



## A Great Day on the Green

**In March this year Barkuma's 8th annual Corporate Charity Golf Day took place at The Tea Tree Gully Golf Course. With the greens in fabulous condition and around 100 participants, the day proved once again to be a huge success.**

In contrast to last year's frosty morning, our pre-golf BBQ breakfast was sunny and mild. As the day progressed things warmed up further, with all players managing to complete the course by the 1pm lunch deadline.

A big coup for this year's event was the attendance of Adelaide's own Hilltop Hoods. The Hoods played a comical nine holes, with their team of four consisting of Suffa MC, Pressure, DJ Debris and radio station Nova's DJ Shep. The Hilltop Hoods also generously donated \$2,000. This was a fantastic surprise to event organisers and a massive boost to our fundraising efforts on the day.

Competition was fierce and final results thrillingly close. First was Chas's Men on 52½, second, Accesspay 2 with 53½, closely followed in third place by Billy Hopkins' Customtel Team on 54½.

The 2010 Golf Day raised \$12,000 to support Barkuma's Personal Leadership Program, run for students with intellectual disabilities and learning difficulties. This will fund places for an additional 12 students.

Thanks to our principal sponsor Street Fleet and our supporting sponsors Customtel, Business SA Apprenticeship Centre, MC

Chartered Accountants and Bank SA Staff & Charitable Fund. Thanks also to Kingston Estate Wines, JT Cycles and Andrew Long for their generous In-kind donation of prizes.

To register your interest in the 2011 Golf Day contact Jaclyn Schapel on 8414 7100 or [jaclyns@barkuma.com.au](mailto:jaclyns@barkuma.com.au).



# Special Olympics

Six Barkuma clients represented South Australia at the Special Olympics 2010 National Games, with some fantastic results. They were among 850 athletes with an intellectual disability who gathered in Adelaide for a week of competition, social activities and general fellowship.

## With an auto-mechanic apprenticeship under his belt, the future is looking bright for Personnel Employment client Nathan Ford.

The 20-year-old has built a solid career foundation with Metro Holden, completing his apprenticeship in November 2009 with the support of his Service Manager and Personnel Employment trainee and apprenticeship mentor, Jack Hopkinson.

"I have really enjoyed working in a professional workshop and getting the excellent training that comes with being part of a big dealership like Metro Holden," says Nathan of his experience.

Additional support played a great part in Nathan's overall success.

"Nathan has some difficulty with reading and writing, which had no impact on his abilities as a mechanic," says Jack. "I assisted him with his theory work and also to acquire other life skills."

Despite finding the apprenticeship tough going at times, Nathan's persistence was rewarded when he was recognised as the Most Improved Student in 2009, by the Holden training team.

Jack believes the benefits of Nathan's apprenticeship are numerous. "Nathan can go anywhere in the world with his qualifications. I think we'll see him go on to even bigger things," says Jack.

Nathan's latest challenge has been building his own three-bedroom home on a 450 square metre block at Aldinga, where he grew up. "I feel more independent," he said. "There is still a lot to do in the garden, but I already feel a real sense of achievement."



Special Olympics athletes had the chance to show off their skills, enjoy the fun and friendship of the official Special Olympics Village and the pride of wearing their state colours. There were also plenty of activities for non-competing athletes and their families, so they too could experience the thrill of the event.

Athletes competed at a variety of venues across Adelaide and were involved in a total of twelve sports including:

- athletics
- basketball
- bocce
- cricket
- golf
- gymnastics
- swimming
- tennis
- tenpin bowling
- sailing
- soccer
- softball.

In true Olympic spirit the Games started with a torch run, which concluded at The Dome, where the Olympic cauldron was lit to kick off the Opening Ceremony and Parade of Athletes.

SAPAC employee Peter Kerin, competed in Mixed Doubles Tennis. Peter and his doubles partner Melissa Gallacher fought some tough battles, but excelled and came away with the Gold medal.

Robert de Rosa, Robbie Mastrogiacomo and Josh Maddeford, all competed in soccer, coming away with the Bronze Medal. Robert de Rosa's awesome striking included a hat trick in his first game followed by four goals in his next match.

Toby Sutherland and Catherine Beinke competed in respective men's and women's Basketball competitions, both of which scooped Silver medals.

The final Medal tally for the Olympics saw South Australia come fifth with 30 Gold, 41 Silver and 29 Bronze.

From the Games, a team will be chosen to represent Australia at the Special Olympics Summer World Games in Athens, Greece from 25 June to 4 July 2011. 7500 athletes with an intellectual disability from 185 nations will compete in 22 sports.

Barkuma congratulates all clients who participated in the Special Olympics. More details will be featured on our Facebook page and website.





**Personnel Employment's main goal is to help people with disabilities find and maintain employment. Apprenticeships and traineeships are highly valuable, providing clients with lifelong skills and qualifications in their chosen vocations.**

Our most recent client to be successful in this area is Christine Hallfeldt. Christine has been with PE for 18 months, working with Key Worker Ramona Glumart. She has secured an Administration Assistant Traineeship at the Grenville Seniors Community Hub in Playford Council. Here Christine will undertake tasks such as answering phones, filing, data entry, invoicing and general customer service.

"My goal is to complete my traineeship and to be working in a secure job. I want to keep active and healthy and one day become a science fiction writer. I aim to balance personal life with business," says Christine.

In addition to her science fiction writing, Christine enjoys reading, researching and playing on her computer.

We congratulate Christine on her hard work and achievement.

### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*"All of our dreams can come true... if we have the courage to pursue them"*

Walt Disney

## A boost for our services and supported employees

Supported employees at our Campbelltown SAPAC premises will reap the benefits of recent valuable boosts from both State and Federal Governments. Earlier this year the site, owned by the State Government and valued at \$1M, was gifted to Barkuma. The Federal Government has come to the party, agreeing to match dollar-for-dollar funding of up to \$700,000 for the refurbishment of facilities.

Barkuma CEO Robert Depold said the support stems from Government initiatives to ensure the continued provision of employment opportunities for people with disabilities.

"With this further assistance, Barkuma can continue to provide facilities of an appropriate standard for employees," said Robert. "We believe providing a safe and friendly workplace will improve morale, boost productivity and increase our employees' sense of self-worth and achievement."

# Linking in with your community

Your local Community Centre and Council can be great sources of services and social links.

You could find out about upcoming local events such as movie nights, information sessions and community fairs and services like community bus routes. There may be health and fitness activities and social groups where you could meet people with similar hobbies and interests. There may be local support services and information specifically for people with disabilities.

**Here are some tips to help you access these services:**

### Using the computer and internet

If you don't have a computer, your local library should have one you can use to access the internet, free of charge. You may have to book a time.

#### Step 1

- Open the internet browser window, go to [www.google.com.au](http://www.google.com.au) and type in your local council e.g. City of Playford, to find the council's website.

#### Step 2

- Visit the council website's 'Services' page or use the search function on the website to find the community care or community services section.

These same steps can be applied to finding local community centres. Google "community centre" followed by the suburb you live in and you should find out if there is a community centre nearby.

### In person or by phone

If you can't get to a computer you can always visit or call your local council for information. For instance, if you are looking to access the local health care centre, the council should be able to tell you the address and opening hours.

If you are still in doubt, talk with your Key Worker or Clients Services Officer, as they may also be able to help you link into these services.

Community centres around Adelaide recommended by our Client Services team include:

#### St Peters Women's Community Centre

64 Nelson Street, Stepney SA 5069 Ph: 8362 6571

#### Bagster Road Community Centre

17 Bagster Road, Salisbury North SA 5108 Ph: 8250 4167

#### Cooinda Neighbourhood Centre

Crn Sturt & Diagonal Rds Sturt SA 5043 Ph: 8375 6703

#### The Mitchell Park Neighbourhood Centre

1 Cumbria Court, Mitchell Park SA 5043 Ph: 8375 6600

# First Aid ... another first!

Gaining a First Aid Certificate is no small achievement for anyone, let alone someone with a learning disability. Despite this, Tim Robertson has become the first supported employee to achieve this accreditation at Barkuma.

The twenty four year old has been with Barkuma Inc for five years and currently works in the Silkwood Furniture manufacturing area. In his new role as Assistant Supervisor, Tim has taken on extra roles and responsibilities.

Tim was keen to develop his skills base and volunteered to undertake a First Aid course. His confidence and determination helped him overcome challenges in literacy and numeracy, to obtain his certificate.

"I believe it is important to have these skills so I can support my team and my Supervisor," Tim said. "I am more confident that I can now respond if someone becomes ill or if there is an accident. I relate this to the workplace and also in my role as a father of a toddler."

Apart from spending time with his daughter and watching movies, Tim's plans for the future include getting his forklift licence, and to one day own his own home.



## Become a Barkuma Facebook Fan

Recently Barkuma Inc launched its very own Facebook page. It's a great way for our clients, partners and supporters to stay up to date with our services and events. It's also a good way to help spread awareness of Barkuma and our work within the wider community.

If you're on Facebook already, type 'Barkuma Inc' into the search box to find our page and the option to 'like' our page should come up. Once you have selected to 'like' Barkuma Inc you will receive updates as they are posted on the web.

See you on Facebook.

[www.facebook.com.au](http://www.facebook.com.au)

## Become a Member of Barkuma

Ever thought of becoming a Barkuma member? It's really quite easy and there are numerous benefits including:

- Voting rights at AGM and other special meetings
- Copy of the Annual report
- Copy of the In Focus Newsletters (3 per annum)
- Invitations to provide feedback on service and disability issues.

To become a new member, to renew your existing membership, or to simply make a donation, please complete the following details, cut along the dotted line and return this slip to:

Barkuma Incorporated  
Level 1, 260 Currie St  
Adelaide SA 5000

### Membership:

Membership is from 1 July 2010 until 30 June 2011.

[please tick and then circle level of membership]

- Please renew my membership (\$5 Individual / \$10 Family)
- I would like to become a member (\$5 Individual / \$10 Family)

### Donations:

Please accept my donation of:

- \$20  \$50  \$100  \$.....

Attached is a cheque/money order for the amount of \$.....

or debit my credit card:

- Mastercard  Visa

Card number \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date \_\_/\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Name on Card (Please Print) .....

Address: .....

..... P/C.....

Signature: ..... Date: .....

Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.

- I would like more information about how I can make a bequest to Barkuma Incorporated in my Will.

**Thank you for your support**