



Williamstown
Community
and Education
Centre Inc

Newsletter December 2017

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 



National Recycle Week

Upcoming Birthdays

Toni, Volunteer on 13 December / Lucy, Teacher on 23 December / Jeannie, IT Coordinator on 26 December / Claire, Teacher on 29 December / Karen, Education Admin Officer on 30 December / Gemila, Childcare on 1 January / Maria, Volunteer on 3 January / Phillip, Volunteer on 9 January

In the Media

- 'It's on for young and old' in the **Star Weekly**, 1 November, page 8. See [HERE](#) (In relation to our Reaching Across the Ages Project, sponsored by the Hobsons Bay Community Fund)

Coming Up

- **Centre End of Year Break up Celebration** Friday 15 December 12.00 at Joan Kirner House. Bring a plate. All Welcome!

Clothes Swap



Penny did a great job setting up our Recycle Week Clothes Swap display.

It was a tremendous success.

Thanks to St Andrews Church Op Shop for loaning us clothes racks and hangers.

All clothes left over were donated to the St Andrews Church Op Shop.



Free 'Neighbours, the law and you'

This publication is available for free at The Victoria Law Foundation website [HERE](#).

It is an easy-to-understand guide covering neighbourhood issues, animals, land use and where to get help.

It is perfect to help provide answers about predicaments in your neighbourhood.



Fire Drill at Joan Kirner House!



On 1 November Dave (Xavier's Dad, from the Yellow Pelican's Three Year Old Program) and his crew from the Altona Fire Station showed up with a huge Fire Truck.

Children had the opportunity to dress up as a Fire-fighter, use the fire hose and sit in the truck cabin.

Staff, teachers, students and other Centre users were also given an educational tour of the truck.

Very exciting for all!

Also, we are currently taking enrolments for the **2018** Three Year Old Pelicans Program and there are places still available. Call 9397 6168 for more details.

Reaching Across the Ages

This Hobsons Bay Community Fund (HBCF) sponsored initiative is a program where mature aged volunteers, including our students, meet and read stories with children in our Childcare.

We now have three readers, Maryam, Shukran and Pei Hua. Cathy has inducted and trained all our volunteers and the children are loving it.



Hobsons Bay Community Fund
A Sub Fund of the Australian Communities Foundation



Cathy and Lynne also attended the 'HBCF Community Grant Recipient Showcase' on Wednesday 25 October.

Thanks to the Maribyrnong and Hobsons Bay Star Weekly for providing such a great picture of them at the event.



Welcome to Australia Program

This Slater and Gordon sponsored Program aims to provide English language education to asylum seekers, refugees and others ineligible for Government subsidised training.



Students at Spotswood Community House recently had a BBQ to welcome a new student, Milena

Student Excursion to Eastern Beach Reserve in Geelong

A bus load of staff, students, volunteers and teachers had a big day out on Thursday 30 November.

Thanks Jodie for the great pictures.





New Projects for 2018

Great news this month was that we were informed that our Centre was successful in The **Hamer Sprout Fund** application.

The Hamer Sprout Fund is an offshoot of the Hamer Family Fund and represents the next generation of the Hamer family.

They are part of the fifth and sixth generations of the family encompassing almost 100 cousins spread across the globe. They share the goals of the Hamer Family Fund with an emphasis on the environmental aspects of the Hamer family's legacy.



Our Project will run from January to June 2018 and have three stages. To research local recycling opportunities, establish easy to use systems and processes for the community to recycle, and then promote these systems through our networks and partners including other community centres in Hobsons Bay.

More details in January 2018 Newsletter...

We were also successful with our **Hobsons Bay City Council** Vibrant Community Grant where we will roll out a range of activities in 2018 centred around cultural diversity.



As well, we will receive a **Toyota** Equipment Grant for our gardening activities at both venues.



This Month's Profiled People

Andrea Kydd is our Childcare Worker with Cathy in the Three Year Old Pelicans Program.

She has been with the Centre since 2007 and previously worked in Childcare with our friends at the Yarraville Community Centre.

Andrea is a fantastic support to Cathy and our Pelicans Program and is extremely well qualified and experienced.

Cathy and Andrea make a great team that is admired by the children, parents and other Centre staff.



Shukran Abazi is a Volunteer in our 'Reaching Across the Ages Project' sponsored by the Hobsons Bay Community Fund.

She is mainly working with Cathy and Andrea in the Pelicans Program. Shukran is doing an excellent job in this initiative.

She is also a student in our English Beginners Writing Class with Jodie on Mondays and English Intermediate Listening Class on Wednesdays.

In Albania Shukran was a teacher.



Lynne Hewet is our Further Education Coordinator and teacher in our Dulcie Shaw House Course.

She has worked at the Centre for over twenty years in a variety of roles including Volunteer, Committee Member, Manager, teacher and tutor.

Lynne has a Bachelor of Arts and Graduate Diploma of Teaching.



FAQs

Where does your funding come from? Who funds the Centre?

The simple answer is *'From all over the place!'*

Our different funding streams are listed in our Annual Report in the Income Statement. The Report is [HERE](#)

Firstly there are contracts we have to deliver training which make up to about 40 per cent of all funding we receive. We are paid a rate called 'Student Contact Hours', so we get a set amount of funds for every hour a student is in a course.

We have three contracts -

- With Djerraiwarrh Community and Education Services to deliver the Federal Government Skills for education and Employment Program.
- With the Victorian Adult Community and Further Education Board to deliver Pre-accredited training as a Learn Local.
- With the Victorian Department of Education and Training to deliver Accredited training as a Registered Training Organisation.

We also have -

- A Contract with the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services to deliver the Neighbourhood House Coordination Program.
- A Service Agreement with Hobsons Bay City Council to meet Council Objectives, Key Performance Indicators and Measures.

These make up about 20 per cent of funding.

About 25 per cent of funding then comes from other sources such as bank interest earned, Childcare fees, student enrolment fees and venue hire (both ongoing programs and 'one offs' such as children's parties).

Then we have several grants and / or philanthropic projects which bring in about 15 percent of funding. These initiatives 'value add' considerably to the range of services we can provide to our community.

In 2017 we had the -

- *Grow, Cook, Create and Tell Project* sponsored by The R E Ross Trust.
- *Financial Literacy for Positive Living* sponsored by Hobsons Bay Community Fund.
- *Healthy Lunch Program* sponsored by Hobsons Bay City Council.
- *English Conversation Classes for Non Eligible Refugees* sponsored by the Sidney Myer Fund.
- *Cross Cultural Activity Program* with Laverton Community Integrated Services sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Affairs and Citizenship.
- *Advocates for the Environment* sponsored by Hobsons Bay City Council.
- *Education Coordinators Community of Practice* sponsored by the Adult Community and Further Education Board



- *Asylum Seekers and Refugee Program* sponsored by EastWeb.
- *Reaching Across the Ages* sponsored by Hobsons Bay Community Fund.
- *Welcome to Australia* sponsored by the Slater and Gordon Community Fund.

So overall, there is lots we need to look after! (Did that add up to 100 %?)

Managers Musings

Reflecting back on 2017...

In **January** new programs included Mums and Bubs Pilates, MusiCanto, Learn a Meditation Practice and Advocates for the Environment.

The Computer Room was completely upgrade, Room One was recarpeted, Lara got a Unsung Hero Award Certificate and we updated our Centre Brochure.

February saw the launch of the Centre Cookbook, we upgraded the garden beds, started the Financial Literacy Project and two hot desks were set up at Joan Kirner House.

In **March** we had a big Cultural Diversity Week celebration, we launched the Hobsons Bay Community Centres Research Project Report, Teachers and Childcare staff had professional development sessions and we had the dangerous tree at Spotswood removed.

In **April** we started two new programs, Lego Engineers and a Violin Class. The Office had a huge upgrade with new desks, carpet, storage, etc.

In **May** we had our Annual General Meeting, started a new Stress Reduction Course, were successful in securing another Contract to deliver the Skills for Education and Employment program and presented at the Neighbourhood House Victoria Conference.

We also had new air conditioners installed in childcare.

In **June** Bird Life Australia took our Skills for Education and Employment students and staff on an informative bird watching tour of Jawbone Reserve in Williamstown with Mayor, Councillor Sandra Wilson.

We were also successful in an Application to the Adult, Community and Further Education Board for the North West Melbourne Learn Local Education Coordinators Community of Practice Project.



In **July** we had a big Refugee Week Lunch and Jodie and her group moved to Spotswood Community House.

At Spotswood we got new outside chairs, security cameras and a microwave oven.

Teachers had more Professional development and the Tooth Fairy visited our Three Year Old Pelicans group.

Our Facebook page was launched in **August**. We took delivery of customised notebooks, pens and bags with our logo on them for new students.

The Network West Innovation and Orientation Tour gave us a visit and Lara completed her Advanced Diploma of Community Sector Management.

We also had our solar panels installed at Joan Kirner House.

In **September** our Joan's Garden was featured in The Arts in Public Spaces program, the Reaching Across the Ages initiative started and we were announced as a Finalist in the Council Business Excellence Awards.

In **October** we had a very successful National Children's Week Lunch.

I gave a presentation on the Hobsons Bay Community Centres Research Project Report at the Council Interagency Meeting and our Treasurer, Veli was nominated for the Commonwealth Bank and Our Community Not-for-profit Treasurers' Award Certificate of Appreciation.

The interior of Spotswood Community House was freshly painted and a new sign out the front was installed.

In **November** we had our Clothes Swap as part of National Recycling Week.

There were audio visual upgrades in Room Three and Four, a big clean out of old resources in Rooms One and Three and a new photocopier installed at Spotswood.

We also had a big free lunch for Nutrition Week and Pelicans got the visit from Altona Fire Brigade.



In the week commencing Monday 23 October we undertook the **Neighbourhood House Participant Survey**. All participants who used the Centre in this week were included.

The **Neighbourhood Houses Victoria 2018 Budget Submission and Campaign** has also commenced. The Submission is [HERE](#).



NHVic 2018 Budget & Election Campaign:
WE DELIVER! WILL YOU?



To help our Centre, please collect a Postcard from Penny at Joan Kirner House Reception, complete and hand back to her. We will then send to the Minister.

More details [HERE](#).

Our Centre will be sponsoring our EAL Teacher **Jodie Whitehurst** to the 14th Annual CamTESOL Conference in Phnom Penh, Cambodia in February next year.



While in Cambodia Jodie will be working as a volunteer teacher at a school in Siem Reap, called 'ABCs and Rice', which offers free education, nutrition and healthcare to the impoverished children of Cambodia (More details [HERE](#)).

Jodie wants to present a **donation to the School on behalf of our Centre**, so if you can, **please drop a few dollars to Penny** at reception at Joan Kirner House.

Unfortunately **Karen Potts** our Education Admin Officer will be leaving us soon due to other commitments.

She will be missed very much. When Karen came along she excelled almost immediately in her work and became a valued member of staff.

On behalf of everyone at our centre "Thank you Karen". We wish her all the best.

We have therefore restructured personnel for 2018 with Karen going.

Penny Dean, Reception and Admin Officer, will be working with Lynne looking after the Skills for Education and Employment programs and Anne Douglas, Project Officer, will help Lynne with the Accredited and Pre-accredited training programs.

Wishing everyone a fun and safe holiday season!

Mark.

Mark Brophy, PhD
Manager
Williamstown Community and Education Centre Inc

If you wish to subscribe to this Newsletter electronically please email me at 'manager@wcec.com.au'.