

# The Year in Review

2010-11 Annual Report



**E.W. TIPPING FOUNDATION**

Leading a network supporting: Independence. Choice. Community for all.



# Our History

The EW Tipping Foundation was formed in 1970. It is named after EW (Bill) Tipping, a journalist for the Herald who wrote passionately about people with disabilities and other social issues.

Gerald Lyons, host of the Talk Back radio program, took up the cause after several parents of children with disability he interviewed asked, "Who will look after my child when I die?"

He was so moved by their stories, particularly that of Belinda, that he called for those interested in "making life a little better" for people with disability to come together at the Town Hall. Around 1700 people attended this initial gathering, and on April 16 1970 the first official meeting of the committee was held – and the EW Tipping Foundation was born.

Our history is now documented in a book 'Independence, Choice and Community for All' written by Paul Tipping, Bill's son, to mark our first 40 years.

# Legacy & Tradition

For more than 40 years we have continued the passion and commitment to social justice shown by Bill Tipping.

The Foundation has continued to develop over the years to meet the changing needs of the community. Through our partner organisations, Vista, i-GAIN and HomeChoices, we have provided a range of services and innovative programs for people with a disability or mental illness, families, youth and older Victorians.

In this, our 2010-2011 Annual Report, we reflect on our achievements in progressing our mission of independence, choice and community for all.

# Our Patrons

We gratefully acknowledge the support of our Patron-In-Chief the Honourable Alex Chernov, AO, QC, Governor of Victoria and Patron Dame Elisabeth Murdoch AC DBE.



Top to bottom:  
EW (Bill) Tipping; Frank Cullen (past Chair) & Paul Tipping at the History Book launch; Ann Barker MP & Richard Dent showing their support for an NDIS



# Chair & CEO Report

The Boards of both EW Tipping Foundation and our partner organisation, Vista Community Support, are immensely proud of the vision, hard work and commitment of our dedicated staff teams which enabled us to achieve so much in 2011.

Our new services, our new service coordination centres, our ReNew rehabilitation service for people with acquired brain injury, our award-winning SustainAbility Stars program, to name a few, are all about making a difference and changing people's lives.

To achieve this, we need a strong organisation made up of an exceptional staff team supported by robust systems. We have established a leading model of "Practice Governance" to enhance our services, and we have continued to strengthen our staff teams, including through introducing new support systems such as our e-learning on-line training program.

Our shared belief in the inherent rights of all members of our community to have the maximum choice and independence in their lives ensures that, in everything we do, we are continually focussed on the best possible outcomes for the people supported by our organisations.

Together, we have championed the rights of people with a disability, their families and the community, by joining the campaign for a National Disability Insurance Scheme. We have welcomed the bipartisan support for an NDIS, but will not rest until this major reform for social justice becomes a reality.

The stories in our 2011 Annual Report show what is possible with the right support in place, and we thank the people we support, their families and staff for sharing their experiences.

As we look ahead to 2012, we know that we will continue to build on these achievements, while there will also be new directions. We will be saying farewell to Richard Dent, our CEO of some 11 years. Richard has made an enormous contribution not only to the Foundation and Vista, but also to the community sector through his vision, leadership and advocacy for social justice and human rights. We wish Richard well for the future and thank him most sincerely for all that he has achieved.

Most importantly, we thank each and every person at EW Tipping Foundation and Vista Community Support for another great year; and for their commitment to achieving our vision of Independence, Choice and Community for All.

Geoff Donovan  
Chair,  
EW Tipping Foundation

John Rowan  
Chair,  
Vista Community Support

Richard Dent  
Chief Executive Officer





Executive Team left to right: Katherine Pengilly, Executive Officer – Services; Gail Siracusa, Manager – CEO’s Office & Community Relations; Richard Dent, CEO; Jantine Eddebuttel, HR Manager; Mark Kanigowski, Executive Officer – Development

## Our Governance

Our volunteer board members bring a wealth of skills and experience to our organisation. We thank them for their commitment to the vision and mission of the Foundation. Particular thanks go to Frank Cullen who retired from his position as Chair of the EWTF Board after many years of service; and to Dorothy Graff, who also retired from her role after 10 years of service including as Deputy Chair. We would like to acknowledge the outstanding contributions they each made during their significant time on the Board.

### EW Tipping Foundation Board

Geoff Donovan B.Juris, LLB – Chair (from October 2010); Dorothy Graff BA, Grad. Dip.Pers.Admin – Deputy Chair; Ernest Barr BA (Melb), D.Univ. (LaTrobe); Corinna Dieters B.Ed, P.Dip.Mgt; Bernie Flood F.C.P.A; John McKenna; Peter Williams ANZILF(Assoc)CIP, MAICD, FAIM (commenced August 2010); Linda Wilson PhD, M.Ed, Grad.Dip.Leg.Stud, B.AppSc;

### Vista Community Support Board

John Rowan ACPA, FCIS – Chair; John McKenna – Deputy Chair; Margot Druce LLB, B.Soc.Sci; Bernie Flood F.C.P.A; Paul Gianni B.A. (Psych), B.App.Sci.(Soc Wk); Chris Gillman B.Com, LLB, IEP (INSEAD), FAICD.

### i-GAIN Committee

Ron Boskma B.Ec, Dip.Ed, Grad.Dip.Man/Labour Relations, AIMM – Chair; Graeme Sennett – Deputy Chair (to August 2010); Terry Arundell (to September 2010); Frank Cullen (to October 2010); Wayne Berryman Dip. Bus; Richard Dent MBA, M.Soc.Sci, Grad.Dip.Org.Dyn, Grad.Dip.Bus.Mgt, AICD; Barry Rogers B.Ed(Lib), MAICD; Linda Wilson PhD, M.

## 2011 Achievements

Over the past year the EW Tipping Foundation network has continued to grow and evolve; to create innovative programs to meet the needs of the community and people we support; and to further our mission of social justice, independence, choice and community for all. Some of our key achievements for the 2010-11 year include:

- In March 2011, with our joint venture partners, the Brain Injury Rehabilitation Trust in the UK, we officially opened our new rehabilitation service, ReNew, for people with an acquired brain injury in Altona Meadows.
- We have opened two new, purpose-built houses in Gippsland as part of the My Future My Choice program to keep younger people with disability out of aged care facilities. Two more houses in Oak Park and Wodonga are set for completion in the coming months.
- We formally opened new service centres in Preston, Shepparton, Wodonga and Geelong, We also started providing services from a base in Colac.
- We now provide a growing range of services to around 2000 people with disability, including those leaving the corrections system, and children and youth.
- We have established the Practice Governance Team to enhance service quality, disseminate good practice, and manage risk. This team is now responsible for quality, customer care, occupational health and safety as well as practice leadership across the network.
- For our innovative SustainAbility Stars program, we received awards from the Banksia Foundation and Keep Australia Beautiful Victoria, and were finalists in the Premier’s Sustainability Awards.
- We have been instrumental in the Every Australian Counts campaign, which has culminated in the announcement by the Prime Minister of the government’s support for the introduction of a National Disability Insurance Scheme
- Our services for children and young people in Out of Home Care have grown; we now support 60 or more children every day.
- We have strengthened support to staff and enhanced our service capacity with our HR Team launching a new e-learning platform and enhancing our training, induction and return to work practices. We have also upgraded our infrastructure and systems in IT and property management, and further integrated Carelink Plus.

## Our Leadership Team

Our strong leadership team across the state is supported by our executive team. In 2011, we welcomed Katherine Pengilly to the new role of Executive Officer – Services.

More than 6700 young Australians are currently living in nursing homes

## Building a Brighter Future

As part of the *my future my choice* program, we have now commenced services in two new state of the art homes, with two more scheduled to open in the coming months. This government initiative provides appropriate accommodation and support for young Australians who are living, or are at risk of living, in residential aged care.

Residents, including Helen and Trevor have now moved in to the Moe and Bairnsdale houses. Moe residents hosted the official housewarming for both houses on Tuesday 6 September.

This day of celebration saw the residents welcome their families, Mr Gary Blackwood MP, Cr Darrell White, members of the Department of Human Services, representatives from disability advocacy groups and EW Tipping Foundation staff to their home for the ceremony and a morning tea party.

Residents from both houses mingled and chatted with everyone, sharing their stories of how their new home gave them more independence and choice.

“I enjoy the freedom of being where I am. I can do what I want to do.” – Trevor

Right: Helen, Bairnsdale resident  
Below left: Residents of the Moe house and official party  
Below right: Trevor, Moe resident



82% of young people in nursing homes hardly ever see their friends



1 in 45 Australians has an Acquired Brain Injury



## ReNew Opens Its Doors

ReNew Neurobehavioural Services was opened in March 2011 in a ceremony officiated by Mrs Jan de Kretser, on behalf of our Patron in Chief, the Victorian Governor, Professor David de Kretser AC. The opening was attended by more than 100 people including overseas and local experts in ABI rehabilitation and representatives from disability services organisations.

The response to the new service was outstanding; and we have received referrals not just from Victoria but from interstate as well. Mrs de Kretser noted the profound change we will be bringing about for people with an Acquired Brain Injury and their families.

A joint venture between the EW Tipping Foundation and BIRT UK, ReNew uses the innovative BIRT neurobehavioural model. It aims to help people achieve greater independence and reduce the impact of ABI on individuals, families and the community.

## Team of Excellence

We have a team of specialist clinicians based at ReNew, who are experts in the rehabilitation of people with ABI. This team, trained in the neurobehavioural approach, has been working in coordination to design, implement and review individual programs to deliver significant outcomes for the people we support.

The team is overseen by Service Manager, Wendy Fletcher and led by Clinical Neuropsychologist, Dr Matthew Hughes. Our team also now includes an Occupational Therapist, Speech Pathologist, Physiotherapist, plus Therapy Assistants and specially trained support staff.

Above top: the team of people from BIRT UK, EW Tipping Foundation and ReNew who opened the service in March  
 Above left: the ReNew facility in Alfons Meadows  
 Above right: Geoff Donovan EWTF Chair, Richard Dent EWTF CEO, Mrs de Kretser and Barrie Oldham BIRT CEO

“This service will bring about profound change for people with an ABI and their families.” – Mrs de Kretser

85% of our HomeChoices houses now grow and consume their own vegetables



We support more than 2000 people to achieve greater independence

## Gaining Independence

Ben was diagnosed with Aspergers Syndrome when aged just 15 years old. With the support of his family, Ben completed his education and has been encouraged to be independent.

Ben is now supported by Vista to live on his own and has recently begun working for the Big Issue, which he sells in the city. With the money Ben is now earning, he wants to buy more CDs and save up for a new guitar.



Above: Ben gets ready for work  
Left: Luke shows off their vegie patch



## Doing Our Bit for the Environment

The environmental and educational impact of our SustainAbility Stars program has been acknowledged by winning the Banksia Community Grant and a Keep Australia Beautiful Sustainable Cities award. Judges of the Banksia grant were impressed that the program is the first of its kind to empower people with disability, their support staff and organisations to lead change in the

community by practicing simple, sustainable actions within the household. In March we also launched our Regional Green Teams and Green Office Challenge to bring the SustainAbility Project into our offices and encourage office-based staff to consider their use of paper, waste disposal, electricity and sustainable transport.



"I don't think I could live by myself without Vista support"  
- Ben

## Giving Children a Voice

## Progressing Human Rights



Eight of the children we support in Out of Home Care participated in the "As I See It" project, a photographic exhibition. Photos taken by more than 60 children and young people living in out of home care were showcased at Victorian Federation Square.

The project offered these young people an opportunity to share their experiences and stories with the people who work with and care for them. Some of the children we support attended the opening, including Nic, who said "I really enjoyed going to exhibition as there were so many people in the crowd and it was a great experience."

"This is my hermit crab that lives with me. He is safe with me and I will look after him."  
- Chelsea, aged 11

During 2010-2011 we joined the campaign for a National Disability Insurance Scheme. Our Board visited politicians across the state to help gain their support of the NDIS, and we hosted a community forum in Morwell to raise awareness of the campaign and give people the chance to have their voice heard on this human rights issue. This national campaign has resulted in the Prime Minister, Julia Gillard pledging the government's support for the scheme.

"The time for words is over. The time for action has come."  
- Prime Minister, The Hon. Julia Gillard MP

Left: Chelsea & her pet hermit crab  
Top & below left: DisabiliTEA Day at Carnegie  
Below right: Board members Margot Druce & Paul Gianni with Senator Mitch Fifield



We support 60 or more children every day in our Out of Home Care programs and work to uphold their rights under the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

The current disability system is failing the more than 750,000 Australians living with a significant disability - Productivity Commission Report

# Improving Community Access

This year we officially opened service coordination centres in Shepparton, Geelong, Colac and Preston. These new centres will help us deliver our growing range of support services to new areas, giving local communities more choice in the support available to them.

On Tuesday 12 April 2011, the Minister for Community Services, the Honourable Mary Wooldridge MP, opened our new Community Services Centre in Geelong.

The Minister for Housing, the Honourable Wendy Lovell MLC opened the EW Tipping Foundation's new Community Services Centre in Shepparton on Friday 8 April.

On Monday 8 August 2011, Mr Craig Ondarchie MLC for Northern Metropolitan opened our Preston Office.

As well as building community partnerships and providing services to meet people's needs, we also offer a growing range of employment and career opportunities in service delivery and coordination.



“This is a great milestone and it will ensure greater access to important support services for vulnerable Victorians.” – The Hon. Mary Wooldridge MP



Left: Monique Blom, Manager Practice Governance  
Above: Cameron & Mr Ondarchie MLC at the Preston opening; Donna & the Hon. Wendy Lovell MLC at the Shepparton opening; Simone & the Hon. Mary Wooldridge at the Geelong opening

# Practice Governance

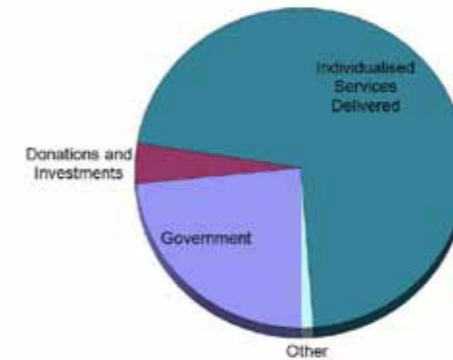
We have brought our quality, compliance and customer service roles together to form a new area of Practice Governance. Led by Monique Blom, this team will further develop evidence-based approaches and service quality.

They are currently working with staff across the organisation to review and assess our programs and our services to see what's working well, what areas could be improved and continue to develop solid risk management and compliance frameworks.

Part of this involves research and development into what is best practice for the various service areas we operate, and identifying the need for any further training or education in order to deliver that to the people we support. Through this we will continue to improve the quality and efficiency of our services.

# Financial Graphs and Commentary

## EW Tipping Foundation Network Funding Source 2010-11



We receive government funding for our children's services and for some disability services. The nature of disability funding continues to change, with many individual people with a disability largely in control of their own funding. Our service delivery income is enhanced by the generous support of individual, philanthropic and corporate donors. It is only with community support that we are able to "value add" through innovations such as ReNew, our many new services, and the special support we give to children unable to live with their families.

## EW Tipping Foundation Network Service Delivery (\$m) 2010 -11



The EW Tipping Foundation and its partner, Vista Community Support, continue to maintain a strong financial position. We have recorded strong growth and a responsible surplus, which we will use in support of our vision and mission. In 2010-11, this included establishment costs for our new ABI rehabilitation service, ReNew, in partnership with the Brain Injury Rehabilitation Trust (UK), new service properties in Horsham, Wangaratta and Bendigo, and set-up capital for four houses under the My Future My Choice program.



## Our Thanks

We thank all of our donors, including corporate donors, for their support. We especially acknowledge the generous financial support received from philanthropic trusts, including:

- Barr Family Foundation
- The Marian & EH Flack Trust
- Australian Communities Foundation
- Jack Brockhoff Foundation
- Killen Family Foundation
- Pierce Armstrong Foundation
- Portland House Foundation
- The Danks and Annie Danks Trust
- William Angliss (Victoria) Charitable Fund
- Community Inclusion for the Disabled in Victoria (ANZ Trustees)
- The Ian Potter Foundation
- Lord Mayor's Charitable Fund
- The Freemason's Public Charitable Foundation
- Cassandra Gantner Foundation
- Pierce Armstrong Foundation
- The Trust Company
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## Contact Us

Statewide Coordination Centre  
1036 Dandenong Rd, Carnegie, Vic. 3163  
P: (03) 9564 1000 F: (03) 9564 1004

Barwon South West Regional Office  
Focus Five Building, Suite 17,  
23-31 Gheringhap St, Geelong, Vic. 3220  
P: (03) 5228 0100 F: (03) 5228 0127

Gippsland Regional Offices  
58-60 Commercial Rd, Morwell, Vic. 3840  
P: (03) 5135 4300 F: (03) 5135 4399  
71 Victoria St, Warragul, Vic. 3820  
P: (03) 5622 7777 F: (03) 5622 2526

Grampians Regional Office  
42 Eastwood St, Ballarat, Vic. 3350  
P: (03) 5320 0300 F: (03) 5332 4845

Hume Regional Office  
170 Maude St, Shepparton, Vic. 3630  
P: (03) 5821 4964 F: (03) 5821 4950

Loddon Mallee Regional Offices  
8 King St, Bendigo, Vic. 3550  
P: (03) 5442 8441 F: (03) 5442 6698

50 McCallum St, Swan Hill, Vic. 3585  
P: (03) 5033 0204

North West Metropolitan Regional Office  
263 High St, Preston, Vic. 3072  
P: (03) 9487 8100 F: (03) 9487 8122

Riverina Regional Office  
1/91 Hume St, Wodonga, Vic. 3690  
P: (02) 6056 5698 F: (02) 6056 4022

ReNew Neurobehavioural Services  
11 Howard St, Altona Meadows, Vic. 3028  
P: (03) 8368 4100 F: (03) 8368 4199

[www.tipping.org.au](http://www.tipping.org.au)  
[info@tipping.org.au](mailto:info@tipping.org.au)

[www.homechoices.org.au](http://www.homechoices.org.au)  
[info@homechoices.org.au](mailto:info@homechoices.org.au)

[www.vistasupport.org.au](http://www.vistasupport.org.au)  
[info@vistasupport.org.au](mailto:info@vistasupport.org.au)

[www.renewservices.org.au](http://www.renewservices.org.au)  
[info@renewservices.org.au](mailto:info@renewservices.org.au)



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EW Tipping Foundation  
ABN: 59 032 986 751 ARBN: 152 848 505  
Registered Number: A0017280C

VPCS - Vista Community Support  
ABN: 64 762 103 425 ARBN: 152 848 452  
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