

HEALESVILLE LIVING AND LEARNING CENTRE

A.B.N. 78831662475



Term 4, December 2006

*Merry
Christmas*



NEWSLETTER

From The Manager's Desk

Once again the year is drawing to a close and when I manage to raise my head above the pile of end-of-year reports, I will allow myself a short moment of quiet satisfaction on the progress we have made this year. We, meaning the staff, committee and volunteers, have all worked extremely hard together to improve the Centre's facilities and resources, the quality and diversity of our programs and the extra services that we have been able to offer.

This year those services have included

- Public Internet Access
- Tax Help
- Art Materials available on site
- Course & Career Guidance
- Parents Returning to Work Grants
- VCE/VET Delivery.



ABOUT US...

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The highlights of the year for me have been:

- Welcoming Darren and Di to our team
- Promoting Robbie to the Finance Officer position
- Getting the gardens tamed and replanted with the help of the Community Water Grant
- Securing an extra 10 hours a week support funding from the Department of Victorian Communities
- Renewing our partnership with Healesville Environment Watch
- Being a Foundation Member and Chairperson of Community 3777 Township Group.

Next Year we will be

- Extending VCE/VET program
- A Youth Guarantee Provider
- Registered with the Works Skills Voucher program.

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all,
hope to see you in 2007.**

Karen Kisala



HEWI Secretary, Maureen Bond showing HEWI member Sera Blair's children how to water wisely this summer, in our new garden.

Youth Guarantee

The Education and Training Reform Act 2006 makes provision for a guaranteed place in TAFE institutions, AMES, CAE and participating Adult Education Centres for young people who have not completed a Year 12 qualification or equivalent.

Year 12 equivalent includes VCE, VCAL and Certificate II level courses or higher. Healesville Living and Learning Centre has been approved for inclusion in the 60 adult education centres to support the implementation of the Youth Guarantee.

To be eligible:

You must not have completed Year 12 or equivalent

You are over 16 and under 20 years of age on 1st January in the year in which you wish to undertake the year of education and training

You have left school at age 15 years and before the proclamation of the new Act

We are required to:

Offer a place to eligible young people in a timely manner as a matter of priority

Subject to entry requirements, enrol eligible people in appropriate accredited courses within the AQF, including VCE and VCAL

Provide pro active support for students to foster the completion of their Year 12 or equivalent qualification

Student fees and charges will be according to the "Minister's Directive on Fees and Charges", which will be the same as all government funded programs delivered by this Centre.

For further information, go to -

www.education.vic.gov.au/about/structure/postcomp/initiatives.htm



A Word from our Program Manager



As this year comes to a close, it has prompted a moment of reflection over my past 7 months at the Healesville Living and Learning Centre. It has been a period of growth and development for the centre. I have noticed a change in the organisation since I began working here, there is a wonderful sense of excitement and enthusiasm.

The milestones for the year have been:

The development of a full time program of study at the centre based around Cert II in General Education for Adults that provides a year 10 equivalency education course to be implemented in 2007.

Increase in VCE/VET provision for 2007:

A morning and afternoon Cert II in Hairdressing.

A morning and afternoon Cert III in Concept

Development for Clothing Products.

Adding new courses to our Scope of Registration for delivery in 2007:

Cert IV in Disability Work.

Cert II in Horticulture.

Cert I in Vocational Preparation.

Cert III in Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Cultural Arts.

Developing relationships with other organisations such as:

Yarra Valley VET Cluster.

Little Yarra Steiner School.

Upper Yarra Community House.

Alamein Neighbourhood & Learning Centre

I have really enjoyed working at Healesville Living and Learning Centre contributing toward a new sense of vitality to the place. I look forward to the new year with a focus on establishing new programs and projects to benefit the community.

Australian Skills Voucher Program

As part of the "Skills for the Future" initiative the Federal Government has announced two schemes to improve the basic skills of Australia's work force - Work Skills Vouchers and Business Skills Vouchers. The aim is to improve the basic skills of employed people, those actively looking for work and apprentices.

From 1st January 2007, Healesville Living and Learning Centre will be an approved organisation and eligible to provide training under this scheme.

If you would like to know more, check out www.dest.gov.au/skillsforthefuture and then talk to us about your training options.

Disability Access

The Department of Victorian Communities has just announced our success in securing a grant to assist us with moving the reception area into the front room of the Administration Building. This will provide us with the opportunity to remove the front step and install a ramp and a reception desk that will be of an appropriate height. The Centre also hopes that this will make our reception area more friendly and usable. It is planned to have all work completed by the end of May next year.



Events

Twilight Market

Our Twilight Market was cancelled due to a lack of interest and quite a few fetes, markets and activities also being held within the area. We will endeavour to have the Twilight Market in May, 2007. Thank you to all the people who showed their interest and we look forward to your co-operation in May.

Volunteer Luncheon

The Volunteer Lunch will be held on Monday 11th December, 2006. We look forward to spending time with our many volunteers who are greatly appreciated for all the help they provide to us here at the centre during the year.

Did You Know

To be issued with a Certificate I in Information Technology, you need to successfully complete six modules at that level of study?

All you need to do is present the statements of attainment issued to you upon successful completion of each module to the Program Co-ordinator to receive a full, accredited certificate.

We are planning to offer all six modules required for Certificate I in Information Technology during 2007. If you would like further information, please contact the Centre.

OP SHOP NEWS

Op Shop 50% Off Everything Sale

Monday 18th December to Saturday 23rd December, 2006



"Happy 80th Birthday"
(15th January, 2007)

Sylvia Cameron
Op Shop Volunteer

Farewells to:

Goodbye and best wishes to Bid Aitken. We hope you enjoy your new residence. Thank you for all the years of volunteering, and the unpicking of jumpers Ha Ha!!

Best wishes also to Sheila Wood and Ken Hall thank you for your time as a volunteers.

Welcome to our new volunteers:

Margaret Louw
Joy Chipperfield
Esther Swoboda
Pip Yow (previous volunteer returned)

Op Shop will be closed from
23 December 2006 Till 15 January 2007.

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.

Membership Plus costs \$11.00 per year.

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?

Full-time courses

If you would like to undertake a full-time course at the centre we can now package together a course of study designed to meet your needs, based around the courses we currently offer.

If you are interested in finding out more about this flexible, learner focused approach, please contact the Program Co-ordinator.

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 during school terms between 9am to 4.30pm.

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.