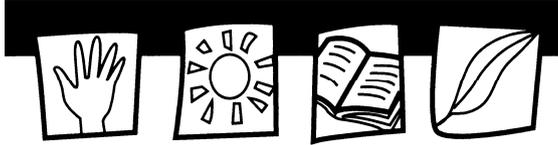




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December 2005



Healesville Living & Learning Centre NEWSLETTER

Neighbourhood Houses and Learning Centres The heart of our community

A CAMPAIGN FOR BETTER FUNDING FOR ALL HOUSES/CENTRES IN VICTORIA

The Association of
Neighbourhood Houses and
Learning Centres is
campaigning for better funding
for all houses/centres in Victoria.



***Get involved to save what your house or
centre offers your local community***

We need your support so the government
knows how important your neighbourhood
house or learning centre is to you.

What can you do to help?

- Visit your local Members of Parliament
- Send a letter to Members of Parliament
- Send a postcard
- Send a letter to your local paper
- Tell other people about the campaign

Your House/Centre has more information

Members of Parliament contact details:

Candy Broad
Minister for Local Government
Level 21, Nauru House
80 Collins Street
Melbourne 3000
T: 9655 1722
F: 9655 8704
E: candy.broad@
parliament.vic.gov.au

John Thwaites
Minister for the Department of
Victorian Communities
Level 3, 1 Treasury Place
East Melbourne 3002
T: 9651 1222
F: 9651 1188
E: john.thwaites@
parliament.vic.gov.au

John Brumby
Treasurer
Level 4, 1 Treasury Place
East Melbourne 3002
T: 9651 6255
F: 9651 0759
E: john.brumby@
parliament.vic.gov.au

**13,000 people
volunteer at
Neighbourhood
Houses in Victoria**



**4.5 million people
a year participate
in Neighbourhood
Houses in Victoria**



**Victoria has 360
Neighbourhood
Houses**



**84% of Houses get
funded for less
than 3 days/week
to coordinate and
operate the house**



Save the
heart of our
community.

We need proper funding to keep our Neighbourhood
Houses open and working in Victorian communities.

**Houses have to
raise fees and
fundraise
to pay for staff
and equipment**

**Neighbourhood
Houses in Victoria
provide 85% of all
occasional childcare**



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

COURSE & CAREER COUNSELLING

In 2006 a qualified Careers Counsellor will be available every week during term dates to help you with planning your career, returning to work or to study.

Times will be between 4.00 and 5.30 pm on Wednesdays. Appointments are essential and there is a booking fee of \$10. Call the Centre for an appointment or more information on **5962 5982**.

Community Art Project

The **Further Education Art Studies** students have made a hand-painted banner as part of their community art project. The banner was made using the traditional technique of batik, but with a difference – using a flour and water resist technique which enabled them to achieve individual and stunning results. The finished piece is colourful and unique, and will hang in our student lounge for all to admire. It will also be a wonderful resource to use to promote the Centre at Open Days or Expos.

The students are now busy arranging

their end of year exhibition. With many works on paper, they have been exploring their options as to where the work might best be displayed.

This course has provided skills and encouragement to many of the students in the time that we have been running it, and given participants a start on a life-long journey of exploring and realising artistic potential.

Unfortunately the accreditation period for this course has expired, and it is not being re-accredited. In 2006 we will offer "Journey into Art" which is a



VOLUNTEER NEWS



CELEBRATING SPECIAL BIRTHDAYS:

- **Barbara Ebbels** - 70 years young in January. Barbara's birthday wish is to travel across Australia by train.
- **Helen Orenshaw** and **Valerie Gray-Wilson** -- both 60 years young.
- **Kerry Mitchell**. Our resident poet has reached the grand milestone of 40.
- **Di Anderson** who is off to the Commonwealth Games as a volunteer. Di completed our Course in Community & Event Volunteering last year. She has promised to write about her experiences for the forthcoming newsletters.
- **Pip Yow**, who is now undertaking a Certificate 3 in Aged Care course. Pip hopes to do a course in Diversional Therapy eventually.
- Our best wishes go to **Glenys Hiley**, who has been unwell recently. We send our thoughts for a speedy recovery Glenys.

CONGRATULATIONS ALSO TO:

- **Sylvia Cameron**, who is becoming a first-time grandmother in December.
- **Sharolyn Devitt**, who will shortly be a first-time Aunty. (Congratulations also to Jon & Janet).

East End Op Shop

Hours of Business

The shop will be **closed** from Wednesday 21 December to 9th January 2006.

We ask you to please hold your donations until we re-open in the New Year.

Thank you and Merry Christmas

Please enjoy the Op-Shop Christmas Window Display.

WRITER'S GROUP SUCCESSES

Judith Michael, a member of our Writer's Group received a commendation in the Eastern Regional Libraries Short Story Competition - Adult Section.

She was also awarded First Prize for Poetry Subject in this competition and First Prize for Poetry Performance in the Holmesglen Professional Writing and Editing competition.

Judith Ambrose won Third Prize in the Eastern Regional Libraries Short Story Competition - Adult Section.

PUBLIC INTERNET ACCESS PROGRAM (PIAP)

Our Public Internet Access Program (PIAP) commenced on Wednesday 23rd November.

To cope with the demand that we are experiencing we have dedicated one computer in the office adjacent to the student lounge to be available solely for this purpose during office hours (9-4 pm) and will be available most weekdays during term time, between 9.00am and 4.00pm. The computer room will continue to be available when not in class use.

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.



From The Manager's Desk



As I sit, staring at the piece of paper that is to become my article for this edition of the Newsletter, many thoughts run through my mind.

Should I be writing about the Christmas season that is once again so quickly upon us?

Or, should I be writing about the coming year? What are our hopes? What will be new? What will surprise and delight us?

My mind turns to recent activities. What is it that I have been doing all year with my time? OR, more importantly, what is it that I have been doing that you would be interested in reading about?

As I begin to mentally list all my activities over the past few months, one thought takes over from all the others -- Gosh, I'm tired!

Now, in this I know, I am not alone.

So, to all of you who have had a busy year and are feeling a little low on energy -- take heart!! The Christmas Season is upon us. Cooking, cleaning, buying presents, visiting relatives, lunching with friends ...

Oh well, try to enjoy it anyway.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, and see you all next year.



Karen Kisala

YARRA VALLEY FM Opportunity Shop

Deanne Greene, with the assistance of Carmen Sullivan and other interested people, have opened a new Op-Shop on the Warburton Highway, Woori Yallock. If these ladies' names seem familiar to you it will be because they are both sisters of Marea Yann.

They tell us that they have been inspired by Marea's example, and when they heard that Yarra Valley FM was facing financial hardship, they stepped forward to assist.

The shop is open Wednesday - Sunday, 10 am - 4 pm, and we wish them all the best with their fundraising efforts.

VOLUNTEERS CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Our annual Volunteers' Christmas Lunch is being held on **Wednesday 14th December** at the Centre.

By popular request we will be serving finger food and cake.

This is the staff's opportunity to thank all our wonderful volunteers and supporters, for all the assistance they have given us during the last year.

This year we are hoping that many of our **Life Members** will join us.

The Centre wishes to thank the **Healesville Sunday Market Committee** for their generous donation towards this event.

Graduation Ceremony

All students who have participated in an accredited course during 2005 were invited to receive their certificates at a Graduation Ceremony on **Thursday 8th December** at **3.00 p.m.**

Students present had participated in:

- Certificate IV: Assessment and Workplace Training
- Certificate III: Fashion Design & Development
- Course in Further Education Art Studies
- Course in Creative Writing



All those who attended were able to share in a friendly, informal afternoon tea with fellow students, friends, tutors and staff.

NEW SIGN

Our new sign was purchased with a grant from Adult, Community & Further Education. 



Our thanks also go to David Brown Real Estate in Healesville who very kindly supplied and installed the previous sign while we waited for our new one.

Community Christmas Carol Singing



At Badger Creek Hall

Friday 23rd December 2005

Commencing: 7 pm - 8 pm

FREE

Light Refreshments provided
(Lions Fruit Cake & Watermelon & Cordial)
BYO Carol Song Book
BYO Musical Instruments
10 Popular Christmas Carols
(Quick 1 hour program)

This community event provided
by Badger Creek Hall Committee of Management
Enquiries: Phone Kathy 5962 3639

VOLUNTEERS

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

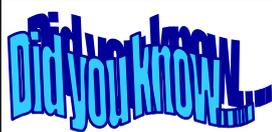
- Opportunity shop
- Office
- Gardens, or with
- Maintenance.

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?

Wanted

Volunteer Coordinator

This is a voluntary position of 1-2 days per week. For a position description and application details, please phone Karen Kisala, Centre Manager on 5962 5982.



Your MEMBERSHIP PLUS card entitles you to unlimited hours of access to the internet?

THANK YOU

Thank you to **Maureen** for the donation of photography equipment to the Centre.

CHANGE TO 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.

Membership to the association entitles the member to participate in the association's activities, i.e. enrol in programs and have voting rights at all Annual General and Special Meetings. Membership may be paid at any time during the year and will expire at the end of the calendar year (December 31st).

Membership Plus is also available and incorporates many benefits not included in standard membership.

- 10% Discount at our East End Op Shop
- Free Internet and Computer Use
- Free enrolment in the Writer's Group
- Mailout of all Term Brochures and Newsletters

An additional fee of \$8.80 is applicable for Membership Plus.

COMMITTEE NEWS

The Committee of Management have spent the last 6 months developing the Centre's new 3-year Business Plan.

They have also been developing and implementing recruitment strategies for committee membership.



Membership Application Form - 2006

Surname: _____

Given Name/s: _____

Address: _____

_____ Post Code: _____

Telephone: (Home) _____ (Work) _____ (Mobile) _____

D.O.B: _____ M / F Email: _____

Membership for 2006:

(01/01/06—31/12/06)

Amount: \$2.20 or \$11.00
Ordinary Membership Plus

Date Paid: _____ **Receipt No:** _____