

club

Edition 3 2022

create

magazine

**THE SAFE AND
SUPPORTED
EDITION**

Meet Leadership
Committee
member,
LINDA!

Hear what it's like to
go to Parliament to
use YOUR voice

Awesome games,
competitions and
prizes inside!

Games, competitions and MORE!

WELCOME TO THE

club **create**

magazine



Greetings clubCREATE-ers!

Can you believe we are in the second half of 2022, time flies when you are busy working to create a better life for children and young people in care! This edition is jam-packed with all sorts of updates from across our states and territories.

In this edition, you will meet Linda, a member of our Leadership Committee and you will hear interviews from Raymond and Nikita, some of our awesome Young Consultants.

Our national and state teams have been busy as ever and look forward to connecting with you again soon. Take a read about what they've been up to, and get in touch to find out when our next events are. Plus, don't forget to send in your entries for our competitions - there are great prizes to be won!

Happy reading,

Jacqui Reed

Head Honcho

Get Social!



facebook.com/
CREATEfnd



@CREATEfnd



@CREATEfnd



Acknowledgement of Country

CREATE would like to acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as Australia's first people and Traditional Custodians. We value their cultures, identities, and continuing connection to country, waters, kin and community.

EDITION 3 2022

IN THIS ISSUE:



7

6



5



2 CEO Welcome

4 In The Loop

5 Meet Linda

6 Hear from YC Raymond

7 Hear from YC Nikita

8 Meet A CREATE Mate

9 Say hello to Kerry

10 The Fun Zone

12 State Round Ups

20 clubCREATE Survey

22 Competition Winners

clubCREATE's Editorial Policy

clubCREATE Magazine is produced by CREATE Foundation for children and young people in care. This magazine contains information about CREATE programs that create a better life for kids in care and also has articles and artworks by clubCREATE members. It's really important to us that children and young people in care are safe and protected and we do our utmost to ensure their privacy. For safety

reasons state laws don't allow the faces of kids in care to be published without proper permission, so please understand if these young people are not sometimes we can't show faces in our pictures.

All contributions to be considered for the magazine can be submitted by email: clubcreate@create.org.au or post: Reply Paid 87694, Spring Hill QLD 4004.

If you do not want to receive newsletter and program information from CREATE Foundation please email clubcreate@create.org.au or phone CREATE on 02 9267 1999 or 1800 655 105 to have your address removed from our mailing list.

IN THE LOOP



Child Protection Week

The 2022 National Child Protection Week is all about acknowledging that every child in every community needs a fair go. To treat all of Australia's young people fairly, we need to ensure every family and community has what young people need to do well and be healthy. Check out the CREATE blog to see your photos from all the activities and events held around Australia!

VOYCE Trip

Some of our leadership team including our Head Honcho took a trip to New Zealand in July to visit our friends at VOYCE across the ocean. VOYCE stands for Voice Of the Young and Care Experience. As always they were wonderful hosts and together we chatted about all things advocacy and shared knowledge on how to better amplify your voices and experiences!

The Connection is real!

Over the past couple of years we have missed catching up with you all in person face-to-face! Our state teams are busy planning and organising fun Connection Events to give you the opportunity to meet new friends and have a fun day full of activities. Make sure you get in touch with your state team to see what events are coming up.





SAY HELLO TO LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBER LINDA!

Hi, my name is Linda! I'm based at the Head Office in Brisbane as the Development and Operations Manager.

Every day my job changes, from helping our State Coordinators, to talking to different departments within the government. Also, seeking more funding to make sure we can provide our young people with bigger and better events! Most of the time, I sit in the background and ensure the business continues to run as smoothly as possible.

My favourite part of the job is hanging out with young people at events. It is so great to meet young people across all different states and to see you all using your voice to have a say.

Young people are the lifeblood of our organisation and we couldn't do what we do without you.

When I am not at work, I am a mum of two children and a partner, and we enjoy camping and sitting by the fire together roasting marshmallows.

HISTORICAL Moment in Queensland

We chatted with Queensland CREATE Young Consultant Raymond about his involvement with CREATE and his recent trip to Parliament!

When did you get involved with CREATE?

I have been connected with CREATE since I was 11 years old. I have been extremely involved with CREATE and helped to advocate to have our voices heard. I plan to stay with CREATE as long as possible because they have helped me connect with friends and like-minded people. I am now seen and heard. I want to keep advocating for as long as possible to help other young people transition into adulthood.

You recently attended Parliament when the historic Bill passed that gives the right to children and young people to have a say in decisions that affect their lives - what was that like?

My experience at Parliament house was one I will always remember. We felt welcomed



by Minister Leanne Linard. It has been amazing to be a part of this historical moment for Queensland.

With Queensland making so much progress on the #makeit21 Campaign, how do you feel about New South Wales showing the same support to care leavers?

States that have not made this change, like New South Wales need to catch up. It sucks that they haven't realised how important 'make it 21' is and that the young people need this. It's amazing Queensland has this, but the New South Wales government should feel embarrassed.

You can become a Young Consultant when you turn 15 by doing Speak Up Training.

OK, SO A NEST IS A HOME



Hi, I'm Nikita, a CREATE Young Consultant in Tasmania/Lutrawita. I'm 19 and I've been part of CREATE for about fourteen years! Recently CREATE invited myself and three other Young Consultants to speak at the book launch of "Ok, So A Nest Is A Home".

hard work can pay off and make a difference. Finally, the book lets kids in care reflect on where they are living and whether it's as good as it should be, then points them to support they can access if things aren't right.

Why is it important for children and young people in care to have their voices heard?

People in care have firsthand experience of what it's like. Sharing our opinions lets decision makers see what's important for us, rather than letting them assume what we need. This book is a chance for people working in the care system to hear the people, stories, and emotions behind the numbers.

What does this book mean to you?

Ok, "So A Nest Is A Home" allows decision makers to see where they need to do more work. It also highlights aspects of the care system that are working well, so they can see how their





MEET CREATE MATE JO SPANGARO!

Tell us about yourself!

What's your role?

I am a Professor of Social Work at the University of Wollongong, where I currently lead the academic team teaching the social workers of the future. I also research interventions to address sexual or domestic violence. My current major project is a study with refugee settlement services supporting women who have experienced domestic violence.

Why are you a CREATE Mate?

I first encountered CREATE many years ago, before it was even known as CREATE when I was a social work student and was struck by the work CREATE does and the articulate voices of young people who have left care.

What's something you're passionate about in the out of home care sector? What's something you're proud of?

Giving social work students a deeper understanding of the impacts of growing up in out of home care is a passion of mine, particularly appreciating the negative effects of multiple carer changes and the importance of listening to children and young people about where they want to live. I'm proud of the ways I have worked to ensure students understand in particular how we need to do much better to respect Aboriginal children, young people and families.

Everyone's a bit wacky in their own way - what's a fun fact about you?

I'm a kelpie tragic. For me, they are the perfect dog. I love their devotion and how they find joy in simple things - like putting their head out the car window in the wind.





FIRST NATIONS ARTIST

During NAIDOC Week, we came across Kerry, a beautiful local artist who is both a First Nations woman and a carer. She shared with us a wonderful piece of artwork that has a very powerful meaning behind it. We will let her tell us her story of "Since Time Immemorial".

I created this piece the day the Federal Government purchased the rights to the Aboriginal flag for all Australians.

I created this piece to reflect what the flag means to me. The flag was created during a time of great activism, calling for recognition, land rights, human rights, health rights, education rights, and political rights.

For me, the flag represents our struggles, strengths, connections, and identity.

Balbal balbal (sun) with white circles and markings protect this giver of life.

White lines coming out of the sun like electricity, bring light, life, and energy to bama (people).

Bubu (country) with layers of three arches. Each arch represents past, present and future generations. The layers are endless, for we are the oldest continuous culture, 'Since Time Immemorial'."

COMP TIME!

Draw what the flag means to you!

To enter this competition:

1. Send your entry via email to clubCREATE@create.org.au
2. Send us a message on Instagram @CREATEfnd or Facebook /CREATEfnd
3. Enter on our website at www.create.org.au/competitions
4. Post it back to us free of charge! Send to Reply Paid 87694 SPRING HILL QLD 4004

Entries close 7th October 2022. Make sure you include your name and age, and if you know it your clubCREATE ID number. GOOD LUCK!



WIN!

THE FUN ZONE!

International Day of Peace is coming up and we want to help spread the message! Can you find all 10 of these words? Have a go and see how many you get.

HINT: The word can also be right to left side... Good luck!

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE

O	I	N	T	E	R	N	A	T	I	O	N	A	L
O	I	E	R	D	R	L	C	M	M	T	L	Y	C
T	R	A	P	A	B	V	L	E	O	G	N	T	A
O	N	D	I	Y	E	L	C	N	M	S	E	A	O
P	O	S	I	T	I	V	E	G	C	E	O	R	U
I	A	U	A	S	L	E	I	G	O	V	E	E	I
C	L	P	R	M	A	U	N	Y	M	O	E	A	N
R	T	Y	Q	D	L	I	U	B	P	L	Q	N	T
E	C	A	E	P	A	O	I	A	A	B	U	I	Y
A	T	E	P	C	Y	I	T	T	S	N	A	I	A
L	A	E	Y	R	T	N	H	A	S	N	L	Y	A
U	A	M	E	B	Y	E	G	I	I	L	I	E	V
E	V	N	I	O	E	T	I	A	O	H	T	G	C
E	M	P	A	T	H	Y	R	E	N	E	Y	E	I

Positive

Love

International

Day

Right

Equality

Empathy

Build

Peace

Compassion

To enter this competition:

1. Send your entry via email to clubCREATE@create.org.au
2. Send us a message on Instagram @CREATEfnd or Facebook /CREATEfnd
3. Enter on our website at www.create.org.au/competitions
4. Post it back to us free of charge! Send to Reply Paid 87694 SPRING HILL QLD 4004

Entries close 7th October 2022. Make sure you include your name and age, and if you know it your clubCREATE ID number. **GOOD LUCK!**

RIDDLES !



Q. What month of the year has 28 days?

A. ALL OF THEM!

Q. What can you keep after giving it to someone?

A. YOUR WORD

CHALLENGE:
SEND IN YOUR
ANSWER TO WIN!

Q. What has a head and a tail but no body?

To enter this competition:

1. Send your entry via email to clubCREATE@create.org.au
2. Send us a message on Instagram @CREATEfnd or Facebook /CREATEfnd
3. Enter on our website at www.create.org.au/competitions
4. Post it back to us free of charge! Send to Reply Paid 87694 SPRING HILL QLD 4004

Entries close 7th October 2022. Make sure you include your name and age, and if you know it your clubCREATE ID number. GOOD LUCK!

ACT ROUND UP

What's been happening?

Use Your Voice

We had an amazing turnout of young people participating in our Speak Up programs. We will be running these programs again (mainly during school holidays) and there will be some great fun activities to do for those who attend. If you want to be involved in some of our programs flick through a message to our FB messenger group (CREATE ACT) and we will make sure you are invited to our events or you can contact Linda James by text at 0478 805 573 or email: linda.james@create.org.au to let her know you want to participate.



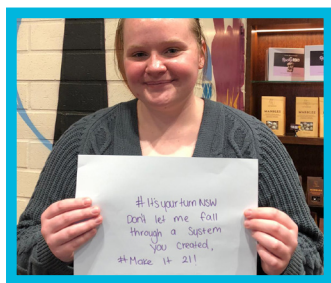
Staff update

Unfortunately, both of our amazing CREATE staff in the ACT (Lisa and Lachie) have moved on to other projects and opportunities. We are continuing to recruit some awesome new faces for our team. In the meantime, you will get to see and meet some of our national team members in Canberra who will be running some CREATE Your Future life skills workshops and Youth Advisory Groups. While we are recruiting, it would be great if you could make sure that your details are up to date on our clubCREATE so please get in touch with us and let us know your best contact details at clubCREATE@create.org.au

NSW ROUND UP

What's been happening?

Here in New South Wales, we have been busy working with our young people on various projects! We have noticed a common theme over the last few YAGs, calling for greater support for children and young people in care, as well as the need for the voices of children and young people to be heard and acted upon. We've found these themes interesting and loved how they directly linked to our current campaign; advocating for young people in care to be supported up until age 21 **#itsyourturnNSW** **#makeit21**



Connection Events

We've also had two awesome Connection Events where we visited Golden Ridge Animal Farm in June and then took a trip to the cinemas to see the Minions: Rise of Gru in July. We loved seeing the creativity of some of our clubCREATE members (perhaps future artists!) who had drawn their interpretation of what a CREATE flag would look like whilst enjoying lunch at one of our Connection Events. Huge shout-out to all of our incredible young people (aka our sector experts) who have worked so hard over the last few months, sharing their stories and thoughts, to create meaningful change within the sector in New South Wales we're so proud of you!



Make it 21!

On the 5th of July, we were all about 'Make It 21! A small group of our Young Consultants, along with our State Coordinator and CREATE's CEO, Jacqui Reed, met with Kate Washington, the Shadow Minister for Family and Community Services to discuss the importance of 'Make It 21! We then met with a group of CREATE's passionate young people, along with CREATE's CEO, for a YAG, to discuss the importance of 'Make it 21' and brainstorm how we could encourage the New South Wales government to commit to **#makeit21**

NT ROUND UP

What's been happening?

Speak Up!

Speak Up is CREATE's empowerment program that will help you to have a voice about your care experience. Young people from Darwin completed Speak Up Level 1 and joined with Dingo Cockatoo Aboriginal Culture and Anglicare for a cultural walk. No one knew we would be in the water spearfishing! If you're interested in our Speak Up program and coming together with other young people for awesome activities like this one, contact CREATE in Darwin or Alice Springs.



NAIDOC Week

NAIDOC Week was huge this year, with many events and activities around the Territory. NAIDOC Week celebrates the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. This is so important to CREATE – you can find out more about our commitment to Indigenous Children and Young People in our new Strategic Plan (you can find it on our website!). During NAIDOC Week, the Darwin and Alice Springs CREATE teams attended breakfasts, awards nights, and family fun days, and Alice Springs held a Connection Event at Purple House, where we got to eat kangaroo tail! Yum! Check out this photo of Mimi at the NAIDOC march held in Darwin!

QLD ROUND UP

What's been happening?

Say Hello to Jake, Mae and Jessie!

The past couple of months here in Queensland has been abuzz with new team members, Mae and Jake in Cairns and Jessie in Albion. They have been busy meeting clubCREATE members and delivering both online and in-person YAGs, including a pizza night, aquarium visit, Cairns Show and big celebration for 'Care to 21' at Timezone! This was all about acknowledging the amazing young people whose voices have contributed to that big decision being made. Well done!



Support to 21 - Have your say!

We are still celebrating and reflecting on the momentous announcement that young people will have the option to remain in their current care placements till 21 years of age! There is now statewide consultation taking place to help shape what that support to 21 looks like. There are Think Tanks, YAGs and a Survey happening all over Queensland, some online and in-person - so if you are aged 18 to 25 years old get in touch so we can hear your views. Email qld@create.org.au or call us!

Coming up!

There are heaps of cool events coming up across Queensland including a Bowling and Burgers YAG, Botanical Gardens YAG, Child Protection Week Dinner, Speak Up Level 1-2 events and plenty more! We can't wait to connect with you all.

CALL YOUR LOCAL STATE TEAM ON 1800 655 105.

SA ROUND UP

What's been happening?

What we've been up to

South Australia has been having a lot of fun engaging with our young people and the community over the last few months. We participated in the NAIDOC Week Colour Run, cooked up a storm in our Cooking Class YAG, hosted Speak Up training, and flew as high as a bird for our Mylor Fun Day! We also got to have Latitude all to ourselves for our Sibling Day! 180 of you came and spent some time jumping and laughing with your siblings and the team. Even OOG and Gus got to catch up with each other.



What we've been hearing

During our YAG, some of you told us that you'd like your voice heard in Residential Care. Since then, we've got two great Young Consultants and our State Coordinator involved in our Child and Family Focus SA (CAFFSA) Workshop, where we're discussing Residential Care and what can be done to help Residential Care Workers to hear and support you better.

Our Team

Ashleigh, Fabian, Olivia, and Anita have been planning lots to ensure we have all our fun events organised for the year! Also, we should have a new team member join us just in time to celebrate Fabian's 7 years with CREATE, which is exciting!



Gratitude

"Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it."
- William Arthur Ward

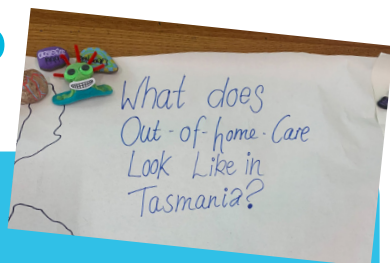
We SO appreciate you spending time with us and can't wait to see you at our next YAG, Speak Up, and Christmas Party!

TAS ROUND UP

What's been happening?

CREATE believes that young people with care experience have so much to tell us about how the care system could improve.

Have you ever wanted to Speak Up about something to do with care but are not sure how? You should totally look into the Speak Up program! The program covers so much about how to use your voice to impact positive change, plus we get to do heaps of amazing activities like our recent tree-top climbing adventure at Hollybank and a jumping session at BOUNCE! You can also become a Young Consultant through the Speak Up program and help CREATE with all our advocacy work! Jump online and see when the next Speak Up session in Tassie is!



YAG

Here at CREATE in Tasmania, our Youth Advisory Groups, which were held earlier in the year, chatted about all things Mental Health. Please know your voices are being heard and are put into action. Life Without Barriers recently launched a Mental Health Training program for Carers; guess what, your voices are included. This is a wonderful achievement as it shows people are listening to what you have to say and change is being made. A huge shout out to everyone who was involved!



CYF

We've recently run CREATE Your Future workshops in Devonport, Hobart and Launceston. So great meeting awesome young people all around Tassie in these workshops, and if you are 13 to 25 years old and haven't come yet, hope to see you soon!

Aboriginal Cultural Connection Event

CREATE in Tasmania organised a very special event recently in Hobart. We invited young people, carers and workers to join us for takara nipaluna, a walking tour of Aboriginal history around the Hobart waterfront.

VIC ROUND UP

What's been happening?

Snap that Stigma with Dee Dee

"Hi, I'm Dee Dee, I'm 18 years old and currently doing Year 12.

At age 6, I came into foster care.

After being in two different places in the first two weeks, I was placed with a third family for potentially 1-3 months. I never left, 12 years later, I am gratefully still with them. I joined CREATE in 2020, during the Covid lockdown. I am part of MYAG and have completed all three levels of Speak Up. I've had wonderful encouragement and opportunities to achieve my best. At CREATE my motivation is to share my experiences and hope that all children in out of home care can have what I have had.

I am fortunate to have been surrounded by a very supportive family, school, teachers, and coaches, who have believed in me. I participated in many different activities whilst trying to find my place in life – swimming, netball, athletics, basketball, callisthenics, singing lessons and choir. I did better at some than others. To date, I have been privileged to represent Victoria on ten occasions in Cross Country (2), Athletics (4) and Netball (4). Recently, I was part of the Victoria Netball 19U team winning the bronze medal at Nationals in Hobart."



Have your say on Education!

A group of Young Consultants met with the Commission for children and young people to talk about their educational experiences and being in care. Their stories will help inform the Commission's current inquiry into education for children and young people in care. If you have something to say about your education experience, contact us at vic@create.org.au.



WA ROUND UP

What's been happening?

Connection Events

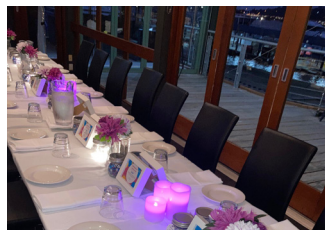
Our very own Young Consultant Kathleen worked with CREATE on the Express Your Way Competition. Kathleen, with the support of CREATE, made and sent out art packs to regional Western Australian children. Kathleen was even broadcasted on the radio to discuss the competition. Go Kathleen! The children have been actively submitting their entries for the competition using their art materials. This Connection Event is one of several regional-based events that are coming up. We hope to be able to connect and empower more children and young people living in regional areas in the future.

YC dinner

We hosted a beautiful Young Consultant dinner located right on the waterfront at Elizabeth Quay, Perth CBD. We had guest speakers, including the Advocate for Children in Care, Amanda Poglits and The Commissioner for Children and Young People, Jacqueline McGowan-Jones. The Young Consultant's enjoyed a buffet dinner and a fun night to celebrate all of their achievements together. A big thank you to The Moore Foundation for sponsoring the event.

Team Update

Our beloved Kym has stepped back from full-time and will be working with CREATE two days a week. Kym has decided to go back to university to continue her psychology study. Leah has been busy working with CREATE now for four months, some of you might have met Leah at some of our recent events. Our newest staff member, Maddy joined the team in June. You will see Maddy at upcoming events and running Connection Events. Maddy moved from Far North Queensland and is excited to explore Perth and meet many new people.





How do you feel about CREATE and the work we do?

CREATE wants to hear from you! By filling out this survey, you are helping us make sure that the programs and activities that CREATE provides are relevant and useful to children and young people with an out-of-home care experience. Your identity will not be released to anyone outside of CREATE and participation is voluntary.

Because I am a part of CREATE:

1. I feel more connected to others in the care system



Strongly Agree



Agree



Neither



Disagree



Strongly Disagree

2. I know my rights



Strongly Agree



Agree



Neither



Disagree



Strongly Disagree

3. I know how to make a complaint or have my say about CREATE



Strongly Agree



Agree



Neither



Disagree



Strongly Disagree

4. I feel like I belong



Strongly Agree



Agree



Neither



Disagree



Strongly Disagree



5. I feel heard



Strongly Agree



Agree



Neither



Disagree



Strongly Disagree

6. I feel respected



Strongly Agree



Agree



Neither



Disagree



Strongly Disagree

7. I find the magazines useful



Strongly Agree



Agree



Neither



Disagree



Strongly Disagree

What do you love most about CREATE?

.....

.....

What else would you like CREATE to do?

.....

Submit your answers to win a gift card!

Your name: Membership number:

If you identify with a particular cultural group, please state it here:

Age: State/Territory:

Send your entry to: Reply Paid 87694 (means you don't need a stamp) SPRING HILL, QLD, 4004

You can also scan or type your answers and send them over email to clubcreate@create.org.au with your name, age and membership number. **Entries close 7th October 2022**



YOU ROCK!

EDITION 2 2022 WINNERS

OUR COMP WINNERS FROM LAST
MAG ARE (DRUMROLL PLEASE!):

GET UP! STAND UP! SHOW UP! COMPETITION

Diesel

MAZE COMPETITION

Lethan

LOL-MANIA COMPETITION

Van

DRAW YOUR PEOPLE COMPETITION

Ava

CONGRATULATIONS!
WE HOPE YOU ENJOY
YOUR PRIZES!

create
FOUNDATION

CREATE Foundation Limited
National Office
12 Union Street
Parramatta NSW 2150
Tel 1800 655 105
ABN 69 088 075 058

If you do not wish to receive
newsletters and program
information from CREATE
Foundation please email
clubcreate@create.org.au or
phone CREATE on (07) 3062 4860 to
have your address removed from
the mailing list.

HOW TO STAY CONNECTED WITH CREATE

If you want to attend awesome events with
CREATE make sure you are a
clubCREATE member so you can
automatically receive invitations and
information. Other ways to contact CREATE:

1. Become a clubCREATE member and join up
at www.create.org.au
2. Call your local CREATE office on 1800 655
105 and talk to one of the team about
what's coming up.
3. If you are already a clubCREATE member –
make sure your clubCREATE membership
details are up-to-date.
4. Visit www.create.org.au to find out more
about how we can support you.

