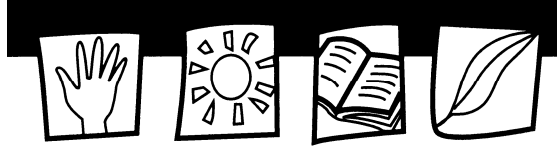




A.B.N. 78831662475



Term I
March 2006

Healesville Living & Learning Centre NEWSLETTER

Campaign Success! Well ... sort of ...

The Association of Neighbourhood Houses and Learning Centres' campaign for better funding for all houses & centres in Victoria which featured in our last newsletter, is beginning to bear fruit.

Thanks go to everyone who has sent postcards, emails and /or letters to our loveable government ministers on behalf of their local neighbourhood house.

The Department of Victorian Communities (DVC) has notified all Houses to expect a one-off payment of \$2,700. This funding will support us to participate in arranging new service agreements and reporting frameworks.

In other words, they still haven't quite got the point of the campaign. So, once again, I call on all our supporters out there -- keep those letters (emails, postcards) coming.

ABOUT US...

Address:
1 Badger Creek Road
Healesville Vic 3777

Phone:
(03) 5962 5982

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(03) 5962 3907

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admin@healesville
learningcentre.org

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www.healesville
learningcentre.org

From The Manager's Desk



It was with some sadness that we farewelled Karen Meuleman at the beginning of the year.

Karen has been our Program Co-ordinator for the past 4 years. She has now taken up a new role

with the Shire of Yarra Ranges as the Vista Leadership program co-ordinator.

Tutors, students, volunteers and staff gathered together over afternoon tea to say goodbye and wish her well.

In the interim, I will be taking on the programming duties, ably assisted as always, by the 'team', until a new person is recruited.

It is also my sad duty to pass on our condolences to Annette Jones on the tragic death of her son Brendan.

Karen Kisala

HEALESVILLE COMMON WATER CONSERVATION & EDUCATION PROJECT



The Centre has been successful in receiving an Australian Government Community Water Grant from senators the Hon Ian Campbell, Minister for the Environment & Heritage and the Hon. Eric Abetz, Minister for Fisheries, Forestry & Conservation.

This exciting project will conserve water by installing two 13,000L water tanks, water saving devices and a timed watering system to service all kitchen, classroom and toilet facilities, as well as an indigenously designed revegetation garden project at the Healesville Living & Learning Centre.

We have had expert advice indicating that this method would be the most effective in meeting our water storage and reduction needs, while at the same time, lessening the impact on the creek that runs through the property.

This project will provide an opportunity for us to establish a working example of how to be a wise water user that can be easily seen and accessed by the community.

The Centre would also run education programs to improve community understanding of water and environmental conservation issues. These would cater for both adults and school children.

Womens Evening - 3rd March

One of the highlights of the Centre's year is the Womens Evening, held in conjunction with the celebration of International Womens Day each year.

This year's event was held on Friday 3rd March at the Badger Creek Hall, and, as usual, the evening was a fabulous success.

Approximately 95 women of all ages — from 18 to 90 — came together to celebrate being Women.

An extremely varied program of entertainment was provided during the course of the evening, which was MC'd very capably by Brenda Gardner.

Dominika Keller's bellydancers were an absolute highlight of the evening.



Denise Gilbert's Mountain Country Carollers also provided some wonderful familiar songs set to country music, and delighted us all.

Leah Marlow's A'capella singing group from Toolangi performed both a welcome song and a farewell song or 2 to close the evening, and **Jenni Overend**, a local children's author and tutor at the Centre, gave us a reading from one of her books.

Amanda Markin and her friend Julie provided some folk songs and inspiration.

Christine Rhodes wandered onto the stage to clean up and instead told us the story of Albert and the Lion.

The more serious items were provided by three very

different speakers:

Sally Browne from Healesville Jewellers spoke on the success of the BANG Production kids, a project that she is a mentor for. The kids involved in this project are aged 15-17 years, and for the past 3 years they have produced a Healesville Calendar which they have sold in various locations around Healesville. Their mentors help them make all the decisions necessary in order to run BANG as a business. Each year they have made a profit, which then enables the next group of kids to have funds in order to start their new venture. 2006 Calendars are still available at **Healesville Jewellers**.

Di King from **Pennylane Studio Gallery**, spoke about her journey into art — a mid-life change that has brought her a great deal of success as one of Healesville's best-known artists. She encouraged every woman to follow their dreams and their passion in life.

Shona Cameron, a recent Science graduate, shared her ideas and information about Environmental Issues and how we, in our everyday lives, can make a difference.

Coffee and Cake were served at Intermission and the Raffle was also drawn. First prize of a painting was donated by Sheila Wood. We'd also like to thank our other prize donors..

ON A PERSONAL NOTE: As a first-time co-ordinator of this event, I would just like to give my sincere thanks to all the performers and speakers, because they did such a wonderful job of entertaining everyone present.

However, I would also like to thank my sub-committee members, **Kathy Cameron** and **Sheila Wood**, whose positivity, enthusiasm and hard work were inspiring. Also my thanks to Trish Crowley who so capably sat at the door and took everyone's money; to Jesse and Josh who set up the sound equipment, and taught me how to use it; to Sue Worley and Jenny Pool, from the Living & Learning Centre, for their help with Flyers, Tickets, and other miscellaneous tasks; to all the people who helped set up the hall on the Thursday and Friday, and especially to all the people who stayed afterwards and helped us pack up and clean up. Your help was invaluable and very much appreciated.

THANK YOU ONE AND ALL! And I hope to SEE YOU ALL NEXT YEAR!

CONGRATULATIONS DI ANDERSON -- Commonwealth Games Volunteer!

Di Anderson, one of the Centre's volunteers, also volunteered at the Commonwealth Games. She attended all the training in Melbourne and then was located at the Melbourne Gun Club in Coldstream for the shooting events.

We look forward to hearing about her experiences in the next Newsletter!

QUEENS BATON RELAY Commonwealth Games

The Queens Baton arrived in Healesville late afternoon on **Monday, 20th February, 2006** carried by actor John Wood, on its final leg for the day to Queens Park where a night of celebration was held.

At 9am the following morning the Queens Baton left the Healesville Sanctuary and was carried down Badger Creek Road passing in front of the Healesville Living & Learning Centre. The Baton Relay obviously caused some traffic disruption outside the Centre however nobody minded and most people took the opportunity to cheer the baton on its way to the Commonwealth Games.



Pictured above: Queens Baton runner passing the Living & Learning Centre. And below: Linda Hamilton, ex-employee and long-time friend of the Centre. Photo courtesy of the Herald & Weekly Times Pty Ltd.



VACANCY

Healesville Living and Learning Centre
1 Badger Creek Rd, Healesville 3777
Ph: 5962 5982 Fax: 5962 3907

Position: Program Co-ordinator

Job Description: We are a large not-for-profit Community education provider located in the Yarra Valley and are in need of a Program Co-ordinator who will both manage and implement the Centre's programs, activities and events.

We have been in operation for 26 years and are managed by a voluntary Committee of Management.

We require someone with personality who has excellent communication skills and who is both a team player and can work independently. We are an accredited Registered Training Organization and are looking for someone with knowledge of adult community education, AQTF, accredited and non-accredited curricula.

Opportunities exist to develop this role further and would suit someone with community development, adult education or similar experience. This position is re-advertised. Previous applicants need not re-apply.

Position descriptions can be obtained by phoning **5962 5982**. Applications must address the selection criteria and be received in writing by **4pm Thursday, 13th April, 2006**.

TRANSPORT REFERRAL SERVICE

A Transport Referral Service is provided by the Yarra Ranges Community Access Project for residents of the Shire of Yarra Ranges. This service is provided for frail, older people or younger people with a disability and carers who live in their own homes but are transport disadvantaged. Enquiries welcome. Phone Teresa O'Donnell on 5965 3523 to discuss your transport needs.

NEW PROGRAM - TERM 2

As you will see from the Term 2 brochure we have a very exciting term ahead. It will be a long term because Term 1 was greatly reduced in length due to the Commonwealth Games in March.

We have added a large number of new and interesting courses and we sincerely hope that you will take advantage of these opportunities. Some of these new courses include:

- Capoeira (Brazilian martial arts and dance);
- Singing group;
- e-Bay fundamentals
- Cert. II in Business
- FREE CPR workshop

We try very hard to offer you the types of courses that you have told us you want to see on the program and it can be quite disheartening when a new course is slow to get going due to lack of numbers. Good tutors are hard to come by. We value the ones we do have and would like to keep them within our environment. Your support in enrolling in the courses we offer will help us to keep the Centre an exciting and vibrant place for the community of Healesville and surrounding areas.

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?

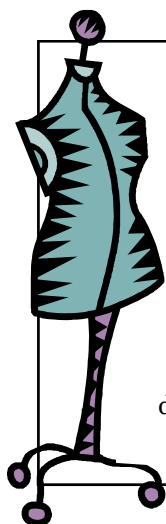
PUBLIC INTERNET ACCESS PROGRAM

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 9am and 4pm. 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.



Dummy Wanted!

Do you have a **DRESSMAKER'S DUMMY** sitting around your house not being used?

Our Fashion Design classes would appreciate the donation of an adjustable dummy in good condition. If you can help, please call Sue on 5962 5982.

NIGHT TIME MARKET EVENT

Healesville Living & Learning Centre will be conducting a Night Time Market during Neighbourhood House Week (May 8-14).

Contact Sue if you'd like to hold a stall or require further information on 5962 5982.

AGM

You are invited to the Centre's AGM on

Wednesday 12th April 2006

At 7 pm at

The Healesville Living & Learning Centre.

ALL WELCOME!

HEALESVILLE FOOD ASSOCIATION

The HFA is a buying group committed to purchasing pre-ordered bulk quantities of organic, biodynamic and wholesome food each month. Items include dried fruit, nuts, grains, legumes, tofu and soymilk.

They rely on voluntary support from all members to maximize the benefits of the association. All orders placed with the HFA are packed and distributed monthly from the Healesville Living & Learning Centre.

**Enquiries and new members
please phone Peter on 5962 5819**

SITE LICENCE

We are currently undertaking negotiations with the Shire of Yarra Ranges for a new licence (lease) for the 'Common' site on Badger Creek Road. The Shire acts as the managing agent for DSE (Department of Sustainability and Environment). First indications are that it will not be a simple matter, but we will keep you informed.

COMMITTEE NEWS

We welcome three new Committee members to our Committee of Management – Kevin Morcombe, Kathy Cameron and Robert Falkenbach.

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, Free enrolment in the Writer's Group, Mailout of all Term Brochures and Newsletters and a 10% discount at our East End Op Shop.

Membership Plus costs \$11.00 per year.