Sean Quinn

Sean Quinn’s my name and I’m blind from birth and I’m about forty and I’ve been coming here for about twenty or thirty years. I’ve got about two percent vision and I deal the best way I can with good support from family and Vision Australia.

When I was a baby I was given too much oxygen and that’s what caused my problems and my minor cerebral palsy problem on one side which is the right side.of my body.

Well, basically I get home meals from a shop in ‘Annaleigh’ (?) who does cooked food and I do it all in a microwave because it feels a lot safer, so that’s how I overcome those sort of things, but I can do cups of tea and that, and I do everything basically on the sink.

And I go around areas that I know , like around this site - Vision Australia, Kent Street and the train, and I can do all that, but when I go outside that area I need training, but if I need assistance there’s always to help me at the shop because I have a good rapport with the shop, the butchers shop, say. So, I can do that and um, if I ever want help at the Post Office or that, I have a good rapport with them as well. I have an assistant with me because of my one hand use so I have assistance by someone helping me do the finer detail things.

Being involved now with Vision Australia, I was at a school called Narbethong for visually impaired at Stone’s Corner here in Brisbane, Queensland and I’d been there fourteen years and then I just kept on getting support for independent living and that, from Queensland Foundation for Blind people at the time, and now it’s amalgamated with Vision Australia.

How I got involved in this site was that I went to school at Narbethong and then we came to be trained here to be workers in a factory environment and that’s how I got involved this site.

The activities we’re are doing at the moment are music and going into the community for lunch. Like, today we went into ‘Coochie’ and just experiencing community that normal sighted people can do (with support.)

In our ‘Arts and crafts’ we have been doing cement tiling for our new site and .that’s putting a base cement and then putting tiles and then it dries to a cement and they’re going to put it into the new site, so when blind people come down a pathway they can tell what texture they’re going down a path, and that’s going into the new site.

Going to the new site at Coorparoo is a change and looking forward to the new challenges.in that new site and the challenges of transport. My challenges to face would be settling in, transport and just knowing where things are in the community in that area.