



Williamstown
Community
and Education
Centre Inc

Newsletter July 2017

Joan Kirner House and Spotswood Community House

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

Its Official... Joan Kirner House is going Solar!

Thanks to the very generous support to our Centre by Powershop, the 'Your Community Energy Initiative' and Powershop customers, we will be getting 42 solar panels installed on the roof at 14 Thompson Street Williamstown.



POWERSHOP
A better power company

We are a perfect organisation to have this, as we principally run during the day while the sun shines!
☺

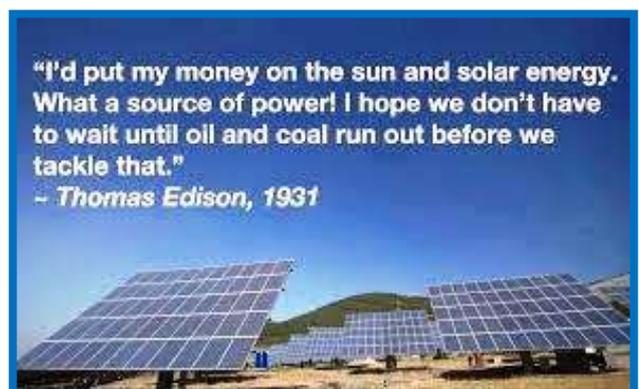
We will attain considerable savings, which we can put directly back into our Centre programs and services.

Not to mention doing our bit for the planet, reducing our carbon footprint and even putting power back into the grid.

I'd personally like to thank Abbie Allen from Powershop, as well as Rod Clark from Hobsons Bay City Council for approvals and Phil Knight from Cherry Energy Solutions who will be doing the installation.

More details on the Your Community Energy Initiative are available [HERE](#)

The Powershop Media Release is [HERE](#)



Upcoming Birthdays

Heap 7 July, Rita 20 July, Fedra 28 July and Lara 12 August.

In The Media

- **'Hobsons Bay Community Centres Research Project Launch'** in Neighbourhood Houses Victoria News. May. Page 5. See [HERE](#)
- **Powershop website**. A story on us about the Your Community Energy Initiative. See [HERE](#)

Coming Up ↑ ...

- **Term break**. From 1 July to 14 July we are closed to public. Some English classes will run in the second week.
- **Welcome to Semester Two Lunch**. Free, all welcome. Thursday July 20, Joan Kirner House at 12.00.
- **Healthy Lunch Program**. Free lunch on Tuesday August 1. Joan Kirner House at 12.00.
- **Book Week**. August 18 to 25. Watch out for our displays and activities!

Semester Two Brochure

Our Semester Two Brochure, with all new programs and services, is now out.

Hard copies are at both Spotswood Community House, Joan Kirner House, and can be found in libraries, information centres and Council venues. An online version is available [HERE](#)

Welcome to Australia Program

Sponsored by Slater and Gordon, we start this initiative in Term Three. The Project is free English language classes and activities for refugees, migrants, asylum seekers and new arrivals.



We have a class of six ready to go at Spotswood Community House on Friday afternoons. We also have another twenty participants at Joan Kirner House, where we will slot them into existing Accredited and / or Pre-accredited classes.

This way they can mingle and meet others in their community, enabling them to integrate, develop new friendships and improve their English language skills.

Migrants, or anyone who knows someone who would benefit from the Program, can contact our Education Coordinator, Lynne on 9397 6168 or education@wcec.com.au.

The Slater and Gordon Media Release is [HERE](#)

Refugee Week Lunch

We had a big turn out on Wednesday June 21 for our Refugee Lunch. Lots of food and deserts.

Thanks to all staff and students for preparing and especially Anne who did a great job.

With 294 jelly beans in the jar, Lieu Vo from the Skills for Education and Employment (SEE) English Class was the closest guess. Well done!

We also raised funds to be donated to the Hobsons Bay Refugee Network



Hobsons Bay Refugee Network Winter Food Drive

From July 10 to July 26 we will be a collection point for this Drive.

Items needed include:

- UHT milk / Oil
- Flour, sugar
- Rice (basmati or long grain)
- Tea or coffee
- Diced tomatoes
- Dry chickpeas or lentils
- Tinned legumes (4-5 bean mix or red kidney, chickpeas or lentils)
- Tinned veg (corn, peas or carrots)
- Tinned tuna or sardines
- Dishwashing liquid /All purpose cleaner / Bars of soap
- Disposable Nappies 10kg+



Free English Classes From July 1 2017

510 HOURS. Study in Class or individual tutoring.

Williamstown Community and Education Centre Inc. delivers the Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP) for Learning for Employment.

AMEP is funded by the Australian Government Department of Education and Training and provides up to 510 hours of English language tuition to eligible migrants and humanitarian entrants to help them learn basic English skills to assist them to successfully and confidently participate socially and economically in Australian society.



You may be eligible for AMEP if you have been

- granted a permanent visa OR
- granted an eligible temporary visa AND
- speak little or no English

Young people between 15 and 17 years of age may also be eligible. In an AMEP class you will learn English language skills and information about Australian society.

You can meet other people learning English. Classes are taught by qualified teachers. For more information on AMEP click [HERE](#). For information on being a volunteer AMEP tutor please email info@learningforemployment.org.au



Innovative Activity for Teenagers

My name is Lily and I am a volunteer for the Joan Kirner House Youth Club on Friday afternoons.

The purpose of the club is to engage primary and secondary age students in an innovative and fun hobby NOT involving computers or screens.

Similar to chess, Willy Wargaming uses tabletop gaming where real miniature models are built, painted and used for playing.



Participants also learn skills in strategy, problem solving, teamwork and complex thinking in a novel and unique environment.

Not every child is suited to sports, nor just computer games. Willy Wargaming provides a rare alternative path to the pedagogical development of socialisation, rules interpretation and conflict resolution.

And all of this in an adult supervised fun and relaxed atmosphere. All supervisors have a current Working with Children check and are insured.

We meet every second Friday, run for 2.5 hours, Door Prize every week and there are annual competitions and tournaments. And its only \$10.00 per session.

To find out more and book into your free first session, contact me on 0414 831 899 or Peter von Alpen on 0438 420 417

Lily Morgan
Volunteer Supervisor
Willy Wargaming

Volunteers Over 65 Wanted for Research Study

One of Australia's largest medical research institutes, Baker Heart and Diabetes Institute, is currently undertaking a study called the "Victorian study of Echocardiographic detection of Left ventricular dysfunction (Vic-ELF)".

This study is targeting at-risk populations in the Western suburbs of Melbourne, who have risk factors for developing heart failure.



The study will involve using new non-invasive imaging techniques that look at the function of the heart via echocardiography (also called an echo).

An echo is an ultrasound test that uses soundwaves to create pictures of the heart's chambers, valves, walls and blood vessels attached to the heart. Combined with clinical measures this will help identify participants who are likely to develop heart failure.

The Baker Institute is looking for volunteers who are over the age of 65, and who are overweight, on blood pressure medication, and/or have type 2 diabetes to participate in this study.

For study details please email Baker.VICELF@baker.edu.au or contact me on (03) 8532 1511.

What is heart failure?

Heart failure involves damage to the heart muscle severe enough to prevent it functioning properly as a pump.

When this is due to a heart attack, the heart failure can occur suddenly.

However, heart failure is increasingly due to other processes that gradually cause damage to heart muscle, such as high blood pressure or diabetes.

Symptoms of heart failure include shortness of breath, swelling in the legs or ankles, chronic fatigue, and a reduced ability to be physically active.

Thanks,

Jo.

Joanne Harris | Research Coordinator
Baker Heart & Diabetes Institute
T: +61 (0)3 8532 1511
E: joanne.harris@baker.edu.au

Advocates for the Environment

With this Hobsons Bay City Council sponsored initiative we are rolling out a new environmental initiative every month this year.

*This Month, a **Produce Exchange**.*

Come in and collect fruit, vegetables and herbs donated by others, or from our garden beds.



Bring in those spare lemons, apples, herbs, vegies, fruit to share with others.

And reduce our waste too!

Anne Douglas
Project Officer
Williamstown Community and Education Centre



English Class Goes to Skydeck

Ekaterina Georgieva, from the Skills for Education and Employment Class sent us this story about their excursion to Skydeck.

Yesterday Green class, my class and I visited "Eureka-Skydeck" in city.

We first came to school and after that we went by train to city on "Eureka-Skydeck".

For most of us this was a first visit to this attraction.



When we exited the extremely fast elevator on the 88th floor, in front of us showed amazingly beautiful views of Melbourne!

Enjoying the beautiful views, we also took many photos for our memories.

Then we had all together lunch at the nearby Crown Casino.

It was a wonderful, always memorable trip, for which we are grateful to our teacher Lucy and management of Williamstown CEC!!!!!!

Ekaterina Georgieva- Red class
30/06/2017

This Month's Profiled People

Rita Dobrotka is one of our English teachers who teaches the SEE classes.

She has over eight years experience in the SEE program as well as Adult Migrant Education Program at NMIT, Kangan, and at community centres.

She is also a qualified SEE Pre - Training Assessor. Prior to this Rita was a Secondary School teacher in the subjects of Maths and Spanish.



Kay Reay is one of our volunteers who helps out in the Mild Intellectually Disability Art Class on Monday afternoons.

She has been a Bookkeeper, Receptionist and Administrator in the medical sector.

Kay has a keen interest in sewing, arts and crafts.



Managers Musings

Hosted by Network West, the **Network West Orientation Tour** is a tour to five different community centres on Wednesday 16 August.

The hosting centres are North Melbourne Language and Learning Centre, Tarneit Community Centre, Duke Street Community House, Braybrook Community Centre and ourselves.

Open to staff and Committee, these annual tours tend to book out quickly, so if you are interested contact Sandra at info@networkwest.net

New outside chairs, security cameras, door bell and a microwave oven have been put in at **Spotswood Community House**.

We also put a new white board into Room Three at **Joan Kirner House** and new air conditioning units will soon be placed in rooms Two, Three and Four.

Most staff will notice a pay rate increase in July.

This is the first of three annual pay increases, under the **Neighbourhood House Adult Community Education (NHACE) Collective Agreement 2016**, as well as an increase as a result of the Annual Wage Review.

Also, for staff that are not at the top of their incremental classification level, your level increases every anniversary of work at the Centre. Any related pay rate increases are then applied.

The full NHACE Collective Agreement is at Reception at Joan Kirner House and an electronic version is on our website [HERE](#).

The teachers six monthly **Professional Development** session is booked for Wednesday July 26. Lynne will be sending out more details to teachers soon.

The **English Intermediate Conversation Class** at the Migrant Resource Centre in Altona North has moved.

Jodie and her group are now at Spotswood Community House on Thursdays all day.

The ACFE **North West Melbourne Learn Local Education Coordinators Community of Practice** with Wyndham Community and Education Centre, Yarraville Community Centre, Community Plus, Duke Street Community House, Angliss Neighbourhood House, Farnham Street Neighbourhood Learning Centre, Laverton Community Intergrated Services, Djerriwarrh Community and Education Services and ourselves kicks off on July 24 at Joan Kirner House.

Lynne, with the other Education and Training managers and coordinators will develop a range of resources and profesional development for all centres over the next 12 months.

Thanks,

Mark

Mark Brophy, PhD
Manager
Williamstown Community and Education Centre Inc