



Williamstown  
Community  
and Education  
Centre Inc

# Newsletter December 2019

**Joan Kirner House and Spotswood Community House**  
For Members, Committee, Staff, Volunteers, Students, Parents,  
Stakeholders, Centre users, Partners, Sponsors and Our Community

2019 HOBSONS BAY  
**BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARDS**  
WINNER



*Volunteer, Malour Guy, stars in Hobsons Bay City Council  
promotional video.*



**Malour Guy (Centre) with Michelle Lawrence,  
Hobsons Bay City Council Volunteering  
Development Officer, and Mayor Cr Jonathon  
Marsden at the film Launch on October 31.**

See the short video [HERE](#)

**NEW!**



Find us on  
**Instagram**

## Coming Up...

- Wednesday December 4 and 11. **FREE Community Morning Tea.** 11.00 am at Joan Kirner House.
- Wednesday December 4 and 11. **FREE** Barista style coffee, tea, hot chocolate and treats at the **Pop-Up Social Café.** Joan Kirner House at 11.00 am.
- Wednesday December 4 and 11. **FREE Willy Walking Group** from 10.15 am to 11.00 am, starting at Joan Kirner House.
- Tuesday December 10. **Network West Bus Tour.** Other Centre managers and key stakeholders to visit Joan Kirner House. 12.15 pm to 1.50 pm
- Friday December 13 at 12.00. **Centre Christmas function.** All welcome! Bring a plate. Heaps of great food. Live music. Door prizes and a Very Special Guest!
- Friday December 20. Last day of the year that Centre is open to public. **Centre closed** from then to February to public (Office will remain open).
- Monday February 3, 2020. **Centre re opens** to the public. Term One starts.



**NOTE** – Pop-Up social Café will not operate over Christmas and January at Joan Kirner House. Re starts on Wednesday February 5, 2020.

A promotional poster for the 'Centre Christmas Function'. At the top left is the 'Williamstown Community and Education Centre Inc.' logo. To its right is a photo of a Christmas tree with the word 'Celebrate!' in blue script. The main title 'Centre Christmas Function' is in large red letters. Below it, 'Friday 13th December 12:00pm' is written in blue. The poster includes several photos: a beach scene with a Santa hat, a table of food, a group of people, and Santa Claus with a man. Text on the poster includes 'Great food (bring a small plate to share)', 'Great music', 'All welcome', and 'Visit from Santa'.





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# Learn English Through Drama

New class for adult learners in 2020  
Commencing Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2020

**When:** Tuesday afternoons, 12:30 – 3:00pm  
**Where:** Williamstown Community and Education Centre, Room 1

Come and join this class if you would like to learn English in an exciting, interactive way. Learning through drama helps us to:

- Practise new vocabulary and grammar in a meaningful way
- Remember new words and phrases more easily, because we learn them with our whole body
- Become more confident and spontaneous when speaking English
- Learn to use body language effectively to communicate our meaning
- Improve pronunciation
- Become part of a community
- Be an active learner

To register for this class, please speak to Lynne in the office or call her on 9397 6168. Please note, this class is for adult learners.





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## 2020 Childcare Programs

Program	Session Times	Ages	Enrolment Period	Fees
Occasional Care	Monday 9.15am – 12.15pm Thursday 9.15am – 12.15pm Friday 9.15am – 12.15pm	12 months and walking to 5 years	Term by Term	\$12 per hour (\$36 per session)  Concession/Sibling rate: \$10 per hour (\$30 per session)
2 ½ + Year Old Activity Group	Tuesday 9.15am – 2.15pm	2 ½ to 5 years	Annual	\$12 per hour (\$60 per session)  Concession/Sibling rate: \$10 per hour (\$50 per session)
3+ Year Old Activity Group	Wednesday 9.15am – 2.15pm	3 to 5 years	Annual	\$12 per hour (\$60 per session)  Concession/Sibling rate: \$10 per hour (\$50 per session)

All sessions are dependent on enrolment numbers.

For all enrolment enquiries please contact Penny on 9397 6168 or [admin@wcec.com.au](mailto:admin@wcec.com.au)



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## CONSCIOUS AGEING

*Would you like the opportunity to engage in collective dialogue and exploration of what it means to age consciously?*

Join Dr Tom Verghese, Executive Coach and  
Fiona Hyde, Yoga and Meditation Teacher,  
for this six-week intensive commencing  
Thursday 6 February 2020 (6.30-8.30pm)



During this intensive, we will explore various themes including challenges and joys of ageing, elderhood and wisdom, feelings around death and dying, the importance of self-compassion as well as physical, mental, emotional and spiritual wellbeing.

Williamstown Community and Education Centre  
For more information and to register your interest, contact:

Tom: 0419 999 292 Fiona: 0431 080 157  
or email: [fionahyde1@gmail.com](mailto:fionahyde1@gmail.com)

Joan Kirner House and Spotswood Community House  
9397 6168 [admin@wcec.com.au](mailto:admin@wcec.com.au) T.O.I.D: 4640

## **Mobil IT Support**

Thanks to Mobil Altona Refinery (fellow Hobsons Bay Business Excellence Award winner!) for their very generous donation to our Centre to help us with a wide range of IT upgrades.



Especially Riccardo Cavallo, Manager Refining Australia and New Zealand, and the famous Nikki Calcraft, Community Relations Adviser.

With this assistance we can upgrade our server and replace computers in the office, staff room and classroom.

We will also be re cabling our whole IT infrastructure throughout Joan Kirner House.

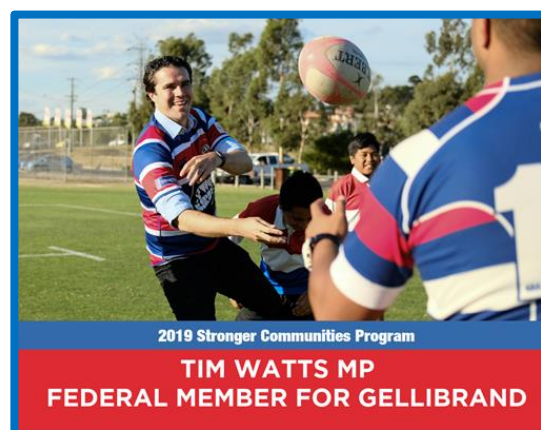
With this help from Mobil, we can ensure that we can continue to deliver quality programs and services to our community.

Thanks again Mobil.

## **New iPads**

Thanks to a successful application to the 2019 Gellibrand Stronger Communities Grant, we will now have 17 brand new iPads for Centre users and students to use.

Hugely grateful to Tim Watts MP, Federal Labor Member for Gellibrand for supporting our Centre and selecting our initiative for funding.



## **New Project!**

A successful application to the Hobsons Bay City Council Community Grant program will see the '*Supporting West Welcome Wagon Volunteer English Tutors*' two-year project commencing in 2020.

Our Centre will be assisting the volunteer tutors helping refugees and asylum seekers learn English.



West Welcome Wagon is a volunteer run not-for-profit dedicated to providing material aid and support to asylum seekers in Melbourne's west.

They assist over 500 households of asylum seekers from over 30 different countries, providing them with good quality donated items such as furniture, bedding, clothing, children's toys, appliances and kitchenware.



More details [HERE](#)



## Active Neighbourhoods for Older Australians

One of our initiatives with this program is the Dulcie Shaw House Exercise Program in Altona North on Tuesday afternoons.

We currently have nine participants.

If you want to join, call Lynne on 9397 6168 for details.



Another initiative is the Wednesday Willy Walking Group.

Seen here enjoying a sunny Spring morning.

For details and to join, contact Penny on 9397 6168.



## **Hooray! - She got a Job!**

From Rita, one of our Skills for Education and Employment (SEE) class teachers.

*“Virun and some of her family members migrated from Cambodia.*

*When she arrived in Australia, she began to learn English and completed the 510 hours of the Adult Migrant English Program.*

*Then, she started working as a cook at a Thai restaurant in Williamstown.*

*After long years of hard work Virun was able to buy a house in Williamstown.*

*Unfortunately, the restaurant closed in 2018 and Virun started to receive New start allowance from Centrelink.*

*She was then referred to Williamstown Community Education Centre (WCEC) and started to learn English as part of the SEE Program.*

*Virun was a very active member of the class and worked very hard to improve her language skills.*

*She made the most of every opportunity to learn English. Meantime, she continued to search for a job.*

*She often thought her age (she is in her 50's) was an impediment to gaining employment.*

*However, in July 2019 Virun found a job in a bakery-café in Melton.*

*She attended the job interview and accepted the position to work full time. Initially, she was a bit worried about the long drive on the Highway.*

*After a few nervous drives Virun started to feel more confident as a driver.*

*At the moment, she is missing the WCEC students, friends and staff. However, she is happy with her new life, her job, her income and the independence of being employed.*

*Congratulations Virun!*

*We also miss you as a valuable member of our class and a friend but, we are very proud of your achievements.*

*You have reminded us that through hard work and perseverance anything is possible.*

*All the best in your future endeavors!”*





## Halloween in Childcare



## New Mayor

Williamstown Community and Education Centre Secretary, Lucienne Galea attended the election of the Mayor for Hobsons Bay City Council on Friday November 8.

Congratulations to our newly elected Mayor Councillor Colleen Gates.

It is Councillor Gates' second time as Mayor, having previously served in the role in 2014/15 and serving as Deputy Mayor in 2013/14 and in 2016/17.

Colleen Gates has been a Councillor since 2012.



## Need Furniture?

From Jennifer Legge, Acting Manager Communications and Community Relations  
Strategic Communications and Community Relations, Hobsons Bay City Council.

*"Noticed a piece of Council furniture you like?*

*Know of a local business looking to upgrade their office space?*

*Then keep reading...*



*As part of our transition to activity based working, a large amount of furniture has been removed from the Civic Centre.*

*The furniture, currently being moved off-site by Egans, is now available for sale with proceedings going straight to the local community.*

*The local community will benefit through a unique partnership between Council, Hobsons Bay Community Fund and Egans.*

*As part of the refurbishment, office furniture no longer suitable for use will be repurposed and sold through the online sales portal of Egans, a local asset management business with a Wise Office Furniture Program who works in partnership with the Hobsons Bay Community Fund (HBCF).*



*The proceeds will then benefit the local community through the HBCF's annual grants program.*

*Furniture can be viewed and bid on at <http://www.ebaystores.com.au/Egans-Online>*

*Tell your friends, tell your family, let your community stakeholders know and don't forget to take a look for yourself!"*



## **Semester One 2020 Programs**

Our new brochure with lots of new programs and services is available online at our website [HERE](#).

Hard copies will be available soon.



## **Hobsons Bay Volunteer Expo 2020**

### **Stall holder expressions of interest now open!**

Are you looking to recruit more members or volunteers?

Are you interested in raising the profile of your community organisation or group?

**Express your interest in participating in the Hobsons Bay Volunteer Expo 2020!**

**Volunteer West** is a community organisation based in Altona that aims to improve the well-being of people and communities in Melbourne's West through volunteering. In partnership with **Hobsons Bay City Council**, we are in the process of planning for a Volunteer Expo in Hobsons Bay.

Hosting a stall at the Volunteer Expo is a great way to:

- Attract and recruit more new volunteers or members
- Promote the impact and good work of your community group or organisation to the public
- Expand your networks and connect with other community stakeholders

#### **Tentative Volunteer Expo Date and Location:**

Date: Saturday 21st March 2020.

Time: 1pm till 4pm.

Venue: Logan Reserve, Altona.

#### **What the commitment for stall holders?**

- 12pm: Set-up your stall. 1pm -4pm: Man your stall. 4pm: Pack-up your stall.
- Have at least 2 people from your organisation/group managing your stall at all times.
- Bring your own banners, brochures, signage, signup sheets, etc. on the day.
- Attend a stall holder briefing approximately two weeks prior to the event.

Stall holders will be provided with a marquee approximately 3m x 3m in size, a trestle table and two chairs. These will be set up for you in advance. Need help preparing for the event? Contact Volunteer West for support.

Local community groups and organisations based in Hobsons Bay are highly encouraged to participate. Stall holder spaces are limited – contact us now to get involved!

**Expressions of interest close Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2019.**

*To express your interest, complete the attached form and return it to **Volunteer West**  
[events@volunteerwest.org.au](mailto:events@volunteerwest.org.au)*

*For more information, contact **Phuong MacCallum-Le** at Volunteer West on 0421 755 241.*



**HOBSONS  
BAY CITY  
COUNCIL**



## **PTO for EoI**



## **Hobsons Bay Volunteer Expo 2020**

### **Stall holder expressions of interest now open!**

To express your organisation/community groups interest in participating in the Volunteer Expo please complete this form and return it to Volunteer West [events@volunteerwest.org.au](mailto:events@volunteerwest.org.au)  
Expressions of interest close Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

#### **Organisation details:**

Name of organisation/community group: .....

Description of service/purpose/mission: .....

In which suburbs of Hobsons Bay is your organisation/community group active?

.....

Website/Facebook/Social Media (if any): .....

Why would your organisation/community group like to participate?

- ☐ Recruit for more volunteers/members      ☐ Raising public profile of organisation
- ☐ Promote the value and impact of your organisation
- ☐ Others. Please list: .....

What areas do you need volunteers/members? Please select:

- ☐ General      ☐ Administration      ☐ Social Media
- ☐ Committee      ☐ Governance      ☐ IT
- ☐ Others. Please list: .....

Do you need any extra support to participate as a stall holder?

.....

Any other comments or information you'd like to provide as part of your expression of interest?

.....

#### **Your name and contact information:**

Title: ..... First Name: ..... Last name: .....

Role within your group/organisation: ..... Phone number: .....

Email: .....

Thank you for taking your time to complete this form.

Volunteer West will be in touch in December 2019 once the expressions of interest period ends.

We are in the first stage of collecting expressions of interest. Sufficient interest from local community organisations/groups is needed in order for this event to go ahead.

## **Update - Parking at Joan Kirner House**

*Our ongoing campaign to have reserved parking for our Centre users on the Cecil street frontage of Joan Kirner House...*

### **The good news and the bad news.**

#### **First the bad news...**

On Monday November 4 we met with Matthew Irving, Manager Capital Works from Hobsons Bay City Council who is compiling a report for Council.

Unfortunately, he said he would recommend to Council in their December Meeting that we **not** receive reserved parking on Cecil Street frontage.

The rationale is this –

- Our request was initially denied as it set a precedent for organisations, businesses or anyone else to get reserved parking.
- We highlighted that a precedent had already been set. For example, Kids by the Bay in Hanmer St Williamstown, Laverton Hub on Railway Ave, etc.
- Council then determined that these parking spaces should never have been approved and they are going to take these signs away including our current reserved parking on Thompson Street.

However, Matthew did suggest that the Council will look at extending the two hour parking on Cecil and Thompson streets to five hour parking.

#### **The good news...**

We highlighted to Matthew that another option could be permits for the actual vehicles, where staff have stickers that allows them to park for longer than the two hour restricted time, and students can get a visitors permit from reception, to hang on their mirror for the time they are parked.

Matthew recognised that this is a very common precedent throughout Hobsons Bay and that we should be provided with this as well.

So, we put an application to Council to get these permits and we were successful.

Many thanks to Matthew Irving from Council who had the foresight and ideas, as well as the support to resolve this long running concern.

**Issue resolved!**



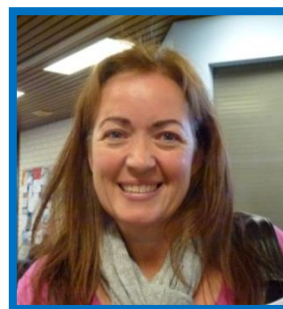
## **This Month's Profiled People**

### **Jackie Green – Committee Member**

Jackie has been on the Committee since 2015. She is the Principal at Spotswood Primary School, where our Spotswood Community House is located.

Jackie is heavily involved in Hobsons Bay community and events.

Jackie has a Bachelor of Education with Honours and is undertaking a Master of Educational Management.



### **Lucy Docherty – EAL Teacher**

Lucy started with us in 2003 and is a very popular English Language teacher.

She also she conducts detailed training and learning assessments with students.

Lucy has a Certificate IV in Training and Assessment, Postgraduate Diploma of TESOL and Literacy, Secondary Teachers Certificate and a Bachelor of Arts.



### **Rita Dobrotka – EAL Teacher**

Rita started with us in 2016 and is one of our English teachers.

She has had significant experience working in the Adult Migrant Education Program at NMIT, Kangan, and at community centres.

Prior to this Rita was a Secondary School teacher in the subjects of Maths and Spanish.

Rita has a Bachelor of Arts and Diploma of Education.



## **Managers Musings**

In the past month we have -

- Bought new chairs and tables in the Centre user's kitchen at Joan Kirner House.
- Installed new blinds in the staff room, office, Room six and the kitchen at Joan Kirner House.
- Had all windows and 42 solar panels on the roof professionally cleaned.
- Put a new sign up at Joan Kiner House. Now signage at both venues match!

## Before



## After



At the end of year break we will repaint Joan Kirner House childcare, the staff room, office, Room six and the toilets.

**Staff note** – if you have a visitor, or a student, that needs to park in a two hour zone, ask them to get a Visitors Parking Permit from Penny at reception please.

We had our Victoria Registration and Qualifications Authority (VRQA) site audit on November 27 and 28.

Always a stressful time, however to our complete delight we came out 100 percent compliant across all AQTF Conditions and Standards as well as all VRQA Guidelines.

The Auditor informed us that in her nine years of being a VRQA / ASQA Auditor, that we are only the second training organisation she had found to be completely and totally compliant.

Well done to all involved. Excellent job!

Thanks.

Mark.

**Dr Mark Brophy**  
**Manager**  
**Williamstown Community and Education Centre Inc**

