

# Lillypad

Lillypad is a newsletter of Lotus Place NQ.  
Lotus Place is a dedicated support service and resource centre for adults who experienced childhood abuse in an institutional setting.



[www.lotusplace.org.au](http://www.lotusplace.org.au) | North Queensland | December 2018

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## Welcome to 2019.

Happy new year to you all. As 2019 has officially begun we are taking this opportunity to hit the refresh button and focus on how to best support Forgotten Australians across North Queensland.

This year Lotus Place NQ will be working to re-establish various committees and activity groups.

We have included a short survey with this Lillypad for the Townsville Region, as it's important for us to know what you want to see happen at the space.

We appreciate all responses, thoughts and any new ideas.

Darcy hopes to workshop with Cairns and Mackay at the next peer meeting so don't think you will be missing out!

In wanting to continue to grow and evolve, we have included for everyone a Feedback Form regarding the Christmas Party you attended in 2018. Each year we hope to improve on the last so please complete the form and return in the self-addressed, stamped envelope provided.

Your feedback can remain anonymous if you wish.

Feedback is important in ensuring we are on the right path and offering you the right resources, services and support.

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## Commonwealth Redress Scheme Update



Hi, my name is Jacqui and I have recently been appointed to the position of Redress Support Worker on the Redress team based at Lotus Place NQ.

I have lived in Townsville for a long time and have worked in the community

services sector for over thirty years. I've worked in a diverse range of roles and positions during my career.

I am very passionate and dedicated to promoting and upholding social justice and human rights issues and I am a strong advocate for people.

I also coordinate and facilitate create arts and music programs in the local community with the aim of supporting health and wellbeing in the community.

I am really looking forward to getting to meet you all and I will be travelling to the regions and hope to answer questions in relation to the National Redress Scheme.

With the scheme now operational in Queensland I would encourage anyone with any queries or hoping for some support with an application or information to get in contact with me.

(07) 47 24 2559

or

[Jacqueline.Bisson@micahprojects.org.au](mailto:Jacqueline.Bisson@micahprojects.org.au)

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## Forde Foundation 2019

The Forde Foundation was established in August 2000...

*"... for the relief of poverty, for the advancement of education, training or development, personal and social support,*

*relief of sickness, suffering distress, general enhancement of social and economic wellbeing or for any other purposes beneficial to persons who have been wards of the State or under guardianship of the State or have been resident, as a child, in a Queensland institution."*

The Forde Foundation do not regard the grants as compensation but rather as a way of acknowledging the disadvantages many care leavers have had to overcome as a result of their childhood experiences, particularly the effects on education, employment, health and general wellbeing.

Grants available include:

- Health and Wellness Grant
- Personal Development Grant
- Dental Grants (\$700 per financial year)

The first Grant round in **2019** will be in March. Grant applications will be assessed by the Board of Advice on **Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2019**.

All grant applications are to be submitted to the Executive Office by no later than **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2019**.

Applications can be made online or by printing and posting to the address provided at the bottom of the form.

Contact Lotus Place NQ if you have any questions or concerns about your eligibility or require assistance in completing the form .

## Christmas Party 2018

Thank you to everybody who attended Christmas Parties in Cairns, Townsville and Mackay. It was great to share a meal and a laugh with so many people. The Christmas Cheer was strong!



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## Upcoming Events

### Ayr

#### **Peer Meeting**

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2019 , from 10:00am

Burdekin Library - Creative Ideas meeting room

Graham Street, Ayr

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### Mackay

#### **Peer Meeting with Guest Speaker**

Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019, from 10:00am

Jubilee Community Centre – Mackay Room

Alfred Street, Mackay

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### Townsville

#### **Fishing Club**

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> February 9:30am

Lotus Place office

382 Sturt Street, Townsville City

**Lunch** (1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of every month)

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2019, from 11:30am

*Special Oranges and Sunshine movie viewing*

Lotus Place office

382 Sturt Street, Townsville City

**Morning Tea** (every Tuesday except when Lunch is on)

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### **Cairns**

#### **Peer Meeting with Guest Speaker**

Friday 18<sup>TH</sup> January 2019, 10am

Cairns City Library, meeting room 1

Abbott Street, Cairns

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## Office Closures

Lotus Place NQ will be closed for the Australia Day Public Holiday on **Monday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2019**.

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## Creative Space

### **What do YOU want to see in YOUR newsletter?**

We want to hear from YOU.

This newsletter is your voice.

If there is something you want to share, be it a photograph, a painting, a newspaper article you may have come across, a poem you wrote or a thought you had; then this is the place.

If you have something you'd like to share with the Lotus Place community, please contact Darcy or Hayley on (07) 4724 2559 or [lotusnq@micahprojects.org.au](mailto:lotusnq@micahprojects.org.au)

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### **'Reaching Down' by Denise Hooper**

*People talk about what a back breaking life they had.*

*It's a shame they and those before them, didn't do that to all the little people when they needed it.*

*Instead of turning a blind eye to it, ALL the hurt, pain and abuse that was going on with our smaller people.*

*If you had put your hand out to help and bent your back to help them, you might have felt better.*

*There might not be so many crushed hearts and souls in this world.*



The lotus flower has its origins and roots in the muddy waters below the surface, yet above the water it is a beautiful resilient flower.

After a consultative process the Lotus Flower was chosen as both a metaphor and image to represent the journey from adversity to hope.

### Lotus Place NQ

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PO Box 2027, Townsville Q 4810  
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[lotusnq@micahprojects.org.au](mailto:lotusnq@micahprojects.org.au) | [www.lotusplace.org.au](http://www.lotusplace.org.au)

Open hours – Monday to Thursday 9am – 3pm  
Call anytime for support and referral over the phone

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Lotus Place is an activity of Micah Projects

