

# HEALESVILLE LIVING AND LEARNING CENTRE

A.B.N. 78831662475



Term 3, September 2006



## NEWSLETTER

### Minister Broad's Visit

On Thursday 7th September, we were privileged to host a visit by Hon. Candy Broad, Minister for Local Government & Minister for Housing.

During her visit she met with Committee President, Janet Goodwin and Centre Manager Karen Kisala who escorted her on a tour of the Centre. Staff volunteers and participants were also introduced. She heard about our history and our services and was surprised and impressed by the extent of our facilities and the depth of our program and other activities.

Many photos later, she joined a group of assembled guests for morning tea at which she announced the Centre's success in securing extra funding from the Department of Victorian Communities as part of our Neighbourhood House Grant.

This funding increase will assist in staffing the Centre more appropriately as we grow.

### ABOUT US...

**Address:**

1 Badger Creek Road  
Healesville Vic 3777

**Phone:**

(03) 5962 5982

**Fax:**

(03) 5962 3907

**E-mail:**

admin@healesville  
learningcentre.org

**Web address:**

www.healesville  
learningcentre.org

### From The Manager's Desk

It was my privilege recently to be invited to attend the State Government's Community Cabinet and the Women's Roundtable. These were great opportunities to highlight the issues being faced by this community and the work that is being done by the Living & Learning Centre and others.



As it is an Election year, the State Government is focusing its attentions on possible 'swinging' electorates and we need to take advantage of this by being very noticeable in the hope that this will translate into ongoing support for our organization and our community.

I have also been devoting my time to completing several funding projects that we have received recently. If you have visited the Centre lately you may have noticed the new external lighting and all new lighting in the administration offices.



Minister Broad, Karen Kisala & Cr Jeanette MacRae

## Staffing Changes

Congratulations to Robbie Schuurman & Dianne Sanders for being the successful applicants who will fill our staff vacancies.

Robbie will take on the Finance Officer's role that has been recently vacated by Lynn Dean.

Lynn was a valued Centre team member for just on 6 years and has left to pursue her own business interests.

Dianne will be well known to many participants as she was a volunteer here for many years. She has taken the Administration Assistance position, vacated by Robbie's promotion.

We welcome her to our team.

## New Lights

We were pleased to receive funding to upgrade our external & internal lighting from Adult, Community & Further Education (ACFE).

Night students will have noticed the new 'dusk to dawn' lights on the outside of all our buildings, while visitors to our office will have noticed that all the old light globes have been replaced with fluorescent tubes.

These upgrades are not only more economical for the Centre, but also provide a safer environment for all. Our last acquisition was the purchase & installation of 4 Halogen lamps for the carpark area. These will be used during our Twilight Markets and other events.

## Another New Face



Hi there, my name is Dianne Sanders. I am back at the centre once again, its so much fun I just cannot stay away.

I have been a volunteer, student and staff member at various stages over the past 8 years and have come to join the staff here at the centre on a part time basis working in the administration office.

I have always felt welcome and appreciated at the centre & I look forward to meeting many new people and helping out wherever I can.

## Upcoming activities of Healesville Environment Watch.

### 1. Weedbusters Stall

With HEWI members

Identification of environmental weeds and demonstrations for effective weed eradication.

Date: Sun 1st Oct. Time: 8am-1pm

Duration: 1 session Cost: FREE

### 2. Spring Safari

With David Cameron, DSE

Our expert botanist will lead this survey to identify the flora of our local bushland.

Date: Sat 14 Oct. Time: 10am-3pm

Duration 1 session Cost \$5/\$3 HEWI

Contact Maureen on 5962 1224

## A Word from our Program Manager



The Centre is expanding in the programs on offer looking to increase the diversity of activities to suit the needs of the whole community. It is an exciting time to be involved in the growth and development of HLLC.

Next term, we are running a number of classes during the evening and on weekends to cater for people in the community who are committed during the week. The classes range from computers, art, creative writing, singing, health and wellbeing. Pick up a copy of our brochure to look at the full selection.

Healesville Living & Learning Centre and Shire of Yarra ranges Best Start program will be delivering a **First Aide and Me program** for "Dinner at Darrons" volunteers & members of Healesville playgroups in which they will gain their First Aide level 1 and level 2. It is a fantastic initiative to empower people with the basics to perform life saving first aide.

I am looking forward to the coming term and hope to see many of you engaging in activities at the centre. Please feel free to drop by for a chat. I am only too willing to listen to suggestions.

## Water Conservation & Education Project

Stage 1 - Installation of water tanks has been completed. The tanks are full and fully operational.



Stage 2 - Re-vegetation of the gardens is underway.

Members of Healesville Environmental Watch have taken an 'audit' of the existing garden. Some plants have been purchased for placement in September and a plan has been developed for the site.

The new garden will be planted in several stages starting in spring this year and continuing in Autumn next year. This is to give the plants the best possible chance of survival.

The plants chosen have been for several reasons:- they are indigenous to the area and will need little to no watering and they will be attractive to birds, insects (& people) and provide lots of attractive flowers and foliage.

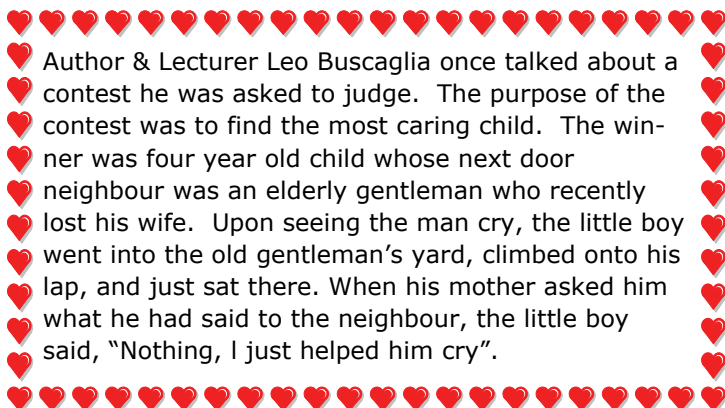
The re-establishment of indigenous gardens at the Centre will provide a very practical and educational demonstration for water-wise gardens and the variety of indigenous species available.

## VOLUNTEERS

The Centre is always looking for new volunteers to assist us in our

- Opportunity shop
- Office
- Gardens, or with
- Maintenance.

You may know someone who would benefit from the experience of volunteering. Why not show them this newsletter and invite them to visit the Centre and talk to the staff?



## Good Balance

Welcome to our new volunteers from 'Balance' - Nicky and Rhys along with their support worker Garth. Nicky and Rhys are local lads who enjoy a bit of gardening, especially lawn mowing.



Rhys, Minister Candy Broad, Karen Kisala & Nicky

## Twilight Market

Thursday, 16th November from 3.00 - 8.00pm

Bring the family and have a great night out.

Market Demonstrations Entertainment  
Community Information Food and Drinks

Do you have something to sell? Get in early and hire a stall.

\$16.50 - includes stall hire, table and chair.

Contact Sue for more information or to book your space - 03 5962 5982.

## TAX HELP

Once again the Centre will be offering FREE Tax Help to people in need during July, August, September and October. The service will be conducted on a fortnightly basis.

Please phone Sue at the Centre on 5962 5982

## PUBLIC INTERNET ACCESS PROGRAM

Please avail yourself of this service if you are without internet access at home. 'Membership Plus' members can have unlimited FREE access any weekday between 9 am-4pm.

Bookings are essential. Cost is:

- \$2.00 per hour for students and volunteers,
- \$3.00 per hour for the public, or
- FREE for Membership Plus Members.

## Theft

Unfortunately several weeks ago our garden shed was broken into and our lawn mower and whipper-snipper were stolen. This has of course, set our garden maintenance program back a bit until we can get our insurance claim processed and new equipment purchased.