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1. *In Memory of David Banfield*
2. *Conference Round Up*
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1. *In Memory of David Banfield*

It is with great sadness we announce that a long time self advocacy leader David Banfield passed away last week. David was one of the first members of Reinforce and has worked tirelessly supporting Reinforce for over 30 years. David spent his early years in an institution and worked on the Shut In campaign to close institutions in Australia. He was also the historian of the group and could remember all the important events and dates in Reinforces history. David has acted and appeared in many videos and was also passionate about public transport.

A memorial for David will be held on Monday 23rd at Ross House in the Hayden Ray Smith room on the 4th floor. The memorial begins at 1.30pm. **RSVP** Ph: 9650-7855

Email: reinforce@rosshouse.org.au

2. *Conference Round Up*

The SARU, DARU, VDAN conference has received lots of good feedback . Below are some of the things people had to say:

"The session about setting up a self advocacy network was very good and I enjoyed it I hope the network happens and self advocates get to have their say and run it" Anonymous

"I thought the People First New Zealand presentation was fantastic because they seem far ahead of us with self advocacy and they are working with the UN Convention. I would give them a 9 and a half out of 10 rating" Colin Hiscoe Reinforce Training Officer

"The conference went smoothly and there were excellent interactions between lots of people" Glynn Evans ASIST Gippsland



2. Conference Round Up cont

"I met new people and made new friends and met people from New Zealand. It was really good I want to go again"

Georgia Green Self Advocate

Some of the highlights of the conference included:

- Over 70 members of self advocacy groups attended the conference
- Over 90 people attending the workshop session to talk about setting up a Victorian Self Advocacy Network (see more below).
- Susan Arthur's inspiring presentation in the hypothetical session about what it is like to be a parent with an intellectual disability and the barriers she has faced. She called for greater support and equal rights for parents with an intellectual disability.
- Dancing to the wonderful music by Johnny Crescendo



3. Setting Up A Victorian Self Advocacy Network

Paul Dunn ran a workshop at the conference to give people the chance to talk about the idea of setting up a Victorian Self Advocacy Network over 90 people came to the session and there were lots of ideas and issues discussed. Some of the things people talked about included:

"Yes we need a network . . . if we haven't got a network we haven't got a voice"

"The problem is distance – the internet helps facebook, Skype"

"Self advocates could go out to each group to talk about the idea for a network and to run some training about networking"

"A network would be good to share ideas and resources"

"It is a great idea so we have a united voice"

"We need to meet together at least 3 to 4 times a year because face to face meetings are more personal"

"Send out invites to all the groups inviting everyone to a network working group and see who comes"

"No Network No Voice"

What is the next step? We will work with self advocacy groups to look at all the networking ideas from the conference.

We want to hear from members of self advocacy groups who are interested in helping to get the self advocacy network started.

If you are interested contact SARU.



4. What's On?

Rally for a National Disability Insurance Scheme

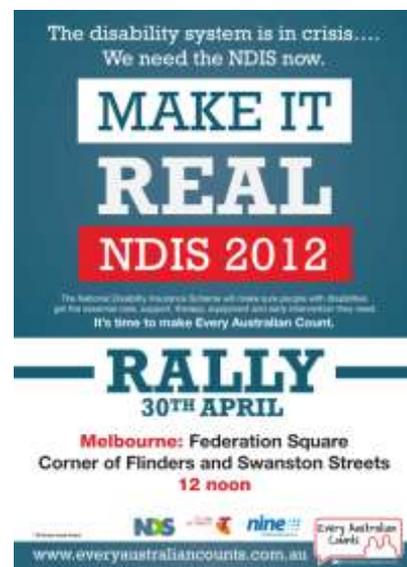
People with disabilities want more money to get better services and support. The government is thinking about setting up a "National Disability Insurance Scheme" to do this. There is a rally happening to let the government know that people with disabilities want the insurance scheme.

When: 12 Noon April 30th

Where: Federation Square Corner of Flinders and Swanston St

If you want to watch a video about the NDIS go to the following link:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gaslHFOCvI&feature=related>



Make Public Transport Accessible for Everybody!

The All Aboard Action Network is fighting to get trains, trams and buses that everyone can get on; they also want stations and stops that are accessible; safe and comfortable; and information that everyone can find and use. They are launching their campaign and want people to come along and show their support for public transport that everyone can use



When: Tuesday 17th April 2012 11.00am

Where: In front of Parliament House spring St Melbourne

For more information about the All Aboard campaign go to:

<http://www.facebook.com/allaboard4access>

5 . SARU Word Search

This month we are trying something new instead of the crossword we are trying out a word search – it is on the next page. Let us know what you think. If your group would like to make a word search for our next e-memo or for your own newsletter contact the SARU.

Don't Forget !!!!

You can now watch the SARU memo online go to SARU facebook page:

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/102307067022/>

or the SARU Bambuser page:

<http://bambuser.com/channel/Self%2BAdvocacy%2BReource%2BUnit>



Contact SARU

If you would like to put an item in this memo

If you would like us to put in information about your group

If you would like to tell us what you think of this memo

Phone: 03 9650-6359 Email: saru@rosshouse.org.au



SARU Word Search 1

Y A D E T Y T S A J R T K P S
C C M H C R O J P E R O S T N
A C M N A N L U I U O E H N G
C E A I E Y A N T B O G O E I
O S N Q L Y F R E U I R S T A
V S C H L O K C U R B M G W P
D I G O R T A T N S A E H O M
A B I C N F P A L R N W Z R A
F L E A I V M Y T P T I W K C
L E O J X U E W O R K S H O P
E D U Y H C O N F E R E N C E
S Y N N H O J L T B U S E S Y
O D N E C S E R C I K F A M L
J K E S R K T T R H O Q R R I
G D D X P E E V C D Y N U Q U

ACCESSIBLE
CONFERENCE
FACEBOOK
INSURANCE
REINFORCE
TRAINS
YOUTUBE

BUSES
CONVENTION
GROUPS
JOHNNY
SARU
TRAMS

CAMPAIGN
CRESCENDO
HUMANRIGHTS
NETWORK
SELFADVOCACY
WORKSHOP