

Testimonials from family members, volunteers and carers;

“Fishers with Disabilities helped our clients to gain meaningful and enjoyable experiences in an area that is of interest to them and in the past has been impossible for them to participate in”. **Carer**

“Working with the participants over the last 10 years has been extremely rewarding and it fills me with a sense of pride that I have made a difference. Fishers with Disabilities is a community of participants, volunteers, carers and families that all work towards the same goal of providing recreational fishing opportunities for people with disabilities. The work we do enriches the lives of our members, their families, their friends and their carers” **Volunteer**

“Our son loves going to Fishers with Disabilities. He enjoys all the company, being outdoors and loves it even more when he catches a fish!” **Family Member**

If you would like to receive any more information about getting involved, please go to website www.fisherswithdisabilities.org.au or contact Coordinator, Di Bruce on 0424 417073.



Fishers with Disabilities Assoc. Inc.

Di Bruce

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Getting involved!

**FISHERS WITH DISABILITIES
ASSOCIATION
INCORPORATED**



“I was amazed at the enjoyment people with disabilities found in doing something most of us take for granted. Even though we had to do just about everything for them – bait-up, cast, reel in, take the fish off the hooks – they were so happy just being outdoors and participating as much as they were able. I wanted to be able to help them do things for themselves. I thought about all the people who have never been able to fish because of their disabilities, and those who thought they could never fish again”

Neville Thomas – Fishers with Disabilities Assoc. Inc. Founder

Fishing is one of the most popular recreational activities in Australia. Every year, over 600,000 West Australians bait-up and cast a line. However, until recently this activity has been impossible for many people with disabilities.

The Fishers with Disabilities Association Inc (FwDAI) provides a range of programs and plays an advocacy role in promoting inclusive participation in recreational fishing.

Our objectives are reached through specially structured, fully supervised, fishing activities in areas with disabled access, or from our new, purpose built boat the "Nev Thomas"! Independent participation in fishing is aided by the use of specially designed motorised reels. All programs focus on ability rather than disability.

The "Nev Thomas" is a purpose built vessel, equipped to take participants with disabilities (including up to four wheelchairs) off the shore and out to where the fish are biting!

The vision of the FwDAI is simple;

"To enhance the quality of life and self esteem of people with disabilities"

...read on about becoming involved

About Participating.....

Fishers with Disabilities Assoc. Inc. recognise the need to ensure recreational fishing is accessible and affordable to everybody, regardless of ability, skill level or experience.

With the support of a large team of volunteers and thanks to our sponsors, Fishers with Disabilities Assoc. Inc. are able to deliver both jetty and boat programs regularly in the Perth metro areas and regional centres at no cost.

With modified fishing rods, reels and vessel, we can accommodate children and adults with disabilities.

All volunteers have Working with Children Cards and receive regular training to ensure the safety and well-being of our participants.

If you are keen to participate either independently, or with your Care Organisation, it is a very simple process. Simply email your expression of interest to the contact details over the page and nominate the date and activity you wish to participate in. A representative will confirm with you your booking, and forward any relevant information about how to prepare for your fishing experience.

What benefits there are to fishing....

Come along to one of our activities if;

- Enjoy the outdoors.
- Enjoy meeting people.
- Enjoy working as part of a team.
- Have never tried fishing before

Or simply

- Want to give it a go!!!

All activities are provided at no cost, however we do request that carers accompany the participants and play an active role in the overall wellbeing of the individual.

Trained volunteers will offer the training and specialised skills in catching fish and ensure the safety of all participants and carers at the activity.

The contact person nominated will be notified in the event of a cancellation of activity due to inclement weather.

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Department of Fisheries