July 1 will herald an exciting new chapter for Orana when it integrates with disability provider Life’s for Living.

The move will see Orana managing the care and wellbeing of approximately 100 new clients with an intellectual disability who are living in both the northern and southern Adelaide metropolitan area.

Through a series of amalgamations dating back to 1987, Life’s for Living has evolved from previous disability support organisations such as ‘Housing Connexion’ and more recently ‘Pathways’.

Today, Life’s for Living has over 80 support and administration staff assisting clients to live meaningful and fulfilling lives in housing appropriate to their needs.

The integration of Orana and Life’s for Living is being overseen by Project Officer Jenni Witt who is based at Orana Netley and whose role is to ensure a seamless amalgamation of both organisations by the 1st July deadline.

One of her more important roles is to ensure good communication with clients and their families so that they are kept informed about all aspects of the project.

“I am excited to be a part of this Integration process. During my time at Life’s for Living I enjoyed meeting many clients and working alongside excellent support staff, says Jenni.

“I see the Integration as bringing benefits to both organisations and most importantly to the clients”

If new clients express an interest, they will have the opportunity to be assessed for employment within Orana’s several workplaces once the integration process has been finalised.
Our project in the Riverland is now underway. Orana will be partnering with Transpacific to operate a waste recycling centre, funded through our successful grant application from the Riverland Sustainable Futures Fund. It is envisaged that this service will be operational by the end of 2013.

In accommodation news I am pleased to announce that the Orana Board have approved the expenditure of $850,000 to renovate the apartments at Galway Avenue, which will accommodate up to 19 people with a disability. The service model for this accommodation complex is designed to be progressive, in keeping with the pending reforms and above all ‘person centred’. The contract with the builder has been signed and redevelopment will commence on 3 June 2013.

Also in accommodation news it is with pleasure that I announce that the new homes at Loxton have finally been fully occupied and all reports over the last month indicated a smooth transition with considerable excitement from the residents and parents.

On the 24th of April it was our pleasure to host a visit by The Honourable Jenny Macklin MP, Federal Minister for Disability, along with The Honourable Tony Piccolo MP and local member Steve Georganas MP, at our Netley Employment Service. Minister Macklin officially announced the launch of DisabilityCare Australia. She praised the South Australian Government for partnering with the Federal Government in committing to such historical reforms. South Australia’s participation in the launch scheme, which will commence on 1 July 2013, will be for children between 0-4 in the first year and up to 13 years in the second year.

A significant announcement regarding the integration of Orana and Life’s for Living was made to employees, staff and members. From July 1 2013 Life’s for Living will integrate with Orana adding an additional 100 clients to our accommodation services in metropolitan Adelaide. Their membership overwhelmingly supported the merger at a Special General Meeting on April 4.

To ensure that the integration is a seamless process Jenni Witt has been appointed as Project Manager. Jenni is working with the managers and the executive team from both organisations on developing the new organisational structure and simultaneously using the merger opportunity to ensure that Orana ‘raises the bar’ in the level of service provision. Increased staff numbers will also require some renovations work at our Netley office over the coming weeks.

Finally, in early May Orana made a commitment to support training and development for people with a disability through its announcement of entering a partnership with The University of Adelaide. From September of this year the university will be introducing the ‘Orana Scholarship’. This initiative is aimed at supporting a student with a disability towards completing the final year of their degree and entering the workforce.

Nicholas Mihalaras
Chief Executive Officer

Orana introduces a person-centredness approach

Orana understands that each person who comes into our organisation is a unique individual with specific needs and abilities.

To ensure that we keep this focus, a Person-Centred Task Group has been formed which is made up of representatives from across Orana, including staff in Accommodation, Employment Services and Human Services.

The aim of this group is to encourage a culture that is inclusive and is focused on how we can best assist each person to live a fulfilling and meaningful life to the best of their ability.

Discussion by the group to date has included how to identify gaps in service delivery, the importance of listening and being heard, and utilising the exceptional expertise that exists within Orana’s people.

The group meets weekly to review what Orana is doing on a daily basis, looking for areas that Orana demonstrates person-centeredness and also to identify areas of improvement.

This group brings together a diverse range of professional experiences and are enthusiastic about the potential to improve service delivery.

Message from the CEO

This year has seen a positive start for services across the State with changes and progress made towards the future under the DisabilityCare Australia (formerly NDIS). This trend will continue for the remainder of 2013 paving the way to a more individualised approach to caring for people with a disability.

Upgrades at our Loxton and Mount Gambier Employment Services are now completed and I’m pleased to hear that our employees and staff are enjoying their upgraded facilities.

Plans for Port Augusta have been approved by the council which will see a move to a new retail outlet in Commercial Road and which will also include a fully functional depot for our External Services Crews.

2013 City to Bay Fun Run

It’s time to show your sole! If you would like to walk or run for team Orana on Sunday 15th September 2013 please contact us on 8375 2000 or orana@orana.asn.au for more information.
The Federal Minister for Disability Reform, the Hon Jenny Macklin MP and South Australian Minister for Disabilities Tony Piccolo MP visited Orana at Netley on the 24th of April to celebrate the significant agreement that will see the full rollout of DisabilityCare Australia across South Australia by July 2018.

Ms Macklin, during a tour of the Netley facilities, said the agreement was a massive step in the right direction for people with a disability in South Australia, as well as their families and carers.

“DisabilityCare Australia will give all South Australians the peace of mind that if they have or acquire a disability or have a child with disability that leaves them needing daily care and support, that they will get the support they need, when they need it.” Ms Macklin said.

Mr Piccolo said that the agreement builds on the upcoming launch in South Australia from July this year.

“The launch will initially focus on children aged birth to 5, extending to 13 years by 2014 and in the third year of launch will cover all eligible children up to 14 years,” Mr Piccolo said.

“We will progressively roll out DisabilityCare Australia in South Australia so that by July 2018, all eligible residents will be covered.”

After touring Orana’s new Galway Apartments and Amaro facility Mr Piccolo committed to visiting and working with Orana again later in the year.

Federal Member for Hindmarsh Steve Georganas MP also joined us on the day and welcomed the historic agreement as a turning point for people with disability in South Australia.
Friends of Orana meetings

The key speaker at the next Friends of Orana Netley Group Meeting on 14 August will be Malcolm Kinter from Australian Super. Malcolm will be explaining super options for all of our people and helping people to understand the technical terms which can often be confusing.

If you would like to come along to this meeting please contact Cheryl Keane on 8278 1491 for more information.

Val Helen Strohm

It is with great sadness that we advise of the death of Helen Strohm at her home on Saturday the 18th of May.

Helen has been associated with Orana for over 40 years as both an employee and in the past 14 years as a resident. She was the sister of our longest serving board member, Kate Strohm.

Helen will be remembered for her strong and outgoing personality. Despite being non-verbal she was able to communicate with her peers through her communication books and sign language and had many friends in and outside of Orana. She was always happy and continuously trying to improve the quality of her work.

Helen will be remembered for the bright and sunny disposition she shared with her housemates, workmates, carers and family every day.

As requested by the family, donations in lieu of flowers are being accepted by Orana.

Mount Gambier refurbishment and celebrations

In March Orana Mount Gambier held an open day to celebrate the memory of the late Don White and to showcase the refurbishment of their workshop. Don worked for Orana for 20 years and was respected by staff and employees alike before his death in 2012. A jarrah outdoor setting for employees to use during lunch breaks and meetings was purchased from donations and will serve as a small tribute to Donald ‘Duck’ White. Orana Mt Gambier were extremely pleased with the attendance on the day and especially the many positive comments received regarding the renovations which were partly funded by a grant from Community Benefit South Australia, with the balance coming from donations.

Community Benefit SA grants enable improvement projects such as these to be achieved for the benefit of local South Australian communities.

Orana sizzles at Bunnings Marion

In March Orana held a fundraising sausage sizzle at Bunning’s Marion. Braving the Easter rain our courageous volunteers soldiered on and cooked up a storm! A total of $1300 was raised on the day which will assist South Australians living with a disability.

Special thanks to: Von Hemsley, Catherine Dale, Liliana Baker, Renee Magin, Cass Magin, Damien Reiffel and Phill Nottage for their time and efforts on the day.

Orana would also like to thank Fruitalicious for their generous donation of 25kg of sliced onions.
Grants news

Orana is pleased to have received the following grants which are being used to improve the lives of people living with a disability:

- $335k towards the purchase and setup of a new employment service in the Riverland with a focus on recyclable products, provided by the South Australian Government through the Riverland Sustainable Futures Fund.
- $26k for the purchase of solar panels for Galway Apartments from the Essential Services Commission of South Australia.
- $6.6k towards rainwater tanks for Galway Apartments from the Department of Premier and Cabinet.
- $2.5k towards the purchase of tablet computers for residents in Port Pirie, provided by Nyrstar.
- $1k to run a program for children with autism in Whyalla provided by the Eyre Peninsula Community Foundation.
- 3 PC’s being utilised by employees in both Meningie and Mount Gambier, provided by the Department of Premier and Cabinet’s Smart State PC Program.

Gratitude is expressed to all of the contributing organisations who have made these grants possible. It is through these donations that Orana is able to provide programs for its residents, employees and other clients with the services that enable them to live productive and fulfilling lives.

If your organisation would like to make a contribution to one of our programs please contact the Grants Coordinator on 8375 2000.

High Tea by the waterfall a success

Utopia@Waterfall Gully was the picturesque setting for a High Tea held on Sunday 14th April.

Guests were treated to delicious canapés, decadent desserts and scrumptious scones with jam and cream.

The event raised nearly $700 for our respite house on the Fleurieu Peninsula.

Thanks to our kind donors Justin and Kelly Markos for their generous donation of a three course lunch voucher for two people which was used as first prize in our raffle.

Thank you also to Sheridan from The Naked Candle for her kind donation of a soy candle gift basket which was used as a raffle prize.

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Loxton Accommodation and Employment Services celebrated at this year’s Loxton Mardi Gras Parade

Making an eternal difference

Through your estate you can make a lasting difference to the lives of South Australians with a disability. After taking care of your loved ones, why not extend your gift to others with a bequest to Orana.

Leaving a bequest to Orana in your will, no matter how large or small, will make a lasting impression on the lives of people with a disability. A selfless gift, you can contribute a permanent legacy that provides for some of our most vulnerable community members.

Your bequest would enable us to provide additional services that we may otherwise not be able to afford. A little can and does go a long way. You can nominate exactly what service area you would like your bequest to benefit.

If you would like more information on our bequest program please contact us on 8375 2000 or by returning the form on the back page of this newsletter.
Get your new 2013/2014 Entertainment ™ Book
Choose what you want to do and when you want to do it with hundreds of valuable offers. Entertainment Books are filled with many offers such as “2 for 1” and “up to 50% off” and are valid through to June 1, 2014.

Take 9 Movie Cards
Great value at just $19 you will receive:
- 2 movies for free* 
- 9 movies for only $9 each for you and a friend or family member
- A complimentary bag of Menz FruChocs on use of your first $9 movie
- Chance to win a Wallis Gold Pass for a year
- Available all sessions (unless sold out)
- Over $150 in savings on regular movie ticket prices
- Valid until the end of March 2014

The Take 9 Movie Card is only valid at Wallis Cinemas which are located at Noarlunga, Mitcham, Mt Barker and Piccadilly (North Adelaide)
*Some restrictions apply. Only one free ticket per card per visit. Not valid for programs marked ‘no free list.’

People’s Choice Community Lottery
People’s Choice Community Lottery is once again supporting Orana Inc. There’s over 210 prizes up for grabs and tickets are only $2 each! Including three cars, holidays, a kitchen makeover, a motorbike, and more, you’ve got to be in it to win it.

Orana “O” Jewellery
Beautiful and unique, Orana “O” Jewellery is crafted from solid sterling silver.

- Earrings $12.95
- Pendant and chain $14.95
- Complete set $25

Plus $5 postage

Orana Order Form

MY ORDER

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<th>People’s Choice Community Lottery Tickets</th>
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Total amount $__________________________ OR

I would like to make a donation of $________________

All donations $2 and over are tax deductible

MY DETAILS

Name: ________________________________
Address: ______________________________
Phone: ________________________________
Email: ________________________________

☐ Please contact me about leaving a bequest to Orana

PAYMENT DETAILS

☐ My cash/cheque/money order is enclosed OR

☐ Please debit my: ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard

Card number: ____________________________
Name on card: __________________________
Expiry date: ____________________________
Signature: ______________________________

Please return to: Orana Incorporated PO Box 680 Torrensville Plaza SA 5031

www.oranaonline.com.au

Thanks for your support!