

In Touch

Chairman Chat

It is with great pleasure that I am able to advise you all - supported employees, support staff, family and friends, that the long awaited completion of a merger of Hands On SA and Finding Workable Solutions has been signed, sealed and delivered after a gestation period of nearly a year. After all, it only takes an elephant two years to have a baby. Four FWS directors will join the five HOSA directors; I will remain Chairman and Andrew Ramsey CEO of the merged organisation.

The new organisation will be significantly larger than HOSA at present, and more importantly, be able to offer a greater range of goods and services to present and future customers in a wider variety of locations. Our objective in growing our size is to be able to meet the challenges of the NDIS, plus those of an increasing competitive market for packing and small assembly type work.

For people in our Kent Town and Oaken facilities we will see little change, we will continue to emphasise quality and on-time delivery. We will also make an effort to find more workspace, which is up to our standards and convenient to travel to. Once again, I thank you all for the privilege of leading the organisation, and welcome our FWS friends to the fold.

Thank you all for your tremendous support as we look towards a very exciting future.

Roy Arnold, Chairman

CEO Chat

Hooray!!!! The merger is complete. Well now the hard but fun work starts. A huge thank you to everyone involved across Finding Workable Solutions (FWS) and Hands On SA for the support throughout the process.

It is hard to believe that more than a year has passed since discussions first commenced on a possible merger, and throughout the process many people have worked very hard to make it happen. I personally have to thank Chairman Roy Arnold for the guidance, support and leadership he has provided me and the Board throughout the process.

A merger is a hugely collaborative process and in our case complicated by the various funding contracts and agreements each party has in place with government departments to deliver the valuable services we provide to the people living with disability across the State.

We officially completed the merger process on the 1st of September, which brings together Hands On SA and Finding Workable Solutions as the one entity, whilst continuing to operate the two brands in the respective areas of operation. The presence we have in the market place will continue as it has been whilst the Board and management team embark on a robust process of strategic review and planning for a vibrant and sustainable future for the organisation.

It will be a great time to have the organisation come together for a picnic and activity day on Sunday, December the 3rd for International Day for People with Disability. I ask that everyone put this date in their diaries as it will be a significant and very fund day for everyone to share in. More news on this day will come through event specific communications. Of course, you can stay in touch with the news on what is happening through the Hands On SA Facebook page.

Aside from the merger, business activity has continued well. We have received a very positive report from external auditors on our operations and we continue to improve. The feedback we receive from all stakeholders, employees, families and friends of Hands On SA is so valuable and we thank you for your contribution.

It would be remiss of me to forget to mention the highly successful quiz night held recently at the Klemzig community Hall. It was a fantastic evening, well planned and executed by all involved, and capped off beautifully by the wonderful attendance of 160 plus people across from across FWS and HOSA. A special thanks to sponsors of the event. I almost can't wait till the next one.

As we roll into September, a time when all focus moves to the AFL footy finals, I continue to keep fingers crossed that an Adelaide team can win. It is nice to have had two Adelaide based teams in the finals which has kept the majority of our troops content and happy in the workplace.

Good luck to the Adelaide Crows for the remainder of the finals series.
Thanks to everyone and keep up the great work.

Andrew Ramsey, CEO

Recent News

CEO Andrew Ramsey recently attended a meeting of National Disability Services (NDS) members to parliament house in Canberra.

This visit coincided with a national conference of Australian Disability Enterprises each as members of the NDS, was held to promote the value of supported employment to the Australian economy.

Today there are more than 20,000 supported employees working across hundreds of disability service providers across Australia adding value to the economy and reducing pressure on the welfare system.



CEO Andrew Ramsey pictured here with Jane Prentice, Australia's Assistant Minister for Disability Services.

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The NDIS and Hands On SA

The NDIS roll out across Hands On SA employees is progressing very well albeit slowly.

We have around 5 people who have transitioned to the NDIS, and Genevieve has been supporting many more in preparation and or transition.

We cannot emphasise enough to everyone the importance for you to make very clear your desire and need to continue with supported employment at the planning meeting.

A plan which provides you the necessary funding to continue with supported employment will have funding allocated to “Finding and Keeping a Job”.

We are here to support you through your NDIS transition. Please contact us on **08 8130 1800** to chat about the NDIS.

Capability Corner

What’s the old saying? – “Many Hands Make Light Work”.

I do hope the broader community and network of Hands On SA and Finding Workable Solutions is spreading the news that we can do almost anything to support a business where the task requires many hands to get the job done.

If you are reading this newsletter, we ask you to think about one company contact you might have that can be introduced to us so we can continue to grow. Have them call us on 08 8130 1800.

We provide business solutions through a range of tasks that we perform which include: packaging, assembly, mail-out, conference packs, labelling, shrink wrapping, food packa-

ging, bar coding, quality inspection, counting, liquid filling, heat sealing, binding, document shredding, bundling and strapping, product counting and packing, inkjet printing and so much more.

What’s NEW? – with the merger, why not get to one of the waste transfer stations at Elizabeth, Mount Barker, Goolwa or Brinkley to visit one of the “Salvage and Save” operations. These sites are more than you expect – a place where treasures and trinkets are brought back to life.

If you have a holiday shack down at the Victor Harbor or Goolwa regions, you can relax by arranging the FWS lawn mowing and grounds maintenance teams to tidy your yard and save you a backache. Also, drop into the FWS Firewood Yard at Victor Harbour to pick up your ready split and quality firewood to keep you cosy and warm!

As you can see from the above, we have an every growing range of products and services we can provide. Simply call us with any enquiries on 08 8130 1800 and we will do what we can to solve the need you have.

Andrew Ramsey.





Meet the Team

Ryan


Ryan joined the team at Hands on SA in 2002 and has been with us for fifteen years.

He works three days a week and enjoys a variety of jobs including packaging, counting and sorting products.

During his days off, Ryan likes to play cricket  and goes tenpin bowling twice a week. He loves hamburgers, the colour yellow, singing songs and

watching the Karate Kid movies . Ryan also enjoys watching sports, particularly the footy as he barracks for the Crows and Port Power, as well as tennis, with his favourite player being Andy Roddick.

Ryan is proud to have become a part of the Hands On SA family and he has made many friends throughout his time with us. He would recommend working at Hands On SA to his friends outside the business, and to anyone else interested in


supported employment, as he loves his job. 





Genevieve



Genevieve has been working as at Hands On SA for over a year. She started as a social research intern, and is now Projects



Officer . As Projects Officer, Gen's role is to manage multiple projects across HOSA, and she has been particularly busy managing the NDIS implementation.



One of Gen's favourite things about working at HOSA is being able to help families and supported employees understand the NDIS. She also really

enjoys the special events, such as the sports day  because she thinks promoting being fit and healthy is very important. 

Outside of HOSA Gen enjoys hiking and spending time with her family and friends. She recently returned from a trip to Vietnam where she thoroughly enjoyed learning about the incredible culture and loved being able to develop her skills by participating in a Vietnamese cooking class!

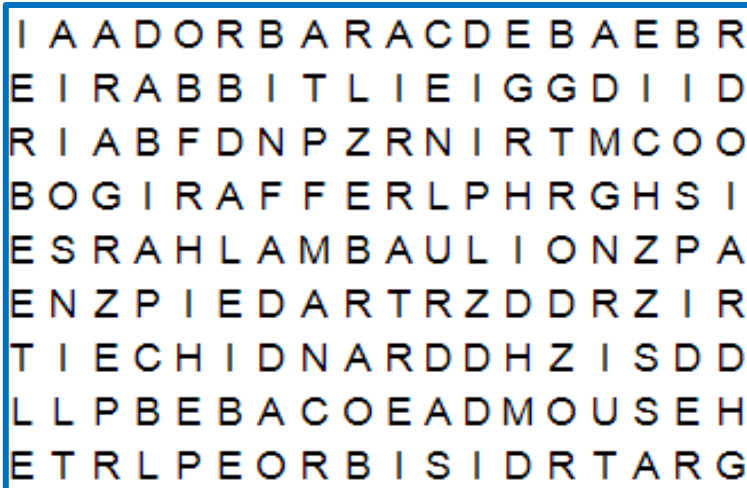
Jolly Joker

Why don't they play poker  in the jungle? Too many cheetahs. 

Why do hummingbirds hum?  Because they don't know the words. 

HOSA Word Search

In theme with our recent Pet Photo Competition, have a go at finding these animal words!



- | | |
|----------|---------|
| BIRD | MOUSE |
| ECHIDNA | DOG |
| HORSE | GIRAFFE |
| LIZARD | LION |
| RABBIT | PIG |
| CAT | ZEBRA |
| ELEPHANT | SPIDER |

There is a bonus unlisted word to find! Clue: I'm a wooly baby farm animal





Quiz Night

Thank you to everyone that attended and all our generous donors!





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