

February 2023

Latest News from Down Syndrome WA



CEO's Corner

Our big news this month is the Associations move to new premises in Crawley. DSWA has enjoyed two years leasing space at Nulsen Disability (People Kind) in Cannington. It is hard to express our gratitude enough to Gordon Trewern, Caroline Watt and all of the Nulsen team for their hospitality, generosity and support over the last two years. It has been a very positive opportunity for DSWA, however as Nulsen and People Kind have grown it was clear that it wasn't going to be long

before we would need to move from the premises. Our lease expired in March, and fortuitously we received an email a few weeks ago from Nature Play WA, looking for a tenant for their shared facility in Crawley. The new location is in a lovely spot on the river, and the team are all in one large, shared office. The association now has an affordable lease for three years at the new location.

The Chair and I had a second meeting with parents to discuss Down Syndrome Regression Disorder, welcoming two new parents this month. For anyone that may be interested, there is a seminar being hosted by Down Syndrome Queensland, presented by Dr Cathy Franklin of the Mater Intellectual Disability and Autism Service QLD. 9 March 2023. Please follow this link to register. https://www.downsyndrome.org.au/blog/event/down-syndrome-regression-disorder-in-young-people-with-down-syndrome/

Employment

As many know, I have had the pleasure of coordinating the Employment program for the last few months whilst we were without funding for the program. During that time we have had some more successful placements and wonderful outcomes. We have been fortunate to secure additional funding through DSA 's national Employment grant from DSS that will allow us to again employ a coordinator for the program from late March 2023 to June 2024 on a part time basis. Sharon Roussety will be joining DSWA in this role and has 16 years of experience working in employment for people with a disability.

I have recently met with a group of our employers to discuss the program, outcomes, and opportunities for growth. Currently we have two open opportunities available which may be of interest to some of our members. I met with a cabinet maker in Rockingham looking for a staff member and a Plumbing/Engineering company in Malaga also seeking to employ a person with Down syndrome. If you think you have an interest in these roles and have access to those areas, please give me a call or email.

2023 Gala Dinner

The Gala Dinner is here again. This year the dinner will be held in late May. We are currently confirming all the details and finalising the venue, music and menus and will send out a separate email with all the details and booking links very soon.

World Down Syndrome Day

This year, whilst the Governor would have loved to host DSWA for World Down Syndrome WA, our Patron, His Excellency the Honorable Chris Dawson AC APM and Mrs Dawson are not available on the 21st. We are very fortunate to that we will be having a function at Government house in October, for World Down Syndrome Month instead. More on that to come.

So, we are just 21 days away from World Down Syndrome Day, one of our favourite

times of the year. We will be holding a WDSD Morning Tea at the new premises at 10.30am 21 March 2023. You can register for this free event at https://www.trybooking.com/CGLFR

World Down Syndrome Day raises Down Syndrome awareness around the globe. As you know, WDSD is represented by wearing Crazy Socks, we can't wait to see your crazy sock photos this month – please send them in to admin@downsyndromewa.org.au

Why not hold a Crazy Sock day at your workplace. You can donate to our World Down Syndrome Day Campaign

at https://www.mycause.com.au/page/308993/world-down-syndrome-day-crazy-sock-day-fundraiser

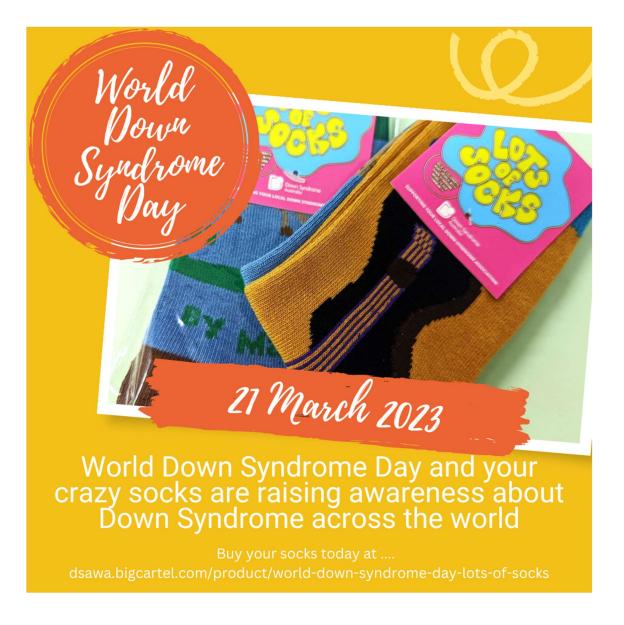
Or why not buy some Crazy Socks at <u>dsawa.bigcartel.com/product/world-down-syndrome-day-lots-of-socks</u>

Other updates

We continue to strive to deliver high quality programs and are currently working on the development of our Broadening Horizons programs for those in the Adult age group, and a fantastic new initiative called We Design. In We Design, you get to design your own event/ activity supported by DSWA staff. Would you like a weekend away with a group of friends, or to spend a night in the city, dinner and a show staying overnight, we can help you design the program you choose, or you might be interested in learning some new skills with a group of friends. We can design your program just for you.

Please send me an email to ceo@downsyndromewa.org.au if you want to know more.

Warm regards
Cassandra
CEO Down Syndrome WA
0432 407 527
ceo@downsyndromewa.org.au



Buy your socks today at - <u>dsawa.bigcartel.com/product/world-down-syndrome-day-lots-of-socks</u>

Upcoming Meetings and Events

DSWA Gala Members Dinner

Save the Date: 28th May

Board Meetings

20th March 24th April 22nd May 19th June



WE HAVE MOVED!

NEW LOCATION

Cygnet Hall, ****

17 Hackett Drive,

Crawley

NEW PHONE 6182 3690





KEEP IN TOUCH

- www.downsyndrome.org.au/wa
- admin@downsyndromewa.org.au
- PO Box 3179, Broadway, Nedlands, WA 6009



DSWA's Social pages have up to date information between newsletters.

We have a range of pages, including our public facing page, and specialty groups for DSWA Family Network, Social Groups; Aim High, Friends for Life, Kids Club, Playgroup, DSWA Employment, Education Support and four rural pages for Rural and Remote, South West, Mid West and Great Southern regions.









DO YOU HAVE A
CHILD WITH
DOWN
SYNDROME OR
INTELLECTUAL
DISABILITY IN
YOUR SCHOOL?

JOIN US AT OUR 1 DAY CONFERENCE

EDUCATING STUDENTS WITH DOWN SYNDROME

Friday 10th March 2023 8.30am-4pm

> Book now https://www.trybooking.com/CFYGD RSVP 3/3/23

> > Join our Conference Face-to-Face or Online

DSWA staff will be joined by guest presenters who are specialists in the areas of

- Communication
- Understanding behaviour
- Classroom and playground management
 - Pre-literacy and prenumeracy
 - Classroom adaptations
 Boundary setting and protective behaviours

Enquiries to Nikki nikki@downsyndromewa.org.au





North Metro Playgroup

North Metro playgroup has welcomed all our family members back to playgroup for 2023 with open arms. We have started our year off with a Valentines day craft session and a water play day. Danica and I couldn't believe how big our kids have grown over the Summer!

We are planning more activities this year to help promote the physical and mental well-being for our kids and parents. We have loved meeting new families already this year and hope to keep reaching out and welcoming any more new parents to our playgroup family.

We hope to see all your happy faces during our Friday morning sessions this year and keep supporting our wonderful community.

Tracy and Danica playgroup@downsyndromewa.org.au



South Metro Playgroup

We've welcomed all our families back to playgroup for 2023!

In February we have been enjoying sunflower planting and painting this February.

We're planning lots more activities for March, stay in touch on our <u>Facebook group</u>.

Renee

playgroup@downsyndromewa.org.au



Kids Club

Slime time!! ♥ ♥ ♥

The KiDS club had loads of fun making slime, look at those smiles.

If you have a child aged 5 to 11 with Down syndrome and would love to connect with other families to encourage peer relationships, social skills and networking for parents, please contact Siobhan at kidsclub@downsyndromewa.org.au for registration details.



KIDS Club CAPOEIRA



Join us for a fun-filled Capoeira workshop run by one of our own DS families!

Capoeira is an inclusive and holistic Brazilian martial art that integrates elements of dance, acrobatics, music and culture. In the workshop, kids will learn some of the basic Capoeira movements and have a go at playing the traditional musical instruments through engaging games and exercises.

The workshop will run for 45 minutes followed by free play and a delicious afternoon tea for both kids and parents. Siblings are welcome to join in!



When? Sunday, 12th March 2023

What time? 2:30pm-4:30pm.

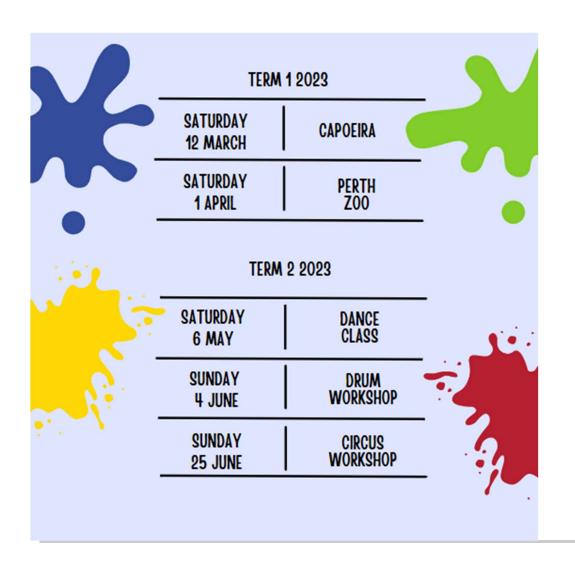
Where? 1/301 Selby St N, Osborne Park WA 6017

TICKETS \$10 PER CHILD

Register now!: https://www.trybooking.com/CGDMN

For more information contact Siobhan at kidsclub@downsyndromewa.org.au

at https://www.trybooking.com/CGDMN



Friends for Life

In February Friends for Life went rock climbing! Everyone tried their hardest to climb further than the time before and pushed themselves to get to the top. Some of the group climbed multiple times. Well done everyone!

Claire - Coordinator 0416 809 451 friendsforlife@downsyndromewa.org.au



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Friends for Life will be learning to sail!

Saturday 18th March South of Perth Yacht Club

More details soon or email friendsforlife@downsyndromewa.org.au to register your interest



Aim High Groups

To clarify the Aim High groups we have made some name changes:



Aim High – our 18-30's group



High Flyers – our 30+ group



Joining Forces – all of our adult members

AHC What's On

Perth Explorer Bus

Saturday 1st of April Highflyers 30+ 9:00 - 4:00

TryBooking: https://www.trybooking.com/CFWKT

Kalamunda and Perth Hills, Bird Sanctuary

Tuesday 4th of April Joint Forces 18 + 10:00 - 4:00

TryBooking: https://www.trybooking.com/CFWNH

Superhero Disco (Victoria Park)

Friday 14th of April Joint Forces 18 +

5:00 - 10:00 Dinner included.

7:00 - 10:00 Disco only

Perron place -61 Kitchener Avenue, Victoria Park WA, Australia

TryBooking: https://www.trybooking.com/CFWLY

Getaway - Explore Fremantle

Joint Forces 18 +

Friday 28 of April - Sunday 30th of April 30/04/23

Aim High 18 - 30

TryBooking: https://www.trybooking.com/CFWNE

High Tea - Bite by D (Mt Hawthorn)

Aim High 18-30 Sunday the 29th of April 11:00 – 5:00

Gluten-free, Nut-free, Dairy-free and Vegan options available at request

TryBooking: https://www.trybooking.com/CFWLK



Book at - https://www.trybooking.com/CFWLY

If you would like more details on events or getaways contact Dannie, Aim High Coordinator on aimhigh@downsyndromewa.org.au or 0422 795 160.

Yanchep day trip

What an amazing day. We explored Yanchep national park and learnt about the history of the Yanchep community.

We saw native animals and shared our knowledge of them. Lunch was in a little cottage at the park.



Swan Valley Adventure Camp

As you can see from the photos the group was able to face their fears and achieve some amazing things by working together as a team to reach the great heights on the create stack activity and also the flying fox



Adventure World

Wet and wild fun experiencing all the water slides and rides adventure world had to offer. Smiles all around the group shows how much fun was had by all.



As always please get in touch if you have any questions or ideas for our Aim High Program.











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