

Secondary entry #23: Kotara High School



# KOTARA CHRONICLE



**OPTIMISTIC:**  
Charlie  
Turner is  
still on a  
waiting list  
for govern-  
ment  
funding.

Picture:  
Sophie  
Turner



## Waiting lists for disability funds persist

By **SOPHIE TURNER**

EVERY person born with a medical issue or disability is entitled to funding or specialised care.

Unfortunately, that's not always the case.

Some families are forced to pay for medical bills and medication just so their child can survive.

For example, Charlie Turner was diagnosed with Noonan Syndrome at three days old.

Noonan Syndrome is a congenital disorder that causes heart abnormalities as well as characteristic physical features.

He is on a waiting list for government funding to help with his ongoing medical care.

There are less straight-forward cases, such as Molly-Jane Boyson. She has a terminal blood disease and is ineligible for government funding, leaving her parents to pay more than \$1500 in expenses every fortnight.

The government needs to be made aware of such families struggling with medical expenses.

People can help by raising awareness with their local state and federal representatives.

Their attention can be directed to such important matters, like a better standard of living for Charlie and Molly-Jane.

By **MIA DAVIES**

CORAL reefs are possibly one of the most amazing sights the ocean can offer to humans.

A beautiful location packed with life and colour, filled to the brim with secrets and mysteries of the unknown.

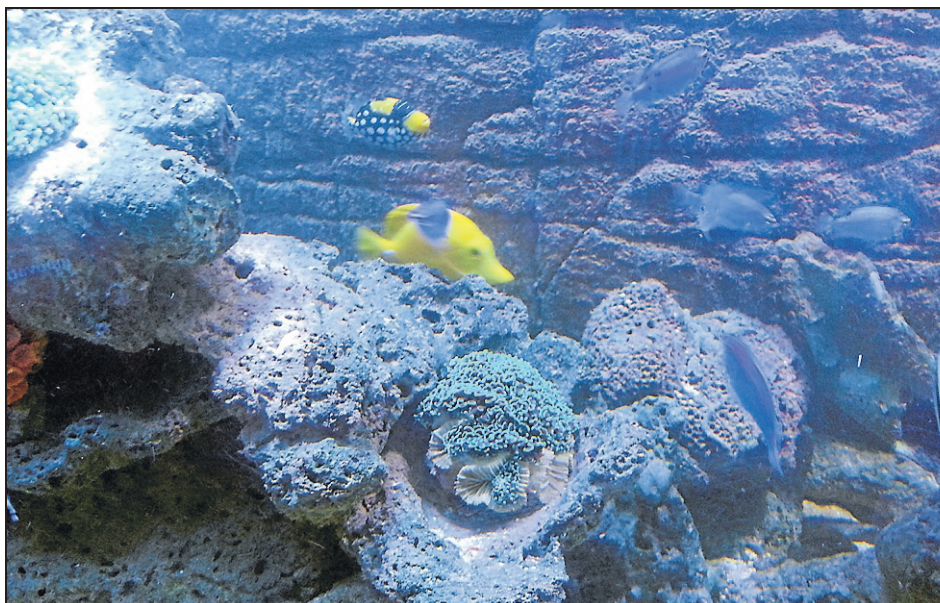
Unfortunately, as much as humans admire these reefs, they continue to make bad decisions in relation to their survival.

We treat them badly, leaving many parts of the ocean with severe destruction.

It is important to help reefs around the world from getting packed with rubbish and debris, which in turn has the potential to kill life and thousands of species of plants.

Positive steps include keeping local beaches clean; after a day on the sand, take rubbish home or place in the nearest bin. Once high tide comes, any remaining rubbish is washed out to sea, polluting the waters and adding to the risk of sickness to marine animals.

Another step is to report illegal activities on reef ecosystems.



**TAKE CARE:**  
Actions today  
can have a  
great impact  
tomorrow,  
especially on  
delicate  
ecosystems  
such as the  
Great Barrier  
Reef.

Illegal fishing, improper anchoring and dumping of trash should be reported to the proper authorities.

This can help put a stop to people who are adding to the terrible conditions of the world's reefs.

Respect local guidelines when visiting reefs, and any other water location such as beaches, lakes and rivers. There are usually signs with warnings and rules – follow them because they are there to protect

both humans and the reef.

Next visit to the beach, take a minute or two to look out at the beautiful blue ocean, and think about actions that will reduce it from risk.



**INTERNATIONAL  
COMPETITION:**  
Jenai Monz of  
Kotara High  
shows her skills.

## Competitors shine on world stage

By **JENAI MONZ**

EXCITEMENT was building for the FISAF World Championships, which ran from October 15-20 in Belgrade, Serbia, and had plenty of Australian representation.

The Federation of International Sports and Fitness (FISAF) is active in over 40 countries and is the largest fitness industry organisation in the world.

Sports aerobics requires the competitors to perform complex and high-intensity movement to music.

In order to qualify for the FISAF World Championship, competitors had to succeed in the state and then national championships in Victoria.

Kotara High student Jenai Monz recently competed at the National School Aerobics Championships where

she placed second in the secondary junior section.

For all the competitors who attended the World Championships, it is a huge achievement to be selected. All their hard work, training, sweat and tears have finally paid off as they performed on the international stage.

They made their country proud with some excellent results in many of the junior and cadet categories.



## “his Vision is no real impairment”

In 10 years we've given over **\$10million** to fund more than **250** important community programs, like the Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children's video conferencing service that ensures hearing and vision impaired children like Cruz get the support they need in their own homes.

For more information on the Newcastle Permanent Charitable Foundation and to see more of Cruz's story, visit [newcastlepermanent.com.au/foundation](http://newcastlepermanent.com.au/foundation)

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**CHARITABLE  
FOUNDATION**