



Williamstown
Community
and Education
Centre Inc

Newsletter May 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 May 7, 14, 21 and 28. **FREE! Willy Walking Group.** From 10.15 am to 11.00 am, starting at Joan Kirner House.

- Wednesday May 7, 14, 21 and 28. **FREE! Community Morning Tea.** Joan Kirner House at 11.00 am. Sponsored by Mobil. All welcome!



- May 12 to 18. **Neighbourhood House Week.**



- Wednesday May 14. **FREE! Neighbourhood House Week BBQ.** 12.15 pm at Joan Kirner House. All welcome!

- May 19 to 25. **National Volunteers Week.**



- Thursday afternoons. **Bone Boosters.** Gentle exercise for mature aged. Gold coin donation. Call Tahlia for more information on 03 9397 6168.



- **FREE! Be Connected** program. Build your digital skills. Call Lucila to make an appointment on 03 9397 6168. Details below.



- Tuesday evenings at Spotswood Community House, and Saturdays at Joan Kirner House. **Australian Boating College.** Call Daniel on 0408 369 664 for more details.



- Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. **FREE! Skills for Education and Employment.** Joan Kirner House. Details below.



FREE!
At Joan Kirner House, Williamstown.



Book a session today!



Williamstown
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Be Connected digital workshops and one-to-one sessions

Having a tough time with technology?
Need some help?

Scams, Updates, Emails, Managing passwords,
Online banking, you name it!

Come and enquire, to stay connected.



To find out more, or to book a session, contact Lucila, our
Project officer at
projectofficer1@wcec.com.au

Or call 03 9397 6168.
(Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday).

Be Connected is an Australian government initiative
committed to building the confidence, digital skills
and online safety of older Australians



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



NEW Food Relief collection bins.



Now at -
Coles Williamstown.
Woolworths Spotswood.
Woolworths Altona North.



Big **THANKS** to **Tahlia** who did all the graphics
and design for the bins.
Amazing work!

FREE!
At Joan Kirner House, Williamstown



SEE assists you to gain employment by strengthening your language, literacy, numeracy and digital skills



An Australian Government Initiative



**SEE is available in
Laverton and Williamstown**

Contact info@lcec.vic.edu.au or 9369 2726 for more information about SEE



The Skills for Education and Employment (SEE) program is funded by the Australian Government Department of Employment and Workplace Relations. SEE is delivered in Laverton and Williamstown by Laverton Community Integrated Services on behalf of Learning for Employment.



**Home is where
the heart is.
Stay there longer.**

Free event:
How to live at home for longer

Our health needs change as we age, but one thing stays the same: our desire to remain living in our own home. Let me explain how you can access government funding to help you stay living at home for longer.

- This important information session includes;
- [new Support at Home program/Home care packages](#)
 - Commonwealth Home Support program
 - Eligibility
 - What services are available
 - Costs
 - How to choose a Provider
 - Other subsidised programs available

Come along and talk to our representatives who will answer your questions and assist you if require to access these services. All attendees receive an information bag to keep & take home as a reference.

When: 6 May 2025 1PM – 2PM

Location:
Seabrook Community Centre
15 Truganina Ave
Seabrook

RSVP: (03) 9932 3010



Presented by Latrobe Community Health Service

FREE!
At Seabrook Community Centre.



FREE!
At Laverton Community Education Centre
👉



GET READY FOR SCHOOL

A LEARNING CIRCLE FOR PARENTS & CARERS OF CHILDREN WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS

Get Ready for School is a program where parents of kinder children with additional needs prepare for transition to school. The program uses a Learning Circle approach. This allows the participants to decide the topics and skills that are most important to them.

They may include:

- Strategies to support your child in school
- Disability support systems in Victorian schools
- Special schools and mainstream schools
- Advocating for your child in a school setting
- Parent and carer networks and support services
- Parental wellbeing and looking after yourself

Who Should Attend ?

Parent and carers of children with additional needs, transitioning into school setting in 2026

...whatever is most important for you and your learning circle colleagues.

Wednesdays, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

14 May 28 May	11 June 25 June	16 July 30 July	13 Aug 27 Aug	10 Sept
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📍 Laverton Community Children's Centre, 15 Crown St Laverton 3028



LEARN



PLAY



ENGAGE

The workshops will be facilitated by **Dr Jane Hickey** from **Edmund Rice Education Australia**, an expert in disability access and inclusion. Jane will also bring in a range of other external experts on the topics that are important to you.






Scan here to see a TEDx Talk by Jane




How To Register

✉ bill.daly@lcec.vic.edu.au
🌐 <https://forms.office.com/r/KPD8mPJJFz>



**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!
At Louis Joel Arts and Community Centre in Altona.
👉

Join a free, hands-on Aboriginal art workshop @ Outlets Newport

Presented by Cultural Infusion education group.

Create your own canvas to take home. Learn about storytelling, symbolism & traditional culture.

Help us design a mural for Outlets!

Learnings, concepts and techniques developed at our Aboriginal art and culture workshop will be developed into an art piece for our centre's front entryway.

Friday May 2, 2025
9.30am - 1.30pm

Outlets Co-op Neighbourhood House
43 Mason St, Newport

Cost: FREE

Register via email:
outlets@outletsco-op.com.au

FREE!
At Outlets Co-op,
Newport Neighbourhood House.



Be part of our **Neighbourhood House Week** tribute display.

Get a blank copy of the below from Joan Kirner House reception, complete, and return by May 12.





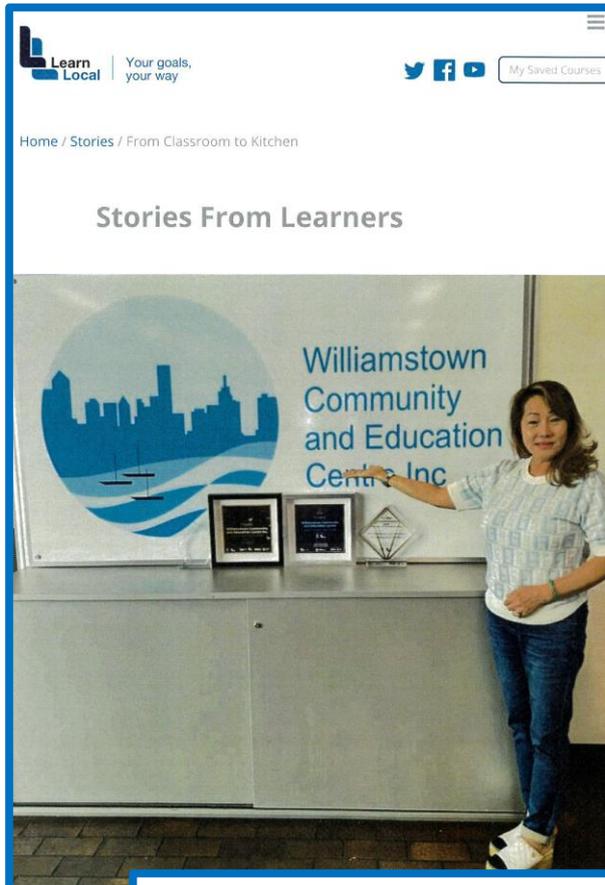
Williamstown Community and Education Centre

BECAUSE...





What's been happening?



Another good news story.



On the Learn Local website.

[HERE.](#)

From Classroom to Kitchen

Julia was a popular student at Joan Kirner House at Williamstown Community and Education Centre, where she was enrolled in ACFE English classes between 2014 and 2018.

To improve her English, Julia attended as many available classes as possible. Initially, she started in lower-level beginner classes, but through her commitment and dedication, she progressed to more advanced levels.

Julia credits her teachers—Lynne, Jodie, and Fedra—as an essential part of her learning journey. She describes them as approachable and patient. When she first started classes, her English was limited, and she was very quiet and shy. However, as she made new friends, gained confidence, and became more involved in her community, she embraced new challenges.

In 2018, she purchased a restaurant in Patterson Lakes where she had been working. Unfortunately, in 2019, the restaurant burned down. With no close family and little support in Australia, this was a devastating experience for her.

In her typical determined manner, Julia did not let this setback deter her. In late 2024, she opened her own Vietnamese restaurant in Williamstown. Miss La's Kitchen, located in the popular Nelson Place, is open six days a week and has become a favourite among her former classmates and teachers, many of whom are regular customers.

Julia plans to return to the Williamstown Community and Education Centre to continue learning and has also encouraged her staff to attend English classes there.

Artful Mind testimonial.

“My name is Judy Wolff, I have been attending Monday Art Group when I can, and I’m amazed at how I am able to paint and draw when there!

I think it is the company and peaceful background music which enables me to find myself through art practice in Janine’s Art Group.

In the recent past, I was a volunteer in Lynne’s EAL class.

I enjoyed being there and helping in any way I could with English and generally conversing with students and being another English speaker in the group.

Cuppa time was great also!

Thank you Lynne and students for the privilege and opportunity to participate for a while.

Judy Wolff.”



Artful Mind classes are a registered NDIS program that runs on Monday afternoons at Joan Kirner House. Contact Janine on 0412 152 507 for more details.

Eid Celebration lunch

Sponsored by the Healthcare Foundation.



Manager's Musings

Our **Spotswood Community House** had a well needed facelift over the term break. Weatherboards replaced and a new coat of paint.



Note the new garden bed, compliments of the **Melbourne Airport, Spotswood Community House Rejuvenation** initiative.



Also, thanks again to **Community Bank, Altona and Laverton, Bendigo Bank**, for supporting the many ineligible refugees and migrants to enrol in our English language classes.

Community Bank
Altona and Laverton
 Bendigo Bank

Reminder, our **Annual General Meeting** will be on Tuesday May 6 at 4.00 pm in Room One, Joan Kirner House, 14 Thompson St. Williamstown. RSVP to me please.

Thanks.

Mark.

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