

It's sometimes said that no news is good news

This is definitely not the case for Diabetes TASMANIA. Developments continue unabated with the opening of our new offices and shop in Launceston, new staff appointments and the restructuring of our organisation. All these developments are very exciting but they indicate a much needed response to the increasing incidence of diabetes. The effects of the disease on the individual, our community and the economy are catastrophic. Diabetes TASMANIA remains

totally focused on, and committed to, the provision of diabetes health education and support to those people living with the disease, their family and carers. Who knows, perhaps one day a cure will be found for diabetes. After that day we will have no news, which truly would be good news.

I hope you enjoy reading our latest newsletter.

Caroline Wells,
CEO, Diabetes TASMANIA



Diabetes TASMANIA opens Launceston office and shop

Diabetes TASMANIA has opened its Launceston office at 64 Cameron Street.

The new premises features a shop, diabetes education facilities and easy ground floor access.

Sue Cullimore, the Launceston office manager, says that the new site provides much needed exposure for the organisation in Launceston. Sue, who relocated from Hobart to manage the shop, is excited to be part of this new development. "It's been several years in the planning. We have felt that the lack of a visible presence in Launceston has really hampered our development in the north of the state and now we are able to present our organisation to our members, as well as the general public, in a very tangible way".

The offices were officially opened by His Worship the Mayor of Launceston Alderman Albert van Zetten on 14 July 2008 and the launch was attended by Senator Guy Barnett, Brett Whiteley MP, Dick Adams MP, Peter Roche CEO of MAIB as well as members of the Launceston business community Diabetes TASMANIA staff.



Diabetes TASMANIA's new offices were officially launched by His Worship the Mayor of Launceston, Alderman Albert van Zetten, pictured here second from left with Brett Whiteley MP (left), Diabetes TASMANIA's CEO Caroline Wells, Diabetes TASMANIA's President Anne Sheehan and Senator Guy Barnett.

Caroline Wells, CEO of Diabetes TASMANIA, says that the opening of the offices is a significant indication of the emergence of diabetes as the leading health issue facing Tasmania. "Diabetes TASMANIA is totally committed to its aim of inspiring better self health management through the delivery of quality diabetes education services.

"We have invested in the development of our Launceston offices to enhance the delivery of our services and we have also appointed two new staff members to join Sue Cullimore and our diabetes educators Di Edwards and Nigel Donaghue. The new staff, who will come on board mid August, are Emily Gatenby, Manager of Allied Health Services, and a part time office assistant, Sue Ellen Lewis" Ms Wells added.

The Diabetes TASMANIA offices are open for business and operate between the hours of 9.30am to 5.00pm Monday to Friday. The office phone number is 6333 0233.



Diabetes TASMANIA staff pose for local media photographers at the opening.

New staff appointments

Diabetes TASMANIA is pleased to announce the appointment of eight new staff for its operations throughout Tasmania.

Four new permanent part-time Diabetes Educators have been appointed in Hobart. Lynne Slade, Sue Armstrong, Liz Broad and Heather Kennett have joined our Education Services team in Hobart.

Emily Gatenby has been appointed Manager of Allied Health Services and will be based at our new offices in Launceston.

In Hobart we have appointed Roberta Gates as our Customer Service Manager and Sally Stubbs has joined our administration team. This has permitted Lisa Burgess to concentrate solely on the NDSS administration and to work with NDSS sub-agents statewide in her role as NDSS Manager.

Sue Ellen Lewis has been appointed to our new Launceston office as an office assistant. Due to our recent reorganisation we have made several changes to our management structure.



Some of Diabetes TASMANIA's diabetes education staff with Caroline Wells at a recent training day. **Seated in foreground:** Sue Armstrong, Caroline Wells and Lynne Slade. **Standing:** Yvonne Wilkins, Helena Griggs, Liz Broad, Di Edwards and Nigel Donoghue. **Absent** Maggie Lasdauskas

Our Senior Management Team now consists of Caroline Wells, Leanne Clark Operations Manager, Maggie Lasdauskas Manager Diabetes Education Services, Jonathan Jones Manager Communications and Development and Emily Gatenby Manager Allied Health Services. Jonathan has also been made a full time employee following twelve months as a part time staff member.

This restructuring has resulted in each of our operational areas now having a dedicated manager, which will increase our efficiency and allow for a far more thorough response to the requirements of our staff, clients and other stakeholders.

Diabetes Assist

A new service called Diabetes Assist will provide a telephone based health coaching service for people recently diagnosed with type 2 diabetes, those with pre-diabetes and those with significant risk factors of developing type 2 diabetes. The program will be rolled out in early November 2008

Emily Gatenby has been appointed as the Diabetes Assist Coordinator and will be based at Diabetes TASMANIA's offices in Launceston. She will be assisted by Diabetes TASMANIA dietitian, Yvonne Wilkins as well as a dietitian in the north west of Tasmania to be based at the Steele Street Community Health Centre in Devonport. This new position has recently been advertised.

Staff training for the program will commence mid October.

Diabetes Assist provides Diabetes TASMANIA with an exciting opportunity to increase its presence in the north and north west of the state as well as aiding in the development of its Allied Health Services provision.

Further information will be made available as the project develops.

polliepedal 2009

polliepedal2009 will be held in the Hobart region and will include rides to some of the major destinations in the region. There will be plenty of opportunities to socialise and to enjoy some of the attractions that Hobart and its surrounds have to offer.

polliepedal2009 - provisional date

Friday 27/2/2009 to Sunday 1/3/2009

For all enquiries please contact Diabetes TASMANIA on 03 6234 5223.

Quality Use of Medicines DVD grant

Diabetes TASMANIA has obtained a grant from the National Prescribing Service to develop a DVD based educational program for culturally and linguistically diverse members of the Tasmanian community.

The DVD, which will be produced by Diabetes TASMANIA, will focus on the theme of "Quality Use of Medicines".

Jonathan Jones, Diabetes TASMANIA's Manager of Communications and

Development, says that this presents the organisation with a unique opportunity to develop teaching materials suitable for use in communicating with people with different cultural backgrounds. "Until now we have had very little opportunity to work with indigenous and migrant community resource centres. This DVD will hopefully create a broader base from which to create material that has acceptance and appeal within these community groups" he said.

DTour MAGAZINE update

Diabetes TASMANIA is pleased to report that the first edition of Dtour MAGAZINE has been extremely well received.

The publication, the first of its kind in Australia, was distributed free of charge to 23,000 registrants of the National Diabetes Services Scheme (NDSS) within Tasmania. The publication was designed to provide easy to understand diabetes education to Tasmanians already diagnosed with diabetes.

Jonathan Jones, editor of Dtour MAGAZINE, said that there had many positive comments regarding the content and style of the publication. "We have received brickbats as well as bouquets, which is very positive. Some recipients

have made critical comments regarding design, which we will take into account for the next edition" Jonathan said. "Every reader who has contacted us has said that they have been really pleased with the advice the magazine offered" Jonathan added.



Billboards on wheels!



You may have seen our newly sign wrapped cars on the road.

Having a highly visible presence on the roads is great for our organisation. Our Diabetes Educators report that people often approach them after they have parked the cars to ask them questions regarding diabetes.

So next time you see one of our green machines give them a wave! They may wave back.