

# Healesville Living & Learning Centre Newsletter

A.B.N. 78831662475

## From The Manager's Desk

At the May Annual General Meeting a change to clause 5 of the Centre's constitution was passed that will ensure that membership can be paid at anytime during the calendar year, and not, as has been the case, only by the 1st February.

The Committee of management have also set new membership fees.

Ordinary membership will be \$2 (plus GST), payable at any time during 2005. From term 1, 2006 all participants of the centre will be required to pay a membership fee with their first enrolment of the year. Members who would like to receive posted program brochures, newsletters and free computer and internet use may like to pay an additional \$8 (plus GST) for a membership plus card. Life

members will continue to receive their current benefits. The Committee hopes that by returning to the original membership structure that they can discourage the decline in membership numbers and broaden the Association's base for a positive and productive future. Please contact me if you would like further information.

**Karen Kisala**



## Course and Career Guidance Counselling Service

This has proved to be an extremely popular centre service. Our counsellor, Karen Hucks (yes, another Karen!) has been very busy with almost 100% of booking times filled. This is a post secondary service for adults who are looking for a new direction in life. This service is free and available to anyone in the community who is not attending secondary school.

Speak to Sue about making an appointment.

\*Booking times are available every second Wednesday in Term time 4-7 pm.

## Healesville Living and Learning Centre's Committee of Management

are searching for interested and skilled people to join them. The committee meets second Wednesday of the month. Interested people should contact the manager or one of the committee members listed below

### Committee of Management Membership 2005

Ken White                      Sharolyn Devitt  
Janet Goodwin              Marie Swincer  
Alan Holman

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## Farewell To Tutors

It was with mixed feelings that we farewelled our beloved art tutor Shane Merry in May. Shane was originally dragged out of retirement to tutor a Further Ed: Art Studies class back in 2000. He was such a popular tutor that there was always a waiting list for his classes. Known for his beret, silk shirts, cigars, (and occasionally a cape) Shane had a unique ability to intuitively understand each individual student. He was a man with strong opinions, a wicked sense of humour, a great store of stories and anecdotes, but always a gentleman in the true sense of the word. Shane has relocated to Castlemaine where I don't doubt he will immerse himself in the rich cultural life of that town. He will be missed greatly by those he has inspired, but none of us could deny him this well earned retirement. We are fortunate that our very popular Thursday art tutor, Richard Granville Smith has consented to take over the Friday art class.



Another big blow to us is the announcement by Chris Hamnett, our I.T tutor, that he is no longer able to juggle the demands of his business with his teaching responsibilities. Chris has been with us for more years than I can remember, and probably more than he himself cares to remember! He has been a committed and popular tutor for all those years, as well as contributing in many other ways to the day to day running of the Centre. Chris will remain until the middle of term 3, and will then concentrate on his I.T business. Another gentleman, we will certainly miss Chris and his professionalism, wealth of experience, and his abiding good humour. We wish him every success and hope that he will drop in and see us from time to time.

## The Real Robbie Schuurman

By Laura Hickey - Work Experience Student

Robbie has been working at the Healesville Living and Learning Centre for two months and has come to us from Upper Yarra Secondary College. She considers us to be a nurturing community environment where she loves to work. Her responsibility is in the finance and administrative area, while helping out with the invoices and enrolments.

"I love to help out anyone who needs it, it's part of who I am," says Robbie. Her childhood was very different to the way she lives now. To begin with there was not very much money but she always had a loving family although the odd bit of sibling rivalry was ever present. She now has two boys of her own, Daniel who is 22 and

is studying International Relations at Melbourne University, and Evan who has recently been travelling and has gone on to study at Latrobe University. She enjoys meeting people, loves to travel, doing the odd bit of gardening and renovation, and is even a little

bit of a Latino dancer. Robbie says that in 3 years time she hopes to teach English as a second language.

A good natured and friendly person, when asked to describe herself in three words she suggested "Organised, Friendly and Logical" and we would happily agree.



## Durwood's Story



In previous newsletters I have written about my experience with Durwood as we have worked on literacy skills together. Durwood is training to be a volunteer firefighter and it was this that motivated him to improve his reading and writing abilities. In addition to his regular brigade training, Durwood completed a course last year to extend his computer and language skills. He was also awarded a certificate for "Most Improved New Firefighter" in term 4. This term we have both been attending other courses so we have suspended our sessions for the time being.

Working with Durwood and seeing his rapid progress made me realize that I needed more skills in order to continue extending his learning opportunities. When I enquired about volunteer training at the Healesville Living and Learning Centre they directed me to the Certificate IV in Assessment and Workplace Training. I hadn't thought about enrolling in a formal training course, but having discussed it with staff there (including the vocational guidance officer) it seemed like a sensible step to take. I am passionate about working with people who want to improve their reading and writing skills, and gaining the Certificate IV will help me towards that goal. I have continued to attend Creative Writing classes even though I don't aspire to be a published author. I enjoy the support and encouragement of the tutor (Jenni Overend) and the group as a whole and it's good to have a challenge that takes me outside my comfort zone. I took forward to resuming sessions with Durwood and perhaps meeting some new learners later in the year.

**-By Sandy Clinton  
Volunteer Tutor**



## Music



Our Music Industry Skills program started in term 2 with an Intro to Live Sound. The students so far are really enjoying their course, and as practicing musicians, are keen to see regular Jam sessions here at the Centre. We are looking for a responsible adult to facilitate these sessions – so if you think that you might like to do this, and get this project off the ground, we would be happy to support such a venture. There are certainly plenty of examples in other communities of similar successful Jam sessions and gatherings of musicians, so it would be nice for local musicians to have the opportunity to interact and enjoy each others company.



## What's happening in the program area?

As you browse through the latest program brochure, I hope that you will find something that fills your needs, or appeals to you as a leisure activity. We are careful to offer a broad range of activities that will fulfil the needs of local residents.

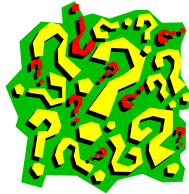
We see these needs as being; Training aimed at entering or re-entering the workforce, training to enhance existing job skills; health and fitness activities, personal development, special interest activities, social opportunities, community building activities. In delivering all or any of these programs, we are acutely aware that a community that is engaged in meaningful activity is a healthy community.

So look through the brochure carefully, participate in an activity, keep your mind and body active, tell your friends and acquaintances what a great place the centre is to be, and let us know if you require any special activities that we might be able to help you with.

**-Karen Meuleman, Program Co-Coordinator**

### Did You Know?....

1. Barbie's full name is Barbara Milicent Roberts.
2. It is impossible to lick your elbow.
3. A crocodile can't stick out its tongue.
4. A Shrimp's heart is in its head.
5. In a study of 200,000 ostriches over a period of 80 years, no one reported a single case where an ostrich buried its head in the sand (or attempted to do so).
6. A pregnant goldfish is called a "Twit".
7. The "sixth sick sheik's sixth sheep's sick" is said to be the toughest tongue twister in the English language.



### News In Brief

HLLC has received state government funding to deliver vocational training programs to the indigenous community.

The Shire of Yarra Ranges, community grant for a HLLC and Healesville Environment Watch partnership to deliver environmental education programs will end on June 30th.

The Centre has been successful in securing a Learnscope grant, in partnership with Morrison House and Coonara to train tutors and other Centre staff in the use of E-Learning resources.

Welcome to our new volunteers Reiko Okumara, Pat Carey and Taya Ceff. Thank you and farewell to Pip Yow, who is taking a short break and Trish Crowley who is retiring.

### 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

Congratulations to Helen Waixel and Sean O'Sullivan for receiving life memberships at the AGM.

Thank you to retiring committee members Sean O'Sullivan and Fiona Mawson

If you're quick you can check out our display in the Healesville Library between 14th-25th June



## Membership Application Form

Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Given Name/s: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Post Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work) \_\_\_\_\_ (Mobile) \_\_\_\_\_

D.O.B: \_\_\_\_\_ M / F \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership for 2005:

(01/01/05—31/01/06)

**Amount: \$2.20 or \$11.00**

Ordinary      Membership Plus

**Date Paid:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Receipt No:** \_\_\_\_\_