years of campaigning all people with a disability were given the same right to access social security pensions

Purchased mini bus for Challinor Centre residents with other partners

84

First Focal community service commences - a Recreational and Social Program

Office outside Challinor Centre established in the Humanities Building, South St, Ipswich

89

First housing for people with a disability was bought

Advocacy role undertaken as residents commenced their transition from Challinor into the community

Facilitated Youth Leadership Project  
Focal celebrated 30 years

After School Hours Care trial commenced

Full Vacation Care Program commenced  
Independent Living Program commenced

Parents and Carer Workshops commenced in partnership with Special Schools  
Workshops provided for male carers and to highlight the needs of siblings  
Person Centred Individual Support Plan revitalised  
Stepping Out Program and In Home Drop In Program introduced

Property at 7 Canning Street, North Ipswich purchased to meet expanding needs of Focal  
First Fresh Futures Market held in conjunction with community partners  
Focal became a host provider for Your Life Your Choice

95

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Focal moved to 14 Warrawong St, Eastern Heights

Last Challinor resident moved out in August

Ipswich Siblings Group established in partnership with community organisations

Focal expanded services to 6 Canning St, North Ipswich  
Independent Pathways Program commenced  
Complex Needs Collaborative Action Project completed

Horizons pilot commenced for people with high support needs

MyTime Men's Group initiative commenced

Focal celebrates 40 years  
Focal leads Fresh Futures Market with 52 stall holders and 345 people attending the event

# 40 Years of Focal

Follow our 40 year journey supporting people with a disability



As part of Focal's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations we have produced a commemorative book dedicated to the people past and present, that we have had the privilege of working with and supporting over the past 40 years.

To purchase a copy of the "40 Years of Focal" book please contact our office via phone, email or website.



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