



Issue 1

purple orange

The e-newsletter of the Julia Farr Association

Welcome to the first edition of the Purple Orange e-newsletter!

Purple Orange is the shopfront of the Julia Farr Association, and covers our core range of activities including:

- Research
- Consultation
- Policy
- Publications
- Training, and
- Evaluation

This e-newsletter will update you on the workshops, projects and initiatives currently being undertaken by the Purple Orange team.

We hope that you will find it useful and we welcome your feedback.

Regards

Robbi Williams

CEO, Julia Farr Group

Deep Quality: Michael Kendrick Seminar comes to Adelaide in May 2011

Purple Orange will host a leading voice in the international disability community, Dr Michael Kendrick in May 2011 to deliver *Deep Quality* - a two-week leadership course in Optimal Individualised Service Design (OISD) in South Australia.

Deep Quality will address person centered approaches to supporting people living with disability, and the gap between ideal and realistic service delivery.

This course will be an invaluable experience for anyone involved in developing progressive policy, funding or service delivery who is creative, innovative and rigorous about individualised service quality.

The course will be held in two related sessions;

- Week one: May 2-6, 2011
- Week two: May 30–June 3, 2011

The cost is anticipated to be around \$2,700 per person for the two weeks. Further details and registration forms will be available shortly.

As this is the first time it has been delivered in South Australia, there has already been considerable interest in Dr Kendrick's course. To avoid disappointment, please register your interest by contacting admin@juliafarr.org.au or calling (08) 8373 8333.

Towards an Accessible City of Salisbury

Purple Orange is currently engaging stakeholders in the City of Salisbury in Adelaide's northern suburbs about the access and social inclusion needs of citizens. This community consultation will inform the council's Strategic Access Planning Framework, ensuring the needs of people living with disability will be included in the future design and implementation of council projects.

The consultation process, including an online survey and workshops, will provide information about the views of citizens and council staff around issues of resourcing, priorities, and the provision of physical access and social inclusion.

The key stakeholders include not only people living with disability but families, carers and advocates, council staff and volunteers, people with particular access needs such as parents, and business, government and community leaders, living in or having an interest in the City of Salisbury community.

Two workshops will be held on the 23rd of February and places are still available, and there is an opportunity to be involved in the online survey until March 3rd 2011.

To commence the survey click [here](#) or visit www.salisbury.sa.gov.au and under the Latest News section on the homepage you will see a link to the Inclusion and Access Survey page.

To be involved in either workshop on February 23rd (9.30am-12.30pm, or 1.30pm-4.30pm) please call Purple Orange on (08) 8373 8333.

Rundle Mall Retailers given Access Alert!

In December, Today Tonight South Australia featured a story about access for people living with disability during the Christmas period in the city's Rundle Mall.

Julia Farr Youth member Nick Schumi uses a wheelchair, and found the experience of trying to access over 20 shopping outlets frustrating and often "ridiculous".

"In one basement shop, I had to use the lift of a different shop upstairs to get to the basement shop; then they had to be rung to send the lift down to let me out again," Nick says.

However, Purple Orange have launched a new initiative to fight back – Access Alert!



The oversized Access Alert! postcard is bright red, and can be sent to retailers and other businesses when access problems are identified.

Since the story aired, a number of individuals and organisations, both in South Australia and interstate have contacted Purple Orange to obtain copies of the postcard.

Nick has used the postcards a number of times and says that he hopes to see some real change.

"I figure that everyone will benefit from access improvements, not just people using wheelchairs, because older people and young families using wheelchairs will also enjoy better access."

For more information about Access Alert! or to order the cards click [here](#).

To view the Today Tonight story, click [here](#) to be taken to the Today Tonight website and search the archive for "wheelchair access".

Grants Information Sessions

The Julia Farr group offers a number of grants to eligible individuals and organisations, including;

- Julia Farr Association General Trust Fund
- Julia Farr Association Short Stay Holiday Fund
- Julia Farr Association Noske Christmas Fund
- Julia Farr Association MS McLeod Benevolent Fund

Eligibility criteria and Information about all the above grants can be accessed by clicking [here](#).

To assist potential applicants with their applications, we are holding an information session on the Julia Farr Group's grant application process and considerations:

Friday 25th February 2011

11am - 12noon

Our Space - McLeod Room

104 Greenhill Road, Unley

Places are limited so please book by phoning (08) 8373 8333 or emailing admin@juliafarr.org.au

Onsite parking is available only for holders of a disability parking permit, please reserve a space when you book. Offsite parking is available in nearby side streets. For a map please click [here](#) and refer to the Our Space Parking Information Sheet.

Julia Farr Youth Mentor Program

Each month an inspiring group of tomorrow's leaders meet to discuss what it means to be a young person living with disability.

Julia Farr Youth (JFY) was formed in 2008 to voice concerns about youth disability issues and take action to change themselves and others.

The group's grand vision has resulted in the JFY Mentor Program, matching mentees (aged 11-16) with mentors (aged 16-30) to offer guidance, skills, and advice based on their own experiences living with disability.

Nick Schumi, 25, is a founding member of Julia Farr Youth and mentor to a 13 year-old boy just starting high school.

"I think the main issue for young people is those types of transition periods – it's hard enough without all the extra things that you have to consider when you are living with disability," Nick says.

Still in the early stages of the program, Nick is spending time with his mentee, getting to know him and his family.

"We are working out what special activities he might like to do, but I think it's important me just being there with him so he can see all the things that I can do."

Georgina Edwards, Julia Farr Project Officer, says that the program aims to meet the interests of individual mentees, depending on the type of guidance they identify for themselves.

"We have an application process that carefully matches mentors and mentees, so that both get a lot out of being involved," Georgina says.

The Mentor Program gives mentees the opportunity to widen their support and personal networks, improve self-confidence, and expand their personal horizons around life choices.

Mentees are able to nominate the types of activities they would like guidance about, which might include transitioning into school or university, linking into community programs, learning basic life skills, or just the chance to talk to someone who understands.

The program also aims to affirm mentors, offering them the opportunity to increase their skills and determine the types of training that will shape the program in the future.

To become a mentor, participants must have real-life experience living with disability, but their attitude and personality are equally important - mentors should be passionate about themselves and others living inclusive lives and being given the opportunity to develop to their full potential.

If you are interested in becoming a mentor, a mentee, or more information about the Julia Farr Youth Mentor Program please contact Georgina Edwards on (08) 8373 8333, or click [here](#).

We Value Your Feedback!

At Purple Orange we are working hard to make our communications as accessible as possible.

If you have trouble accessing this any part of this e-newsletter please contact our Communications Officer Brigitte Elliott at brigittee@juliafarr.org.au or phone (08) 8373 8333.

Additional information on the work of Purple Orange can be found on our website www.juliafarr.org.au, and in Robbi's [Purple Orange blog](#).

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