



# Purple Orange

The e-newsletter of the Julia Farr Association

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As the year draws to a close, it has been an intensely busy time in South Australia these last few weeks. Here is the Christmas wrap.

*Robbi Williams*

## Individualised Funding

The South Australia state government signalled that it was going to make Individualised Funding a central feature of the disability support system. This is fantastic news, being something that we have argued for the entire time Julia Farr Association has been in existence. We anticipate a highly eventful 2012 as the new system is designed and implemented. You can read the Minister's announcement [here](#) and our response [here](#).

## Disability and Crime

Other news in the media reminded us that some people living with disability are particularly at risk of neglect or abuse. Two stories in this week's media, one about criminal charges being laid and the other about criminal charges being dismissed, prompted us to write an opinion piece on the Purple Orange blog. You can read it [here](#), and you can read our two media statements here: [Not a moment to lose to look out for our neighbours](#) and [Disability justice and removing victimhood](#)

## Santa, Where's My Ride?

We know from recent media coverage that people have concerns about the availability of accessible taxis this Christmas. We've also placed an opinion piece about this on the Purple Orange [blog](#) and we have created an [online survey](#) so that people can share their experiences. Do please use the survey to tell us your experiences using accessible taxis this Christmas and New Year.

## The 100 Leaders Project

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In our quest to gather 100 stories about people taking personal control of their lives, we have passed halfway. To mark this, we have developed and launched the 100 Leaders Project [website](#) which you can visit [here](#).

The stories are not necessarily about heroic exploits, but about personal vision and personal action. Being identified as a leader in this project does not necessarily mean that the people concerned think they are better than anybody else; it simply means that each person has a story to tell about being the active author of their life.

With the advent of Individualised (self-directed) Funding, we hope the stories will inspire readers to reclaim the rights to imagine an ordinary valued life and move towards it.

## New Purple Orange Website

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We have been working towards a website redevelopment for the group which will see Purple Orange have its own home.

We are excited about what this will mean for people looking for easy access to information, news about our work, and other work which we think should be shared and celebrated.

The website is being built with accessibility as its primary focus, and we look forward to sharing it with you early next year.

## Michael Kendrick back in Adelaide for more Deep Quality

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Following the success of this year's Deep Quality event, Dr Michael Kendrick will be returning in Adelaide next year to present his two-week course in Optimal Individualised Service Design. The course will run in the weeks of 14-18 May and 4-8 June.

More details will follow in January, but the last course sold out quickly, so please save the dates, or email [admin@purpleorange.org.au](mailto:admin@purpleorange.org.au) to register your interest.

Deep Quality will address person-centred approaches to supporting people living with disability, and the gap between ideal and realistic service delivery, and will be an invaluable experience for anyone wishing to be involved in the development of truly personalised support arrangements in people's lives.

## Last Chance to View Art Exhibition

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The 2011 Art Exhibition: Personal Leadership can still be viewed until the end of January 2012. There are still a few pieces of art for sale, but be quick!

Details about the 2012 exhibition will be released early in February, and established and emerging artists are invited to submit work exploring themes relevant to the disability and wider community.

## In Other News...

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We continue our work across a range of different initiatives. We have seen encouraging progress in the Supported Decision Making initiative (collaboration with the Office of the Public Advocate) and the Youth Mentorship Initiative.

Also, we are completing our research and drafting work on a number of projects, including the second edition of the Model of Citizenship Support, an approach to Safeguarding, the 2010–2011 Tellus survey, and the role of the Social Landlord (with Adelaide University).

The Julia Farr Housing Association continues its work in the design and construction of accessible affordable housing, and we have a number of housing developments currently under way.

## Thank You

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Finally, we thank you for your interest in our work, and for your support.

We hope you have found our efforts helpful, and we wish you and the people in your life a merry festive season and a peaceful New Year.

Purple Orange is the shopfront of the Julia Farr Association

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