



Williamstown
Community
and Education
Centre Inc

Newsletter July 2025

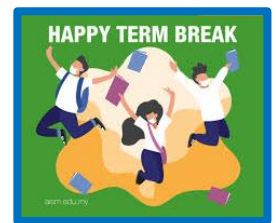
**Joan Kirner House Williamstown, Spotswood Community House,
and Altona North Community House.**

**For Members, Committee, Staff, Volunteers, Students, Stakeholders, Centre users,
Partners, Sponsors and Our Community.**


What's Coming Up?

- Wednesday July 2, 23 and 30. **FREE! Willy Walking Group.** From 10.15 am to 11.00 am, starting at Joan Kirner House. Sponsored by Mobil.
- Wednesday July 2, 23 and 30. **FREE! Community Morning Tea.** Joan Kirner House at 11.00 am. Sponsored by Mobil. All welcome!
- Friday July 4. Last day of **Term Two.**
- July 5 to July 20. **Term break.**
- Monday July 21. First day of **Term Three.**
- Wednesday July 23. **FREE! Welcome to Semester Two BBQ.** 12.15 pm at Joan Kirner House. All welcome!
- **NEW!** Thursdays 6.00 pm to 9.00 pm. **Da Silva Inner Circle.** Joan Kirner House. Details below.
- **NEW!** Friday afternoons 12.45 pm to 1.45 pm. **AA Meetings** at Spotswood Community House. Call Anthea on 0402 902 414 for more details.
- Tuesdays 12.30pm to 3.00pm at Spotswood Community House. **Conversation Class.** Sponsored by Melbourne Airport. Call Lynne on 03 9397 6168.

Mobil




Gardening Workshop at Joan Kirner House.



ABOUT US

Da Silva Inner Circle is creating a safe, supportive space where people can gather to find clarity and solutions through Awareness, Silva Method and Energy Healings.



GET IN TOUCH

MOBILE NUMBER:

0423 492 933
(Natalie)

or

0423 515 807
(Eddie)

EMAIL ADDRESS:
alphainnercircle3000@gmail.com

WELCOME TO

DA SILVA INNER CIRCLE

WCEC
14 Thompson Street
WILLIAMSTOWN



NEW!
At Joan Kirner House.





WHAT TO EXPECT:

- ✦ Guided Silva meditations
- ✦ Energy healing intentions
- ✦ Deep inner relaxation
- ✦ Supportive, soulful community
- ✦ Techniques to enhance intuition and wellness



BOOK YOUR SEAT FOR THE NEXT SESSION

For information on pricing and availability, feel free to reach out to us via email at alphainnercircle3000@gmail.com
Natalie 0423 492 933 and Eddie 0423 515 807.



Aerospeakers Toastmasters Club

Speak clearly, Communicate confidently, Engage effectively

What great skills!

These are the skills that Toastmasters teaches.

Speak confidently at work, with friends or in a public place

Serve your community with confidence.

Aerospeakers is a club that has grown

out of a vision

to provide the growing West

with a public speaking and leadership club

When: First and third Thursday of each month
Where: Laverton Community Hub, Railway Avenue, Laverton
Time: 7.00 pm until 9.00 pm
Contact: admin-3028500@toastmastersclubs.org or 0474 498 052

BIG GROUP HUG
CHILDREN'S CHARITY

We're supporting
Winter Warmers

Keeping kids warm, cozy, and comfy
We're collecting winter clothing for disadvantaged kids (ages 6-16 most needed), including:

- long sleeve shirts
- pants
- jumpers
- Bassinet, cot, and single bed sheets, blankets, doona covers and new doonas
- beanies
- scarves
- winter pyjamas
- jackets/coats

Learn more!

Contact: _____
biggrouphug.org









NAIDOC FLAG RAISING
THURSDAY 10 JULY, 11 AM


WELCOME TO COUNTRY AND SMOKING CEREMONY BY BUNURONG LAND COUNCIL
Live Music: James Henry
Followed by morning tea
No registrations required.
All welcome.

Flag poles outside Civic Centre,
115 Civic Parade, Altona.

 **THE NEXT GENERATION: STRENGTH, VISION & LEGACY**
6-13 JULY 2025

PROUDLY SUPPORTING NAIDOC 2025
NAIDOC is a national celebration of Indigenous culture and achievement. It is a time to recognize the strength, vision and legacy of Indigenous Australians and pay our respects to Elders past and present.

 **HOBSONS BAY CITY COUNCIL**





Next pop-up session at Altona North Library on July 14.



IPC Health Care Finder Service

IPC Health's Care Finder Service helps older people without close support find the right aged care services.

Our care finders will talk to you about your needs and support you throughout the process of accessing aged care services, including My Aged Care.

We can help you find services like:

- Personal care
- Meal preparation
- Shopping
- Gardening and home maintenance
- Transport
- In home nursing or health care
- Allied health
- Community or social activities

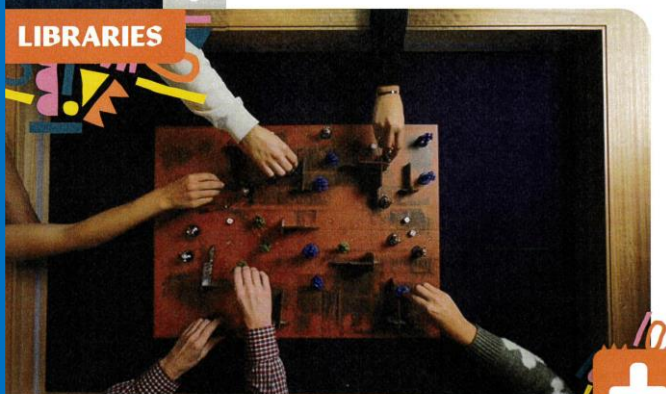
Want to know more? Join us for a cup of tea at one of our pop-ups:

- **Seabrook Community Centre** - Tuesday 17 June, 10am to 12pm
15 Truganina Avenue, Seabrook 3028
- **Altona North Library** - Monday, 14 July, 10am to 12pm
Cnr Millers and McArthurs Roads, Altona North 3025
- **Newport Library** - Tuesday 19 August, 10am to 12pm
11-13 Mason Street, Newport 3015
- **Altona Library** - Friday 19 September, 10am to 12pm
123 Queen Street, Altona 3018
- **Williamstown Library** - Friday 19 September, 10am to 12pm
104 Ferguson Street, Williamstown 3016
- **Altona Meadows Library** - Wednesday 12 November, 10am to 12pm
2 Newham Way, Altona Meadows 3028

You can also contact the IPC Health Care Finder Service on 1300 895 589 or at carefinders@ipchealth.com.au

Council +

LIBRARIES



GAMES, CARDS AND CONVERSATION TUESDAYS

Do you like playing games?

Whether you're a 500 fan, a Canasta champ, or just curious to learn, from word games like Scrabble, strategy games like Sequence, Triominos and classic favourites like Rummikub and Azul, this is your day to play.

Bookings not required.

Ages 12+

**Tuesdays
10am to 12pm**

Altona North Community Library

Bookings not required.



Scan me
for more
information

Hobsons Bay
COUNCIL

Hobsons Bay
LIBRARIES

HOBSON'S
BAY CITY
COUNCIL



LOUIS JOEL
ARTS & COMMUNITY

03 9398 2511

Here to Help

Wednesdays 1pm - 3.30pm

Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre; 5 Sargood Street, Altona

Do you or someone you know need help with:

- Sorting out a bill
- Making an online payment
- Setting up an account eg: Email address, MyGov, Centrelink, Medicare, Gmail, Paypal, etc.
- Linking services within MyGov
- VicRoads Registration Renewal
- Or anything of a similar nature



On Wednesdays from 1pm - 3.30pm we can help you organize things you may need support with.



Dione is a third-year Social Work student doing her placement at Louis Joel and can support people to navigate the systems that surround us.

To book in with Dione, please call the centre on **9398 2511** or send an email to student@ljac.com.au to see if Dione can help you or point you in the right direction.

Please be aware that this is not casework and no personal information about you will be kept on file at Louis Joel Arts & Community.

www.ljac.com.au






FREE

Monthly Social Group
For Young Males
AGED 10-17

A Safe Space For Young Autistic Males To Connect, Have Fun & Make Friends.

We're excited to launch a free social group for young autistic males starting this August! Enjoy fun activities like Minecraft and LEGO, with dinner included, all in a supportive space to build friendships. The program happens once a month on a Thursday, and is open to anyone who identifies as autistic.

• Only 15 spots are available, so register early!

Remember the Day & Time

Thursday, 5:00PM - 8:00PM

Laverton Community Education Centre,
No: 12 Crown Street, Laverton VIC 3028



Funded by the Hobson's Bay City Council's Make it Happen Grants

Book Your Spot Now

1300 091 016





**THE NEXT GENERATION:
STRENGTH,
VISION &
LEGACY**
6-13 JULY 2025

JOIN US

Community Planting & Cultural Celebration

Wednesday, 9 July, 2025

Starts 9:30am - Ends 12:30pm

Millennium House Community Centre
296 Nicholson Street, Seddon VIC 3011

Join us for a morning of cultural connection and community spirit at our **NAIDOC 2025 Community Planting and Cultural Celebration**. This community event is a collaboration between **Australian Multicultural Community Services (AMCS)/ Volunteer West**, and **Friends of Maribyrnong Valley**, with generous support from **Maribyrnong City Council**.

We are proud to be guided by **Helen Farquhar**, a First Nations woman and long-time partner, who continues to share her cultural wisdom and support.

Welcome to Country & Smoking Ceremony

Community Planting & Indigenous Plant Knowledge
Guided by Friends of Maribyrnong Valley, with support from Maribyrnong Council's Parks and Gardens Team.

First Nations Inspired Arts & Crafts
Facilitated by Helen Farquhar

Free Sausage Sizzle
Provided by AMCS
**Subject to availability*







Welcome to Bendigo Bank, Community Bank Altona & Laverton

We put the needs of our customers and our community at the heart of what we do

- We offer quality banking products
- Local branches and friendly staff
- Secure and safe online banking tools
- Consistently rated Australia's most trusted bank*
- Competitive rates
- Wide product range
- Banking made easy - in branch and mobile
- Free financial health checks

Products and services to meet your needs

- | | |
|--------------|----------------|
| Home loans | Personal loans |
| Accounts | Business |
| Credit Cards | Insurance |
| Travel money | Investing |
| Agribusiness | Car loans |



Contact our banking & lending team

Senior Branch Manager
Daniela Guertler
0402 609 502

Lending Manager
Belle Meynell
0417 809 295

Mobile Lending Manager
Philip Stewart
0411 436 996

Bendigo Bank

*Roy Morgan Research

Altona Branch
64 Pier Street, Altona
9398 8922

Laverton Branch
3/28 Aviation Rd, Laverton
9369 8455

Proud sponsors of our **Bridging the Digital Divide** initiative.



Bridging the Digital Divide

Free!

Need help completing online admin?

One on one assistance.

Online payments, MyGov, Medicare, email, Centrelink, VicRoads, bills, medical, service providers, etc.



We are here to help.

Call Lara on **03 9397 6168** or email operations@wcec.com.au

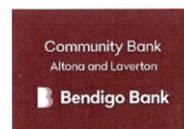
to make an appointment at –

Joan Kirner House, Williamstown. Monday and Friday mornings.

Or

Altona North Community House. Thursday mornings.

This initiative is made possible through the generous funding from -

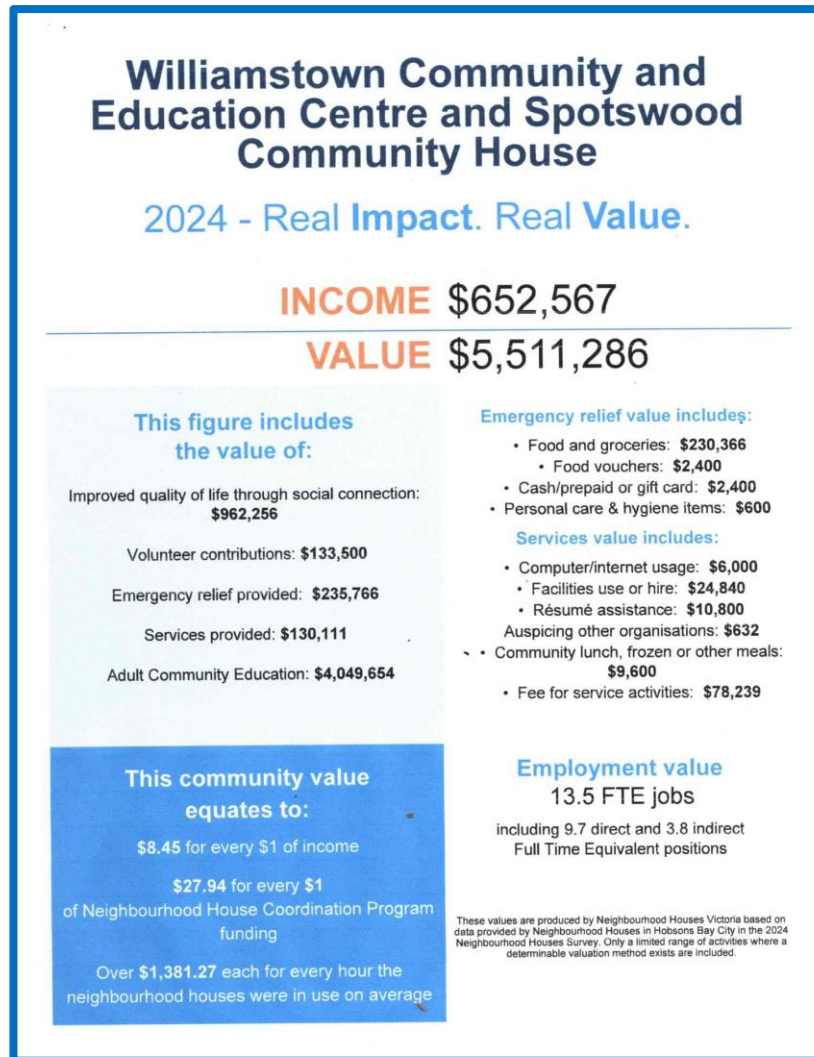


Joan Kirner House Williamstown, Spotswood Community House, and Altona North Community House
9397 6168 admin@wcec.com.au ABN: 67 864 341 860 Inc. Ass. Reg. No: A0014000T

What's been happening?

Neighbourhood Houses Victoria survey.

Includes Altona North Community House.



Newmark Primary School Williamstown social project.
Learning about the rich cultural diversity within our local community.





Spotswood Community House members (from left) Pei Ling Wan, Abdullah Nemah, Diane Ryan, Julia Marrallano and Lynne Hewet with a new garden bed built as part of efforts to rejuvenate the house on Melbourne Road. (Ljubica Vrankovic) 474590_01

Spotswood Community House comeback

The Williamstown Community and Education Centre (WCEC) is renowned for the help it provides to people in Hobsons Bay and now that help is extending to other community centres too.

After receiving a grant from the Melbourne Airport Authority, the WCEC has set about rejuvenating the Spotswood Community House on Melbourne Road which has endured a tough few years.

WCEC's education co-ordinator Lynn Hewet is leading the rejuvenation efforts and explained why the Spotswood Community House needed their help.

"It's (the community house) between Spotswood Primary School and the new Union Quarter development and while that building was happening, there was a lot of upheaval, there was dirt, there was dust, there was traffic and it just meant a lot of the programs running at Spotswood had to be relocated," said Ms Hewet.

"And it was on the back of Covid so it meant numbers dropped dramatically."

Many of the programs that relocated from Spotswood went to WCEC and are now being sent back, including English language classes, boat license classes,

art groups for people with disabilities and a playgroup that supports parents of children with disabilities.

Having started the rejuvenation efforts in October last year, Ms Hewet said good progress had been made, but they still had a way to go to get numbers attending the Spotswood Community House back to where they used to be.

"At its peak we were probably having 80 to 100 through a week and at the moment we 30 to 40 so we've still got a way to go." Details: <https://www.williamstown-spotswoodcc.org.au/>

Reconciliation week to recognise the past. present

Colours and Candles Workshop



Contact Liza Rose for details of her next session.

<https://www.lizarosefloristry.com/>



‘Cultivating Community’ Gardening Workshops at Joan Kirner House.



Westside Art Studio.



We have had our Studio Showcase at the Newport Hub and Library for the past month - “Night Vision”.

It celebrates the nightlife of nocturnal animals: native Australian animals (Boobook owls) and introduced (foxes, bunnies).

Kids, teens and adult art classes at Joan Kirner House.
Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Contact Shelley on 0478 074 075 for more details.

<https://www.westsidearts.com.au/>



National Volunteers Week tribute display.



A big thank you to not only our dedicated and skilled volunteers, but also **Hobsons Bay City Council** for their gift of plants to volunteers, and **Melissa Horne MP** for her 'Certificate of Appreciation' to our volunteers.



Hobsons Bay Community Fund 2025 Business Lunch.



Our President Sonja Ilievska, and Committee member Jonathan Grima, represented our Centre at this annual event on June 13.

Pictured here with new HBCF Chair, Pamela Sutton - Legaud (former HBCC Councillor).



Manager's Musings

Message from Big Group Hug.



We're running desperately low on warm children's coats this winter, especially sizes 6 to 16.

Every week, families reach out to us for help and right now we simply don't have enough to meet the growing need.

If you have good quality children's coats at home, please consider donating them.

2-28 Goddard St, Tarneit.

Opening Hours:

- *Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm*
 - *First Saturday of the month, 10.00 am – 12.00 pm*
-

I recently did a short-written survey with participants at our **Wednesday Community Morning Tea**.

Attendees normally include those returning from the **Willy Walking Group**, as well as EAL and Computer students going to morning break, and 'drop ins'.

We received 26 responses. Over 50 per cent noted that they were doing other activities at the centre (classes, programs, courses, etc).

The overwhelming majority of the participants enjoyed both the walk and morning tea.

They liked –

- Ability to walk at own pace.
- Comradeship.
- Exercise.
- Catch up for a chat.
- Social activity.
- Meeting new people.
- Companionship.
- Friendly staff.
- The fruit and cakes.
- Generous amounts of food.
- Warm interaction.
- Meeting others.
- Being with others.
- Practice English speaking.



There were very few 'dislikes'.

A few wanted more food, and a few wanted less food. Very difficult to keep everyone happy!

While this project focuses on simple weekly activities, its impact goes far beyond a walk or a cup of tea.

It creates an inclusive, welcoming space that brings together people from different ages, cultures, and life experiences.

Importantly, this project builds community connection and trust.

These informal gatherings serve as an entry point into broader engagement with education, volunteering, and local services offered by our Centre and partners.

Thanks to Mobil, who have sponsored these initiatives for the past 12 months.



Important information for all paid staff

New Neighbourhood Houses and Adult Community Education Centres Collective Agreement 2024.

The Agreement has been signed off by the Fair Work Commission.

The Agreement includes a list of employers who have been accepted by the Fair Work decision and some additional minor changes.

[You can see the agreement and the comparison here.](#)

There is a hard copy at reception at Joan Kirner House and a link on our website under 'About Us' to an electronic copy.

Thanks.

Mark.

Dr Mark Brophy PhD
Manager / CEO.
Williamstown Community and Education Centre Inc.
manager@wcec.com.au
03 9397 6168.

