

LETRWA ISSUE 1/2022

NEWSLETTER



WELCOME MESSAGE FROM LETR WA

Hello and welcome to LETR WA 2022!

We are excited to be sharing details of the year ahead and an opportunity to highlight some events you may have missed!

We all acknowledge the unprecedented disruption the COVID-19 environment caused to all of our lives; and certainly to our policing priorities. It is reassuring for us all that we are now able to return to a sense of normality. For LETR WA, this will see increased opportunities for events and more importantly, engagement with athletes in Special Olympics WA (SOWA).

Globally, over 110,000 officers participate in the Law Enforcement Torch Run to support Special Olympics. LETR officers engaged athletes through virtual connections when sports training was cancelled as it was important to connect with the athletes, who experienced even greater isolation during the pandemic. The LETR Global Virtual Torch Run shared video messages of support to SO athletes across the world. WA athlete Blake Veaney (son of Sergeant Rick Veaney) recorded his message from Kings Park to encourage athletes to join the GVTR.

The Law Enforcement Torch Run continues with the mission to raise funds and awareness for people in our communities with intellectual disabilities through our affiliation to the Special Olympics movement. Athletes have returned to sports training and are now competing in State and National Games to qualify for the SO World Summer Games in Berlin next year. A total of 87 SOWA athletes will be heading to Tasmania for the National Games in October so we wish them all the best of luck!

LETR WA events are back and we need volunteers! We are supporting athlete sporting events and will host our Polar Plunge fundraising event in August. We continue to develop our program and will be seeking LETR volunteers for the LETR Victoria Regional Tour and Torch Runners for the LETR Final Leg in Tasmania.

SO WA athlete Blake Veaney sharing his message for athletes for the LETR Global Virtual Torch Run



SPECIAL OLYMPICS STATE GAMES



LETR SUPPORT SOWA ATHLETES AT STATE GAMES

The SOWA State Games were held over two days at Hale School in October. LETR President A/Assistant Commissioner Alan Morton APM led the athlete parade. Officers carried the flame of hope with SOWA athletes to light the cauldron for the opening ceremony. LETR officers supported the athletes over the weekend and observed the skills, determination and sportsmanship of the athletes.



ROG officers observed soccer matches and chatted to the soccer athletes before they played against the State Paralympics team. ROG talked about their role in policing and provided some athletes with an opportunity to kit up. The time to engage with the athletes created a lasting memory



LETR was proud to fund over 300 medals for the Games. Senior Sergeant Ross Blake presented SO athletes with medals for their achievements in basketball, athletics, soccer, swimming and bocce and many reached new goals to earn a place at the National Games.



RAISING AWARENESS



The LETR were awarded a community partnership grant from ALCOA. LETR and ALCOA created a community event for International Day of People with Disabilities (IDPWD). The athletes were excited to learn about the dolphins and marine life during the tour of the Mandurah canals. Local officers facilitated team games on the foreshore and everyone enjoyed the sausage sizzle. We will running another event later in the year so that more athletes have an opportunity to experience the dolphin cruise in Mandurah.

RAISING AWARENESS THROUGH EDUCATION



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY

LETR are working with the City of Perth for another LETR Torch Run through the CBD to mark IDPWD and will encourage community members and SO athletes to join us on 2 December 2022.



LETR raises awareness of the challenges experienced by people with intellectual disabilities. We create inclusive events to encourage athletes to communicate and engage with officers to build trust. LETR also deliver education sessions to recruits at the Police Academy to help share the message of inclusion.

POLAR PLUNGE 2022



In 2020, our inaugural Polar Plunge was led by the LETR Patron, the Commissioner of Police and his executive team. Over 200 volunteers from the WA Police Force and community partners joined with SO WA athletes in this FUN event.

Together we raised over \$40,000 helping us to provide funding to SOWA for athletes in local sporting programs, a leadership program, sporting equipment and assistance with travel expenses to State and National Games.

We encourage you and colleagues/friends to join us this year - add a costume or plunge in your uniform or sport kit!

REGISTER YOUR TEAMS

[www.mycause.com.au/events/](http://www.mycause.com.au/events/letrpolarplunge2022)

letrpolarplunge2022

Email us for an information pack or sponsorship pack.

HILLARYS BOAT HARBOUR

SATURDAY 6 AUGUST

TORCH RUN 10 AM

WELCOME 10.30 AM

POLAR PLUNGE 11 AM

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- LETR Torch Run
- Beach set up and pack up
- LETR fundraising tent
- Polar Plunge Teams
- Corporate Sponsors
- Event photographer



LETR WA EVENTS



LETR WA

SINCERE THANKS TO ALL VOLUNTEERS!

We can't do any of this without the support of our volunteers.

A little time (even one event) helps to make a difference to the lives of people with intellectual disabilities. If you are short on time you can still help by donating to LETR with a tax deductible donation through mycause: <https://www.mycause.com.au/charity/27456/LawEnforcementTorchRunWA> or by sponsoring a team at the polar plunge.



SOWA and LETR volunteers enjoyed a family picnic in Kings Park and participated in games of Bocce. Luckily the athletes were on hand to give us some great tips! We hope to have another family event later in the year.

LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

S/Sgt Ange Nicholson volunteered for a mentor role for the SOWA athlete program. The program involves developing skills in communication, managing time, personal skills and will equip adult athletes with unified leadership skills.



FOLLOW US

 Law Enforcement Torch Run-Western Australia
 letrwesternaustralia



LETR EVENTS

20 July 2022

LETR Meeting and Social Night
Wine Room, Grosvenor Hotel, Perth

6 August 2022

LETR Torch Run and Polar Plunge
Hillarys Boat Harbour

27 October 2022

LETR /ALCOA athlete event
Mandurah Dolphin Cruise

14 October 2022

LETR Torch Run
South Perth Foreshore

October 11-14 2022

LETR Vic Gippsland Regional
Engagement and Awareness Tour

October 14-17 2022

LETR Final Leg Torch Run
National Games Tasmania

2 December 2022

International Day of People With
Disability LETR Torch Run Perth CBD

13 December 2022

LETR AGM and Awards social night
*Location to be confirmed

CONTACT US

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