

BULLETIN BOARD

Feb 2022

Disability Information Update

1. IDEAS eNews

- Temporary COVID-19 meal preparation and delivery arrangements
- Roadside assistance for wheelchairs and mobility scooters
- Latest wheelchair-friendly beaches for you to chill out in the surf and sand
- How to find a vaccine clinic for your booster or for your children 5-11

Please click on the link to access the full report <https://www.ideas.org.au/>

2. PWDA – People with Disability Australia – News

It's been a rocky start to the year with Omicron wreaking havoc across much of the country and the PWDA team has already been busy advocating on a range of Omicron related issues which are impacting on the lives and health of people with disability.

In the wake of the escalating COVID-19 situations across Australia, the inaccessibility of Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs) and disability workforce shortages, we've been fighting to make RATs free and accessible for people with disability, and we've been calling for better solutions for ensuring continuity of care for people with disability affected by disability workforce shortages.

You can read our recent media releases on these topics below and our [PWDA Board statement here](#). We will continue to make our voices heard as the pandemic continues. We refuse to be left behind.

As we begin 2022, we'll also be focusing on our Disability Election Platform. Stay tuned for more information and don't forget you can reach the PWDA Board at pwdaqanda@pwd.org.au with any questions or just to share your thoughts.

We've been updating our [COVID-19 Hub](#) with accessible disability focused information and recently added a resource to help you create a person COVID-19 action plan.

3. PPV sharing important health network information

As you know, we receive many notifications from our health networks, please find below a link which refers to a resource to assist people with disabilities with preparing a covid emergency plan.

<https://collaborating4inclusion.org/home/covid-19-person-centred-emergency-preparedness/>

Something we thought would be most beneficial to you is the Covid-19 Plan, this can be found by clicking on the above link.

An exciting start for PPV 2022

PPV Committee Members President Shirley Glance OAM and Secretary Robyn Abrahams have been interviewed by SBS – article link below.

Both Shirley and Robyn also appeared on SBS News 30/1/2022

Esther missed out on the polio vaccine. Her children won't miss their COVID jobs

30 January 2022

SBS

Polio survivors in Australia share their views on the importance of getting vaccinated against COVID-19, particularly as schools prepare to welcome children back.



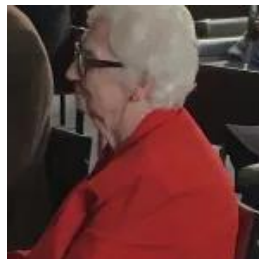
PPV's Upcoming Focus for 2022

We have a talented committee here at PPV which allows us to work across many disciplines to ensure financial support to health, education, and awareness of Polio survivors.

Please find below a list of some of major projects and focus points for 2022:

1. Continued education and awareness via government and social media
2. Grant applications to fund our group and future stability
3. Project Planning and strategic governance – stay tuned!
4. Continued partnership with other Disability Networks
5. Strengthening and forming new partnerships with Not for Profits
6. Continue to celebrate important Disability Awareness Days

It is with great sadness that we start our new year with the passing of our dear friend and PPV long time committee member – Judith Bell



Vale Judith Bell – PPV committee member

Judith died in December 2021, after a long illness. She fought to live with the same feistiness she displayed when advocating for husband and PPV committee member Ron and other polio survivors. With the philosophy that “whatever Ron wants to do I’ll be there too,” she was one of the foundation members of PPV, despite not having had polio herself.

She assisted Ron whenever he needed to attend rehabilitation at Caulfield Hospital. When that service closed, and, Polio Services Victoria opened at St Vincent’s Hospital, she assisted him there, too.

By that time, they were already living in Gippsland, and Judith joined groups, within which she promoted the rights of polio survivors, living in Country Victoria. To Judith, it was scandalous that local services were non-existent.

After raising their daughters in the city, Judith and Ron moved to the tiny hamlet, Jeeralang Junction. For any assessments or treatment services, polio survivors needed to make the long trip to Melbourne. She and Ron did the long round trip many times a year, both to attend rehab sessions and for Ron to give input into the Quarterly meetings PPV chaired.

Everywhere she went, Judith prompted belief that Post- Polio Syndrome existed; that many survivors of paralytic polio were again fighting to live.

With your fights now done, rest in peace, wonderful warrior Judith.

