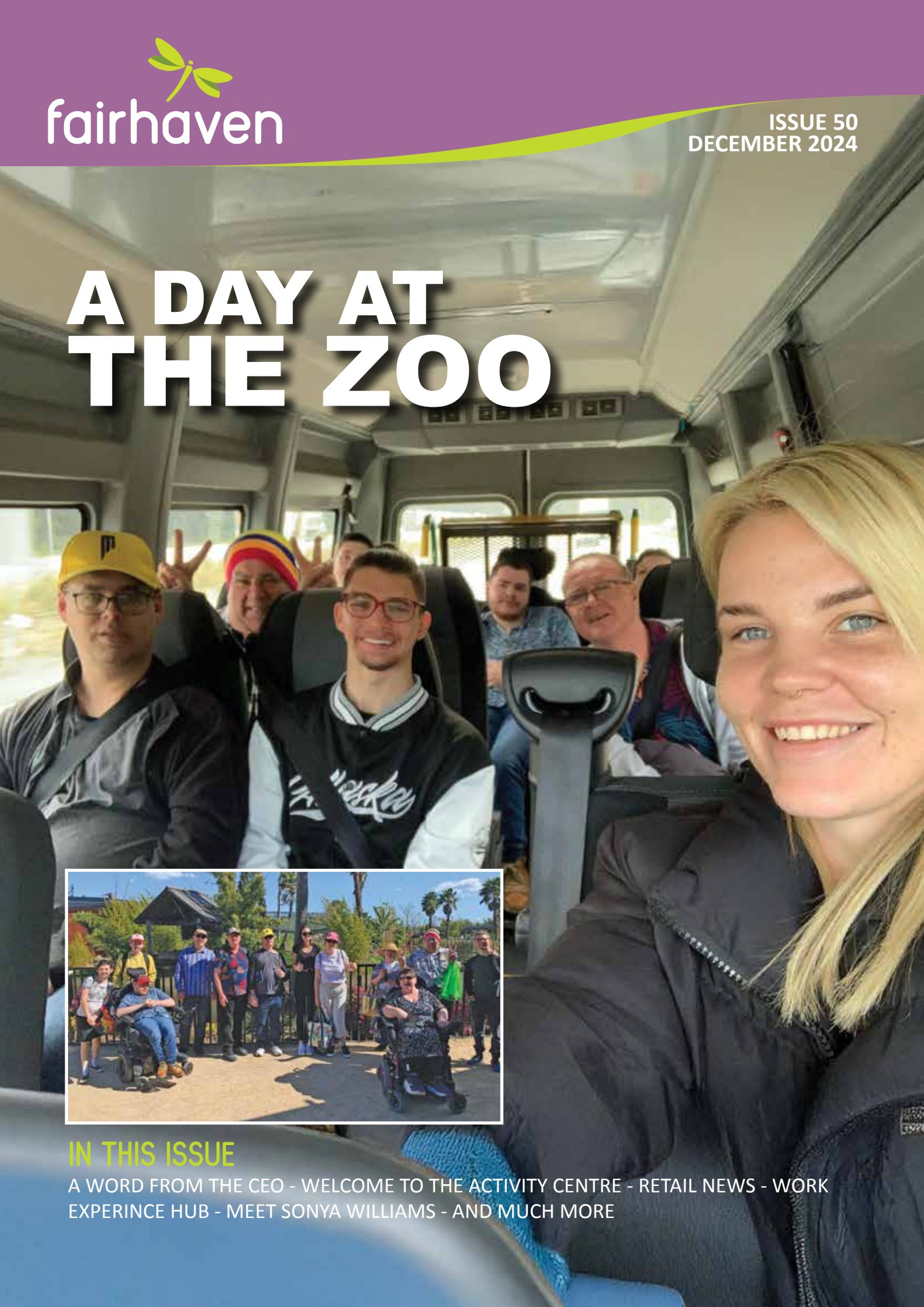


A DAY AT THE ZOO



IN THIS ISSUE

A WORD FROM THE CEO - WELCOME TO THE ACTIVITY CENTRE - RETAIL NEWS - WORK EXPERIENCE HUB - MEET SONYA WILLIAMS - AND MUCH MORE

B-I-N-G-O!

Our weekly Bingo and Cash Housie events across the Central Coast are a chance to win cash, prizes and support Fairhaven, your local disability charity.

Cash Housie

Thursdays 7.30pm

Ettalong Bowling Club

103 Springwood St, Umina Beach

Bingo

Mondays 11.00am

Ettalong Bowling Club

103 Springwood St, Umina Beach

Fridays 10.30am

Everglades Country Club

Dunban Rd, Woy Woy



Cover Photo



Fairhaven Out 'n' About Day at the Sydney Zoo.

3 Supports Tara, Enya, Warwick and 10 dedicated Adventurers

A fun and educational day from beginning to end. Sydney Zoo was a day that involved beautiful natural exhibits that showcased a huge variety of animals from all around the world.

We explored the Aquarium and Elephants enclosure, laughed at the swinging monkeys interacting with each other and now have a better understanding of the importance of protecting our Australian wildlife.

The bird show demonstration hosted by the Zookeepers was a favourite followed by lunch at the Café and going wild in the gift shop finding that special souvenir. We were particularly happy with how wheelchair friendly the Zoo is which meant everyone got equal opportunity to see everything. The bus ride there and back was spent laughing, playing I-spy, and carpool karaoke which made the travel fly by.

The feedback form stated, "Great day out with a great bunch of people" and a special shout out to Luke for coming along in his first Out 'n' About adventure....I'm sure from his level of enthusiasm it won't be your last.

OP SHOP DONATIONS

By donating your unwanted goods, you're not only giving a once loved item another home, you are helping Fairhaven continue to create opportunities where people living with disability can achieve what they want from life.

Fairhaven Op Shopping Village Donation Hours

Monday to Friday 9.30am to 2:30pm.



Christmas is almost upon us and what a time we have had in our first 6 months of the year. Our family forums at Tuggerah and Point Clare continue to be well supported with family members and guardians keen to understand changes in the NDIS, the best methods to be used to undertake plan reviews and our events for participants in the near future.

We have provided great experiences for our residents and Community participants including:

- a spectacular Bush Dance where we had around 100 people on site at Point Clare who sang and danced to the live country and western band
- an electrifying evening of music, dance and nostalgia through the Rock of Ages: A Musical Journey through time which included greatest hits from the 1950's to the 2000's
- drumming every Monday morning where free expression is encouraged
- visiting the Hunter Valley Lights which was enjoyed by all

Fairhaven's residential accommodation at Kincumber and Booker Bay continues to be full. We welcome our new residential management team – Isaiah Vane, Deborah Harlow & Francis Antoine who settled in to their new roles and working proactively with our residents, their families, carers and guardians.

The Annual General Meeting for Fairhaven Services Ltd was held on 20 November 2024. The Financial and Operational Annual Reports were presented to members and the Board. The results showed a small financial loss and confirmed that Fairhaven continues to operate within a regime of good governance and sound financial management.

The NDIS landscape is a moving feast with legislative changes identifying what can and cannot be funded using NDIS plan funding. Fairhaven's services all comply with the services that can be funded. Most recently Fairhaven had its mid term review to identify whether we were operating in accordance with our NDIS Licence requirements. It is with great please that I advise we have passed this mid term review with flying colours!

So, as the year draws to a close, we are all looking forward to the Fairhaven Christmas Party on Thursday 19 December 2024. Fairhaven's Administration, Op Shopping Village and CoPack Tuggerah site will close on 20 December 2024 and return on 6 January 2025. However, the Fare Cravin Café will be operational every day except the public holidays.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my staff, volunteers, management team and Board members for their support, dedication and hard work during 2024 and look forward to a healthy, happy and prosperous 2025.

Kind Regards,

Rhonda Wheatley FCPA |CEO



Welcome to the new "Activity Centre"

Recently Fairhaven opened the revamped "Hub" for use by participants attending day programs. The new centre offers Table Tennis, Pool table, indoor Mini-golf, fitness equipment and music activities, along with the currently established arts and crafts groups.





Breakfast club at the activity centre



fairhaven copack

CoPack have been very busy over the last 2 months packing of over 90,000 Mini + Me cartons which equals 2.7mil individual sachets as well as keeping up with our regular customers supply needs.



Our shop is humming with positivity this season, as fresh ideas and exciting initiatives bring more joy and connection to everything we do. October kicked off with a burst of community spirit as we launched new ways to attract volunteers across all our departments using targeted signage and social media.

The heart of our success has always been our commitment to community service, and we're delighted to share that this dedication is bearing fruit. Our partnership with Hearing Australia brought essential health services right to our doorstep in October, while our revamp and refocus on our loyalty program has given regular shoppers something extra to smile about.



Staff members *Chrissy Wilson, Con Orfanos* and volunteer *Margie Colefax*.

November proved to be a month of remarkable achievements. The Garage Sale Trail events exceeded all expectations, with our tills ringing up sales increases of up to 52% compared to standard trade in the previous year. Perhaps the most exciting surprise was the arrival of over a tonne of brand new books - a treasure trove for our book-loving customers! Our newly launched Fair Price Promise has already struck a chord with shoppers, who've been quick to share their appreciation for our commitment to accessible pricing both in social media comments and on the op shop floor.

As we look to the future, opportunity knocks with potential collaborations brewing with Erina Fair, and our creative horizons are expanding with plans to seek funding for an innovative arts pod. We're particularly proud that even in challenging

moments - from summer heat waves to unexpected traffic disruptions - our community's support hasn't wavered. In fact, our recent International Day of People with Disability celebration saw sales soar nearly 37% compared to last year's event.



Display of brand new books.

These achievements remind us of the incredible power of community support. Every donation, purchase, and friendly visit helps us create positive change, and we're grateful to everyone who continues to make our op shop such a vibrant part of local life.



What an incredible wrap to our 2024 Work Experience Program!

We're thrilled to have hosted students from across our region:

- Tuggerah Lakes Secondary College (Berkeley Vale & Tumby Umbi campuses)
- Lake Munmorah High School
- Lisarow High School - DoE NSW
- Kincumber High School
- Brisbane Water Secondary College - Woy Woy BWSC Woy Woy
- Narara Valley High School

This year, we expanded our program to include exciting STEM projects alongside our traditional woodworking activities. Some of these amazing creations even featured at our recent bush dance!

A huge thank you to Central Coast Branches of Bendigo Bank, Mingara Recreation Club and Ettalong Bowling Club (through the ClubGrants program) for their generous support in making this program possible. Your funding helps us create valuable learning experiences for our local youth!

Special shoutout to all the students - your enthusiasm was infectious!





Sonya Williams

Sonya has been a valued volunteer at Fairhaven for over 10 years. Originally aiming to complete a 5-week placement with Fairhaven, Sonya started work at CoPack when it was located in West Gosford. Since that time, Sonya has thrived on the work environment that Fairhaven offers and accepted the challenge of filling numerous roles within Fairhaven’s various departments.

Working in the Op Shop, Sonya identifies being busy with hands-on work and being out amongst the community as the things she loves most. One of Sonya’s main roles involves preparing goods for resale.

Sonya believes that life isn’t about just one thing. “Never give up on life!” are words that Sonya lives by. She also wants everyone to know how cool it is to work in Fairhaven’s Op Shop.



fairhaven

-  Supported Employment
-  Residential Living Options
-  Point Clare Shopping Village
-  NDIS Support Coordination
-  School Leaver Support
-  Community Activities

www.fairhaven.org.au

hello@fairhaven.org.au

Ph: 4349 5500