



Williamstown
Community
and Education
Centre Inc

Newsletter

September 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?

- September 1 to 8. **Adult Learners Week**. Details [HERE](#).
- Wednesday September 3. **FREE Adult Learners Week BBQ Lunch**. Joan Kirner House at 12.00. All welcome!
- Wednesday September 3, 10, and 17. **FREE! Willy Walking Group**. Sponsored by the Hobsons Bay Community Fund. From 10.15 am to 11.00 am, starting at Joan Kirner House.
- Wednesday September 3, 10, and 17. **FREE! Community Morning Tea**. Joan Kirner House at 11.00 am. All welcome!
- Saturday September 13. **DIY Wedding Florals Workshop**. Joan Kirner House, by Liza Rose, The Rose Buffet. Details below.
- Saturday September 20. **Flower Styling for Beginners Workshop**. Joan Kirner House, by Liza Rose, The Rose Buffet. Details below.
- September 20 to October 5. **Term break**. Houses open again on Monday October 6.
- **NEW!** Mondays 7.00 pm. Joan Kirner House. **OZ / WEG / MJ Weight Loss Support Group**. Details below.
- **Food Relief** at Joan Kirner House in Williamstown. **Mondays and Fridays 10.00 am to 1.00 pm** (Ask for Tahlia), and at Altona North Community House on **Thursdays 9.00 am to 12.30 pm** (Ask for Lara).
- **Donations to our Food Relief** can be made at Joan Kirner House, or at collection bins near the checkouts at Woolworths in Altona North and Spotswood, as well as Coles in Williamstown.
- **\$100 Power Saving Bonus** for concession card holders. Details below.



Proud sponsor for the 'Creating social change and diversity category' for the **2025 Hobsons Bay Business Excellence Awards**. More details below.





NEW DIY WEDDING FLORALS WITH A GLASS OF BUBBLY WORKSHOP

Let's combine art with nature!

Get ready to unleash your creativity with a unique flower arrangement workshop in Melbourne with local Westie floral designer, Liza Rose, at the Joan Kirner House in Williamstown! In this two and a half-hour workshop, you'll learn the art of creating stunning native floral arrangements under expert guidance.

- Discover valuable tips and tricks for crafting breathtaking bouquets using the freshest, highest-quality flowers available.
- Create your very own masterpiece to take home and showcase your newfound floral arranging skills.



SAT 13TH
SEP 2025



1:30PM -
5:30PM

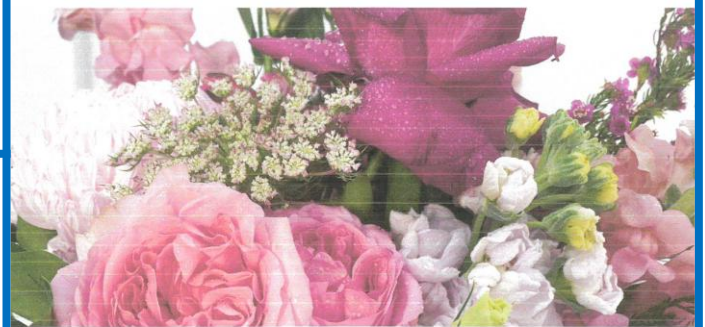


WCC
14 Thompson St,
Williamstown
VIC 3016

Price \$335 per person
Book Now!

www.lizarosefloristry.com

13 September.
At Joan Kirner House.



NEW FLOWER STYLING FOR BEGINNERS WORKSHOP

Let's combine art with nature!

Get ready to unleash your creativity with a unique flower arrangement workshop in Melbourne with local Westie floral designer, Liza Rose, at the Joan Kirner House in Williamstown! In this two and a half-hour workshop, you'll learn the art of creating stunning native floral arrangements under expert guidance.

- Discover valuable tips and tricks for crafting breathtaking bouquets using the freshest, highest-quality flowers available.
- Create your very own masterpiece to take home and showcase your newfound floral arranging skills.



SAT 30TH
AUG 2025



SAT 20TH
SEP 2025



2:00PM -
4:30PM



WCC
14 Thompson St,
Williamstown
VIC 3016

Price \$160 per person
Book Now!

www.lizarosefloristry.com



20 September.
At Joan Kirner House.





OZ/WEG/MJ Weight Loss Support Group

Meetings 7 pm MONDAY weekly
Williamstown Community Education Centre
Joan Kirner House
14 Thompson St
\$5 Group Session (Voluntary Contribution)



ABSTRACT

I have lost nearly 30 kgs since commencing my journey on a semaglutide. I am a healthcare worker – registered nurse and counsellor who has journeyed through her personal battle with weight loss. I have decided to share my knowledge of the medication effects and understanding as a counsellor of the highs and lows of treatment.

This group is for anyone who is battling weight loss, whether on the injection or considering it. It is for sharing your successes and failures in a private group setting, or just showing up to listen. Weight loss and sustaining healthy choices as an emotional eater is one of the toughest journeys I have done. Welcome to my world and the things which maintained my convictions to continue my journey.

Sarah Allard

Enquiries: 0439 972074



NEW!
At Joan Kirner House.



The new **\$100 Power Saving Bonus** for Victorian concession card holders is now open.

To apply for the \$100 payment, applicants will need to hold an eligible concession card, have a recent electricity bill and be the account holder.

Only one payment is available per household.



Call Tahlia on 03 9397 6168 to make an appointment at Joan Kirner House to process your payment.

\$100 POWER SAVING BONUS

FOR ELIGIBLE CONCESSION CARD HOLDERS

VISIT YOUR LOCAL
PARTICIPATING
NEIGHBOURHOOD
HOUSE FOR
ASSISTANCE



FIND OUT MORE:
NHVIC.ORG.AU/PSB



FREE!
At **Newport Community Hub.**
Lunch included.



COMMUNITY FORUM

Saturday 11 Oct 2025

10:30am - 1:00pm

Newport Community Hub

13 Mason St Newport

Or online via Zoom

IT'S FREE

A LIGHT LUNCH INCLUDED

To Register:

CLICK HERE



parkando.west@gmail.com

Do you or a loved one have Parkinson's?

Discover the latest research and treatments at our upcoming event!

SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

Prof. David Finkelstein
Florey Institute, Melbourne
Latest Parkinson's Research

Dr. Melissa Tang
Neurologist – Deep Brain Stimulation

Emma Collin, CEO
Fight Parkinson's

Coral Wilkinson
Navigating My Aged Care

A Carer's Perspective
Our journey so far...

Interactive Q & A with speakers

Supported by



Made possible by:
Hobsons Bay City Council through it's Make it Happen Grants.



Join our mailing list
for information & updates



LET'S MAKE HOBSONS BAY DEMENTIA FRIENDLY



We are a volunteer group of local community members, people living with dementia, carers, small business owners, and healthcare professionals who are working together to build a dementia friendly Hobsons Bay.

Get in touch - we'd love to hear how we can best support you!



hbdementiasoaringfalcons@gmail.com



[hobsonsbay.dementia.alliance](https://www.facebook.com/hobsonsbay.dementia.alliance)

FREE!
Starting
September 4.
At **Walker
Close
Community
Centre.**




**Walker Close
Community Centre**

SPRING THEME
ART & CRAFT

*Community
in Bloom*

FREE WORKSHOPS

A 10-week creative
journey celebrating
spring, wellbeing and
Indigenous culture.

1:00 - 3:00 PM - THURSDAYS

FROM 4TH SEPTEMBER -
NOVEMBER 2025

Workshop Highlights

- Spring-inspired arts & crafts
- Indigenous cultural themes
- Hands-on activities: painting, crafting, storytelling
- Refreshment & community celebration



Location & Register:

Walker Close Community Center
180 Millers Road
Altona North, Vic 3025
☎ (03) 9318 0521



- Boost wellbeing and creativity
- Connect with others in your community
- Learn about Indigenous culture and native plants
- Free participation – all materials provided



Ten-week program running over September, October and November.

**SUMMARY OF THE 10-WEEK
SPRING-THEMED WORKSHOPS**








Week 1: 4th Sep 2025
Blooming Beginnings: Painting indigenous art/plants/flowers on canvas.

Week 2: 11th Sep 2025
Tote-ally Spring: Painting spring-inspired designs on tote bags with indigenous theme art features.

Week 3: 18th Sep 2025
Nature's Stamps Greeting Cards for your dearest: Creating stamps from leaves/flowers to print on cards.

Week 4: 25th Sep 2025
Garden Art: Making Spring wind-chimes for your gardens.

Week 5: 9th Oct 2025
"Spring bloom bookmark": Crafting transparent bookmarks with Indigenous Flowers/leaves, perfect for books and gifts.

**SUMMARY OF THE 10-WEEK
SPRING-THEMED WORKSHOPS**

Week 6: 16th Oct 2025
Handmade Scented Sachets - Little gifts to your neighbours/loved ones.

Week 7: 23rd Oct 2025
Butterfly & Bee Crafts Magnets.

Week 8: 30th Oct 2025
Garden Rock Decoration: paint small rocks with flowers / rainbows / bees / butterflies.

Week 9: 6th Nov 2025
"Kindness Tree-Wall Art": A collaborative painting and decorating wall art with positive messages displayed at the centre.

Week 10: 13th Nov 2025
Showcase & Celebration: Displaying artworks small gathering with music and light refreshment



Community Bank Bowls Comp

Saturday 13 September, 12noon

Altona Sports Bowls Club, 11 Altona Rd, Seaholme

Arrive by 11.45pm to play from 12pm. Cost \$5

New to bowls? Come from 11.15am for free coaching!!

Enjoy:

- ☑ Half-time refreshments
- 🏆 Great prizes & recognition awards

A relaxed, social vibe – on and off the pitch!

RSVP – Book Your Spot:

- 📧 bowls@altonasportsclub.com.au
- 📞 Text Caroline at Altona Sports Club Bowls on 0468 478 183 or Lisa at Community Bank Altona and Laverton on 0448 993 441

Community Bank
Altona and Laverton



Lending Manager
Belle Meynell
☎ 0417 809 295

Altona Branch
64 Pier Street, Altona
☎ 0398 8922

Mobile Lending Manager
Philip Stewart
☎ 0411 436 996

Laverton Branch
3/28 Aviation Rd, Laverton
☎ 0369 8455

Need help with your home loan or banking? Contact one of our team or visit us:

A partnership event between the Community Bank - Altona and Laverton & Altona Sports B

13 September.
At Altona Sports Bowls Club.



FREE!
September 1 to 5.
Women's Health Week.



WOMEN'S HEALTH WEEK

1-5 September 2025

Heart Foundation Walking and Jean Hailes Foundation is teaming up with the organisers behind Mighty West Walkers for Women's Health Week.

This is Australia's largest event that focuses on the health and wellbeing of all women and girls.

The 2025 theme is 'Say yes to you'

Events in Hobsons Bay

Monday 1 September
Altona Beach
Meet at Altona Pier, 9.30am

Wednesday 3 September
Skeleton Creek
Meet at Jolly Miller Cafe, 9.30am
(Central Square Shopping Centre, Altona Meadows)

Friday 5 September
Botanical Gardens Williamstown
Meet at Main Gate, 9.30am

Got any questions? Get in touch: 0441 466 862

Jean Hailes is supported by Funding from the Australian Government

womenshealthweek.com.au

Artwork by Tami Bower



Join us twice a month on a Tuesday from
1-2:30pm at Williamstown Library.
Details at our **Bearcraft Creations** fb page.



Williamstown Trauma Teddy group.
Meetings at **Williamstown Library**.



More details [HERE](#).

**Williamstown Primary School
Seaside Fair.**



WILLIAMSTOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL
SEASIDE FAIR
Sunday, November 23, 2025

CALLING ALL GREEN THUMBS

The Plant Stall at the Willy Primary Seaside Fair is a firm favourite with visitors to the Fair, and an integral element of the fundraising. All items for sale on the plant stall are grown and donated by the community.



Ways you can get involved:


- Growing and donating plants and seedlings between now and November
- Donating spare pots
- Are you landscaping your garden and digging out plants or trees? Let us know! We can store and nurture them!
- Be a Spotter! Look out for plants and pots being given away on the nature strip, or via local social media pages. Again, we can store these until the Fair if you don't have space or time to look after them.
- Plants / Trees / Seedlings / Shrubs / Pots

Please drop off home grown plants to Willy Primary School on Saturday 22nd November 2025, or by prior arrangement.

KEEP UP TO DATE OR GET INVOLVED IN THE FUN TODAY!
 /willyprimaryseasidefair
 seasidefair@williamstownps.vic.edu.au
 www.seasidefair.williamstownps.vic.edu.au

THANK YOU TO OUR PLATINUM SPONSOR
Jellis Craig

Council 
LIBRARIES 



LIBRARIES ON LOCATION
WALKER CLOSE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Visit our pop-up library at your favorite Walker Close Community Centre. Come and play board games. Get tech help. Research your family history.


Discover all the free things you can do with your library card. It's fun, free, friendly and just around the corner. Drop in and join the fun!

Each session will have a different focus:





- Tuesday 19 August - Mahjong, games and conversation
- Tuesday 16 September - Introduction to libraries

Tuesday 19 August
Tuesday 16 September
10am to 12pm

Walker Close Community Centre
Bookings not required



[Scan for more information](#)

FREE!
16 September.
Libraries on location.
Walker Close Community Centre.
Altona North.



Operation Christmas Child is a project of **Samaritan's Purse**, an international relief organisation whose mission is to provide local partners around the world with shoeboxes filled with small toys, hygiene items, and school supplies as a means of reaching out to children in their own communities.



They ship these simple gifts to children affected by war, poverty, natural disaster, famine, and disease.

Boxes can be dropped off at the **Altona Meadows Community Centre** between 8.00 am and 12.00, Monday to Friday.
28 Trafalgar Ave, Altona Meadows.
03 9315 8244.

More details [HERE](#).

SHOEBOX GIFT SUGGESTIONS 

GIFTS FOR GIRLS

A "WOW" ITEM

- Doll
- Soccer ball or football and pump
- Stuffed animal
- Musical instrument
- Dress-ups – crown, fairy wands etc

PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

- Comb or brush
- Toothbrush
- Washcloth
- Fun band aids
- Eating utensils
- Water bottle
- Nail clipper and file
- Small blanket

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

- Pencils and sharpener
- Pencil case
- Erasers
- Pens
- Crayons
- Markers
- Notebooks
- Index cards
- Calculator
- Scissors
- Small ruler
- Glue stick
- Small sticky tape

CLOTHING & ACCESSORIES

- Clothing and undergarments
- Shoes
- Sunglasses
- Bags, backpacks, or purses
- Hair accessories
- Hats
- Wristwatch or jewellery
- Toys with extra packaged batteries

CRAFTS & ACTIVITIES

- Puzzles
- Binoculars
- Chalkboard and chalk
- Skipping rope
- Coloring books or pads
- Dry watercolour set
- Playdough
- Stickers
- Craft kits or colourful rope/twine
- Books or picture books
- Sewing kit
- Gardening kit/gloves
- Card Games

TOYS

- Balls – tennis ball, bouncy balls,
- Frisbee®
- Building blocks
- Finger puppets
- Slinky®
- Yo-yo
- Kaleidoscope
- Cars, trucks and boats
- Interactive toys
- Other small toys and figures
- Small kite
- Water guns (that don't look like weapons)
- Playing cards

PERSONAL NOTE

Include a note to the child and a photo of yourself, your family, or group.
*Samaritan's Purse encourages Operation Christmas Child shoebox donors to include a personal note in each shoebox gift.

DO NOT INCLUDE


- *SOAP***
 - Food, lilies, chocolate, or gum
 - Toiletries
 - Second-hand, used or damaged items or clothing
 - Scary or war-related items – toy guns, knives, wearable camouflage clothing, military figures, skull and crossbones, Halloween items
 - Seeds or organic matter
- Liquids – shampoo, bubbles, or liquid paint
- Medication or vitamins
- Play Money
- Breakable items – glass, porcelain or clay
- Matches, fire starters, or aerosols
- Knives, saws, or razor blades
- Bibles, religious material, or tracts (children receive OCC's The Greatest Gift booklet at the Outreach Event)

*Due to increasing customs regulations and challenges in many countries, all types of soap will NO longer be allowed in shoebox gifts starting in 2025.



1 September.
Coffee with a Cop.
 Jetset Café. Laverton.



Also, 2 September.

 10.00 am to 12.00 at
 Piccolo One, 2/12 Douglas Parade,
 Williamstown.



19 September.
Pop-up session at **Altona Library**.



IPC Health Care Finder Service

ipc Health

HOBSONS BAY COUNCIL

HOBSONS BAY LIBRARIES

HOBSONS BAY CITY COUNCIL

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



Social Activity Group

FRIDAYS BY THE BAY

10am-1pm • Fortnightly

2025 DATES

11 + 25 JULY
8 + 22 AUGUST
5 + 19 SEPTEMBER
3 + 17 + 31 OCTOBER
14 + 28 NOVEMBER
12 + 19 DECEMBER

For people 18 - 64,
living in Hobsons Bay
who are not
eligible for other
support programs.
Transport can
be provided.

Every second
Friday
with Amanda
Art + craft
Wellbeing activities
Outings
Guest speakers

Light lunch
included
\$6.50



LOUIS JOEL
ARTS & COMMUNITY

HOBSONS
BAY CITY
COUNCIL



For more information
5 Sargood Street
Altona
Phone 9398 2511
admin@ljac.com.au

September 5 and 19.
Louis Joel Arts and Community Centre
in Altona.



What's been happening?

Star Weekly. 13 August 2025. Page 7.



WCEC food relief volunteers Bobby Pearce, Maryann Wenzel and Mary Caldwell next to a food collection bin at Coles in Williamstown. (Ljubica Vrankovic) 494144_01

Checkout the food bins

Grocery shoppers in Hobsons Bay will now notice something different when they approach the supermarket checkout.

Food collection bins have been placed at Coles in Williamstown and Woolworths outlets in Altona North and Spotswood as part of Williamstown Community and Education Centre's (WCEC) food relief program.

Whether doing their weekly supermarket shop or just picking up a few items after work, shoppers can now help those in need too by donating nonperishable food items into the collection bins located next to the checkout area.

The donated items are then packaged in mixed nonperishable food bags and distributed to disadvantaged members of the community by volunteers.

Food relief can also be accessed at the WCEC's headquarters at John Kirner House in Williamstown from 10am to 1pm

on Mondays and Fridays (ask for Tahlia) and at Altona North Community House on Thursdays from 9am to 12.30pm (ask for Lara).

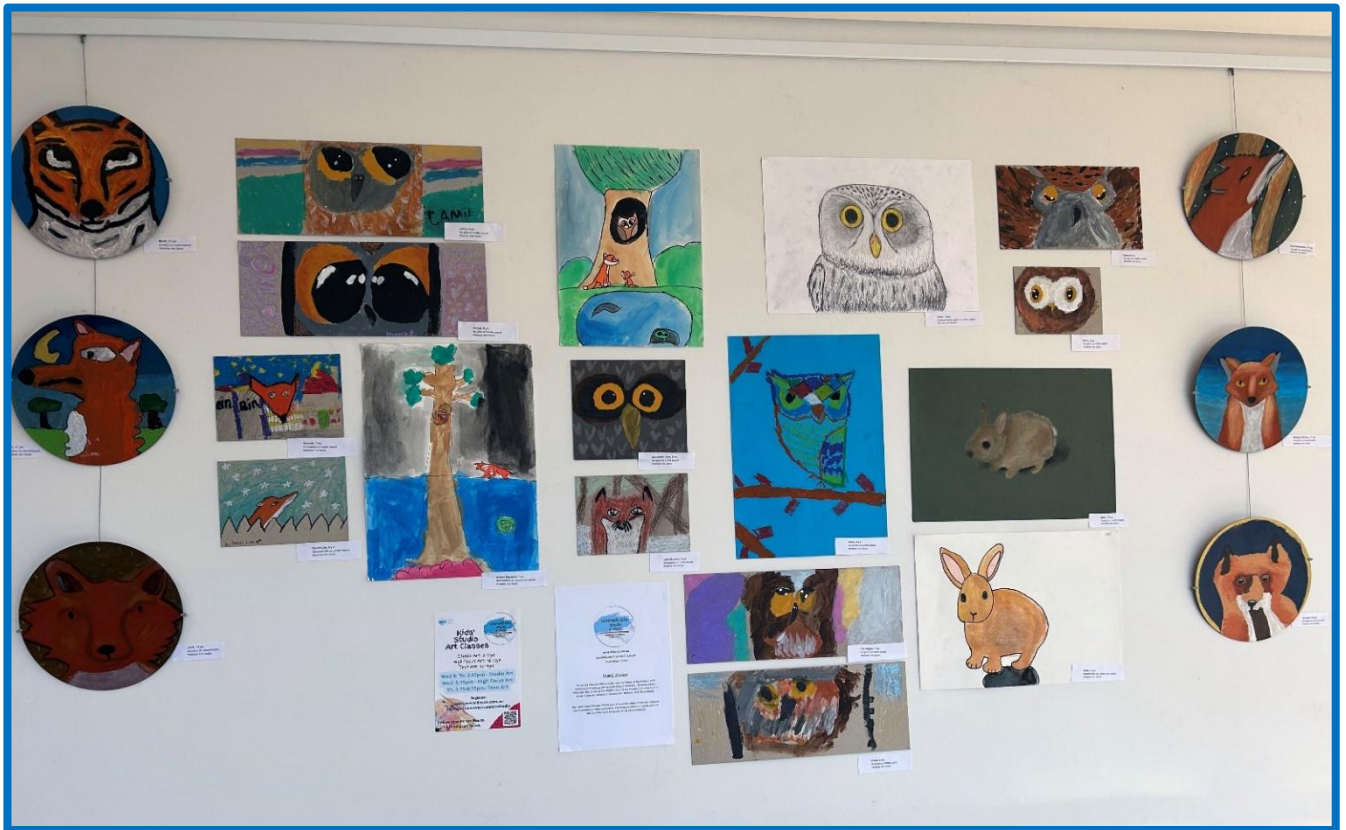
For perishable items, a fruit and vegetable swap is held in the foyer of Joan Kirner House, while fresh bakery items are available there each morning.

"The generosity of locals is outstanding" said WCEC chief executive Dr Mark Brophy of the reason why the organisation had been able to grow and refine its food relief program over the past few years.

"Every donation makes a substantial difference to locals in need."

Dr Brophy also acknowledged local businesses, organisations and not-for-profits who had donated to the program such as the Country Women's Association, Healthcare Foundation, The Village Williamstown, Share the Dignity, Mobil, and EMILY's List.

Westside Arts' Studio Showcase.



Westside Arts' Studio had a library showcase at the Newport Hub in June.

The artworks were created with the theme of Night-Vision with nocturnal and crepuscular animals living in Australia.

Students attend Westside Arts Studio at the WCEC (Joan Kirner House) and come from a range of schools in Spotswood, Yarraville, Newport, and Williamstown. Ages range from five to teens.

We hope these artworks inspire your own conservation efforts and research into Australia's animals and plants. The library is certainly a great place to start to learn more about any of the above animals!

Shelley.

Shelley runs regular art classes at Joan Kirner House for children, teens and adults. For enquiries call her on 0478074 075



Manager's Musings

The finalist for the 'Creating Social Change and Diversity Category' we are sponsoring have been announced.

- [Amarapave](#)
- [Dramawerkz Theatre Inc](#)
- [Laverton Community Integrated Services Inc.](#)
- [RV Legal](#)

Having a look at them all, I think it's going to be a challenge to pick a winner!

More details on the Business Excellence Awards are [HERE](#).

Details of the Gala event on Thursday 23 October, and getting tickets is [HERE](#).

Thanks.

Mark.

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

