

ABI Groups- Barwon Area (updated July 2007)

ABI Personal Development

Who: People with an ABI

When: Thursday afternoons, 1-3pm.

Facilitator: Madelaine Kirwan

Where: Bellarine Living and Learning Centre
Neighbourhood House

20 Worden Court, Whittington 3219

Offers: 10 week flexible program (4 terms per year). Work on communication skills and other skills in an informal learning environment.

Contacts: Bellarine Living and Learning Centre

Ph: 5248-1926

BRAINS

(Barwon Region ABI Information, Networks & Support)

Support Network providing opportunities for families to assist and support each other while supporting a family member with an ABI or a neurological condition.

Contacts:

- Helen Armour (parent) - focus on other parents supporting a young person aged between 15-25 years.

Phone: 5221-4681 Mob: 0418-585-398

- Vanda Fear (parent) - focus on family supporting a person aged 15-50 with high level physical and medical support needs.

Phone: 0428-591-820

- Carol Paton (wife) - focus on family supporting someone aged 50 plus with higher-level support needs.

Phone: 5229-8918

Confident Living Program (MS Society)

The Confident Living Program offers a range of activities for people living with a progressive neurological condition.

Activities: Various small group outings (cafes, library, shopping, art galleries, museums, etc).

Where: The Geelong program runs from the Courthouse Youth Arts Centre in Little Malop Street.

When: on Wednesday's

Subsidized transport to the program is available if needed.

There are also confident living groups in Melbourne. The group is specifically for people living with progressive neurological conditions, especially where the complex, variable and unpredictable nature of the condition is tending to isolate the person from the normality's of work, social interaction, etc.

Suitable clients who are interested in a program that offers a range of activities. Contact: Jennifer Murray

Ph: 9845-2772 or jmurray@mssociety.com.au or the MS Society intake worker Ph: 1800-042-138

Geelong Stroke Support Group

Who: anyone who has had a stroke and/or their supporters (family/carers)

When: 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month, 1:30pm to 3pm

Where: Holy Spirit Hall, 25 Bostock Street, Geelong West

Offers: Guest speakers, friendly support, information, lunch get-togethers

Contacts: Mr John sheaf, ph- 5278-7048

Ms Dianne French, ph- 5244-4269

McKellar Centre Rehabilitation Groups

These groups or other particular groups may run from time to time **for current** clients or family of the McKellar Centre only. Some examples of past groups include:

- Young Stroke Support Group (stroke survivors and their partners under the age of 65)
- Parent Support Group (parents of children or young adults with an ABI)
- Partner Support group- for those who have a partner with an ABI

Contact: the Social Worker, Trauma Rehab Team

Ph: 5279-2222

St Laurence ABI Social and Recreation Group

Who: Young adults to middle aged people with ABI

When: Thursdays from 11am

Where: at venue or as arranged as per program calendar

Offers: regular outings and activities, trips to Melbourne, the coast, etc. Tries to cater for personal and group interests.

Contacts: group run by Aaron Blake (St Laurence) ph: 5220-8427