



# Fisher Road School

'Together we can'



September 2013

FISHER ROAD SCHOOL HIGHLIGHT

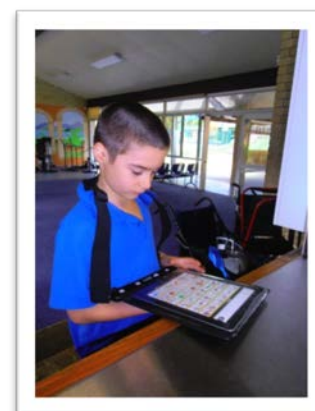
## Principal's News

The last few weeks of term three are proving to be hectic, but at least it is getting warmer. Thank you to everyone who helped with the P & C cake stall on Saturday 7th. Particular thanks to Michele Anderson and Polly Job for coordinating and setting things up. Our thanks also go to the boys who run and play in the Big Gig. That event raised just over \$9,000 for our school, which will be used in purchasing new technology for our students. We have also been fortunate to have received \$3,000 from the Dee Why RSL who cleared out their wishing well and donated the money to Fisher Road. This money will be used to purchase some new seating for the back oval. This will not only be welcomed by the students but by families who attend our events on the oval.

At this time of year we are starting to settle enrolment numbers for 2014. At this stage we are processing several applications and it looks like we will be considered "full" for 2014 at the start of the year, with some students waiting for placement. With this information we are beginning to consider classes for 2014. This is a difficult task and there are always many draft versions before we are ready to start the year. This is also a time when we review our School Management Plan which has just one more year to run. We have made many of our targets but do keep altering the plan to meet need as it changes. We will be continuing our work looking at the new Australian Curriculum and putting it in context for our students ready to start some aspects of it in 2014.



Emma using the iPad mini in cooking.



Zachary using Proloquo2go™ in canteen activities.

Using the iPad as a communication device.

A reminder to families that there is NO School Development Day at the start of term four. School starts on October 8th for everyone. The students' final day for term four is December 18th, but there will be a lot of activity before that. Please put December 4th in your diary for our end of year concert. One more reminder, IEP reviews will be starting in November. Your child's teacher will give you some options for the meeting as it is very important that families participate in these critical meetings.

Finally I wish everyone a safe and peaceful holiday break.

Susan Barisic

## Healthy Eating

### Why is Breakfast Important?

- Children who miss breakfast are often reported as having poor behaviour and poor concentration.
- Children who miss breakfast are often unable to meet their daily nutrient requirements.
- Children who miss breakfast are more likely to have a greater risk of being overweight or obese in life.
- Eating breakfast helps children learn and establish healthy eating.



## Thank You

The Parents and Citizens Association has banked \$910.25 as a result of the huge effort contributed by all to the Election Day cake stall on Saturday September 7<sup>th</sup> at Avalon.

We are still selling raffle tickets so we are hoping to increase that amount.

The cakes sold very well and thank you to everyone who worked so hard to sell all our merchandise.

## Transport



- Transport division has asked that we remind families that the picking up and dropping off of students on DEC transport is governed by rules from the department. Drivers must start from the most distant address and work in toward the school site. Parents should not ask for special pickup times for their child as the driver is committed to a certain run route. Students can be on transport for up to one and a half hours by DEC guidelines, but no longer and preferably a shorter time. The school gate opens at 8.45 and students enter school from that time on. It is not acceptable for students to be sitting outside the school for long periods of time so driver times should reflect this. If you have questions about transport please refer to your contract, issued to families when a student gains transport, by calling transport on 1300338278 or speaking with the school.



## Class JP

Jen & Di

Some of the students from class JP have enjoyed attending integration each week. They participate in developmental play and interact with the students from class KL at Allambie Heights Public School. The students also love to play in the playground with their year 6 buddies who look after them. It is an extremely valuable session and the students from both schools love the experience.



## Class RT

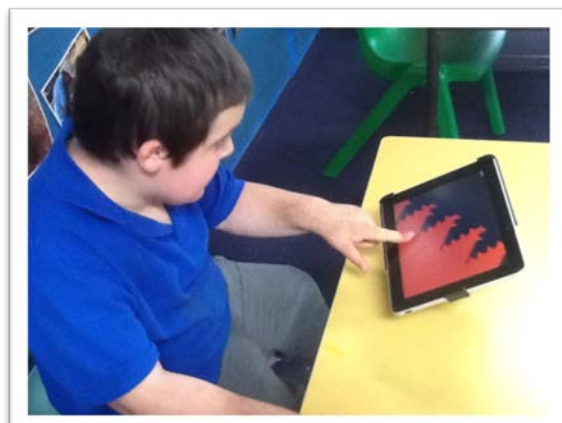
Arianne, Robyn, Sue R and Sue M

Class RT have been making great progress using iPads. Favourite apps include big bang patterns, Injini and Pictello.

James has been using the iPad to look at photos, books and listen to music.

Dylan has been completing puzzles and practicing matching.

Lachlan has been learning to take turns and to attend to an app. We are thrilled with the way the boys are requesting to use iPads using Pecs.







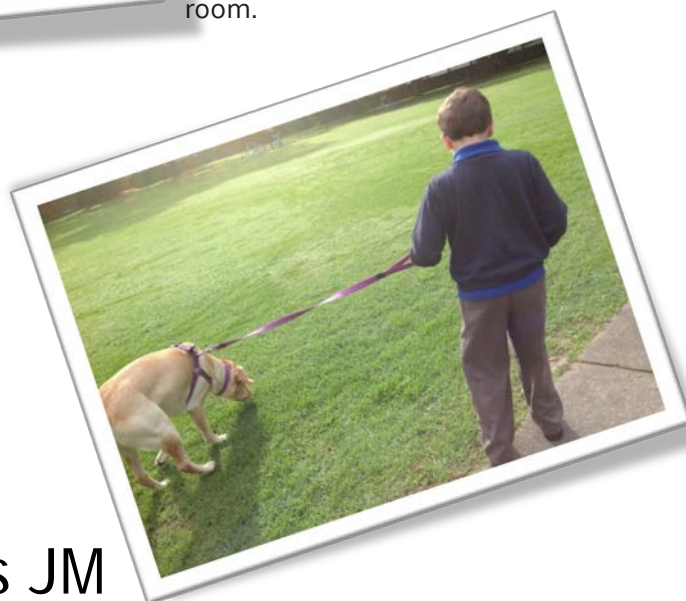
## Class AM

Robyn, Tanya & Carmel

Students of Class AM are the fortunate recipients of Fisher Roads newest interactive hardware, the TAPIT. Our classroom Interactive White Board has been replaced by this state-of-the-art TAPIT and because it is purple we affectionately call it 'Barney'.

Over the past few weeks we have discovered how many uses Barney the TAPIT has for our high support junior class. Unlike the Interactive White Board, it can be rotated on an angle and used as an interactive desk or lowered to the ground for floor position work.

TAPIT also compliments the sensory programs created for our new dark room.



## Class JM

Julie, Wendy & Rosemary

We have really enjoyed having Tess join our class each Thursday morning. The students like having Tess in our morning circle and are becoming more comfortable with having her around. We take her for a walk around the school and some of the students are developing confidence holding her lead.

We have been continuing with our circus theme this term and everyone has participated in lots of art and craft lessons making clowns, elephants and seals for our wall display. It is beginning to look great!





## Class NS

Nick & Rosemary

In Class NS we use many different forms of communication to request what we would like in a variety of settings. We use our voices, our conventional PECS folders and the communication app Prologuo2go™ (which includes the PC symbols and a very natural text) which is being used by Zach on our class iPad. We especially enjoy going to Oporto and the school canteen where we can request what we would like to order for our morning tea or lunch.



## Class MP

Maria & Monika

Our class is happy to see Ana and Kiang Kiang on a regular basis this term. We have been kept busy with our swimming, cooking, sensory and therapy activities. We are glad to see Kiang Kiang back into the pool and hopefully Ana too. Again, we thank Helen (Connor's mum) for sharing her time with us on a Friday.





## Class TH

Trish, Sue & Mandy

Class TH have been enjoying participating in the school sustainability program. Our role is to oversee the watering of the raised garden beds in the senior playground. We use a hose to do this.

The students each take turns at operating and manipulating the control of the water.

The students also enjoy a little sprinkle or two over themselves at the end.



## Class CW

Caroline & Jenny

Each week CW Group has been going on a walk at Griffith Park, Long Reef. It is a great opportunity to walk at a faster pace and exercise for an hour. On Wednesday August 31st, we finally made it to the top of the hill and had an opportunity to look out to sea at the amazing view. Everyone cheered when they made it to the top!

Also, we have been observing the types of native plants such as bottle brush and looking out for a pod of dolphins. These experiences link to Science outcomes in the Life Skills Syllabus where students have opportunities to recognise characteristics and changes of living things.



## FISHER ROAD STARS

Class RR

Chloe - Lawn bowling skills.

Class MT

Tom - Lawn bowling skills.

Class JP

Lachlan - Improved independence with eating.

Class RT

Lachy - Using the iPad for greater periods of time.

Class MP

Anastazia - For sitting up straight.

Class JM

Henry - Improved independence with eating.

Class CW

Jake - Learning the key scales on the keyboard.

Class AM

Maia - Improved ukulele plucking.

Class NS

Finnian - Being helpful and considerate to other people.

Class TH

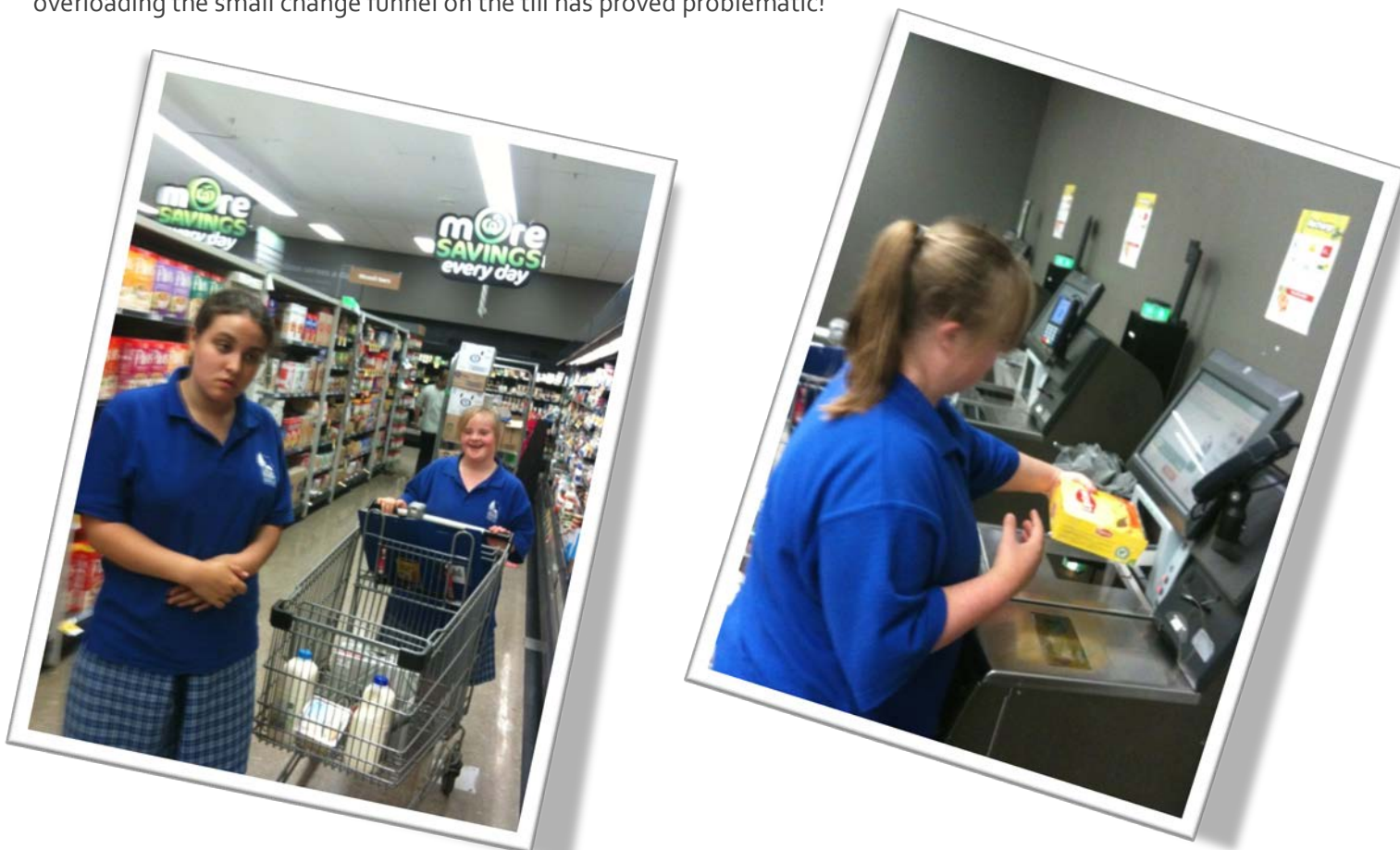
Kyle - Great interaction in Music Therapy.

# Class MT & RR Senior High School

Matt, Ruth, Sue M & John

Every Thursday Matt and Sue take a mixed group of students from the two Senior High Classes to Woolworths in Narrabeen to complete a shopping program. Using a series of PCs symbols in a folder students have to find and retrieve shopping items used in the canteen on Fridays and also in the hamburger program on Tuesdays.

Besides the shopping and orientating skills being promoted, students are also reminded about appropriate social skills when out in the community and payment skills. Self-service points have proved to be good teaching opportunities, but overloading the small change funnel on the till has proved problematic!



## LIFE WITHOUT BARRIERS IS SEEKING HELP. ARE YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW INTERESTED IN OFFERING FOSTER CARE TO A CHILD?

Life Without Barriers is seeking a long-term Foster Care placement for two siblings with disabilities in the local area. If you have experience with children with disabilities and feel you could commit to providing a long-term Foster placement, please phone

Kellie Johnson to enquire on: 8814 2000.



*"People don't understand how you can become friends with someone you have never met. But when you have shared so many highs and lows together the fact you have never met in person is irrelevant."*

*"In that moment when we are all laughing, chatting and joking together, nothing else matters. The fact that perhaps we are stuck in bed, our hair is falling out or machines are breathing for us is completely irrelevant. In that moment we are teenagers laughing. And that is all that matters."*

Jess, livewire.org.au member, aged 19



## Join [livewire.org.au](http://livewire.org.au) today!

Joining [livewire.org.au](http://livewire.org.au) is easy. Just go to [www.livewire.org.au](http://www.livewire.org.au), click on 'Join Livewire' and complete the simple registration.

Livewire.org.au also has a Parent and Not-For-Profit registration. Go to [www.livewire.org.au](http://www.livewire.org.au) to learn more.

Livewire.org.au is also for young people who have a brother or sister living with a serious illness or disability!



Have a question? To speak with someone at [livewire.org.au](http://livewire.org.au) please call (02) 8425 5971 or email [member.services@livewire.org.au](mailto:member.services@livewire.org.au)



A safe and supportive online community for young people and their families affected by a serious illness, disability or chronic health condition.



- Blogs
- Music
- Articles
- Groups
- Fully-moderated chat room
- Create a profile
- Videos
- Connect with others



## What is livewire.org.au?

Livewire.org.au is an online community specifically designed for young people aged 10 – 20 years living with a chronic health condition, disability or serious illness, and their families. It is a safe online space where members can connect and share experiences with others who understand.

Livewire.org.au allows members to connect with others in a moderated chat room seven days a week; and meet other young people with similar conditions from all over Australia.

### Members can also:

- Create a blog about themselves and topics they are interested in
- Connect with other young people who have the same condition
- Read up on the latest news, reviews and interviews

### Other features include:

- A music player with the latest video clips
- Groups and private messages

## Benefits of livewire.org.au

Livewire.org.au creates a point of connection for young people aged 10 – 20 years, who often lack opportunities to interact socially with others their age due to a serious illness, chronic health condition or disability.

### Connections

Livewire.org.au also provides a space for those teens that may be socially connected, but feel they can't be open with their friends about their condition. Livewire.org.au is a community where they can share experiences with other young people going through similar situations.

### Personal and Social Wellbeing

Livewire.org.au allows members to find a balance in their lives despite disruptions such as time in hospital or time away from school by encouraging social connection, friendship and community.

Third, A., & Richardson, I. (2009). 'Analysing the impacts of social networking for young people living with chronic illness, a serious condition or a disability: An evaluation of the Livewire Online Community, Murdoch University, Centre for Everyday Life, Perth WA.

## Security

### Validation

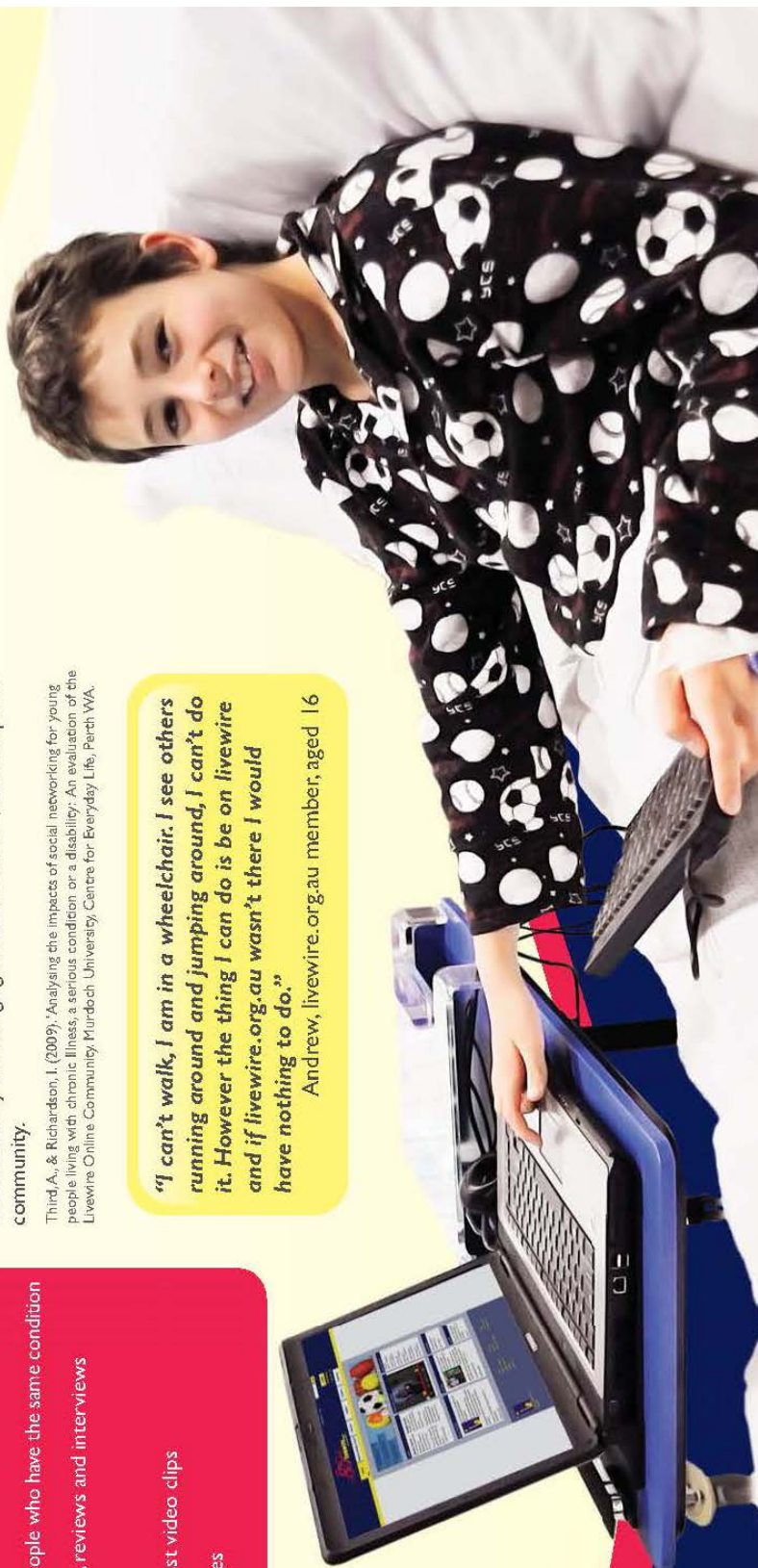
Safety is of paramount importance in livewire.org.au and every livewire.org.au member undergoes a validation process by the livewire.org.au membership services team before gaining access to the chat room.

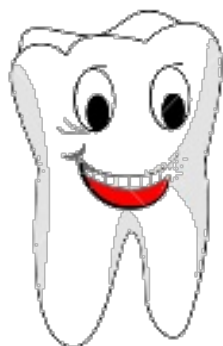
### Chat Hosts

Trained chat hosts are in the chat room at all times and constitute a unique feature of the Livewire 'chat' facility. Chat hosts are active participants, directly engaging in conversations and facilitating activities with the members. Their vital role provides a more integrated and fun community, while ensuring livewire.org.au members are having a positive and enjoyable experience inside the community.

*"I can't walk, I am in a wheelchair. I see others running around and jumping around, I can't do it. However the thing I can do is be on livewire and if livewire.org.au wasn't there I would have nothing to do."*

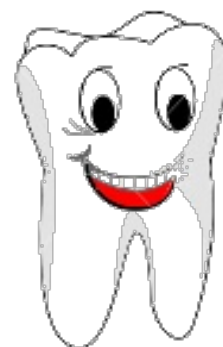
Andrew, livewire.org.au member, aged 16





## Free Dental Care

For all school aged children and eligible adults



Northern Sydney Local Health District Oral Health Service provides free dental care to all children, less than 18 years old, who are eligible for Medicare and reside in the Local Health District. Recent Commonwealth funding has enabled waiting times to be considerably reduced so now is an excellent time to request dental care. This includes general dentistry such as examinations, x-rays, fillings and extraction. For more extensive treatment children may be referred for more specialised care to another clinic in the Local Health District, Sydney Dental Hospital or Westmead Centre for Oral Health. Dental care is provided by teams of fully qualified and experienced Dentists, Oral Health Therapists, and Dental Therapists.

To access the service contact the dental call centre on:

**1300 789 404**

Dental clinics are located at Mona Vale Hospital, Dee Why, Hornsby, Royal North Shore Community Health Centre, Cox's Rd (North Ryde) and Top Ryde.



**JOIN US AT OUR INAUGURAL PAR 3 GOLF CHALLENGE FUNDRAISER**

THE OBJECTIVE OF THE EVENT IS TO RAISE SOME MUCH NEEDED FUNDS IN SUPPORT OF ACTIVE OPPORTUNITIES INC SERVICES FOR CHILDREN WITH A DISABILITY.

<p><b>WHEN:</b> Saturday 9th November 2013</p> <p><b>WHERE:</b> Par 3 Terry Hills – 1c Myoora Rd Terrey Hills NSW 2084 (cnr Forest Way &amp; Mona Vale Rd)</p>	<p><b>TIME:</b> Start 4pm Finish 7pm (Arrival time is 3.30pm)</p> <p><b>COST:</b> \$60 per person (includes one free sausage sizzle)</p>
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**REGISTER AS AN INDIVIDUAL  
OR MAKE IT A FUN DAY  
WITH FRIENDS AND  
REGISTER A TEAM OF 4!**

*Prizes & raffles available.  
All equipment provided.  
Par 3 is an 18 hole Golf  
Course with a 'PAR 3' on  
every hole.*

**REGISTER NOW!**

**REGISTER BY 5PM FRIDAY 1ST NOVEMBER 2013**

Complete the registration form at [www.activeopportunities.org.au](http://www.activeopportunities.org.au)

For further information or enquires please call Marc Davies on 0416 366 625 or email [marc@activeopportunities.org.au](mailto:marc@activeopportunities.org.au)

