



Williamstown
Community
and Education
Centre Inc

Newsletter September 2019

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

Find us on 

**2019 HOBSONS BAY
BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARDS
FINALIST**



We are a FINALIST!

In two separate categories

- **Not-for-Profit Category**
 - **Excellence in Sustainability Category**
- More below...**



Wild Action in Willy!
More pictures below...

Upcoming Birthdays

Malgorzala, Volunteer September 4. Peter, President September 8. Roger, Computer Teacher September 30.

In the Media

- *Park Ask* in the Star Weekly, August 21, Page 6 [HERE](#). A short piece on our parking petition.
- *2019 Hobsons Bay Business Award Finalists* on the Hobsons Bay City Council website [HERE](#)
- *2019 Hobsons Bay Business Excellence Awards* in the Star Weekly, August 21, Page 15. [HERE](#).

Coming Up...

- September 1 to 8.- **Adult Learners Week**.
- Wednesday September 4, 11 and 18. - **FREE Willy Walking Group** from 10.15 am to 11.00 am, starting at Joan Kirner House. *
- Wednesday September 4, 11 and 18. - **FREE Community Morning Tea**. 11.00 am at Joan Kirner House. *
- Wednesday September 4, 11 and 18. - **FREE Barista style coffee** at the **Pop-Up Social Café**. Joan Kirner House at 11.00 am.
- Thursday September 12. – **FREE NDIS Community Info Session**, Joan Kirner House at 9.30 am. Details Below.
- Friday September 13. – **Hobsons Bay Refugee Network Fundraiser**. Details below.
- Tuesday October 8. – **FREE Hobsons Bay Police – Seniors Connection Forum**, Joan Kirner House at 10.30 am. Details below.
- Tuesday October 15. – **Bringing Language to Life - Teaching EAL to Adults through Drama**, Joan Kirner House at 5.00 pm. Details Below
- Tuesday October 15. - **FREE Parenting with Presence Workshop**, Joan Kirner House at 7.00 pm. Details below.



**Sponsored by*



FREE!



STRUGGLING WITH PARENTING?



Then come to
Present Mindfulness Academy's
**FREE PARENTING WITH PRESENCE
WORKSHOP**

Tuesday 15th Oct 2019

7pm - 8.30pm

Williamstown Community Centre
14 Thompson Street Williamstown
Suzanne Marambio | 0430 151 953



@presentmindfulness

FREE!

FREE!



Delivering the NDIS in your community



NDIS Community Info Session

Your NDIS Journey

The National Disability Insurance Agency is holding an information session for people with disability, family members and carers to educate and support a person through their National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) journey. The session will assist potential and existing participants to understand and access the NDIS, and to use their plans to become informed and empowered NDIS users.

Venue	Joan Kirner House
Date	Thursday 12 September 2019
Times	9:30am – 12:30pm
Address	Multipurpose Room 1, 14 Thompson Street, Williamstown VIC 3016

How to RSVP

Please RSVP via [Eventbrite](#)

Please email us at COMMUNITY.ENGAGEMENT.VIC@ndis.gov.au if you have any accessibility, interpreting or special requirements.



Bi-lingual support can be arranged upon request by contacting the NDIS on 1800 800 110. If you need help contacting the NDIS, please call the Translating and Interpreting Service on 131 450.

ndis.gov.au



FREE!

Good News Story!

Rita, one of our English language teachers, tell us of the heart-warming journey of one of our students.

'Thuy Tien Nguyen started Skills for Education and Employment classes at Williamstown Community Education Centre in 2017.

She attended full time classes and was always on time.

Thi made the most of her opportunities to learn English.

She participated in all social activities at the Centre. E.g. morning walks, morning teas, multicultural festivals, excursions and end of the year celebrations.

Thi continued to improve her language skills and confidence to participate and interact with English language speakers.

She was also a very active participant in class, revising her work and asking questions for clarification.

In April 2019 she did work experience as part of a job seeking skills program.

She worked at Marks' Cakes in Williamstown for a week and she was offered a job in the cake making area.

Thi has been working at Marks' ever since. She loves her job and she has even been training new members of staff.

We congratulate Thi for her hard work and effort to improve her English language and to become a confident worker at Mark's Cakes'.



Network West moves into Spotswood Community House

We welcome Sandy Joffe, Networker from Network West, who has recently moved into our Spotswood Community House venue at 598 Melbourne Rd. Spotswood.



Network West provides support to Neighbourhood Houses across the Western Metropolitan Region of Melbourne in the areas of governance, management, operational and program development.

Network West's membership includes 50 houses across the municipalities of Brimbank, Hobsons Bay, Maribyrnong, Melbourne, Melton, Moonee Valley and Wyndham.

Their website is [HERE](#). Sandy can be contacted on 0437 644 050.

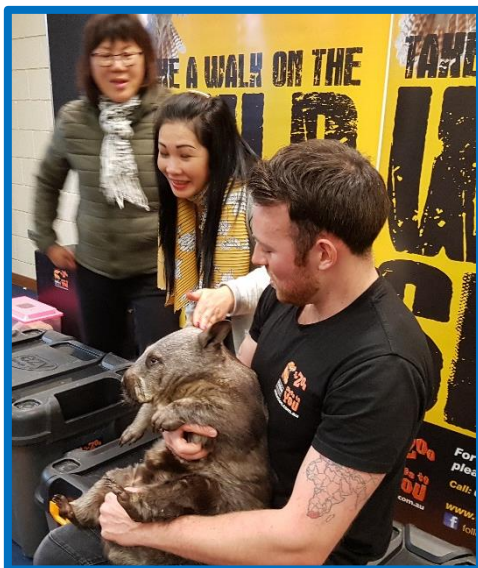
Wild Action!

On Tuesday August 20 we had Adam from the Wild Action crew come to visit our Centre.

He ran a great 'hands on' session for the students, followed by a session for our children.

We had snakes, lizards, owl, frog, wallaby, wombat, goanna, turtle, possum and even a crocodile!

Thanks to all those who helped organise.



New Eco Bins!

Thanks to our Hobsons Bay Community Fund, 'Extra Curricula Initiative', we are rolling out Eco Bins across both venues at Spotswood and Williamstown.

Anne, the Project Officer will shortly be facilitating introductory and information workshops for our students and Centre users.



Business Excellence awards

As mentioned above, we are finalists in two categories in the Hobsons Bay Business Excellence Awards. Not-for-Profit and Sustainability.

In this biennial Award we were finalists, yet runners up in both 2015 and 2017. Here's hoping 'Third time lucky'!

The judges have been out already. We felt our pitch was pretty good - let's see. Thanks to all staff who assisted and supported.

Media mentions are here -

- *2019 Hobsons Bay Business Award Finalists* on the [Hobsons Bay City Council](#) website [HERE](#)
- *2019 Hobsons Bay Business Excellence Awards* in the [Star Weekly](#), August 21, Page 15 or [HERE](#).

Winners will be announced at the Gala Dinner at Williamstown Town Hall on Friday 25 October. Details [HERE](#).



Childcare

Kate, Room Leader in Occasional Childcare, had to share this...

'What Occasional Care is all about!!'



Bringing Language to Life – Teaching EAL to Adults through Drama

Jodie Whitehurst
EAL Teacher
Williamstown Community and Education Centre

October 15 from 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm. Joan Kirner House.
14 Thompson St. Williamstown.

VicTESOL Members \$10
Non-members \$20

Bookings - [HERE](#)



Using drama techniques in the teaching of adult EAL provides learners with authentic, meaningful contexts in which to practise the language, while increasing their motivation and speaking confidence.

Drama can also energise a class and build a sense of trust, empowering students to take more risks and develop their communication skills.

In this interactive workshop, participants will learn some useful drama-based activities which can easily be adapted for various language levels.

You don't need to be an actor, an extrovert or have a background in drama teaching; just bring an open mind and a sense of fun!!

Please note that this session is designed for adult TESOL teachers, but all are welcome to attend as the ideas are transferable to other age groups.

FREE!



Don't Panic – Relax!

IPC Health invites you to participate in a supportive and educational group with innovative ideas to manage Stress, Anxiety & Depression.

It is a free group and runs for 6 weeks.

- Where:** IPC Health, 330 Queen St, Altona Meadows
- When:** Every Monday from 14th October 2019 – 18th November, 2019
- Time:** 10am – 12 noon
- Register:** To join and/or find out more, please contact Helen or Becky
- Phone:** 8368 3000
- Cost:** Free



FREE!

HOBSONS BAY REFUGEE NETWORK

Film fundraiser



DOWNTON ABBEY: THE MOVIE

Venue Sun Theatre Yarraville

Date Friday 13 September

Time 6.30pm arrival for a
7pm screening

Tickets \$25

From www.trybooking.com/BEOGT

Picking up where the TV series left off, the Downton Abbey film is set in 1927 on the fictional Yorkshire estate of the Crawley family and their household servants.

All of the stars are back, including Maggie Smith as the Dowager Countess, and Hugh Bonneville and Elizabeth McGovern as Lord and Lady Grantham.

A pending Royal Visit from King George V and Queen Mary sends the house into a flurry of intrigue, anticipation and organisation, culminating in a spectacular grand parade including cannons, horses and a multitude of extras.

Supporting people seeking safe haven in the western suburbs

Your support for this event will help HBRN to continue providing assistance to asylum seekers and refugees in the western suburbs.

Donations can be made via the Trybooking site if you can't attend.

Enquiries to Susan Cram: suecram@hotmail.com



Follow us on Facebook

FREE!



VICTORIA POLICE

Hobsons Bay Police

Seniors Connection Forum

An interactive workshop facilitated
by Hobsons Bay police staff.
Information on awareness in your
local areas. Morning tea provided.

Tuesday 8 October
10.30am

VENUE:

Joan Kirner House,
14 Thompson St, Williamstown

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL:

Please call Penny on 9397 6168
(Williamstown Community &
Education Centre).



Update - Parking at Joan Kirner House

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

Our Petition was tabled at the Council Meeting on Tuesday 13.

A Report now needs to be prepared for their next Meeting.

Matthew Irving, Capital Works Manager, Infrastructure and Projects, has been assigned to investigate the matter and will visit and meet with us next week.

There was a mention in the Star Weekly as well. August 21, Page 6 [HERE](#).

I'll keep you all informed of developments...



This Month's Profiled People

Penny Dean - Reception and Administration Officer

Penny started at the Centre in 2017. She has experience working in both the not-for-profit and private sector as an Administrator, Receptionist and Analyst.

Her skills include writing, editing, website maintenance, data management, IT and financial management.

She holds a Diploma in Counselling, Diploma of Community Services, Diploma of Family Support, Certificate III in Children's Services and Level II First Aid.



Kate Daffy – Occasional Care Room Leader

Kate started with us in 2019 and is a passionate Childcare Room Leader for the Monday, Thursday and Friday groups.

Kate has had over ten years' experience in nannying, babysitting, childcare, leadership and childhood education. She has worked, including internationally, with children from newborn to 15 years old.

Kate has a Diploma of Early Childhood Education from Swinburne University.



Maureen Shaw - Volunteer

Maureen started with us in 2008 and helps out Claire Hynes with the disability Literacy group on Monday mornings at Joan Kirner House.

She has significant experience and knowledge in helping people with a disability.

Maureen has a Certificate III in Disabilities and Aged Care.



Managers Musings

Our VRQA Audit comes up every five years, and its upon us now.

This Audit is different to most other audits we have such as financial, childcare, etc. This audit is extremely onerous, time consuming, complicated and expensive.

This is due to dodgy RTOs operations over many years. The only 'weapon' so to speak, that the bureaucrats have is just more and more compliance.

It is our biggest risk by far.

If we don't pass audit, we lose our RTO status, which means we lose our Skills for Education and Employment contract as well. Then the dominos keep falling. We would also lose those students articulating between programs, so our pre-accredited class numbers would be in jeopardy as well.

We would lose over 50 students, four teachers and associated administration staff as well.

Lynne, Lara, Penny, Anne and I, as well as relevant teachers, need to work hard in the next month or so to triple check everything. I ask that all staff understand that this is a tough time for us.

On the bright side, we maintained our RTO status at our last audit five years ago, and I feel we are much better equipped now.

So, although it will be a difficult time, I feel we will be OK.

Thanks.

Mark.

Mark Brophy, PhD
Manager
Williamstown Community and Education Centre Inc

