



Williamstown  
Community  
and Education  
Centre Inc

# Newsletter June 2020

**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



*Minister Gayle Tierney LinkedIn post*

## Coming Up...

- **Centre re opens.** June 1.
- **Willy Walking Group.** Wednesdays 10.15am. June 3, 10, 17 and 24.
- **Term Two ends** Friday June 26.
- **Term Three starts** Monday July 13.

## Up and Running – baby steps...

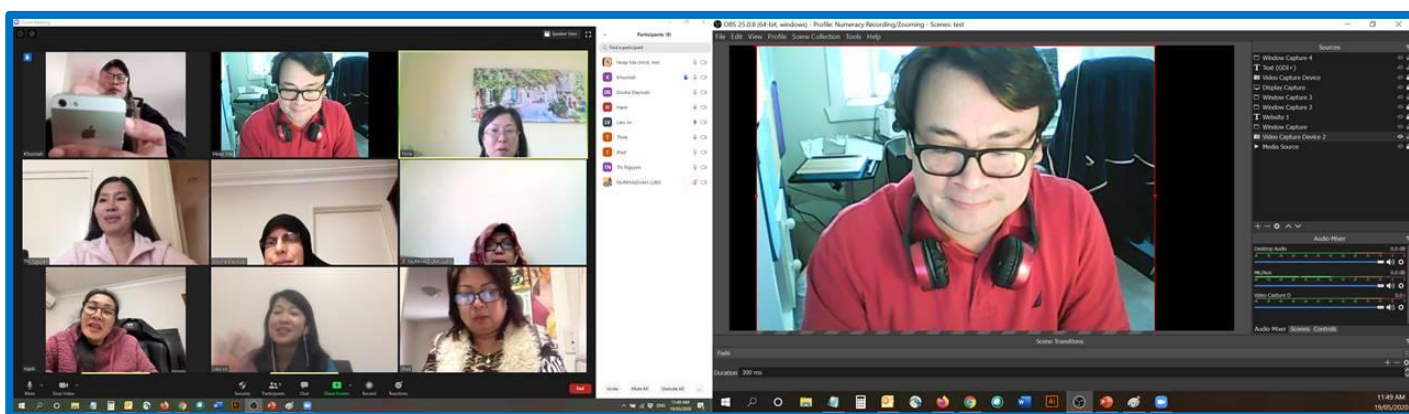
Students dropping in to pick up Study Packs and catching up with teachers and staff.

All with proper social distancing and adhering to hygiene requirements.



As well we have teachers using a variety of online resources to run classes.

Below is our Computer Teacher Heap running an online Zoom class!



Due to easing of restrictions, we slowly emerged out of this 'hibernation', officially re opening on June1, old projects, courses, programs and services are starting to re-emerge.

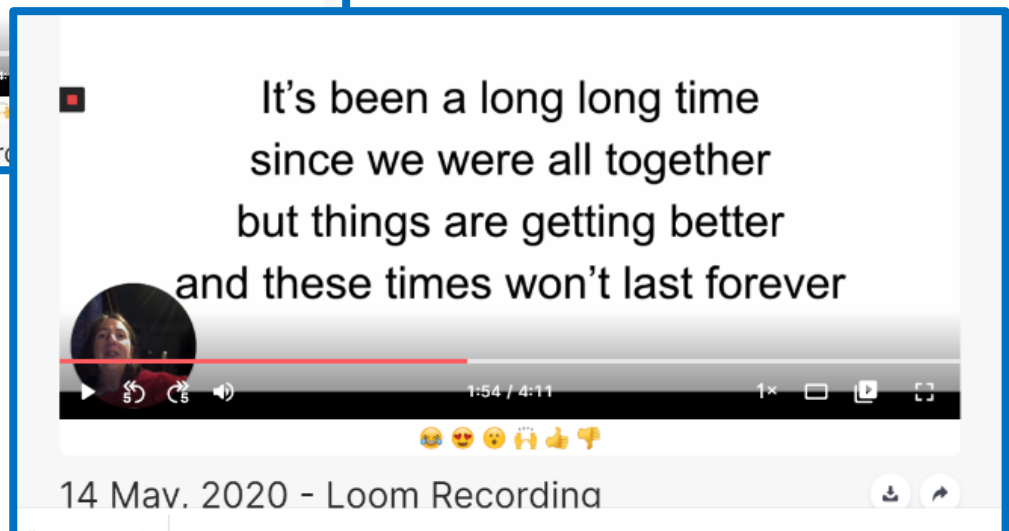
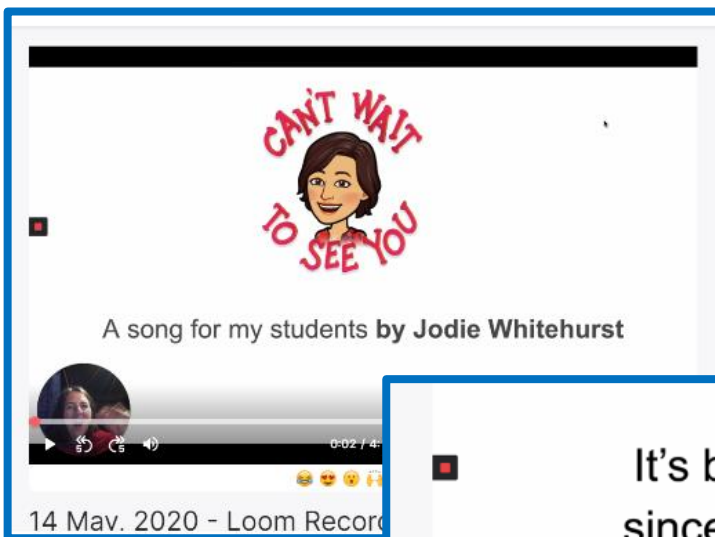
- Sponsored by Musculoskeletal Australia, our Willy Walking Group started up again on May 20.
- Artful Warriors at Spotswood Community House started up again on May 20.
- Art Therapy is starting up again on June 1.
- Odyssey House counselling at Joan Kirner House is re-starting on June 4.
- The Australian Boating College Courses at Spotswood Community House look like starting up again in term three.
- Teachers Rita, Claire, Lucy and Jodie have started short, face to face, computer and English classes with reduced numbers.
- We are set up to start Wednesday and Thursday childcare sessions for term three on July 15.



Willy Walking Group Ready to Go!

**Our Singing English Teacher – Jodie.**

EAL Teacher, Jodie Whitehurst, has created an inspirational and must see online singing session for her students [HERE](#).



# Would you like to learn a new skill?

Are you inspired to learn guitar?

Can you already play guitar but haven't picked one up in a while?



Guitars Gathering Dust has provided acoustic guitars for Hobsons Bay residents, available to loan through Hobsons Bay City Council.

Guitars will be delivered to your door by Hobsons Bay Libraries, and are available for up to 30 days during May, June, July.

Please email [arts@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au](mailto:arts@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au) or call 9932 1000 to request a loan and find out how to borrow a guitar.

Loans are subject to availability and orders and reserves will be taken.

Keen to know more about what Guitars Gathering Dust do or donate a guitar? Check out [www.guitarzgatheringdust.com](http://www.guitarzgatheringdust.com)



## **Thanks to the Vietnamese Association of Hobsons Bay for Face Mask Donation**

Home sewn face masks have been generously donated to our Centre by the Vietnamese Association in Hobsons Bay.

Thank you!

Retired members of the Association wanted to help the community during the coronavirus.

The community group decided to unpack their sewing machines from the garage and make cotton face masks for the community.



The face masks are made from fabric which is easily breathable, and each mask has been sanitised.

Hobsons Bay community groups and residents, including tradies who use face masks in their day jobs, who want a free face mask can contact the Vietnamese Association in Hobsons Bay directly.

Email [vietnameseinhobsonsbay@gmail.com](mailto:vietnameseinhobsonsbay@gmail.com) or phone. 04 3222 5950.

More details [HERE](#).



**Blast from the Past**

**Brian Haynes** ▶ Williamstown-past present future  
42 mins · 📷

Back in 1976 . I know two of these wonderful ladies. Think this was the forerunner of the Williamstown Community Centre (Joan Kirner House)

**Wanted: a home for Willy co-op centre**

The Williamstown Community Centre Co-operative desperately needs a home.

The co-op, formed to provide daylong child care, occasional and emergency child care and after-school and holiday activities for children, has the money in Williamstown for a house but can't find one.

Most houses for sale in Williamstown are either too costly, or too small for the project.

Ms. Vivien Routley, Williamstown Council's children's services officer, said last week the co-op is still very active, "but an-

● Featured working on a file for the directory are, from left: Mrs. I. Whitehurst, Mrs. Z. Parrott, Mrs. J. Dyall and Mrs. Rae Ballinson.

**THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
of the  
**WESTERN REGION RESOURCE CENTRE**  
will take place on  
**Tuesday 31st August, 1976, at 7.30**  
at the meeting room  
**85 Cowper St., Footscray.**  
Hon. Sec. M. D.

Yes Brian!

Initially named 'Outreach Community Centre', this was the precursor to our current Williamstown Community and Education Centre.



The woman on the far left is Iris Whitehurst, the Mother in Law of our current EAL Teacher, Jodie Whitehurst.

## Managers musings

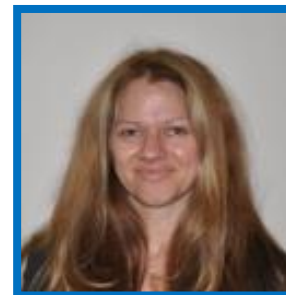
Our **Annual General Meeting** was held on May 12 online via Zoom.

After seven years, six of being the President, Peter Hanlon has resigned from the Committee.

Peter has been a fantastic support to the Committee, staff, the organisation and me. He has been instrumental in ensuring we are financially viable and organisationally compliant.

On behalf of all – Thank you Peter. Very much appreciated.

Sonja Ilievska is now our new President. Sonja started on the Committee in 2014 becoming Vice President in 2015. She is experienced in risk management, policy development and governance and is Managing Partner in a risk management and consulting firm.



Sonja is also a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, an Associate Member of the Institute of Community Directors and holds a Master of Business Administration.

With more and more people starting to **return to our venues** it's important we all adhere to some rules -

- If you are feeling ill, do not attend.
- It is highly recommended that all visitors to our venues have had a Flu Shot.
- 1.5 metres social distancing in foyer, office, kitchens and public areas.
- Observe maximum people limits for rooms.
- Use hand sanitisers and wipes regularly.
- Clean your personal property, phones, glasses, iPads, pen, purse, wallet, bags, etc. Refrain from placing them down on public surfaces.
- Keep face to face meetings as short as possible and keep distance.
- Limit contact with others, no physical contact, etc.
- Keep classroom doors open, and windows open if possible.
- Use wipes on PC keypads and mouse before and after use.
- Centre iPads are not to be used for the time being.
- Wash hands regularly. Before and after eating, after coughing and sneezing, after using bathroom, after touching surfaces, after changing tasks, etc.
- Wipe down kitchen benches, taps, handles, etc before and after use.

- Ensure there are no more than four people in the kitchens at any time.
- Limit food preparation in kitchens.
- Clean up after yourself in the kitchens.
- Put rubbish and waste into bins, don't leave lying around.
- Complete this Infection Control Training. (For staff, send Certificate to me once done please?) - <https://www.health.gov.au/resources/apps-and-tools/covid-19-infection-control-training>

**June First** is an important anniversary date for our Centre.

**Jeannie Johnson** passed away on June 1 2018, and before that **Joan Kirner** on June 1 2015. A tribute to Joan back then in the Herald Sun is [HERE](#)

Then a year later on June 1 2016 **Joans Garden** was officially opened. The Speech by Linda Dessau AC, Governor of Victoria (and close friend of Joan's) for the opening of Joan's Garden is [HERE](#).



*Ron Kirner delivering his Speech at the opening of Joan's Garden*

Jeannie worked at the Centre from 1998 as a computer teacher and was the true epitome of an exemplary work colleague in our sector.

Her heart and soul were with the work of our Centre and this was demonstrated in her continued work up until only a few days before she passed away.

Take care.

Mark.



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