

voice

M A G A Z I N E

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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 continuing to provide 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.



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Hilda Makkink

Koh-I-Noor Facility Manager
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Keeping it Safe and Sound

A new Workplace, Health, and Safety Initiative

Alinea recently introduced a new Workplace Health and Safety (WHS) award recognising staff who go above and beyond to keep our people safe.

Our inaugural recipient, truck driver Daniel Barry (pictured below with Alinea Executive Director Shane Yensch), set a high standard. While working around donation bins, Daniel identified and safely managed a serious biological hazard, acting quickly to protect others. His professionalism, care, and leadership embody Alinea's values in action.

We also recognised (top right picture) Ben Jennings (left) and Aaron Cornes with WHS Certificates of Appreciation. Through initiative and teamwork, they cleared and organised clutter at our Newton Street and Slade Street sites, significantly improving safety and accessibility.

At Alinea, workplace health and safety



is more than compliance - it is a shared responsibility and a reflection of our culture. By recognising staff who take initiative, we reinforce the importance of vigilance, care, and accountability in everything we do.

These efforts ensure everyone returns home safely, every day.





Raising the Bar(ista)

*Brewing up something new
@ the Alinea Café*

February 2026 marked an exciting new chapter for the ParaQuad Industries Café, with the arrival of a brand-new barista coffee machine. This fantastic addition has already proven to be a hit with both customers and staff, bringing a fresh energy to the café experience.

Beyond great coffee, this new machine is creating meaningful opportunities for our Supported Employees to develop valuable barista skills. For many, it's more than just learning to make coffee - it's a step towards achieving personal and professional goals.

Alex (pictured), one of our café Supported Employees, dreams of opening his own drop-in coffee shop one day. Gaining hands-on barista experience in a supportive and adaptive environment is an important milestone on his journey. With access to the right tools and guidance, Alex is building both confidence and capability every day.

Supported Employees work closely with Alinea's Client Services staff, receiving tailored, on-the-job training designed to suit their



*By Caroline Dosualdo
Client Services Manager*



individual needs. This collaborative approach ensures each person is supported in a way that helps them thrive, while developing practical skills in a real workplace setting.

Supported Employment at ParaQuad Industries is all about flexibility and growth. Through personalised coaching, workplace adjustments, and ongoing support, employees are empowered to build independence and move towards their employment aspirations.

Why not drop in and experience it for yourself? Come down, enjoy a delicious coffee, and support a café that's making a real difference.

Farewell, Daphne!

*Camellia Court Admin Assistant
Daphne Shaw retires*

*By Hilda Makkink
Camellia Court Village Manager*

After three years of dedicated service, Camellia Court has farewelled its much-loved Administration Assistant, Daphne Shaw, who retired on 22 January.

Staff and residents gathered for a morning tea to celebrate Daphne's contribution and wish her well for the next chapter. Known for her steady hand and friendly presence, Daphne played a key role in the day-to-day life of the village, helping ensure it remained a welcoming and well-run community.

Alinea Executive Director Shane Yensch attended the farewell, thanking Daphne for her commitment and care in supporting both residents and staff. Her impact on Camellia

Court will be long remembered.

As part of a new management structure, Facility Manager Hilda Makkink will now oversee Camellia Court alongside her existing sites. Supporting day-to-day operations, Business Support Assistant Rebecca Aquilina will be based on site Monday to Friday, ensuring continuity for residents.

We thank Daphne for her outstanding service and wish her every happiness in retirement.

Pictured are Daphne (front, in black), with Facility Manager Hilda Makkink (left) and, behind Daphne, Alinea Executive Director Shane Yensch, and Daphne's successor Rebecca Aquilina, along with some Village residents.





Nature Comes Calling

Our Bayswater residents host some animal guests

*By Helena Nguyen
Bayswater Lifestyle Coordinator*

Residents at Osboine and Ritcher Lodge enjoyed a morning of interaction with animals such as a koala, snake, blue tongue lizard, and sugar glider. It was a very interesting information session for all!

Wildlife visits in aged care bring moments of joy, connection, and calm that can be deeply meaningful for residents. Interacting with animals often sparks memories, conversation, and laughter, especially for people living with dementia - who may respond more readily to sensory experiences than to words alone. The presence of animals can reduce feelings of loneliness and anxiety, encourage social interaction, and create a warm, uplifting atmosphere within the care setting.



The Gift of Getting Away

A stay at Transition House

For many families, a holiday is a simple pleasure. For others, it can feel completely out of reach.

At Transition House, operated by Alinea and SCIA, that equation changes - quietly, thoughtfully, and with remarkable impact.

Vicki Nagle and her husband Gary recently experienced what the space is designed to offer: not just accommodation, but genuine possibility. Gary, who lives with Progressive Supranuclear Palsy (PSP), a rare neurological condition with no cure, requires full-time care and specialised equipment. Wheelchair use, hoist transfers, and a hospital-grade bed are part of daily life. Travel, in most circumstances, simply isn't feasible.

Transition House bridges that gap.

Purpose-built with accessibility at its core, the home features ceiling hoists, a hospital-style bed with air mattress, and carefully considered design elements that support both comfort and dignity.

For Gary, this meant continuity of care in an unfamiliar setting. For Vicki, it meant something just as important: the freedom to step outside routine and create meaningful moments together.

"Having this beautiful house has given him forever amazing memories," she shared. But it's not just the equipment that makes the difference - it's what it enables. The ability to visit family, attend appointments, and spend time together away from the structure of



Pictured are Gary and Vicki Nagle (centre), with friends.

everyday care. Things often taken for granted become, in this context, deeply significant. Importantly, the experience doesn't replace the support families rely on - it complements it.

With ongoing care from their local team, Gary and Vicki were able to enjoy a change of environment without compromising the standard of care he needs.

Transition House exists for exactly this reason: to remove barriers, restore a sense of normality, and ensure that even in the most challenging circumstances, moments of rest, connection, and joy remain within reach.



A Slice of Harmony

A Celebration of Diversity

Harmony Week celebrations came to a close on Thursday, 26 March, as supported employees at ParaQuad Industries enjoyed a vibrant day filled with orange-themed foods and activities that fostered cultural sharing.

Each year, during the week of the 21st March, Australia celebrates cultural diversity during Harmony Week celebrations. At ParaQuad Industries, inclusivity is a core value, and the week provided an opportunity to recognise and celebrate the rich diversity of cultures within the community. The event highlighted the importance of respect, belonging, and connection among all staff and supported employees.

Embracing orange as the official colour of Harmony Week, the café supported employees prepared a variety of orange-themed dishes for everyone to enjoy. The celebration also featured a poster wall, where employees and staff shared stories about their cultural backgrounds, highlighted unique traditions,

By Caroline Dosualdo
Client Services Manager



and expressed their hopes for fostering greater understanding and respect for all people.

The day was a meaningful reminder of the strength found in diversity and the importance of creating an inclusive and welcoming community.

Celebrations also took place at our aged care facilities in Wembley and Bayswater.



Upcycling to Art

Going beyond restoration @ Willetton Op Shop

By Ally Cameron
ParaQuad Op Shop Willetton Manager

At Paraquad Willetton, sustainability is more than a value - it is a daily practice. Behind the shelves and displays, thoughtful processes are in place to ensure as many donated items as possible are diverted from landfill and given a meaningful second life.

Among those leading this quiet sustainability effort is Meegan, whose hard work transforms worn wooden chopping boards into beautifully restored pieces. Boards that may have once been considered past their prime are carefully sanded back, refinished, and re-waxed, returning them to a condition ready for many more years of use. Each one leaves the store renewed - practical, polished, and full of character.

The same care extends to the book section. While many donated books find new homes as they are, some arrive too damaged to be resold in their original form. Rather than discarding them, Kate - who manages the books - carefully selects pages that can be salvaged. These illustrated or character-filled



pages are then passed on to Meegan, who pairs them with donated frames to create distinctive, ready-to-hang artworks.

The result is a collection of thoughtfully upcycled pieces that celebrate both sustainability and creativity. What might once have been waste becomes something practical, decorative, and desirable.

Through these small but intentional practices, Paraquad Willetton demonstrates that environmental responsibility does not require grand gestures. Sometimes, it simply begins with sanding, salvaging, and seeing possibility where others might not.





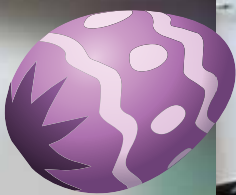
About This Artwork

These illustrations are real pages taken from the 1974 edition of *The Complete Adventures of Blinky Bill* by Dorothy Wall. The book was a damaged copy and could not be kept intact. By carefully preserving and framing the illustrated pages, the artwork and story have been respectfully saved and given new life.

— Framed by Paraquad Willetton —



Easter @ Alinea





Hooked on Kindness

Joan's Hats, Heart and Handmade Legacy

By Mark Verma
Communication & Project Officer

At Koh-I-Noor Contemporary Care, compassion takes many forms - but few are as quietly powerful as a crochet hook in the hands of resident Joan Morton.

A lifelong maker, Joan has been crocheting for more than seventy years, a skill first passed down by her grandmother in rural Queensland.

What began as a childhood craft has become a lifelong thread of care, woven through motherhood, teaching, and now retirement. Today, that thread reaches some of the community's most vulnerable - newborn babies.

From her seat at Koh-I-Noor, Joan continues to create beautifully handcrafted baby hats, sending them in batches of up to 100 at a time to St John of God Subiaco Hospital.

Each hat takes around four hours to complete, and no two are quite the same - each one a small, tangible expression of warmth, comfort, and dignity.

A retired high school teacher who worked across Queensland, the Northern Territory and Western Australia, Joan describes herself as



“community minded” - a phrase that feels like a gentle understatement.

To date, she has made well over 500 hats, each destined to bring comfort to a new family in those precious early days.

Life in aged care hasn't slowed her down. Between social activities and daily routines, Joan's hands remain busy, her work guided by purpose as much as pattern.

For Joan, it's simple: helping others brings joy. And in every carefully stitched hat, that joy is passed on - one newborn, one family, one moment of comfort at a time.

Events Calendar 2026

Book Bazaar Sale Dates - Shenton Park

22nd & 23rd May
19th & 20th June
17th & 18th July
21st & 22nd August
18th & 19th September
23rd & 24th October
20th & 21st November
11th & 12th December

NAIDOC Week

5th - 12th July

Aged Care Employee Day

7th August

World Spinal Cord Injury Day

5th September

International Day of Older Persons

1st October

International Day of People with Disabilities

3rd December



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Incorporating:

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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