



## NEWSLETTER

### From The Manager's Desk



Those of you who have visited the Centre recently will have noticed some major changes to the reception area.

As reported in our December newsletter the renovation of our reception area is now well under way. Sue is very happy with her new desk and computer and we are all very happy with our new phone system.

The move is not yet complete, and over the coming weeks we will continue to remove unused items from this area and replace them with seating for visitors, easier access to the photocopier and phone use for the public, along with our new display of art materials available for sale.



### ABOUT US...

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The new entrance ramp, although not yet used for wheelchair access, has been greatly appreciated by mums with prams.

We have also kept the local tradesmen busy with the installation of a further 2 Hairdressing stations - thanks to a grant from Adult, Community & Further Education.

I have also spent some of my time representing the Centre on the Shire's Health & Well Being Advisory Committee, developing the new Health Plan. The Committee's 2 year tenure has been completed with the referral of a new plan to Council. When the Councilors are happy with the plan and choose to adopt it, there will be an official launch and we'll all probably get our pictures in the paper (what fun!).

Karen Kisala

HAPPY EASTER



### Art Materials for Sale

We now have a range of Art Spectrum and National Art supplies available for purchase by the general public at Reception. These materials include:

- Pastel, Acrylic & Oil Paints
- Artist Paper
- Brushes, Solvents & Primer
- Charcoal & Pencils.

We offer a 25% student discount.

## Women's Evening

A Healesville Living and Learning Centre tradition took place on Friday, 16th March, in recognition of International Women's Day. The Annual Women's Evening was held to celebrate the achievements of women. The evening provided an opportunity for women to come together for a night of laughter, fun and entertainment.

The evening began with Guest Speaker, Dawn, from Benwerren providing a highly informative talk on her organisation, and the wonderful work they do in providing time out for women.



Kerry Mitchell recited an amusing story to the enthralled gathering providing an injection of laughter to the proceedings.

Jane Judd, from Community Health, gave a talk on Women's health delivering the information in an entertaining format.



Sandi Clinton and Leah Marlowe added a musical touch to the evening appearing on stage together, singing a number of beautiful songs leading into an interactive segment involving the crowd. Sandi and Leah proved a big hit evoking applause from the room wanting an encore.

The evening drew to a close with joyful enthusiasm for next year. Thank you to everyone for making the evening such a special night.



## A Word from our Program Manager

As Term 1 comes to a close, I can take a moment to reflect on the activities taking place at the Centre.



The Centre has welcomed a number of new trainers this term bringing expertise and vitality that complement such a great team of tutors and trainers that we have attracted here.

Kevin Dawson — Computer trainer.  
Kelly Tosh — Garment Design Trainer.  
Michael Schilders — Disability Work Trainer.  
Julie and Rebecca — Hairdressing Trainers.

It is the quality of the tutors and trainers that make this Centre a vibrant learning environment. I would like to thank all our tutors and trainers for their fantastic work this term.

The Centre has been developing Good Governance training for retirement village personnel. These workshops have been developed from our Community Hub, Good Governance training package and modified to suit a request from the community. If you have a similar need just give me a call.

The Annual Women's Evening was held on the 16th March at the Darron Honey Centre providing a night of entertainment for women in recognition of International Women's Day. It is a wonderful tradition which will continue to grow and develop with the support of the community. If you would like to be involved in planning next year's event speak to me when you are next at the Centre.

The Centre is evolving with the needs of the community by expanding the programs on offer to engage people in life long learning.

Darren Grainger.

## For Sale

We have 2 items that are still in good working order and that would like to go to a new home:

- 1 Cupboard with double doors, sink & tap. \$100.
- 1 Commander Phone System with 5 Handsets etc. Enquire at office.

## Good Governance for Retirement Villages

An exciting new series of workshops are about to commence in term 2, 2007, providing good governance training for retirement villages.

The topics covered in the program are Strategic Planning, Risk and Financial Management, Relating to Older People, Understanding Grief and Loss, Planning Emergency Procedures and Security, and Aged Care Services.

These workshops will be facilitated by experienced people in each area.

The project was initiated after discussions with a community resident who was looking for training to improve the efficiency and skills of her committee. Her ideas created this program highlighting a need in a community.

The focus of the program is on those people that either operate, or sit on a committee for a retirement village.

The project is also about up-skilling people to improve their capacity to support community organisations. They will learn skills that are transferable to other community activities and/or employment.

If you are interested in finding out further information please contact the Program Co-ordinator.

## Committee News

The 8 Committee of Management Members invited the staff to join them at Poppy's Restaurant just before Christmas, to celebrate the end of a very successful year at the Centre. It was a great night with lots of great food and laughter. Just what we all needed.

If you would like to share in the hard work and the fun, the Committee has 3 vacancies at the moment and would like to hear from you. Contact Karen if you would like to know more.

A big thank-you and farewell to Alan Holman & Robert Falkenbach who have just announced their retirement. Both Alan & Robert have applied their experience and expertise to the issues that have faced the Centre over the last couple of years and their loss will be greatly felt. I thank both of them for their unwavering support.

## Volunteer News

We were pleased to see so many of our Volunteers at the Christmas Lunch celebrations last December. It was my pleasure at this occasion to be able to present 4 beautifully engraved plaques to:

- **Sharolyn Devitt**  
"Longest Serving Committee Member"
- **Bid Aitken**  
"Oldest Volunteer"
- **Lilian Chalkley**  
"Longest Serving Volunteer Tutor"
- **Helen Waixel**  
"Special Award for Outstanding Volunteering"

These were awarded by CHAOS, (Community House Association of Outer-Eastern Suburbs) who surveyed their 56 member organisations. It's pleasing to note that 4 of the 5 available awards were won by HLLC Volunteers. Well done and congratulations.

### Welcome to our new volunteer:

Eileen Schutenko - has joined us to help out in our busy office.

### Goodbye

Farwell to Valerie Gray-Wilson (Op Shop Volunteer). Valerie has moved to a new home in Alexandra. We wish her all the best and hope that she settles in well.

**Get Well Soon:** Helen Waixel, Lilian Chalkley & Christine Rhodes

We hope that you are all well on the way back to good health and we look forward to having you back with us soon.

## Art News

Congratulations to Janet Hayes our Pastel Painting Tutor.

Janet is exhibiting some of her paintings at Adam Galleries in Queen Street Melbourne, Wednesday 14th March - Monday 2nd April.

## MEMBERSHIP FEES

From Term 1, 2006 ALL participants enrolling in a course or workshop for the first time in a calendar year will automatically be charged an ordinary Member's Fee of \$2.20.

A second type of Membership is offered called **Membership Plus**. This membership offers Free Internet and Computer Use, Mailout of all Term Brochures and Newsletters and a 10% discount at our East End Op Shop. Additional \$8.80.

## HLLC Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 2nd May, 2007

7pm

**All Members Welcome**



### Happy Birthday to You

Christine Rhodes - 16th March

Hazel Hills - 21st March

Lillian Chalkley - 28th March

Bid Aitken - 21st April

Janet Goodwin - 24th April

## Time Out for Women

Benwerren is an organisation situated in Yarra Junction providing a respite service for women. The tranquil setting amongst a picturesque landscape, by the Little Yarra River, is designed to provide a caring, relaxed atmosphere. The women who visit Benwerren have the time to restore energy and alleviate stress indulging in free time to rest, read, listen to music and other peaceful activities.

The main focus of the organisation is to tend to the needs of women, even though they do welcome children depending on the situation. If the women are strong and healthy, so too will be their families.

The service is a non-profit organisation managed by a Committee functioning on limited resources while still keeping costs at an affordable price.

Benwerren is a hidden gem amongst local organisations delivering a service much needed for the women of a community.

If you would like further information please call (03) 5967 1021.

## PUBLIC INTERNET ACCESS HERE

Please avail yourself of this service if you are without internet access at home. 'Membership Plus' members can have unlimited FREE access any weekday during school terms between 9am to 4.30pm.

Please call to check availability and/or book.