



Williamstown
Community
and Education
Centre Inc

Newsletter October 2020

**Joan Kirner House and Spotswood Community House
For Members, Committee, Staff, Volunteers, Students, Parents,
Stakeholders, Centre users, Partners, Sponsors and Our Community**

**2019 HOBSONS BAY
BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARDS
WINNER**



Victorian Training Awards

As mentioned in our previous Newsletter, we are a finalist in the Victorian Training Awards.

Winners were to be announced this month, however due to the pandemic restrictions the announcement of award winners will be delayed.

Winner announcements will be shared over a couple weeks with an 'online web series.

We have tough completion with other finalists, including The Centre for Continuing Education in Wangaratta, as well as Cire Services in Chirnside park, who won this same award last year in 2019.

Proud Principal Partner of the Victorian Training Awards

VICTORIAN TRAINING AWARDS | Adult, Community and Further Education | GAN AUSTRALIA | apprenticeship employment network

#VTA2020 Finalists!

**The Centre for Continuing Education
Cire Services Inc.
Williamstown Community and Education Centre Inc.**

Community Training Provider of the Year Award

THE EDUCATION STATE | VICTORIA

Childcare is reopening!

Due to the easing of restrictions we are restarting childcare in term four from October 6.

We will be offering limited Occasional Care sessions on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, 9.15 am to 12.15 pm for ages one to five years.

Childcare will be operating under very strict Coronavirus protocols.

To find out more or to book call 9397 6168 or email admin@wcec.com.au



The Hon Gayle Tierney MP

Minister for Training and Skills
Minister for Higher Education

2 Treasury Place, East Melbourne
Victoria 3002
Telephone: +61 3 9637 3196

DX 210074

COR 2058235

Mark Brophy
Manager / CEO
Williamstown Community and Education Centre Inc.
Email: manager@wcec.com.au

Dear Mr Brophy

I would like to personally congratulate Williamstown Community and Education Centre Inc. on being named as one of the 2020 Victorian Training Awards Finalists in the Community Training Provider of the Year award category.

Although 2020 has been a challenging year for many due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, these awards continue to recognise the outstanding achievements of vocational education and training students, apprentices, teachers, training providers and employers. They celebrate the best of the best and in a year like this one, celebrating those successes is vitally important.

They also underpin the Victorian Government's Skills First agenda to ensure real training for real jobs and supporting community providers as they continue to support local communities.

Your organisation's nomination as a finalist exemplifies your commitment to your local community and Victoria's vocational education and training sector and I wish you the very best of luck at this year's awards.

Yours sincerely

The Hon Gayle Tierney MP
Minister for Training and Skills
Minister for Higher Education

Date: 11 September 2020

Your details will be dealt with in accordance with the *Public Records Act 1973* and the *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014*. Should you have any queries or wish to gain access to your personal information held by this department please contact our Privacy Officer at the above address.





HOBSONS BAY

WORKING FOR VICTORIA

JOIN THE HOBSONS BAY WORKING FOR VICTORIA TEAM!

Hobsons Bay City Council is partnering with the Victorian Government for their Working for Victoria program.

The program creates more than **130 jobs** within Hobsons Bay and contributes more than \$6million directly into the local economy.

If you are currently unemployed, or your income has been significantly affected by COVID-19 and you want to re-enter the workforce, then find out more and apply for roles at Council at vic.gov.au/workingforvictoria.

What jobs are available?

Jobs offered through the Working for Victoria program will be for six months across a range of areas:

- environment and biodiversity (including tree and conservation reserve planting programs)
- local footpaths and infrastructure maintenance and improvement
- local business support and liaison
- communications and engagement
- digital and business transformation (digital arts, data analysis and mapping)
- community services (aged, youth, counselling, health and wellbeing, relief response)

How do I apply?

All Working for Victoria jobs are on the Sidekicker platform. To find out more about the Working for Victoria jobs at Council and to register your interest, visit vic.gov.au/workingforvictoria.



Laverton Community Hub

Online Classes

Keep fit, stay safe and connected.
Join our online classes from the
comfort of your home.

Cost Free during closure

Where Online

Contact 9932 3011 or
lavertoncommunityhub@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au

Enrolment [https://form.iotform.com/
LavertonCommunityHub/2020-online-class-registration-form](https://form.iotform.com/LavertonCommunityHub/2020-online-class-registration-form)

Zumba:

Monday 11.15am and 7pm
Thursday 11.15am and
Saturday 8am

Yoga:

Tuesday 1.30pm and
Thursday 9.30am

Pilates:

Monday 6pm

Craft:

Monday 6.30pm

Line dancing:

Friday 10.30am and 11.45am



POETS

with a

DISABILITY

Hobsons Bay Poetry Competition

Who can enter?

Any age

Any style

Any subject

Conditions of entry

Entrants must have a Disability

(Any Disability)

Entrants must love writing Poetry

(If you love it, we will love it)

Email entry to macpoets@hotmail.com

Closing date – 31 October 2020

Attach Name, phone or email, Age or age group

All entries will be acknowledged

Organised by Ray McAlary, Matt Tyler, and Friends

Sponsored by Bendigo Community Bank, Altona and Laverton



Joseph's Corner
A counselling service for families living with alcohol and drug addiction

Improving Self-Esteem and Valuing Oneself

Joseph's Corner
5-week program may help you!

The Venue

Joseph's Corner
13 Ballin Street
Laverton VIC 3028

"Improving self-esteem and valuing oneself whilst leaving COVIDlockdown behind"

This course will be offered via Zoom. The link each week will be provided through email the day before.

➤ This group workshop will look at how we can maintain or improve our self-esteem despite the challenges experienced during the COVID-19 lockdown. We will work at identifying factors that contribute to negative self-esteem and explore therapeutic approaches to the improvement of self-esteem. By doing this it is hoped we can recognize our own value and worth as a person.

RSVP to
93132680.or
0411473338

contact@josephscorner.org.au

➤ We will identify our inner critical voice and begin to see how it keeps hounding us with destructive thoughts and how to stop comparing ourselves to others. We will work to come up with strategies to improve self-esteem and value of oneself, whilst looking ahead at growing towards strengthening and building a more confident sense of self and identity through self-actualisation.

Dates in 2020

Wednesday 23rd September
Wednesday 30th September
Wednesday 7th October
Wednesday 14th October
Wednesday 21st October

Time

10am to 12pm.

This course will be run with the support of a grant from the Hobson's Bay City Council.



By being in a group we can feel connected to like-minded people; being in a group helps us feel less isolated. Humans aren't meant to be alone, but in relationship with others. We hope that by joining this 5-week group you will experience a sense of connection as you learn with the other members.

ONLINE YOUTH COUNSELLING

Hobsons Bay UP's Youth Counselling Team
are now providing young people (aged 12-25)
a free online single-session online counselling.

The youth counsellors will be able to provide support
and strategies to help young people and their families
manage their mental wellbeing during this time of
increased panic or anxiety.



HOBSONS
BAY CITY
COUNCIL



12 to 3pm
Weekly, Starting
Wednesday 3rd June

Held online

To Book

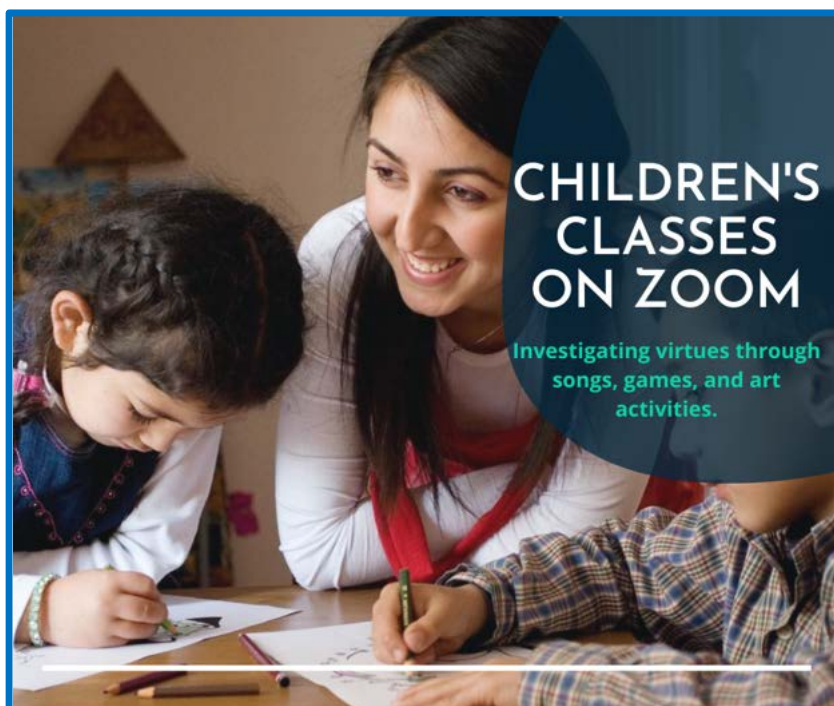
[www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au
/onlinecounselling](http://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/onlinecounselling)

Free Baha'i Community of Hobsons Bay Children's Classes

'Each week the Baha'i Community of Hobsons Bay creates a space for children between the ages of 5 to 11 to investigate virtues, qualities of our heart and gems of our characters, and how to apply them through a range of activities including: songs, quotations, storytelling, cooperative games and the arts.'

The classes are free and run on Wednesdays from 3.30 pm to 4.30 pm.

For more information visit <https://www.hobsonsbaybahai.org/children-s-classes> or contact Soheila at 0400 244 857.'



FINANCIAL SUPPORT AVAILABLE

for Hobsons Bay residents and businesses

If you are experiencing financial hardship and can no longer pay your rates, interest, fees and charges for your home, business, sporting club/association or community group, you can apply for financial assistance.

Individuals, community groups, sporting clubs/associations and businesses can apply for assistance under Council's Financial Hardship Policy or COVID-19 Financial Assistance Policy.

Financial hardship can be brought on by unemployment, sickness, family breakdown, death of spouse, lower income, loss of income, or other significant disadvantaging life event caused by a crisis like the COVID-19 pandemic.

As part of the policy, rates, rent, interest, fees and charges can be deferred and affordable payment plans can be negotiated.

Steps

1. Complete the Request for Financial Assistance Application online via Council's website www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/financialassistance
2. Customer service can provide confidential assistance to complete the application. Residents wanting assistance in their first language can call Council's Language Line on 9932 1212 and ask to speak with an interpreter. This information sheet has also been translated into 15 languages and is available from www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/financialassistance
3. Supporting information must be provided to evidence your application, such as bank statements and Centrelink and/or taxation information
4. Your application is assessed by Council Officers using the Financial Hardship Policy or COVID-19 Financial Assistance Policy
5. Your application will be reviewed and you will be notified in writing within 21 days of the outcome

The Financial Hardship Policy and COVID-19 Financial Hardship Policy is available on our website www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/Services/Rates

Where can you get help?

Financial & Consumer Rights Council of Victoria (FCRC) is the peak body for Financial Counsellors in Victoria and can help you find a financial counsellor – visit www.fcrc.org.au for more information.

The National Debt Helpline provides free, confidential counselling for people experiencing financial difficulty - visit www.ndh.org.au or call 1800 007 007 for more information.

 HOBSONS BAY LANGUAGE LINE | 9932 1212
INTERPRETER SERVICE FOR ALL LANGUAGES
Your Council in your language

HOBSONS
BAY CITY
COUNCIL





Do you want support to access online services during the COVID-19 lockdown?

Leap can connect you to a highly skilled, patient volunteer Tech Mate who can support you to access services and keep you connected to family and friends.

This support is free, and all you need to do is call us on 1300 163 106 to make an appointment.

Our Tech Mates can provide assistance on:

- Setting up devices and accounts
- Basic digital skills such as texting, emailing and video chatting
- Accessing your doctor through telehealth
- Online shopping and banking
- Online Government services

This program is normally delivered face to face, but due to COVID-19 our Tech Mates are providing this service via phone and video chat.

Leap has over 100 volunteer Tech Mates ready and willing to support you to get online confidently and safely.



www.leep.ngo



1300 163 106



hello@leep.ngo

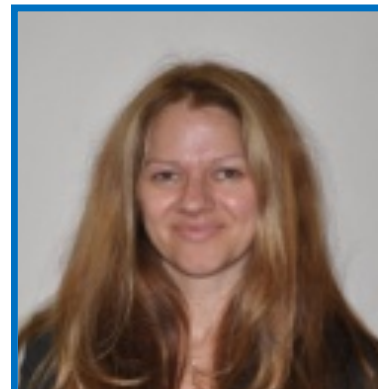
Message from our President

'Hi Everyone,

The sun is starting to shine as we are well into the new season, and I hope you have all had a chance to enjoy the glorious days we have had recently.

In these challenging and very much isolated times on behalf of the Committee I would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all the staff, volunteers, students and our centre users for staying positive and continuing to engage with us where possible.

We are ensuring that we are operating in a Covid-19 safe way in line with Federal and State guidelines and commend everyone for adapting to a new way of community engagement.



Meanwhile, we are ecstatic to be named as finalists in the Victorian Training Awards and congratulate our support staff, teachers, volunteers, and students on the nomination, who have collectively made this possible.

We look forward to seeing all your smiling faces and enjoying a cuppa together when we finally start to slowly re-open post stage four restrictions.

Please hang in there as we wait for further instructions and remember to take care of yourselves and loved ones.'

Sonja Ilievska
President
Williamstown Community and Education Centre Inc.

Managers musings

It has been another month of constant adaptation, change and working in new ways with continual variations, sometimes daily.

Staff continue to be innovative in how we do our work.

We have a roster where staff are working from home and sometimes in the office, always ensuring we do not have too many people on site, at any one time.

It is pleasing that we can now get limited childcare up and running.

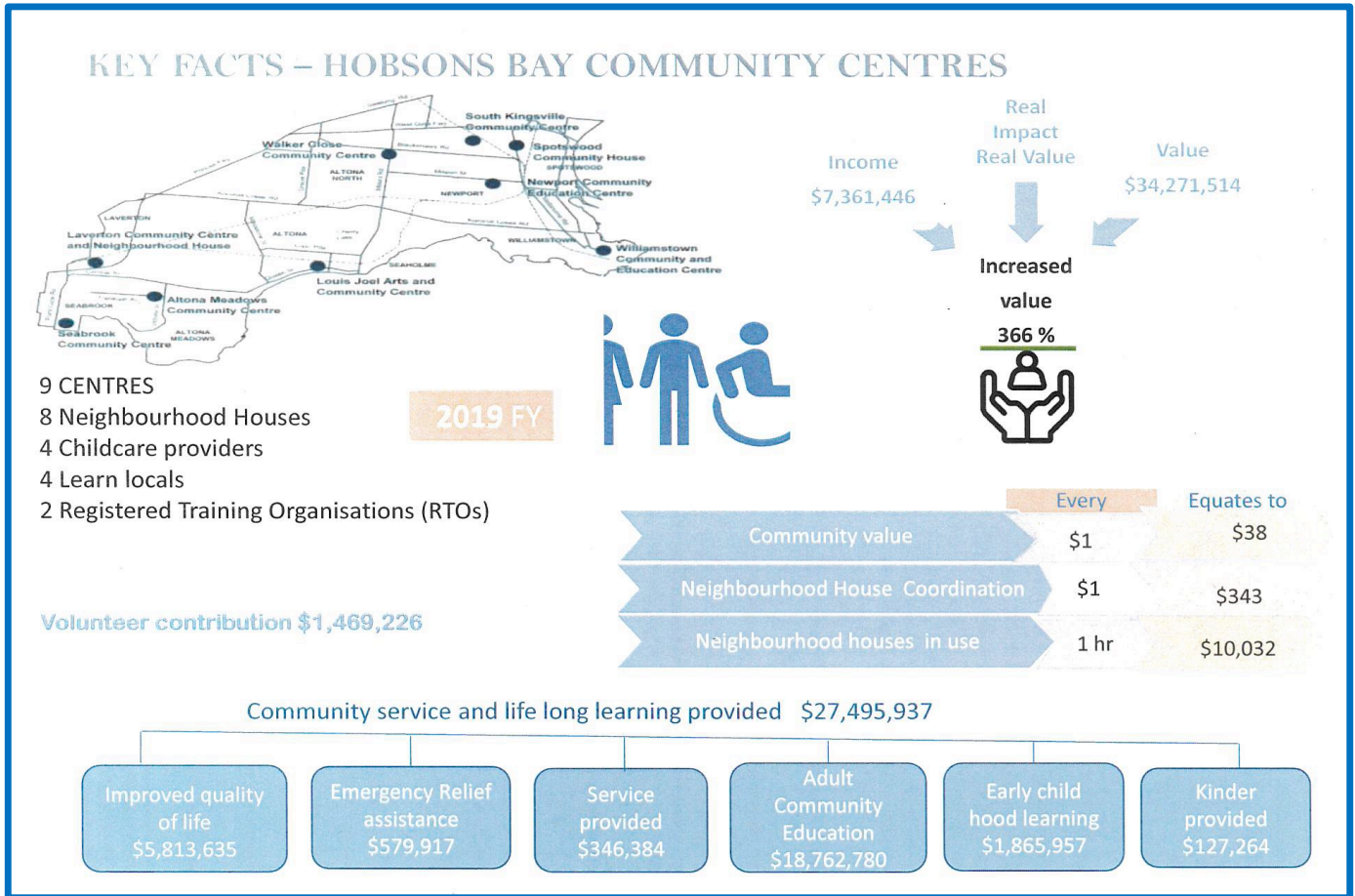


Our Walking group may be able to start up soon if the State hits the 'trigger points', but with only 10 people.

However, it looks like face to face training and education will not happen for a while yet.

We also cannot run most other initiatives until later in the year.

In other news, Ayelign, the Manager of Walker Close Community Centre, collated the NHVic survey data from 2019 across all the Community Centres in Hobsons Bay, and developed this 'Key Facts' sheet below.



It certainly shows the excellent community 'return on investment' that our centres provide to us all.

Many thanks.

Mark.

Dr Mark Brophy PhD
Manager / CEO
Williamstown Community and Education Centre Inc