



MEDIA RELEASE

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‘Along Came Henry’ author and star to visit Murwillumbah Primary Schools during Social Inclusion Week

Bev Larsson, author of the charming children’s guide dog story ‘Along Came Henry’, will be sharing her tale with Murwillumbah year 1-2 students in a fun and interactive experience for Social Inclusion Week during November this year.

Bev will bring along her best mate and star of the book, her guide dog Henry, to meet the children as she visits classrooms to read her story book, in a joint project designed to raise awareness about disability and diversity presented by The Belonging Project, Northcott and Tweed Shire Council.

The Belonging Project aims to help children with additional needs and their families feel included and connected and is delivered by Northern Rivers Social Development Council.

Belonging Project coordinator Heather Tannock said the fun experience will boost children’s awareness of Social Inclusion Week (21-29 November) and its aim to help ensure all Australians feel included and valued, giving everyone the opportunity to participate fully in society.

“We are excited to have author Bev Larsson come along with us to the participating primary schools in the Murwillumbah area to read her story book and introduce the star, her guide dog Henry,” Ms Tannock said.

“Our school visits aim to recognise and celebrate everyone’s unique differences and acknowledge the need that we all have to feel included.”

Cathy O’Neill from Northcott said, “We hope to build on the student’s knowledge of disability and diversity as well as support their learning around acceptance and creating a place where everyone belongs.”

A copy of ‘Along Came Henry’, a beautifully illustrated book which shares the story of Bev’s transformation after she meets her guide dog Henry, will be donated to each participating school. The children will also each receive an activity book they can share with their families to extend their understanding and community awareness of the positive benefits of inclusion.

“Our wish is to build stronger more inclusive communities where all people feel welcome and valued,” Ms O’Neill said.

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Media enquiries contact:

Amanda Shoebridge, Communications and Marketing Officer



Northern Rivers Social Development Council (NRSDC).
Ph. 0428 242675
E: communications@nrsc.org.au

Notes to editors