

# GSNV August Update 2002

## **AGM – Food Fun Friendship and Fellowship**

It is going to be a great Annual General Meeting, but only if the people who are the backbone of GSNV come and share in the achievements of the past year and help create a structure for the next. And if that doesn't tempt you, there will be food! Guest speaker Ms Chris McAuslan from the Collective of Self-Help Groups will be discussing the achievements of a quarter of a century of self help groups and social action in Melbourne.

### **AGM Details**

When; Wednesday 21 August 6.00pm sharp  
Where; Conference Room 10<sup>th</sup> Floor Royal Children's Hospital Flemington Rd Parkville  
RSVP; August 19 info@gsnv.org.au

## **Special Projects Grants**

Once again, the GSNV is offering small grants of up to \$400 for members to complete special projects. Please see the attached information sheet and application form, or ring Eilis and Emma on 03 8341-6315 to discuss it further. Applications are due by Friday 13 September. Good luck!

## **Prenatal Testing Workshop**

Current Researchers and Service Providers will be conducting a workshop and forum discussing the ongoing projects and future of Prenatal Testing in Victoria.

Thursday 22nd August, 2002 9am - 12pm

Vernon Collins Lecture Theatre, Front Entry Building, 4th Floor Royal Children's Hospital  
Morning tea will be provided. Please RSVP by August 12 on 03 83416260 or  
email: jaquesa@murdoch.rch.unimelb.edu.au

## **National Self Help Forum in September 2002**

COSHG National Forum will be held at the Coburg Concert Hall 13 – 14 September, at 90 Bell Street, Coburg and will include workshops, talks, discussions and displays celebrating 25 years of self help. There will also be an extra day for self help workers at the COSHG office on Sunday September 15. Volunteers are needed to assist at the forum and if you could help for an hour or two, this would be very much appreciated. More information at <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~coshg>

## **Breaking The Bonds Of Depression**

The Anxiety Recovery Centre of Victoria is celebrating OCD & Anxiety Disorders Week 4 - 10 August. Activities will include a seminar for the community and professionals on breaking free from anxiety and depression to be held on Saturday 10 August 11.00 - 4.45 at the Camberwell Centre, Parkview Room, 340 Camberwell Road, Camberwell. For further information or to register contact the Anxiety Recovery Centre Victoria on 03 9576 2311 or email: [arcmail@arcvic.com](mailto:arcmail@arcvic.com)

## **Discussion Paper – Genetic Information Privacy**

You may recall the public inquiry into genetic information earlier this year. Some of you came to a meeting here at the hospital and offered your input into this inquiry. The Australian Law Reform Commission will be releasing an 800 page discussion paper which will include proposals under consideration by the inquiry into the protection of human genetic information. This paper can be viewed and downloaded free at the ALRC's website at [www.alrc.gov.au](http://www.alrc.gov.au). Or if you would like a hard copy contact:  
The Law Reform Commission of Australia  
GPO Box 3708  
Sydney NSW 2001  
ph 02 9284 6333 or email [publications@alrc.gov.au](mailto:publications@alrc.gov.au)

## **Disability Access To Websites**

Are you aware of the barriers that some websites have built into them (not deliberately) which prevent people with disabilities from accessing them? The W3C Web Accessibility Initiative has produced guidelines to ensure the widest possible access to websites. The GSNV ([www.gsnv.org.au](http://www.gsnv.org.au)) is currently reviewing our own site, and Genetic Health Services Victoria ([www.genetichealthvic.net.au](http://www.genetichealthvic.net.au)) have reviewed theirs and made appropriate changes. Is it time to review yours? Organisations whose websites are not accessible can have a complaint brought against them under the Disability Discrimination Act. Information, guidelines, checklists and tips can be found at [www.w3c.org/WAI](http://www.w3c.org/WAI) or the GSNV can send copies to you.

Here's  $\Phi I \zeta E \Theta Y I X K T I I I \Sigma$  for you to start with:

- **Images & animations.** Use the **alt** attribute to describe the function of each visual.
- **Hypertext links.** Use text that makes sense when read out of context. For example, avoid "click here."
- **Page organization.** Use headings, lists, and consistent structure. Use **CSS** for layout and style where possible.
- **Tables.** Make line-by-line reading sensible. Summarize.
- **Check your work.** Validate. Use tools, checklist, and guidelines at <http://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG>

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## **Getaway Special – Holidays For All**

Some of you may have seen the story on Channel 9's Getaway program dealing with holidays and destinations which are disability friendly. Information from the story is available on the show's web-site at

<http://travel.ninensn.com.au/getaway/askgetaway/2002/15/askgetaway3.asp> or contact the GSNV Office if you would like a hard copy sent to you.

**There will be no GSNV committee meeting in August – it will be replaced by the AGM on Wednesday 21 August at 6pm. All welcome!**

**For more information on anything you've read here, please contact Eilís or Emma in the GSNV office on (03) 8341-6315.**