

voice

M A G A Z I N E

August 2025
Edition 129

by Alinea

Enriching Lives

Alinea has a long history of service provision in the Western Australian community, with its roots stretching back to the Paraplegic-Quadriplegic Association of WA (Inc.), founded in 1955, and the Civilian Maimed and Limbless Association of Western Australia (Inc.), founded in 1944 (eventually merging to form the Spine & Limb Foundation).

On our journey, operations were expanded into Aged Care, Supported Employment, Independent Community Living, and Recreation Services.

From 2018, as 'Alinea', the Organisation's mission remains the same; to enrich the lives of people living with a disability and elders within the Western Australian community by providing contemporary and holistic services. All of the services and programs operated by Alinea have been designed to cater to the needs of the unique individual.



Executive Director
Shane Yensch

Osboine Facility Manager
Hilda Makkink

Koh-I-Noor Facility Manager
Jennie Neilsen

ParaQuad Industries Manager
Richard Horne

Client Services Manager
Caroline Dosualdo

Recreation Services Manager
Fran Wallis

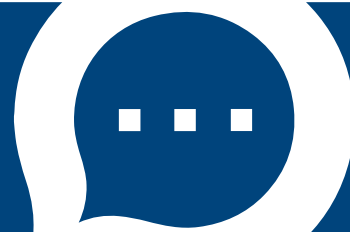
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Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of Alinea Inc. will be held at the offices of Alinea, Car Park 4, 4-6 Orton Road, Shenton Park at 5:15pm on Wednesday 22nd October 2025.

Business to be transacted:

- a) Confirm the Minutes of the Meeting of 16th October 2024.
- b) To receive and consider the Annual report and the Financial Statements for the year ended 30th June 2025.
- c) To appoint an Auditor for the financial year 2025/26.
- d) To declare the appointment of office-bearers and members of the Board of Alinea Inc.

Nominations are called for the following positions in accordance with provisions of the Constitution and Rules of Alinea Inc.:

- One Ordinary Board Member

Contact Alinea for nomination forms by telephoning 9381 0111 or emailing info@alinea.org.au. Nomination forms are to be sent to Alinea Inc. 4-6 Orton Road, Shenton Park, WA 6008. Nominations must be received in writing no later than the 8th October 2025.

Please note that a member shall not be eligible to vote at any Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting or to stand for election as an Ordinary Board Member unless such member was a financial member for the previous financial year.

Please confirm your attendance by contacting Julie Ballucci on 9381 0111 or by email (julie.ballucci@alinea.org.au) by 15th October 2025.



organisation news

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 ...and welcome to Richard
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Golden Jubilee Raises \$100k

The Woodarburrrup Cup's 50th anniversary edition raised an amazing \$100,000 for Alinea

By Mark Verma

Communication & Project Officer

This year marked a major milestone for one of Western Australia's most cherished grassroots fundraisers: the 50th anniversary of the Woodarburrrup Cup. What began in the 1970s as a community initiative by the Dardanup Lions Club supporting the Civilian Maimed and Limbless Association (CMLA) has grown into a two-day annual tradition, no longer run by Lions, raising vital funds for Alinea (Inc), the modern successor of CMLA.

Originally held on Woodarburrrup Station in WA's picturesque South West, the Cup brings locals together each year for fun, laughter, and philanthropy. Events include stockhorse racing, woodchopping, and the very popular two-up. This year's golden jubilee event was especially poignant, not only because of the incredible \$100,000 raised for Alinea, but also due to a noticeable shift in generations.

As many of the original founders have passed away and their sons are now older, grandsons



have stepped into organising roles—bringing fresh energy while honouring the legacy of those who came before. It's a reassuring sign that the spirit of the Cup is alive and well and poised to continue for another fifty years. In a touching show of commitment and curiosity, a group of Woodarburrrup Cup organisers made the trip to Perth earlier this year to visit Alinea's operations. They toured Paraquad Industries at Shenton Park, and Koh-I-Noor Contemporary Care in Wembley, seeing first-hand the impact of their fundraising efforts. For many, it was a powerful and affirming experience.

Alinea extends its deepest thanks to the Woodarburrrup Cup community—past and present—for their decades of generosity, humour, and heart. The funds raised this year will go directly towards improving the lives of our aged care residents and people living with disability.

Here's to the next 50 years.



Farewell to Joe...



ParaQuad says a 'cheerio' to its longstanding manager...

By Mark Verma
Communication & Project Officer

After more than 12 years of service, Joe Tuson has retired as manager of Paraquad Industries. After taking up his role in April 2013, Joe brought a steady and thoughtful leadership to PQI, drawing on decades of experience in manufacturing while embracing the challenge of a new and very different sector. Joe's arrival at Shenton Park marked a turning point. Though he readily admits that the early days were tough—grappling with staffing gaps and adapting to the disability employment sector—he found deep fulfilment in building strong, compassionate teams and expanding PQI's reach. His tenure was marked by stability, low staff turnover, and a workplace culture grounded in empathy and mutual support. Productivity and purpose, in Joe's view, were not competing goals, but twin pillars of a successful enterprise.

Among his many contributions, Joe is particularly proud of the expansion of PQI's ventures—from the opening of two new Op Shops, to launching the Inter Library Loan service, the Refund Point, and most notably, the Book Bazaar. What began as a few tables in a repurposed gym has grown under his guidance into a thriving business with a monthly turnover exceeding \$30,000.

Joe brought the meticulous eye of an engineer to everything he did. A details person at heart, he managed with quiet strength, consistency, and a deep sense of support for his team. He never lost sight of our mission to support people living with a disability, ensuring that every new venture aligned with that core purpose.



Joe saying goodbye to the Paraquad supported employees

Reflecting on Joe's impact, Executive Director Shane Yensch noted: "Joe's leadership has always been values-driven. He expanded our recycling efforts through partnerships like Return-It and strengthened our collaboration with the State Library—ensuring we not only delivered services but did so sustainably and with heart. His legacy is not just what he built, but how he built it—with humility, care, and a steadfast belief in the people around him." As Joe steps into retirement, he looks forward to what matters most: time with his grandchildren, and the quiet satisfaction of watching PQI's continued journey—from a well-earned distance.

Thank you, Joe, for your leadership, care, and lasting legacy.

...and welcome to Richard

...and 'hello' to its new one, Richard Horne

Richard Horne has recently stepped into the role of Manager at Paraquad Industries, bringing with him a uniquely diverse professional background and a clear passion for people.

From early days in retail and fast food—yes, he's a proud graduate of McDonald's 'burger university'—to managing technology services in National Health Service hospitals in the UK, Richard's career path has been anything but ordinary.

He's managed catalogue delivery operations across WA, owned and operated two pet stores, and most recently spent five years working in aged and residential care.

It's this broad experience, paired with a people-first approach, that drew him to Paraquad Industries.

"I've always been driven by the opportunity



to make a difference," Richard says. "This role allows me to use all those years of experience to help create better opportunities for people with disabilities."

Just a couple of months in, Richard already speaks highly of the team.

"The people are the best part of the job. The work is challenging, exciting, and full of variety—which I love."

Looking ahead, Richard is focused on innovation and sustainability. PQI is about to roll out a new till system across its retail stores to improve useability, and a new machine arriving in August will help enhance the organisation's capacity to recycle books.

"And later this year," Richard adds, "we're proud to be part of a special event celebrating 100 years of op shops in Australia."

With Richard at the helm, it's clear PQI is in capable—and compassionate—hands.



NAIDOC Week @ Koh-I-Noor

Koh-I-Noor celebrates NAIDOC Week

By Jennie Nielsen
Koh-I-Noor Facility Manager

National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee (NAIDOC) Week is a significant event in Australia, celebrating the history, culture, and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and encouraging all Australians to learn, reflect, and engage with Indigenous Australia. Previously not part of the activity planner at Koh-I-Noor, this year residents were consulted, and it was unanimously decided to add it to the event calendar.

The celebration originates from a protest on Australia Day in 1938, which coincided with the 150th anniversary of the first fleet landing. Protestors marched through the streets of Sydney calling for equality in citizen and voting rights for Aboriginal people in what was one of the first civil rights protest in the world. 2025 sees NAIDOC week reach its 50th milestone with the theme of recognising the resilience and enduring strength of indigenous communities.

Event banners and indigenous artifacts were placed on display throughout the facility, and



the event was embedded into the activity planner. Brain games, reminiscence, craft, sensory and news week sessions incorporated words, language, smells, foods, knowledge, and facts about indigenous culture. Cooking sessions were built around native ingredients which brought residents from across the facility together in a cook off to prepare for a unique tasting session. This included beetroot Davidson plum and chocolate brownies, muntrie health bites, and hemp seed and muntrie cake. The lifestyle team added lemon myrtle damper, Kakadu plum, and hemp seed muntrie berry smoothies, plus kangaroo sausages and steak tasters to what was a memorable and exceptional feast at afternoon tea.

Feedback from residents and family was all positive with many enjoying the different and distinctive tastes of the native ingredients. We look forward to recognising NAIDOC week in future years and again reflecting on the parallels of enduring strength and resilience of our current resident and staff cohorts.





Painting with Purpose

NAIDOC Week @ Paraquad

NAIDOC Week was also celebrated at Alinea's Paraquad Industries, where supported employees joined the celebration with a vibrant rock painting activity - now becoming a much-loved annual tradition. Markers in hand, staff gathered to honour the spirit of NAIDOC Week through creativity and connection.

This year's event, full of colour and conversation, was more than just a fun art session. It was a meaningful opportunity for our team to engage with First Nations culture and reflect on its significance within the Alinea community. As an organisation that includes Indigenous members and values cultural inclusivity, we are proud to pay tribute to the stories, symbols, and spirit of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

The decorated rocks - each unique - serve as small but powerful tokens of respect, understanding, and unity.

By Mark Verma
Communication & Project Officer



Shade, Shelter, Serenity

A brand new pergola for the Osboine garden

By Helena Nguyen
Bayswater Lifestyle Coordinator

Osboine's back garden is now even more inviting thanks to the addition of two brand-new pergolas. Installed in response to a thoughtful suggestion from the husband of one of the residents in Orton Wing, the pergolas provide a welcome place for residents and visitors alike to pause, rest, and enjoy the garden—whether soaking up a bit of sun or taking shelter from the rain.

Pergolas do more than offer shade—they help define outdoor spaces, add privacy, and enhance the beauty and ambiance of a garden. They also create a gentle transition between indoors and outdoors, encouraging people to linger a little longer in nature.

Terry Dean, whose wife, Margaret, is a resident, has also generously prepared a set of birdwatching guides, featuring beautiful photographs of the local birdlife often seen flitting about the Osboine grounds. These guides are now available in the pergolas for anyone curious about the feathered visitors who share our garden.

Whether you're enjoying a quiet moment, a cup of tea, or a spot of birdwatching, the new pergolas offer a peaceful new way to experience Osboine's outdoor charm.

Our heartfelt thanks go to gardener Aaron and his team, whose hard work and care brought the project to life.



International Nurses Day

Koh-I-Noor celebrates International Nurses Day

*By Jennie Nielsen
Koh-I-Noor Facility Manager*

There are many International Days on the World Health Organisation's annual calendar that aim to raise awareness or celebrate significant themes. One that stands out is International Nurses Day. Held every year on the anniversary of Florence Nightingales birthday, it's a time to reflect on the achievements of past and present nurses and consider the challenges for future ones. The global nursing profession faces numerous challenges, including widespread shortages, unsustainable workloads, burnout, and safety concerns. These issues are exacerbated by global health trends like ageing populations, chronic diseases, and emerging infectious diseases. Significant ethical concerns are held for the process of international recruitment with some condemning this practice as 'poaching' because local resources are being stripped with the lure of better pay and conditions.

Alinea is faced with the same challenges. Recently, the wages and opportunities for nurses in aged care have risen with hospitals



looking to aged care to fill their shortages. Staff previously seen as the 'poor cousins' to the acute sector are now actively recruited, which means that Alinea will need to compete harder and smarter for the dwindling number of qualified nurses. Koh-I-Noor currently has a team of 20 nurses who hail from Australia, the UK, Kenya, South Africa, India, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Japan, Myanmar, and Bhutan - with many of them undertaking or furthering their nursing education here in Australia. Conditions and pay rates at Koh-I-Noor have attracted team members, and the management role is to engage with these staff and make sure that morale, resources, and support are maintained and educational and career opportunities are offered so they stay with us.

While we appreciate that cake is not the biggest motivator, we served cakes on International Nurses Day (held on May 12th) to thank our nursing staff for their service.



Brewed Awakening



Supported Employees enjoy Morning Tea with a mission

By Mark Verma
Communication & Project Officer

On Thursday May 22, the kettles were bubbling and the cake trays groaning as ParaQuad Industries' Supported Employee Committee hosted a deliciously meaningful event: the Cancer Council's Biggest Morning Tea. From rich slices of decadent mudcake to thoughtful low-sugar and gluten-free options, the morning offered a smorgasbord of sweet generosity—because everyone deserves a treat, and everyone deserves support.

Thanks to the tireless efforts of the Committee, every supported employee was invited to share in the spread, the laughter, and the spirit of giving. The event wasn't just about tea and cake (though we did those very well); it was about



standing together for a cause that touches many in our community.

A huge thank you to everyone who pitched in, poured out, or simply turned up. Your presence and support helped raise awareness—and a few crumbs—for the incredible work the Cancer Council continues to do. It's a small way to make a big difference, one cup at a time.



Community supports Art Gallery

Feedback from the community on Alinea's Art Gallery

By Fran Wallis
Recreation Services Manager

Amazing work, very soothing space!

What an incredible initiative!
I am a ^(local) primary school art teacher and am blown away at the talent exhibited here!
Congratulations to all the artists involved and thank you for having the courage to share your creativity. ♡

Great idea. A joy to view.
With Thanks

Just wonderful

Beautiful space, amazing art! Looking forward to the next one.



Wonderful Artworks Steve. Appreciate your talent
→ glynis1@tpg.com.au.
Beautiful art, great work.
so glad your Exhibition happened.
so happy that I got to see this

Wonderful exhibit such variety.
Well done to all artist
You are all wonderfully talented.

So much talent,
Keep sharing! ♡



Beautiful moody works. Gorgeous glass!

Beautiful welcoming space - Beautiful Art.
Beautiful calm art and vast space
Great initiative! Will come back 😊
Love the abstract pictures X



lovely works just inspired here.

Beautiful work! Thanks everyone.

a truly joyous space
full of talent & creativity.

Absolutely Beautiful - Such talent - I love it!

103 Years...



Bayswater's oldest resident celebrates in style

By Mark Verma
Communication & Project Officer

Recently at Osboine Contemporary Care, staff and residents came together to mark a truly extraordinary occasion—the 103rd birthday of Inez, our oldest resident and a woman whose life story is as rich and inspiring as her years are long.

Born on 20 June 1922 in London, Inez has lived through the defining events of the 20th century and carries with her the grace, resilience, and humour of a life well lived.

A fluent speaker of both English and French, Inez served during the Second World War with the British Overseas Forces, later travelling

to France after D-Day while also raising her children.

Her nursing career spanned continents and decades, from her early days as a Queen's District Senior Nursing Sister in England to her voluntary contributions in Australia after migrating here in 1986.

"The Australian Vets made me and my ex-serviceman husband feel welcome," she recalls. "Some local GPs even made it possible for me to continue offering my nursing skills, building on my English registration."

Before retiring, Inez worked as a state-registered nurse tutor and midwife, dedicating her life to caring for others.

She has also documented her incredible journey in the *Three Loves Trilogy*, published under the pen name of Jo Martinez.

As balloons floated above and birthday cake was shared, Inez's presence reminded everyone at Osboine that aged care is not just about years—it's about honouring the lives behind those years.

"Both countries—England and Australia—have my loyalty and love," she said with a smile.

To celebrate a 103rd birthday is rare. To celebrate a life like Inez's is a privilege.

From all of us at Alinea, we salute you, Inez.



Events Calendar 2025

Book Bazaar Sale Dates - Shenton Park

22nd & 23rd August
19th & 20th September
17th & 18th October
21st & 22nd November
5th & 6th December

Aged Care Employee Day

7th August

World Spinal Cord Injury Day

5th September

International Day of Older Persons

1st October

World Op Shop Day

18th October

Alinea Annual General Meeting

22nd October

International Day of People with Disabilities

3rd December



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Alinea

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Osboine Contemporary Aged Care, Bayswater | Ritcher Lodge, Bayswater

ParaQuad Industries, Shenton Park | Alinea Recreation Services

Paravin, Campbellfield, Victoria | Alinea Client Services