

The Mai-Wel Group Celebrity Comedy Debate - back for its sixth year!

The date has been set for The Mai-Wel Group's highly anticipated Annual Celebrity Comedy Debate on Saturday 17th July, 2010, at Maitland Town Hall.

This year age will divide the debaters as they take to the microphone to thrash out the all important topic: "Baby Boomers – are they a National Nuisance, or a National Treasure?"

In 2010, high profile national celebrities, together with local personalities, will step up in support of this fundraising event with Bryan Dawe from the 7.30 Report and Effie Stephanides' of 'Acropolis Now' and 'Effie on the Roof' fame taking opposite sides of the argument.



Celebrities Bryan Dawe, Effie and Andrew Daddo



A long and impressive list of local identities will join them; including Debate favourite Aaron Kearney from 1233 ABC Radio's Breakfast program, former news presenter and performer in her own right, Melinda Smith, former television and radio sports broadcaster, Leigh Maughan, and Maitland based business woman and physiotherapist, Judy Mitchell.

With an impressive reputation as a radio and TV personality, and a household name to boot, Andrew Daddo will host as Master of Ceremonies and is certain to add his own sense of humour, and a little more fun, to the celebrity shenanigans.

The Annual Celebrity Comedy Debate, already a highlight event on Mai-Wel's annual calendar, will have special significance this year as Mai-Wel celebrates 50 years of providing disability services to the community.

"The debate is one of The Mai-Wel Group's primary fundraising initiatives which, from the very first debate in 2005, has proven a winning formula for the organisation and provides the local community with an exceptional night of entertainment", said The Mai-Wel Group CEO, Mrs Pennie Kearney.

"With the generosity of the community supporting this event each year, we can continue to provide programs and services which advance the lives of people with a disability".

Such advances include the development of the long-awaited Community Programs Centre in Telarah, due for completion in the coming weeks.

Tickets are \$70 which includes a light meal. For more information or to book tickets please contact The Mai-Wel Group on 4932 8599. **Book now to avoid disappointment.**

Debate Raffle

In conjunction with the 6th Annual Mai-Wel Celebrity Comedy Debate and thanks to the generous support of the local community, The Mai-Wel Group is delighted to invite you to purchase tickets for your chance to **win a P&O Cruise for two aboard the Pacific Sun for 10 fabulous nights for just \$5!**

With thanks to Harvey World Travel Maitland & Rutherford and P&O Cruises, first prize in the Celebrity Debate Raffle is a twin cabin on the P&O Pacific Sun, NO33 Pacific Horizons Cruise, departing directly from Newcastle on the 18th October 2010 for 10 nights* travelling to four spectacular destinations.

First stop is cosmopolitan Brisbane, then head off across the South Pacific to Emerald Bay, a haven of white sand beaches. Shop in the vibrant markets in Noumea and visit Isle of Pines, one of the most picturesque islands in the region. Valued at \$2099* this fantastic prize includes all main meals, onboard entertainment and a choice of exciting short tours.

And if you don't manage to take away the top prize there are still many more fabulous opportunities to take home something special including;

2nd prize - Thanks to our friend Brad Sangster at The Good Guys East Maitland, expand your viewing pleasure with a state-of-the-art 42" (106cm) LG plasma television with built in HD tuner valued at \$849. This television packs in a range of other features such as 600Hz Sub Field Driving allowing for a smoother picture during fast paced scenes, Smart Energy Saving Plus capabilities as well as USB 2.0 so you can watch DivX Movies, display your photos and play your favourite MP3 music files all directly on your TV making it a must have for the feature savvy enthusiast.

3rd Prize – Pamper yourself or someone special with a beautiful gift pack of hair care products and gift voucher for a Total Guru Style Consultation, courtesy of the fabulous team at Woohoo for Hair, Charlestown valued at \$210.

4th Prize – Live n Cookin' at Lizotte's New Lambton have donated a \$150 dinner and show* voucher for two guests to enjoy and experience one of Newcastle's best live music venues.

5th Prize – Valued at \$100, Civic Theatre Newcastle have donated a double pass to "A Day in the Death of Joe Egg". This thought provoking and very funny play has been loved by audiences worldwide and is listed by London's National Theatre as one of the most significant plays of the 20th Century.

For your chance to win one of these fabulous prizes you can purchase tickets on the night of the Debate or at one of our offices in Maitland. Alternatively you can phone Head Office on 02 4932 8599 to purchase tickets over the phone or go to www.maiwel.com.au to download an order form. The raffle will be drawn at the Debate on Saturday 17th July 2010 with proceeds going to The Mai-Wel Group.

**Terms and conditions apply. See www.maiwel.com.au for full terms and conditions.*

NEWS

Run With The Law

Mai-Wel supported employee, Paul Preece, recently participated in one of Australia's biggest fun runs, Run with the Law, after making the decision to work towards a healthier lifestyle, get physically fit and raise money for a national charity that supports people with a disability.

The Run with the Law, Law Enforcement Torch Run, saw participants carry the 'Flame of Hope' through 40 cities across six states and territories in 29 days to support Special Olympics Australia – a national charity that transforms the lives of people with an intellectual disability through regular sports participation and social inclusion.

The run, which took place on the 29th March 2010, made its way from King Edward Park to Civic Park in the City's centre and concluded with a ceremony and BBQ which was kindly provided by the Lions Club.

Paul was lucky enough to be a flag bearer when running and throughout the ceremony. He also had the opportunity to hold the torch, however he didn't like this as much because it was too hot. Congratulations Paul!

Mark The Mai-Wel Group's 50th Anniversary with Wine!

In May 2011 The Mai-Wel Group will officially turn 50 and to commemorate this remarkable milestone, Unique Exposure and The Mai-Wel Group have produced a commemorative wine and port range that, like The Mai-Wel Group, just keeps getting better with age.

A fantastic range of whites, reds and a port have been picked to tantalise your palette and give you a lasting memento of the anniversary as well as raise much needed funds for the organisation. Wines include;

- 12 personalised Draytons Secret Reserve Shiraz or Secret Reserve Chardonnay for only \$320.
- 12 personalised Draytons Semillon Chardonnay or Shiraz Cabernet or 6 of each for only \$170.
- Commemorative Draytons Tawny Port only \$20 per bottle.

To learn more about the fantastic range of commemorative wines available or to place an order call 02 4932 8599, visit www.maiwel.com.au to download an order form or email wine@maiwel.com.au.

Mai-Wel Trivia Night

More than \$1200 was raised at the recent Mai-Wel Group and Rutherford Lioness Club Trivia Night which was held on Friday 4th June at St Luke's Hall, Telarah.

More than 100 guests, in teams of eight, battled for the winner's podium throughout the evening, having to answer a variety of questions and brain teasers as well as participate in novelty games and activities.

The Mai-Wel Group would like to thank the committed group of volunteer staff members who organised the event as well as the following organisations without whose support this event would not have been possible; Rutherford Lioness Club, Draytons Family Wines, Reading Cinemas Maitland, Heritage Motor Group, Sue's Clothing, KFC Rutherford, McDonalds Rutherford, McLeod's Pharmacy, Shenanigans, Reid's Quality Meats, Bunnings Warehouse and Optus.

Presenting at ADE Conference

The Mai-Wel Group recently exhibited at the National 'Purchasing with Purpose' Australian Disability Enterprises (ADE's) Expo on June 1st 2010 showcasing the organisations four businesses that employ people with a disability (known as Australian Disability Enterprises or ADE's).

TimeSavers, PACE Setters, The Enterprise Centre and Mai-Wel E-Cycling Services were all represented at the expo where patrons, specifically Government departments, were able to see firsthand the types of business services available to them from ADE's.

Deputy CEO, Anne Hodgson, was one of two representatives from ADE's nationwide who were invited to present at the expo. Anne spoke about the capacity of ADE's to work together to provide solutions for Government, specifically The Mai-Wel Group's newest venture, Mai-Wel E-Cycling Services.

The event was hailed a success by stakeholders, with more than 400 people in attendance. Held at the National Convention Centre in Canberra, the expo featured more than 40 exhibitors showcasing the capacity and professionalism of the ADE sector.

NEW STAFF

Mai-Wel welcomes the following new permanent and casual staff:

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Brett Toll | Transition To Work Support Worker |
| Fiona Duggan | Flexible Living Options Support Worker |
| Elizabeth Federer | The Enterprise Centre Support Worker |
| Bridget Pursehouse | Hunter LabourForce Solutions Post Placement Support Worker |
| Yananai Chitura | Flexible Living Options Support Worker |
| Jamee-Maree Lewis | Human Resources Officer |
| Niall Owens | The Enterprise Centre Support Worker |
| Steven Burchill | Community Programs Team Leader |
| Maureen Kauter | Receptionist/Administration Assistant |
| Kim Walters | Accommodation Outreach Program Support Worker |
| Nicola Dehnert | Customer Service Officer |
| Alan McGuinness | Accommodation Outreach Program Support Worker |
| Sarah Burns | Community Programs Support Worker |

EMPLOYMENT ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to the following people who recently reached a milestone anniversary at Mai-Wel. We thank you for your continued service.

| | | |
|--------------|--------------------|----------|
| Tony Schadel | Supported Employee | 5 Years |
| Sharon Dagg | Supported Employee | 10 Years |
| Mark Taylor | Supported Employee | 10 Years |

THE
Mai-Wel
GROUP

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From the CEO's Desk

The Mai-Wel Group is a strong and vibrant not for profit organisation focused on meeting the needs of our clients today and into the future. Since the first official meeting in 1961, Mai-Wel has grown and adapted as its clients' needs have changed.

Nearly 50 years ago the most pressing need was to provide an education and skills to equip young people with a disability for a brighter future. The Mai-Wel School in Telarah ensured that local children with a disability were able to get a valuable education.

As these children became adults the Mai-Wel Sheltered Workshop was created to provide meaningful employment opportunities for them. This strong and productive workforce exists today with more than 110 supported employees working in Mai-Wel's four Australian Disability Enterprises (ADE's). Many others are assisted to increase their skills and transition into jobs with local employers, supported by the efforts and commitment of the team at Hunter LabourForce Solutions.

Soon after the opening of the workshop a new evolution was required. Many of our new workers lived in outlying areas and in response, efforts commenced to raise the money to build the Mai-Wel Lodge, on-site accommodation at what is today the head office site for The Mai-Wel Group in Telarah.

In 2010 Mai-Wel has nine group homes in and around Maitland which provide both permanent and respite accommodation for more than 30 people.

As Mai-Wel celebrates its 50th Anniversary there is a clear focus on meeting the growing needs of the local community by increasing skills, training, employment and opportunities for people with a disability.



Just a few examples include retirement solutions for ageing supported employees and modifications to the Mai-Wel Lodge to ensure that ageing residents can remain in their own home at Mai-Wel longer.

New clients and people with a disability enter Mai-Wel each year. The need for increased service for those and the existing clients is ongoing. The 'new' focus over the past few years has been the emergence of ageing clients who present a whole new range of requirements, services and infrastructure.

One thing we can depend on is that the next 50 years for The Mai-Wel Group will be as diverse and dynamic as its first 50 years.

Best Wishes

Pennie Kearney
CEO

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

**Celebrity Comedy Debate
50th Anniversary Launch
Your memories, our history**

A very social occasion

More than 150 guests celebrated at Maitland Regional Art Gallery on Wednesday 12th May, 2010 to witness the launch of The Mai-Wel Group's 50th Anniversary year and commemorate the achievements of the organisation since its humble beginnings in 1961.

Mai-Wel 50th Anniversary Ambassador, Mr Milton Morris AO, together with President of The Mai-Wel Board of Directors, Mr Graham

Burns and CEO of The Mai-Wel Group, Pennie Kearney, addressed the guests, some of which had been a part of Mai-Wel and the South Street School since day one.

Many thanks to the following businesses who made the event such a success; Maitland City Council, Maitland Regional Art Gallery, Draytons Family Wines, Studio On Wharf Photography, Unique Exposure and Eclipse Media, Events & PR.



Mai-Wel Group President of the Board of Directors, Mr Graham Burns, with Hunter Regional Manager of Rural Press Limited, Mr Peter Dehnert and Ambassador, Milton Morris



Zelda and Malcolm Story, and Jude Oliver



Mai-Wel Group Ambassador, Mr Milton Morris



Mai-Wel Director Paul Callinan and Chief Operating Officer of HMRI, Brad Webb



Mai-Wel clients with former Principal of South St School, Mrs Julia Sharpe

Your memories are our history!

Reaching 50 years of operation is a significant achievement for any organisation and to celebrate this special milestone, The Mai-Wel Group will hold a range of events.

The organisation has a proud history and the planned calendar of events will recognise the past, present and future of The Mai-Wel Group. The celebrations are also about recognising and highlighting the significant involvement of many people over the years.

To document the organisation over the past 50 years, Mai-Wel will be compiling historical information and data. To create a more complete documentation of our history we ask for your help.

If you were involved with The Mai-Wel Group, South Street School or the Maitland Welfare Group, as it was originally known, and you have stories, information, photographs or memorabilia you would like to share, we would be extremely pleased to hear from you.

To submit your historical information contact Bronwyn Bell on 4932 8599 or email 50years@maiwel.com.au.



Official Opening of the South Street Special School, March 21 1964.

(left to right) Mr Milton Morris, Miss Robyn Bignell (Principal), Mr E.J. Lacey (Chairman of Directors of the NSW Sub Normal Children's Association) and Mr Wal Measures (President of the then, Maitland Sub Normal Children's Association).



Schools Sports Day Cessnock – September 1967 – Members of the Mai-Wel Team

Back row (left to right) Robyn Costick, Anne Worcester, Sharon Porter

Front Row (left to right) Margaret Penglaze, Susie Stuart, Raelene Wiseman, Carmel O'Hearn, Ruth Higgs

MAI-WEL COMMUNITY PARTNERS



The Mai-Wel Group is fortunate and thankful for the ongoing support of the following Community Partners who continue to assist Mai-Wel to advance the lives of people with a disability.

Upcoming Events

17th July

6th Annual Mai-Wel Celebrity Comedy Debate

50th Anniversary Celebrations:

September

Make A Difference Dinner

November

Christmas Fete

December

International Day of People with a Disability Breakfast

Hunter LabourForce Solutions - POSITIONS VACANT

Pilot program launched to encourage employers to boost employment for those with a disability.

People with a disability in the Hunter now have an even greater opportunity to gain employment thanks to the Australian Government's launch of a pilot employment program aimed at delivering financial incentives to local businesses that employ people with a disability in their workplaces.

The Disability Support Pension Employment Incentive Pilot was launched on 1st March, 2010, for a 24 month trial period and will cease on 20th February, 2012.

The DSP Pilot is being implemented by Disability Employment Services, who provide employment support in regions with a statistically high DSP population. Nationally, over 15 regions have been handpicked to trial the initiative, with the Hunter one of six regions in NSW earmarked for selection and implementation of the pilot.

Employers are encouraged to offer work opportunities to people with a disability through disability service providers such as The Mai-Wel Group. Wage subsidies of up to \$3,000 will be paid to employers who provide employment agreements for a minimum of eight hours per week, for 26 weeks.

The Australian Government has committed \$6.8 million to pilot the program, set to provide job opportunities for 1000 Australians who

receive the Disability Support Pension (DSP).

Hunter LabourForce Solutions, a division of The Mai-Wel Group, is one of the Hunter's primary Disability Employment Service providers who has used the incentive to facilitate employment placement for people with a disability.

"One of the biggest hurdles faced by people with a disability is the chance to demonstrate they can be the right person for the job", says Hunter LabourForce Solutions Manager, Ms Kyllie Tegg.

"Having the opportunity to further their skills by learning and developing in a day to day working environment is often the key to a successful placement, and this pilot provides this opportunity" she said.

Local employers who have positions vacant and are interested in supporting the pilot through The Mai-Wel Group are encouraged to contact Hunter LabourForce Solutions on 02 4934 3144 for more information on the benefits of hiring a person with a disability.

Hunter LabourForce Solutions is a specialist employment program which places people with disabilities into local businesses. More than just recruitment, they provide services that enable their clients to obtain and retain valued employment in the local community.

Supported Employee Profile

MICHAEL BEATTY

For Michael Beatty The Mai-Wel Group's 50th Anniversary is not only a milestone for the organisation, but a timely reminder that he is very near to reaching his own personal milestone having been associated with Mai-Wel for nearly 45 years.

Michael began his involvement with Mai-Wel in 1966 when he started first class at the then South Street Special School.

"We learnt sums and practiced our writing every day" Michael recalled of his school days. "School was a good place for me to learn, but the best part was making friends. I still have good mates here at Mai-Wel that I went to school with" he said.

Michael left the school in 1979 and began working at Mai-Wel Industries where he did everything from car washing to woodwork. "I started out working in the chicken room for a while, stacking and packing trays for Stegges and every now and then I would go and do the deliveries and pickup the cardboard for recycling".

"I loved going to work then and helping out with the Walkathons and fetes that Mai-Wel used to run. I would get up early and help Mum and Dad get organised and then we would go and spend the day at the fete buying things from the stalls and playing the chocolate wheel. They are some of my best memories" he said.

Michael now works for PACE Setters, the timber manufacturing and light engineering division of The Mai-Wel Group, where he is a keen tradesman's assistant and prides himself on keeping the workshop tidy for his workmates.

"I've been working for Mai-Wel for more than 30 years and it's not hard to turn up to work every day because I've got great mates here. Mai-Wel has some really good people who have looked out for me since I was a kid" he said.



Supported Employee, Michael Beatty, working in the PACE Setters workshop

Support The Mai-Wel Group

YES! I would like to make a donation to The Mai-Wel Group
Mr / Mrs / Ms / Dr (Please circle) First Name _____ Surname _____
Address _____

Suburb _____ State _____ Postcode _____

Phone No. (____) _____

I would like to donate \$ _____ EVERY Week Month Quarter Half Year Year

Donation commencing from: _____ (insert date)

I would like to make a 'once off' donation of \$ _____

Enclosed is a Cheque/Money order payable to The Mai-Wel Group

Please debit my Credit Card Visa / MasterCard (Donations over \$2 are tax deductible)

Name on Card _____

Card Number _____ CCV Number _____

Exp Date ____ / ____ Signature _____

I would like to receive more information on The Mai-Wel Group and its services.

I do not wish to receive further information about The Mai-Wel Group's marketing or fundraising activities

CONTACT: The Mai-Wel Group, Reply Paid 835, Maitland NSW 2320 • PH: 4932 8599 • donations@maiwel.com.au

Mai-Wel Limited ABN 88 060 661 476 CFN 10919



DONATION SLIP