



Williamstown
Community
and Education
Centre Inc

Newsletter February 2018

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 

2018 Term One Start up!



First Morning Tea for
the year



Pelicans Three Year Old
Program on day two

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Garden tidied up at
Spotswood Community House



English classes starting up at
Joan Kirner House

First 2018 outing for the
Walking Group



Upcoming Birthdays

Jackie, Committee on February 2 / Andrea, Childcare on February 22 / Claire, Teacher on February 22 / Anne, Project Coordinator on February 28.

Coming Up...

- Wednesday February 7 - FREE Mindfulness and Meditation Workshop. 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm. Call 9391 6678 to book. 
- Wednesday February 7, 14, 21 and 28 - FREE Willy Walking Group from 10.15 am to 11.00 am. 
- Wednesday February 7, 14, 21 and 28 - FREE Community Morning Tea at 11.00 am at Joan Kirner House. All welcome! 
- Monday February 12 - FREE Community Sausage Sizzle at Joan Kirner House. 12.00. All welcome! 
- Wednesday February 14 - Laverton Community Bank® 'Life Wide Learning Project' grant presentation and FREE Morning Tea at 11.00am. 
- Wednesday February 21 - Teachers Professional Development session. See below for details.

In the Media

- **'Walk and Talk'** in Maribyrnong and Hobsons Bay Star Weekly. January 17. Page 10.

Pelicans 2019!

Our two groups of children in our Pelicans Three Year Old Program have started out well.

Great job Cathy and Andrea.

It might be early days, but Expressions of Interest are coming in already for 2019.

If you have a future Pelican, or know of anyone who might have one, let us know please.



Ongoing and New Programs and Projects for 2018

Reaching Across the Ages

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



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

We've had three readers so far and two more volunteers have started this year. Their paperwork is completed and Cathy will induct them soon.

Hobsons Bay City Council - Multicultural Awareness Grant

This year long 'Vibrant Community Grant' is helping us maintain unfunded initiatives and introducing new ones.

We can now continue our Wednesday Walking Group and Morning tea where locals mix with our culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) students.

We are also able to maintain our free monthly BBQs for everyone in our community.

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As well, we can organise a range of educational excursions, trips and visits to our Centre from a variety of agencies.

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.

We currently have three Students at Spotswood Community House and seven at Joan Kirner House.



Recycling Made Easy

Our Centre was successful with our 'Recycling Made Easy' application for a Hobsons Bay City Council Environment Grant.

These funds will help support our **Hamer Sprout Fund** sponsored initiative, 'Advocates for the Environment'.



THE
HAMER SPROUT FUND

Dedicated to building communities inspired to take action for a sustainable future.

Rose McVicar, the Project Officer for this initiative is currently researching local recycling opportunities,

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establishing easy to use systems and processes for the community to recycle.

She will then promote these systems through our networks and partners including other community centres in Hobsons Bay.

Bendigo Bank Support

Laverton Community Bank® has provided valuable support to our Centre with the 'Life Wide Learning Project'.

This support will help us continue our gardening, cooking, craft and social media extra curricula activities for our students.

Such activities help students in many ways, including increased confidence, learning new skills, teamwork and cultural sharing and understanding.



Community of Practice

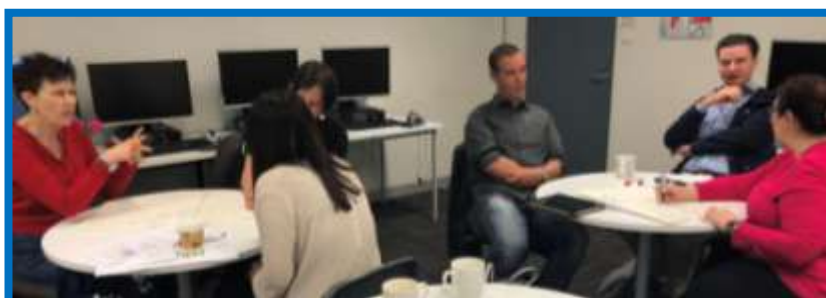


Adult, Community and Further Education

This Community of Practice, sponsored by the Adult, Community and Further Education Board, and overseen by the Education Managers of nine Learn Local organisations who are also RTOs, have met several times already and are now developing resources and planning further professional development for teaching staff.

The nine centres working together are -

- Williamstown Community and Education Centre
- Wyndham Community and Education Centre
- Yarraville Community Centre
- Laverton Community Intergrated Services
- Community Plus
- Djerriwarrh Community and Education Services
- Duke St Community House
- Angliss Neighbourhood House
- Farnham St Neighbourhood Learning Centre



As all Learn Local organisations involved have between six and 12 teachers each, and 150 to 200 students each, this project has the potential to assist nearly 100 teachers and 1,700 students.

The Wonders of Newport Lakes Park - Photo Competition

Friends of Newport Lakes (with assistance from Williamstown Camera Club).

Free to enter. Full rules and entry forms are available from www.friendsofnewportlakes.com.au Further details: Lorraine 043 830 7002.

Photos must be of the flora, fauna or natural landscape of Newport Lakes Reserve and taken between 1 April 2017 and 14 March 2018.

Photos will be displayed 22 April 2018 at Newport Lakes park. Entries close midnight, 14 March, 2018.

Open section: First prize \$400. Second prize \$300. Junior section \$200.

Supported through Hobsons Bay City Council Environmental grants.



Step Back in Time..

A couple of old photos taken out of our archives.

Firstly in 1989, Joan Kirner with the Centre Childcare Coordinator Judy Fowler.

Then in 1990 during the 'International Year of Literacy' event, a photo of Ralph Willis the Federal Treasurer, Jill Bilston the Centre Manager and Joan Dyall Coordinator



This Month's Profiled People

Mary Hannebery is one of our long term Volunteers. She helps out Lucy's Skills for Education and Employment Class on a Thursday.

Mary is a retired teacher who spent over thirty years working at schools in Melbourne's western suburbs.

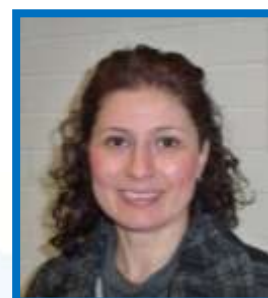
When she retired as Principal of Sunbury Primary School, she taught in China for three years.



Fedra Bazargani is a very talented and experienced Teacher in our Skills for Education and Employment program delivering English language learning. She started with us in 2010.

Fedra also teaches our English Language courses at Altona North Library. She has a Bachelor of Arts and a Masters Degree in Education with a TESOL major.

Fedra has a keen interest in learning languages and aside from English, speaks Persian, Turkish and French!



Caroline Baxter is a Volunteer at the Centre helping Claire with the Mild Intellectual Disability groups on Mondays. She also helps out with our regular Wednesday morning Willy Walking Group with Peter.

Caroline has significant experience and skills working with disabled learners in both the UK and Australia.

She holds a Vocational Qualification III in Teaching Assistant from England.



FAQs

"Hey Mark, why doesn't the Centre do / start / try / etc (put a wide range of ideas, programs, projects and services here) ?"

With any new idea, program, service or initiative we need to consider many factors.

For example -

- Does the initiative contribute directly to our Vision, Mission Statement, Values and Goals?
- Does it meet or strategically align with Council policy, Neighbourhood House Coordination Program Guidelines, contracts, any grants or initiatives we have already?
- Does it link or dovetail into other work, projects and programs?

- Is the program or service financially viable? How will we fund it?
- How does the initiative affect other areas of our work?
- Should we cost, do a budget, etc?
- Does the program or service meet an identified community need?
- Is someone else doing it already?
- Who will do this? Can the required level of staff be supplied? Will we need to employ new staff?
- Are the demands on staff reasonable? Do we have the existing staff with the right skills, knowledge, experience and qualifications?
- Who will supervise, take responsibility?
- What are the compliance implications? Does it meet Guidelines, legislation, laws, etc?
- Can the staff cope with the level of compliance?
- Does the Centre have the expertise and capability to deliver the program or service?
- Will reporting and acquittal be required?
- Are we the best to deliver this program or are there other organisations better suited?
- Is the service or program delivered within the designated geographical area?
- Do we have the appropriate facilities, infrastructure, resources, etc to deliver the program or service?
- How do we let others know?
- How do we get staff, stakeholders, etc 'on board' with the initiative?
- What does success look like? How do we measure it? How do we communicate success?
- What are the risks, and can we absorb the risks? Is it contentious, is it linked to community debates, religion, politics, etc?
- Are there legal issues? OHS, discrimination, exclusionary, etc?
- What are the health, and safety issues? How do we reduce or rectify any issues that emerge?



- How will we promote and market? In Brochure, website, fliers, through Council, in local papers, etc? Who will design and distribute?

The above in no way is meant to put a dampener on new ideas, as we are constantly introducing new projects and services all the time.

We just need to give careful consideration to any new ideas.

If anyone does have an idea, please complete the 'New Initiatives Assessment Sheet', available at Reception and ask me for help if you want.

Managers Musings

We welcome our **new Computer Teacher, Roger Hersey** who starts with us this year.

Roger will be taking the Introduction to Computer classes for Wednesday afternoons, Thursday mornings and Thursday afternoons.

Roger also works with our friends at Farnham Street Neighbourhood House in Flemington. He has had significant experience in the IT field, working on large, complex projects around the world.

Roger has a Certificate IV in Training and Assessment.



On Wednesday morning February 21 we will have a **Teachers Professional Development Session** from 10.00am to 12.00.

All teachers can attend - Check with Lynne for details.

For any other staff who want to sit in, you are welcome. This is a good insight into our teachers work.

Each Teacher will give a five minute presentation on the topic of *Innovative Teaching Practice*.

A big 'THANKS' to Jon Grima on our Committee for donating table and chairs for out the back of Joan Kirner House.

Very much appreciated Jon, on behalf of staff and students.

Letter to Lynne

Hi Lynne,

Thanks for catching up with us last week for the internal file monitoring. Below is a summary of what we observed.

The six files we looked at were in great shape. And it's pleasing to see that you have managed risk well.

Lucy has provided good PTA (Pre Training Assessment).

Great work from you and your team!!

Next time, we will also look at attendance.

Thanks Again!

Kirst and Catherine

Kirsti Campbell-Gillingham
LfE SEE Manager



Well done Lynne, Lucy and team!

Our Centre is sponsoring **Jodie Whitehurst**, our EAL Teacher to a **Conference in Cambodia** later this month.

While there, she is volunteering to **teach at a children's school** 'ABCs and Rice' in Siem Reap, Cambodia.

On behalf of our Centre, Jodie will make a donation to the school.

So far donations of over \$350 have been received from staff, students, volunteers and Centre users. We will be taking donations up to Tuesday February 6.

If you wish to contribute, please see Penny at Reception at Joan Kirner House.



Thanks,

Mark.

Mark Brophy, PhD
Manager
Williamstown Community and Education Centre Inc