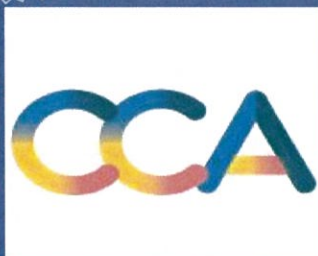


December Newsletter 2016



Geoff & Mark,
Matched September
2016

Merry Christmas from our Office to you!

The crazy time of year is upon us again and we would like to take this opportunity to thank each of you for your ongoing support throughout the year. As some of you may be aware, we haven't had a newsletter in some time now, however we will be aiming to distribute them 3 times a year.

It has been a busy year here in the Office. We have been successful in having some new Advocates and Protégés come on board.

Throughout the year we have hosted some Advocate Information Session pizza nights and have had a great turnout from our Advocates. These will

continue throughout next year.

We underwent a CAPE in November where our Advocates and Protégés were able to be involved and for this we thank you.

We have many ideas to make next year a productive and exciting year and look forward to building stronger relationships with you. Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Ewan & Amanda

A special message from the Management Committee

In the past year our program has undertaken a range of activities outside of our key office activities where Ewan has made some wonderful new matches. We've seen the installation of a new solar power system (thanks to a grant received from the Gambling Community Benefit Fund) and been able to send our Coordinator Ewan to participate in his first Citizen Advocacy Program Evaluation (CAPE) at the North Quabbin CA Program based in Massachusetts, USA (thanks to another small grant from the Citizen Advocacy Trust of Australia). CCA then held its own CAPE in November this year. We were most pleased with the verbal feedback from the CAPE Team Leader at the end of the evaluation and we're now keen to receive the written report so we can work towards the

implementation of the recommendations over the next couple of years. We thank all those who participated in our CAPE via interviews, preparations, and organisation, with special thanks to the CAPE Team Members: John Armstrong, Mitchel Peters, John Ferreirinho, Paula Fisher, Deb Maio and Jules Garland. Your diligence and wisdom is deeply appreciated.

We bestowed Life Membership upon Kerrie Monaghan at our recent AGM but unfortunately lost Kerrie, Andrew White and Sharon Beed from the committee this year. We thank them all for their generous support of Capricorn Citizen Advocacy. As Christmas draws closer, we wish all our Protégés, Advocates, Advocate Associates, Members and Allies a happy and healthy festive season and a fantastic new year!

Jenny Smith, President.

Special events for 2017

- Thursday 13th April, Pizza Advocate Night
- Thursday 17th August, Pizza Advocate Night

Match Anniversary

Dates- past quarter

Kath & Patricia

21 September

Bev & Courtney

24 September

Kerrie & Diana

27 November

Julie & Madonna

27 November

Ray & Jason

10 December

Christine & Carmel

12 December

Mark & Ernest

21 December

**What do you call a person who is
afraid of Santa Claus?**

Claustrophobic!



**North Quabbin CAPE Team - March 2016;
(left to right)**

George Seaborough; Savannah Chatham Citizen Advocacy,
Ewan Filmer; Capricorn Citizen Advocacy;
Dimity Peter; Team Leader; University of Massachusetts, Boston,
Nicole Cashin; Athens-Clarke Citizen Advocacy,
Jack Yates; Creating Our Commonwealth, Massachusetts,
Laura Lloyd; Syracuse One to One Citizen Advocacy
Katina Clay; Citizen Advocacy; Georgia Advocacy Office

Ewan's Trip to America for CAPE & CA Research

- 2016 has been a good year. My first Citizen Advocacy Program Evaluation was in North Quabbin Massachusetts in March 2016 followed by some visits to other CA programs.
- I was fortunate to take away some practical tips which were freely shared with me. These included match letters, creating and maintaining files, preparing protégé profiles (including creating an 'image' of the protégé), keeping a 'Name Givers List', and a 'Keeping Warm List', structuring regular follow along of matches, reporting to my Management Committee on key office activities, planning for new matches, regular advocate development sessions, fundraising activities, training and mentoring of Coordinators and MC Members.
- Two primary differences between Australian programs and those in the USA are apparent; firstly we are subjected to more regulatory oversight including quality system compliance. Secondly, the USA programs are much more reliant on funding from philanthropic sources; however the programs in Georgia and Nebraska also have strong support from their State governments.
- Regular fundraising events by CA Programs also have a positive secondary effect; embedding the program within its community.

Thank you to the CA Trust of Australia & Capricorn Citizen Advocacy for making this wonderful trip possible.

Ewan Filmer, Coordinator

Website & Facebook

Behind the scenes we have been working on creating a new website. This will make it easier for us to keep you up to date with what is happening in the office and also up and coming events.

We are hoping to personalise it by having photos of our Advocates and Protégés, Management Committee Members and Office Staff. We will have the website live in the beginning of the New Year.

For those of you who are in the land of Facebook, did you know that we have a Facebook page? The page is called Capricorn Citizen Advocacy, feel free to share with your family and friends.



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year
From Capricorn Citizen Advocacy.

Management Committee

Jennifer Smith – President

Sharon Lowe – Secretary

Graeme Brady – Treasurer

Nicholas Mundy – Committee Member

Don McCall – Committee Member

Michelle Pownall – Committee Member

Staff

Ewan Filmer – Coordinator

Amanda Rickertt – Administration Officer

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