

# Pave the Way Newsletter

DECEMBER 2011



## Christmas greetings

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*Please assist us in keeping our mailing list up to date by notifying us if you change your address or email address.*

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Pave the way extends to you all our best wishes for a peaceful Christmas and New Year. January 2011 was a difficult time for many families so we hope that this holiday season offers time to relax and renew energy for the year ahead. We have enjoyed meeting many of you again during the year and also meeting new people in different parts of the state, especially on the Road Trip through south west Queensland. This newsletter outlines plans for the 2012 Road Trip in the north west and lists the dates for our live-in workshops next year. We hope that this information will allow people to plan ahead for these events.

2012 will see some changes for Pave the Way. Final arrangements are being made for the formation of a new governance structure for the project. This work has been in response to the 2008 Evaluation recommendation to safeguard the work of Pave the Way into the future. We look forward to introducing members of the new Pave the Way Committee in our March newsletter.

In 2012 we will be developing new workshops and information documents, especially in the area of support circles. We will also work on the re-design of our website and current information documents which will incorporate the use of Pave the Way's own logo. We appreciate feedback from families in response to any of our work, especially our workshops, written resources and the effectiveness of the website. If you have any comments or suggestions about any of these we would be happy to hear from you, especially ways in which we can be more effective in making contact with people in regional areas when we have events planned for a particular town or district.

To help in this regard we aim to keep our mailing list up to date. Please let us know if you change your postal or email address. If you would be happy to receive this newsletter by email rather than by post please contact Elaine at the office to give her your details. We will continue to post resources, including the newsletter, to people who are unable to access email but are also mindful of the need to consider costs.

We look forward to making contact with you again in the New Year in person, by phone, email or at a workshop.



## Planning ahead for 2012 – Workshops and other events

We look forward to offering a range of workshops in different regions of Queensland in 2012. Dates for some of these are already on the workshop calendar and are listed on the back of this newsletter.

To help with your planning we have listed the dates for our live-in weekends in 2012. The brochure for the first of these, in Toowoomba, is included with this newsletter. If you are interested in attending please contact the office for the expression of interest form. This form can also be downloaded from the website.

- 2 Day Workshop. 23 – 25 March. Toowoomba.
- 6 Day Workshop. 15 – 17 June and 24 – 26 August. Coolum.
- 2 Day Workshop. October. Date and Location to be advised.

The design of these live-in workshops requires two people to attend together. Two parents usually attend but sometimes one parent attends with another family member or friend.

Another pre-requisite is to have attended the one day workshop, "*Planning for Now, Tomorrow and the Future*", so that all participants have a clear understanding of the ideas that form the basis of the longer workshop. If you are interested in coming to a live-in workshop at any time it is a good idea to attend *Planning for Now, Tomorrow and the Future* whenever you see it offered in your area. This workshop is a good introduction to the ideas of vision and planning as well as to important legal issues. It is also one pre-requisite for some of the shorter workshops we will offer in 2012.

Dates for *Planning for Now, Tomorrow and the Future* so far are:

- 22 February – Warwick area
- 7 March - North Brisbane
- March – Maryborough (date to be confirmed)
- 21 April – Sunshine Coast
- 5 May – Brisbane Southside.

Other one day and shorter workshops will be planned as the year progresses, especially for regional areas. Dates for these will be announced in future newsletters and will be added to the calendar on the website. Flyers for all workshops will be posted or emailed to the relevant areas of our mailing list as they become available. All our short workshops or one day events are free for families but it is important to book so that we can make arrangements for resources and catering as well as accommodation and travel in regional areas.

Please contact us if you would like further information about any of our workshops. If you would like to see one offered in your region we would also be happy to talk with you about how this might happen.




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*The one day workshop, "Planning for Now, Tomorrow and the Future" is a good introduction to the ideas of vision and planning and inviting others as well as to the legal issues important in planning. It is also a pre-requisite for Pave the Way's live-in workshops.*

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## 2012 Road trip

### North West Queensland Road Trip – 21 – 30 May 2012

Following Pave the Way's successful South West Queensland Road Trip in March/April 2011, *Pave the Way* consultant Jeremy Ward is planning another Road Trip in May 2012, this time to North West Queensland. Jeremy will again travel to meet with families in their homes, offering one-on-one consultations about planning, safeguarding the future, building networks of support, and relevant legal issues.

The Road Trip will take ten days, from 21 to 30 May 2012 and will include the Atherton Tableland, Georgetown, Normanton, Mt Isa, Cloncurry, Richmond, Charters Towers, Ingham and back to Cairns. This trip will focus on making contact with families away from the larger coastal centres so Jeremy will not be meeting with people in the Cairns or Townsville districts.

If you live in North West Queensland and would be interested in a consultation with Jeremy Ward during this period next year, please contact the *Pave the Way* office or Jeremy Ward on 1300 554 402 or 07 3291 5800, or email [jeremy.ward@pavetheway.org.au](mailto:jeremy.ward@pavetheway.org.au). A flyer advertising this trip will be circulated early in 2012.

### Special Disability Trusts – Pave the Way Information Sheet

Since the Commonwealth Government introduced Special Disability Trusts in 2006, there have been a number of changes to the original eligibility criteria and rules associated with these particular trusts. *Pave the Way* has followed these changes with a number of articles in our newsletters.

So that all these changes are included in the one document, *Pave the Way* has developed an information sheet based on an extract from a revised version of our booklet "*Planning for Now, Tomorrow and the Future*". This information sheet sets out the purpose for which Special Disability Trusts were established, the definition of "severe disability" required to determine whether an individual can be an eligible beneficiary of a Special Disability Trust, the uses to which Special Disability Trust funds can be put, including the recently introduced "discretionary" expenditure, the Centrelink and public housing concessions which Special Disability Trusts attract, and other related issues.

If you would like a copy of this information sheet, please contact the *Pave the Way* office. Further information is available from the website of the Commonwealth Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FAHCSIA) – see [www.fahcsia.gov.au/sa/carers](http://www.fahcsia.gov.au/sa/carers) and follow the link to programs and services / Special Disability Trusts. *Pave the Way* has a list of solicitors who can advise and assist in this area.




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*Response from the 2011 Road Trip indicated that families in more remote areas appreciated having an individual conversation about future planning issues in their own home or town.*

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## Pave the Way

Pave the Way assists families throughout Queensland to clarify their vision for their family member with a disability and to plan to implement that vision. We encourage planning which is vision driven, 'whole of life', developmental, outside service planning and which safeguards family members in the long term. We believe it is other people who keep people safe and support the development of personal networks, including Support Circles.

## Contact Us

Please contact us if you would like to be on our mailing list, or would like information or assistance developing a vision and plan or developing a support circle or similar network. If you are part of a group of families and would like us to come and talk about these issues, let us know.

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## Upcoming

Pave the Way workshops happen throughout the year and further workshops are likely to be planned for this quarter. Details will be on the website and flyers posted when they are available.

### Developing a Vision and a Plan – 2-day live-in workshop

Toowoomba 25 March 2012 (PTW)

### Planning for Now, Tomorrow and the Future

Warwick (venue to be confirmed) 22 February 2012 (PTW)

North Brisbane (venue to be confirmed) 7 March 2012 (PTW)

Maryborough (date to be confirmed) March 2012 (PTW)

### Building Lifelong Supports and Safeguards

Bundaberg (date to be confirmed) Feb/March 2012 (PTW)

## Regional Visits

**Julie van Oosten**  
 Bundaberg/Maryborough February 2012 (PTW)  
 (dates to be confirmed)

**Trish Murdoch**  
 Cairns (date to be confirmed) March 2012 (PTW)



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To book into a workshop, please phone the relevant contact. For Pave the Way (PTW), phone (07) 3291 5800 or 1300 554 402. For regional visits please contact Julie van Oosten or Trish Murdoch on (07) 3291 5800 or 1300 554 402. You can also view the workshop and events calendar online at [www.pavetheway.org.au/home/workshop-calendar.php](http://www.pavetheway.org.au/home/workshop-calendar.php).