



**Pioneer
Clubhouse
E & E
Newsletter
November-
December 2011**



Inside this issue:

page

October E&E Dinner

1

**Members Testimonials:
Transitional Employment**

2



**Next
E&E Dinners:
Will re-start our
monthly
E&E dinners in the
new year, January
2012**

October E&E Dinner

A REASON TO CELEBRATE!

October's Education and Employment dinner was of a different format in order to focus on; WELLNESS BEING ACHIEVED THROUGH EMPLOYMENT.



Members helped serving guest yummy nibbles

Instead of one special guest speaker, we entertained representatives from Balgowlah and Dee Why RSL's, Manly Golf Club (our latest TEP!), and Dee Why Library.

Membership, Staff, Students and Management worked together to perform as a "Well oiled Eventing Machine," providing an excellent three course meal to impress our guests. I am sure, however, that most who attended would agree that it was the speeches delivered that were the most appetising!

Stephanie, Richard and Daniel; **Many Thanks** for your valuable insights into the variety of Employment Programs at Pioneer through your experiences with them.

Jason handled the MC's role with his usual capable style and Jane Randall, our new Management Committee Chairperson, spoke eloquently about the Clubhouse Model before presiding over the evening's

official duties.

This year marks **15 years of a TEP with our oldest employer, Balgowlah RSL.** Hendrik Vissor (CEO of Balgowlah RSL) was presented with a commemorative plaque, and Dianne, (Liaison Officer) a magnificent bouquet.

Carol Yuen (Dee Why Library) was kind enough to come to share her experience with Pioneer and the TEP Program. This was a coup for the representatives of Manly Golf Club, Nicole and Catherine I'm sure were impressed, our Grounds person Role starts with them this November. Congratulations and good luck with the job Anthony!

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to all the people who made it the outstanding success that it truly was. There are so many involved that I cannot begin to name all names. You **KNOW** who you are! **THANK YOU!**

-Jo W.



Hendrik, the CEO of Balgowlah RSL received An award of recognition by Jane, the Chair of Pioneer Clubhouse

Members Testimonials

My TEP Experience by Clinton S

When I was first suggested in doing a TEP at a Library, I was not sure if I was up for the task. I had been aware Pioneer Clubhouse had been organising Library TEPs for a while but thought I had no chance of physically being able to do one as I had suffered a lot of mental and physical problems throughout my life. It had been a long time since I had paid employment of any kind, and the depression and physical issues had prolonged that. But I was willing to take a chance with this TEP and try to break out of my cycle.

I had mixed feelings going into my first day which was basically a training day. I have been to Dee Why Library many times throughout the years but had never set foot in the administrative part and was always interested in how a library worked behind the scenes. It was a real team environment and I found the staff really friendly and willing to go out of their way to help their fellow staff members. Daniel Hammond who was the current TEP at the time trained me on my first day. He gave me a complete tour of the library including the study rooms, how the library catalogue is set up and introduced me to everyone there. I was taught how to use the Millennium Server, the software used to check in borrowed items recently returned by patrons and to register items to be withdrawn to make way for new stock. The staff leaders of the library were happy with my first day though so I filled out the staff registration paper work and was ready to officially start my TEP in a couple of weeks. The first week is like any other job where you start getting familiar with all the fellow staff members, where everything is, where everything goes and how things work. Most of my first week was mainly withdrawing items including books, magazines, DVDs and audio CDs. I also cleaned and repaired a lot of CDs and DVDs and had to check that they were working properly. I never knew in my life I would get paid to watch and listen to DVDs and CDs.

After the first 3 weeks at the Job I enjoyed the job but there were some pressing issues regarding the

physical workload. I had meeting with Clubhouse staff member Chiaki, and staff leaders Frances and Carol regarding my way forward in this role and how we could minimise the impact of the physical problems I was having with this role and look at the setting aside more time doing the duties that were positive and what I was good at for me. So from that point on with the ongoing support of Pioneer Clubhouse and Warringah Library Service, I gained more experience in the library without impacting on my health too much.

A couple of months later I began working at Belrose Library as well as Dee Why as they need someone to help with their item withdrawal process. Belrose library is much quieter to Dee Why as it's in a quieter residential area but the staff have been just as friendly and helpful. Even though it has been harder to travel to Belrose than Dee Why Library, I have really enjoyed coming in one day a week there and really do believe the three buses to get up there is really worth it.

I am proud to be member of Warringah Council and it's been very rewarding to work at Warringah Library Service and have never been so passionate to help fellow people from all areas of the Manly Warringah Community where I have grown up. I never thought in my life I was ever able to do the type of physical duties I'm doing presently at Warringah Library Service. I intend and feel very confident in completing my current TEP and I'm very optimistic on what I'm going to do afterwards. I cannot recommend enough how highly beneficial a TEP is to a Pioneer Clubhouse member or to an employer willing to take on a TEP.



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