

Included.

Inclusion Access Newsletter

Issue 6, March/April 2023



Meet the Team

Welcome to our March to April Newsletter for 2023.

My name is Brianna Barry.



Inclusion Access Board Member and Chair, Brianna Barry

Bringing over a decade of professional experience in disability support, I have expertise in the NDIS framework, care services, person-centred policy development, strategic planning, and customer engagement. Beginning with my own familial experience with disability, I have a personal drive to shift focus to contemporary disability practice, and know that holistic inclusion is a pivotal part of building a more equitable society.

I am passionate about inclusion and empowerment of people with disabilities, and I am delighted to be working towards the shared Inclusion Access vision of a more equitable and inclusive society.

Hidden Abilities is Nearly Here!

It's time to get excited about Hidden Abilities on Saturday 17 June from 1:30 to 5:30 pm at The Annex, Toowoomba City Hall. With the generous support of Bank of Queensland Toowoomba, we are gathering together our volunteers, setting the stage, lighting the lights and cueing the musicians, dancers and other performers.



The poster is split into two vertical panels. The left panel shows a man in a dark suit performing on a stage with a red carpet. The right panel shows a man in a wheelchair from behind, also on a stage. The background is dark with red and blue stage lights. Text is overlaid on the image.

Please join us for...

HIDDEN ABILITIES

A Performance with a DIFFERENCE

FEATURING TOM NASH

AND TIM MCCALLUM

Saturday 17 June, 2023
Toowoomba City Hall Annex
1:30 pm \$50

Plus other artists from the disability community and a silent auction



Keep an eye out for our Facebook page where we'll be letting you know more about our performances, as well as some of the items on offer in our silent auction.

Many thanks to our volunteers that are ready to step forward, but it's not too late if you'd like to help us behind the scenes. Just call Liz on 0407 037 206 if you'd like to help us with this event.

Remember, tickets are limited, so jump straight onto our Trybooking page to make sure you get your chance to see these incredible, inspiring performers in action.

<https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1022977>

Tactile Ground Surface Indicators - From Josh

TGSI's are more than a couple of bumps on the ground for people with vision impairment. TGSI's are like a language of their own to those who know how to read them. Dots or lines in certain locations mean different things to someone who is vision impaired. The dots show a hazard is coming up in 300 mm: such as stairs, ramps, roads, etc and the lines indicate direction.

As an access consultant, I often find that people don't know how to use TGSI appropriately. Even worse, they are sometimes used in completely the wrong way. Below is an example of how they were used at a beach as an anti-slip device. Anyone needing to navigate the area using a white cane would be very confused.



An example of how NOT to use Tactile Ground Surface Indicators

Out and about with Liz

31 The Rocks, Stanthorpe and Girraween National Park

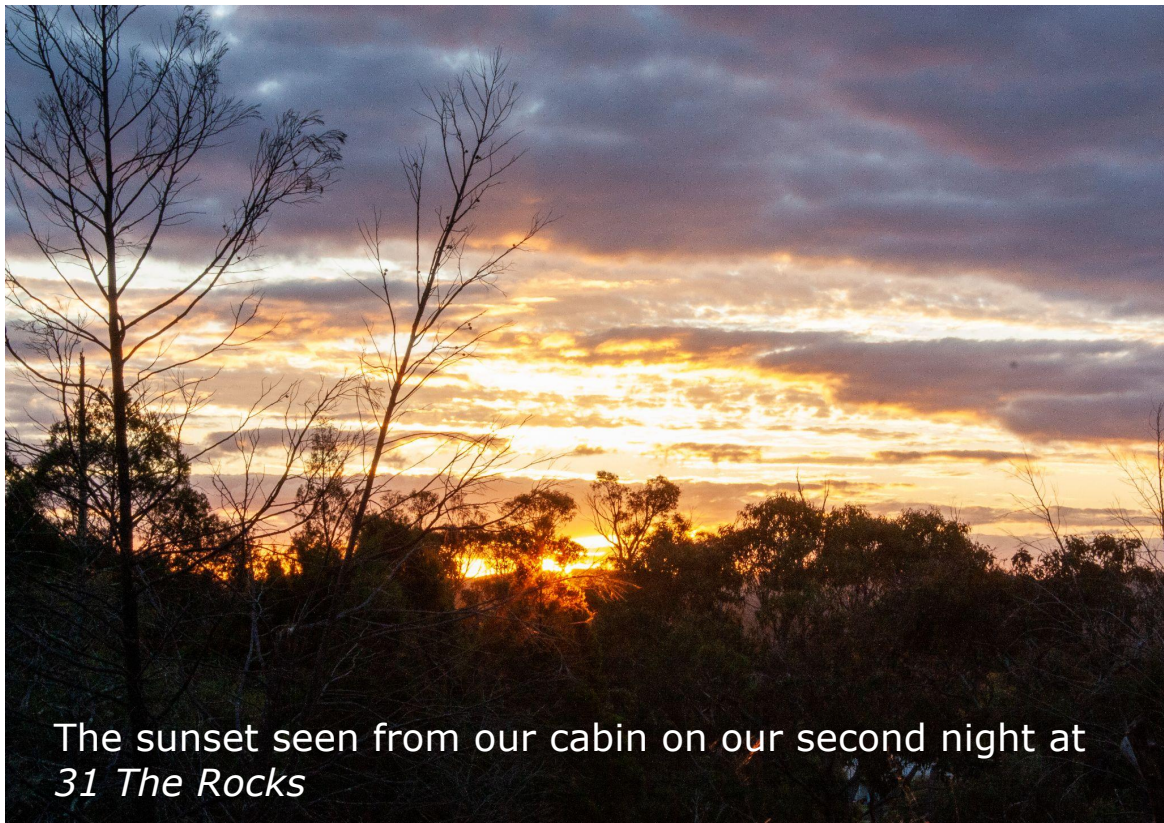
We all know how stressful life can be. One of the most effective ways to de-stress is to get in touch with the natural environment. While this presents extra challenges for people with disability, *31 The Rocks in Stanthorpe* is working hard to make getting back to nature easier for everyone.

Right on the edge of the town of Stanthorpe, my husband and I found the accommodation well signed and easy to find. As soon as we arrived in this gorgeous rocky bush setting we felt like we were in a different world. We were greeted with welcoming smiles from the owners, Deb and Scott, a complimentary continental breakfast basket and a short course on how to use the fireplace in case we had never used that type before. The rooms are stylish without being 'trendy' and so comfortable we immediately felt at home.





On the more nitty gritty side of life, there was a ramp up to the villa, a non-obstructive wide doorway entrance, a fully accessible bathroom and kitchen and a view to live for...



The sunset seen from our cabin on our second night at *31 The Rocks*

Like the rest of the world, it's not perfect. There are a couple of places where steps come into the picture, but when it comes to the basics of comfort and accessibility, they have it covered.

I wholeheartedly recommend a short stay there, and dare you not to want to stay longer.

31theRocksVilla3

When we arrived, Deb and Scott recommended we visit Girraween National Park. And we're glad we did.

Girraween is especially set up for people with disabilities, particularly wheelchair users. Their visitor information centre is a great place to view the tiny humans who have decided to make the torturous climb up The Pyramid. But there are also long winding paths around the centre that take you closer to the action.



The view from the Tourist Information Centre at Girraween National Park

<https://parks.des.qld.gov.au/parks/girraween>

Contact Us

That's all from us for this instalment. If you have any stories to share with us, we would love to hear from you. Take care, friends.

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