

	<p>Here are the minutes for the Soul Fly Band meeting on 29th July</p>
	<p>The Soul Fly Band held the meeting on zoom.</p>
	<p>The people that came to the meeting were: Alex, Lachlan, Nalyn, Joni, Audrey, Karen, Stavros, & Chelsea.</p>
	<p>First, we each shared some good news from our lives!</p>
	<p>We then talked about 'Disability-First' language and 'People-First' language.</p>



There is also an article here from the Autistic Self Advocacy Network which explains a bit more about this issue.

<https://autisticadvocacy.org/about-asan/identity-first-language/>

People First vs. Disability First will continue to be a conversation within the disability community, as we do not all think the same.

Overall, when in doubt about which language to use, the best rule of thumb is to ask someone how they would like to be referred. If you are in a situation where you cannot do that, Disability First language should be how you frame your sentences.

Chelsea shared an article that was written by a person who has a lived experience with disability.

The authors overall opinion was that asking a person how they would like to be referred to is the best way, but if that is not possible – then ‘Disability-First’ language should be used.



Karen, Joni & Nalyn shared that they all preferred ‘People-First’ language.

They each felt that the person is more important, and that ‘Disability-First’ language focussed more on what a person cannot do.



Nalyn shared that people often think that she does not have a disability, because her disability is not always visible.

She would like people to get to know her first before judging.



Joni agreed with this. She is very much against labels and would prefer for people to refer to her as ‘Joni’.

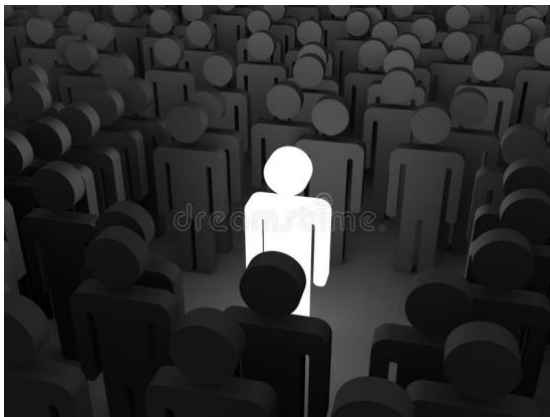
Joni feels that a label shouldn’t define who someone is as a person.



Audrey also said she would want people to get to know her first without judging her on sight.

She likes more inclusive language for all.

Audrey said she is very proud of her disability and to have been born into a diverse environment within her own family and community.



Alex said he likes to use the term 'talentedly gifted'.

He feels his disability has provided him with lots of great opportunities that many wouldn't have had.

He sees his disability as a gift!



Stavros also added that he knows people with disability can do so much, and that other's shouldn't have an opinion without getting to know the person first.



Next, we talked about the 2023 World Pride event.



The Gig Buddies team are hoping to meet the World Pride team to discuss accessibility and hopefully, how Gig Buddies can be involved in the event.

We asked Soul Fly Band to share their ideas with us about this, based on their previous experiences at Mardi Gras.



Nalyn's ideas:

- Accessible food stands with faster wait times
- Fireworks and games
- Dancers having freedom to move how they want
- Accessible Parking close to Oxford Street



Karen's ideas:

- Moving float for those who are less mobile, and others can walk behind the float.
- Shuttle bus – to help people with disabilities get start/finish areas, train station or parking area.



Stavros would also like a float, and more opportunity to explore more dance/music styles and moves.



The Gig Buddies team will take this to our meeting with the World Pride team 😊



Lastly, Karen wanted to talk about some ideas for Gig Buddies Central Coast (GBCC) social events



We talked about ideas for Halloween, including:

- An online Halloween dress-up event
- Halloween disco (online or in-person)
- Another Halloween cruise! Either in Sydney or maybe Ettalong.
- A Halloween themed live band
- Hallo-scream at Luna Park



Karen and Alex also suggested other GBCC events, including:

- Woytopia Festival – in October 2022
- Glenworth Grazing & Food Wine Festival - January 2023
- Blues Cruise along the Hawkesbury River.



Soul Fly Band – Monthly Meeting Notes



Soul Fly Band agreed these were great ideas.

Chelsea will take them back to the Gig Buddies team and chat further about them 😊



Finally, here is a schedule of the Soul Fly Band blog articles:

- August – Lachlan
- September - Jack
- October - Nalyn
- November - Audrey
- January - Karen
- February - Joni
- March - Alex
- April - Stavros
- May - Lachlan



Next Soul Fly Band Meeting:

Friday 26th August 2022
12:00pm – 1:00pm

Thanks for reading!