



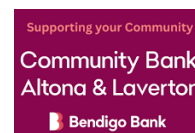
Newsletter

August 2026

Joan Kirner House, Williamstown
Spotswood Community House
Altona North Community House

What's Coming Up?

- Wednesday August 5, 12, 19, and 26. **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 August 5, 12, 19 and 26. **FREE! Community Morning Tea.** Sponsored by Community Bank Altona and Laverton. Joan Kirner House at 11.00 am. All welcome!
- Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays. **Food Relief.** At Joan Kirner House and Altona North Community House. Details below.
- All week, mornings and afternoons. **FREE! Computers for Absolute Beginners.** At Joan Kirner House and Altona North Community House. Details below.
- Fridays 10.00 am to 1.00 pm. **Community Connector Program** (crisis support). At Joan Kirner House. Details below.
- September 1 to 8. **Adult Learners Week.**
- Wednesday September 2. **FREE! Adult Learners Week BBQ.** Sponsored by Community Bank Altona and Laverton. Joan Kirner House at 12.00 pm. All welcome!



Details below.





Williamstown
Community
and Education
Centre Inc.

Food Relief

Food relief assistance is available on:

Joan Kirner House
Mondays and Fridays
10.00am to 1.00pm

Altona North Community House
Thursdays
9.30am to 11.00am

Donations are welcome!

Please ensure items are-

- ✓ Unopened
- ✓ In sealed packaging
- ✓ Non-Perishable
- ✓ Are within expiry and 'use by' dates

For example -

- ✓ Canned Tuna
- ✓ Canned Soup
- ✓ Canned Vegetables
- ✓ Rice
- ✓ Pasta
- ✓ Cereal
- ✓ Muesli Bars
- ✓ Crackers
- ✓ Noodles
- ✓ Shelf Milk
- ✓ Tea / Coffee / Sugar



FREE!



Ten different classes a week in Williamstown and Altona North.

Students can enrol in as many classes they wish.



Williamstown
Community
and Education
Centre Inc.

Computer Classes

Computers for Absolute Beginners

Joan Kirner House Williamstown
Altona North Community House



Word, Excel and Outlook.
Creating an email address and using the internet.
Much, much more.

Enquires to Lynne on 9397 6168 or
email admin@wcec.com.au

KEEP OUR DOORS OPEN

Around half of all Neighbourhood Houses in Victoria are running at a loss.

This cannot continue.

We are asking to urgently restore funding for Neighbourhood Houses with a 25% increase.

SIGN OUR PETITION!



STRONG
COMMUNITIES
START HERE



Sign our petition please.



Paper petition at our venues.

The digital petition will go to the Lower House.

The paper petition will go to the Upper House.

This means you can SIGN BOTH digital and paper.

*(PS – **we are not** running at a loss)*

NEW!

At Joan Kirner House.



FLIPPER FROG
PRESENTS

ART & COLLAGE CLASSES

Community artists delivering an intuitive approach to art.
All artistic levels are catered for and materials provided.

Fortnightly on Fridays from 12.30pm to 2.30pm
Joan Kirner House, 14 Thompson Street Williamstown

CONTACT BEK AND JAYNE:

0400 639 025

OR INFO@FLIPPERFROG.COM

WALK-IN'S WELCOME!

REGISTRATION FEE:

\$25 PER PERSON

For More information:
www.FLIPPERFROG.com





Hearing Australia
is coming to town!

Spotswood Community Centre
Tuesday 18/8/2026 - 1:00 pm to 3:00pm



Join us for a FREE* 15-minute hearing check and take the first step to better hearing today!

*Other services may attract charges/fees or may be subsidised for those eligible under the Australian Government Hearing Services Program, to which conditions apply.

134 432 | hearing.com.au

HAB46 160523

Hearing Australia.

FREE hearing tests at
Spotswood Community House.



Tuesday 18 August. 1.00 pm to 3.00 pm.



NEW!

We recently became a **DV Safe Phone Collection Point.**

For domestic violence (DV) victims, access to a safe phone can mean the difference between life and death.

Perpetrators often use phones to control and monitor their victims, leaving them isolated and without a secure way to keep in contact with friends and family or seek help.

*At **DV Safe Phone**, we give your old phone a new purpose by helping DV victims stay connected, stay safe, and move forward towards a brighter future.*

We collect, repurpose and gift mobile phones to DV victims. These 'safe phones' are a vital link to emergency services, support networks, and loved ones.



Donate
your old mobile phone locally.



Help Us Empower Domestic Violence Victims

Donate your old mobile phone to DV Safe Phone and empower Australian domestic violence victims to live safe and connected lives.

Together, we can reduce e-waste in landfills and ensure that every call for help is heard.



SCAN ME

FIND YOUR CLOSEST PHONE DROP LOCATION

dvsafephone.org    



The Collection Box is in the foyer of Joan Kirner House

Financial Empowerment for Women



Free information sessions

The Zonta Club of Melbourne's West invites you to come along to 3 free sessions and learn how to better understand and manage your money.

Learn how to budget, navigate banking and superannuation, avoid scams and find out where to get support and help when you need it.

These 3 free individual sessions are presented in a friendly, informative and non-judgemental workshop format.

For further information, please contact us via our email address.

<https://events.humanitix.com/financial-empowerment-for-women-zontamelbwest>

When: Monday 3rd, 10th & 17th August
Where: Williamstown Community and Education Centre, 14 Thompson St Williamstown
Time: 10 am - 12 pm
Other: Morning tea will be provided

To register, please scan the QR code above, or copy and paste the link above or email through at

zontamelbwest@gmail.com



FREE!



Starting Monday August 3.
At Joan Kirner House.

Are you a teacher in the Learn Local sector?

Looking to upgrade your qualifications?

Want to fast track the process?

FREE!



At Victoria University.

Literacy in Community 4 week unit starts 28 September 2026

Have you considered undertaking post graduate studies in Education? This unit has been specifically designed for teachers and other staff in the Learn Local sector. It has a particular focus on 21st Century literacies including critical engagement with AI. Scholarships are available from the Victorian Government to pay the fees for this unit (valued at \$3250). It provides credit and a point of entry into post graduate qualifications.



Are you eligible?

- Working in a Learn Local as a teacher, resource developer or support staff member with pre-accredited students (includes volunteers)
- Have a relevant Bachelor level degree OR 5 years equivalent experience.

Requirements

- VU's block model includes 11 x 3 hr sessions held over 4 weeks
- Monday and Tuesday evenings for 4 weeks, Thursday evenings for 3 weeks. Classes are held 6 pm – 9 pm
- First and last class are held in person at VU Nicholson St campus. The rest are conducted via Zoom.
- First class Monday 28 September
- Last class Tuesday 20 October

Register your interest here:

<https://www.vu.edu.au/units/literacy-in-community-eed7007>

Contact for more information:

Dr Sally Thompson
Victoria University
Email: sally.thompson@vu.edu.au

Pathways

- 12 Credit Points towards the Graduate Certificate in Education and the Master of Education.

Monday August 31.



STARTING SECONDARY SCHOOL

FOR PARENTS OF TEENS

SHARON WITT



MONDAY 31 AUGUST 2026
7 TO 8PM (ONLINE)



Scan here for more
information

Register online at:
hsbay.vic.gov.au/youngpeople

Hobsons Bay
Youth Services



Learn more



Want to make a
bigger difference
in your community?

The Big Difference is a community grant program from Chobani Australia that backs practical, community-led projects addressing food insecurity in Victoria.

We're offering grants of \$20,000, \$30,000 or \$50,000 to grassroots organisations, social enterprises and community groups tackling food insecurity.

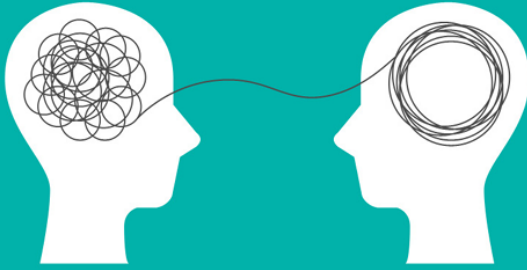
Applications
open 14 July
and close
25 August,
2026

To learn more and apply, scan the QR or visit
www.chobani.com.au/the-big-difference

Questions? Email us at: bigdifference@chobani.com.au

Chobani

Feeling overwhelmed about money?



Financial Counselling

Manage your debts, stabilise your finances, and create realistic budgets for your future.

We can assist you with:

- managing credit card, personal loan or mortgage debts
- difficulty with essential living costs including paying rent, bills, healthcare or food
- assessing your financial situation
- creating household budgets
- setting up payment plans and debt negotiation
- providing referrals to community supports and services
- reducing stress and building your confidence to manage your finances

Please note that we do not pay bills or provide money.

Free and confidential service.

For individuals and families living in Melbourne's West.

To access this service, please call the National Debt Helpline on **1800 007 007** and ask for a referral to CatholicCare Victoria.

CatholicCare Victoria
1800 123 228
www.catholiccarevic.org.au

Building thriving communities, where everyone belongs.

© CatholicCare Victoria Det

These sessions have been scheduled to run alongside Storytime and Babytime at Altona Meadows Library and Learning Centre.



PARENTING PROGRAMS 2026

First aid for parents and carers of young children

Hosted by Ambulance Victoria

Free Event



Participants will gain hands-on experience and a deeper understanding of how to potentially save a life in an emergency

- common medical conditions in children and how to address them
- how to find reliable information about children's Health
- where you can get help to manage non-urgent care at home
- when to call Triple Zero (000) and what to expect
- how to give CPR and use a defibrillator

We've timed these sessions to fit perfectly around Storytime and Babytime. Secure your spot to learn vital first aid skills right before or straight after you enjoy the library programs with your little ones.

THURSDAY, 20 AUGUST*
Session 1: 10.45am to 11.30am
Session 2: 11.45am to 12.30pm

Altona Meadows Library and Learning centre
2 Newham Way, Altona Meadows



Scan QR code to register for this **FREE** session

Hobsons Bay City Council is committed to being a child safe organisation and has zero tolerance for child abuse

Council acknowledges the Bunurong People of the Kulin Nation As the Traditional Owners of these municipal lands and waterways, and pay our respects to elders past and present.



HOUSE OF HOPE FOR WOMEN

Empowering women to
choose a better future
and be free from life
controlling issues.

The House of Hope an 8 bed residential rehab
facility set on two acres on the outskirts of
Geelong.

The program is six months live in and offers a
holistic approach to substance recovery.

What we offer

Caring family environment
Full board an accommodation 24hr onsite
support
Recovery and personal development groups
Life skills training & vocational pathways
Individual case management with Key Worker
Support to access community resources
Art & personal development (Art Therapy)
Recreational activities
Access to medical and allied health services
Referral into post rehab supports

Referral

Referrals can be made via our web
page - under need help women.
www.foundation61.org.au

or by email
houseofhope@foundation61.org.au

Office hours Mon - Frid
9.00am - 5pm 03 70211244



03 70211244



www.foundation61.org.au

ABN
Reg

For the women.



For the men.



RESTORATION HOUSE FOR MEN

Empowering men to
choose a better future
and be free from life
controlling issues.

Restoration House is 15 bed residential rehab
facility set on four acres on the outskirts of
Geelong.

The program is six months live in and offers a
holistic approach to substance recovery.

What we offer

Caring family environment
Full board an accommodation 24hr onsite
support
Recovery and personal development groups
Life skills training & vocational pathways
Individual case management with Key Worker
Support to access community resources
Art & personal development (Art Therapy)
Recreational activities
Access to medical and allied health services
Referral into post rehab supports

Referral

Referrals can be made via our
web page - under need help men.
www.foundation61.org.au

or by email
info@foundation61.org.au

Office hours Mon - Frid
9.00am - 5pm 03 52641517



03 52641517



www.foundation61.org.au

ABN 79 079 178 867
Reg. No. AOO46754G

FREE!



August - Sessions at Altona Meadows Library
Untangling technology.

- 7 Aug:** Exploring tech terms - part one (everyday words)
14 Aug: Exploring tech terms - part two (emerging words)
21 Aug: Science Week tech class special
28 Aug: Understanding artificial intelligence (AI)

FRIDAY MORNING TECH CLASS

EVERY FRIDAY MORNING, 10AM TO 11AM

Join us each week as we explore a new topic to build your technology skills and confidence.

From practical tools to emerging trends, our goal is to keep you informed, engaged, and safe while navigating the digital world.

These sessions are aimed at beginners but welcome people of all skills and experience.

Book via library website, QR code or call 1300 179 944 or speak to a staff member.



Hobsons Bay LIBRARIES
HOBSONS BAY CITY COUNCIL

Council +
LIBRARIES



binGO MOVE Community

binGO MOVE Community is an active version of traditional bingo where the number drawn prompts the participants to perform specific movements to music.

Organised in partnership with not-for-profit community health service IPC Health, the game aims to give participants the opportunity to improve their 'whole mind and body' health and wellbeing by encouraging mental and physical stimulation. It is designed to be safe, social, fun and interactive; and can be played either seated or standing.

binGO MOVE Community is suitable for:

- People who desire to be social and meet others
- People who prefer unstructured gentle exercise
- People who enjoy bingo but would like to add movement and music to the game
- People who have never played Bingo but would like to give it a go

Please arrive fifteen minutes early if it is your first time attending to fill out a registration form, and make sure to wear closed footwear and comfortable clothing.

**Fortnightly on Tuesdays
From 4 August**

10am to 11am

Altona Library

Bookings close 9am on day of session

Bookings via the library website, QR code or phone 1300 179 944



Scan me for future dates, info or to book

ipc Health

Hobsons Bay COUNCIL

Hobsons Bay LIBRARIES

HOBSONS BAY CITY COUNCIL

Starting August 4.





Respite and Social Connections for Older People

**A little time for carers.
A meaningful day for older people.**

Carers Victoria and Australian Multicultural Community Services are working together to support carers to take a break while the older person they care for enjoys safe, welcoming and meaningful social connection.

What is this service?
This group respite service gives older people the chance to spend time with others, take part in enjoyable activities, and stay connected with their community. At the same time, carers can have planned time for themselves to rest, attend appointments, run errands or simply pause from their caring role.

Why join our group?
For carers: A regular break, knowing the person you care for is supported in a safe and engaging group setting.
For older people: Time to meet others, share stories, enjoy activities and build confidence in the community.
For multicultural communities: Support that values culture, language, food, traditions and connection.
For families: A simple way to support wellbeing for both the carer and the older person.

What might older people do?
Activities may include gentle movement, music, games, cultural activities, conversation, craft, community outings, shared morning tea or lunch, and opportunities to connect with people who have similar interests and backgrounds.

Who is it for?
This service may suit carers who support an older person aged 65 years or over, or 50 years or over for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, who would benefit from supported social connection in a group setting.

How it works

1. Contact Carers Victoria to discuss respite options and eligibility.
2. Carers Victoria will talk with you and the older person you care for about goals, preferences, safety and cultural needs.
3. Australian Multicultural Community Services will deliver the group activity and support older people to participate.
4. Carers Victoria will check in to make sure the service is meeting your needs.



Service Details

When: Mondays

Time: Approximately 4 Hours
From 9AM - 3PM
(includes transport time)

Where: Millennium House
296 Nicholson Street
Seddon VIC 3011

Cost: Small contribution applies
Discussed before services start

Includes: Transport & light meals

Interested or want to refer?
To ask about this respite option or make a referral, contact Carers Victoria on **1800 514 845**.

If the older person does not yet have a My Aged Care referral for respite, Carers Victoria can explain the next steps.

About the partnership
Carers Victoria supports unpaid carers to access information, advice and respite services. Australian Multicultural Community Services supports older people and multicultural communities to stay connected, independent and included. Together, the organisations are helping carers take a break while older people enjoy safe, culturally responsive social participation.

This service is supported by the Australian Government Department of Health, Disability and Ageing. Although funding may be provided by the Australian Government, the material contained in this flyer does not necessarily represent the views or policies of the Australian Government.









CULTURES IN COLOURS

Multicultural arts and craft program delivering hands-on cultural workshops and community celebration to build connection, wellbeing and intercultural understanding.

THURSDAYS		AUG - OCT 2026
6 TH AUG	1PM-3PM	Craft session: paper flower art and decorative paper fans.
13 TH AUG	1PM-3PM	Vietnamese recipe scrapbooking workshop
20 TH AUG	1PM-3PM	Traditional dance workshop featuring the ethnic groups of Northwest Vietnam
27 TH AUG	1PM-3PM	Lantern-making workshop & Mid-autumn Festival Celebration
3 RD SEP	2PM-4PM	Calligraphy Class
10 TH SEP	2PM-4PM	Calligraphy Class
17 TH SEP	2PM-4PM	Chinese painting with basic strokes and traditional ink painting
24 TH SEP	2PM-4PM	Chinese painting with basic strokes and traditional ink painting
1 ST OCT	2PM-4PM	Chinese painting with basic strokes and traditional ink painting

LOCATION:
WALKER CLOSE COMMUNITY CENTER
180 MILLERS ROAD, ALTONA NORTH, VIC 3025

FREE WORKSHOP FOR COMMUNITY. SPACES ARE LIMITED.

Please Register:
(03) 9318 0521 or Office@walkerbrooklyn.com.au

"THIS PROGRAM IS SUPPORTED BY HOBSONS BAY CITY COUNCIL THROUGH ITS MAKE IT HAPPEN GRANTS PROGRAM"

What's been happening?



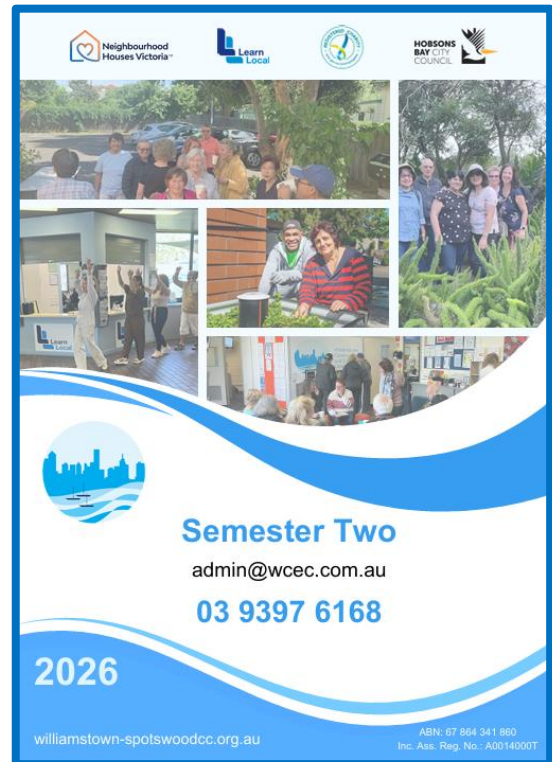
Lisa Spiteri, Administration Business Partner from **JOST Australia** dropped off a "Winter Warmers" donation.

We received brand new items of clothing, blankets, slippers and food.

Thanks to everyone at Jost.



Our new Semester Two brochure / booklet is in hard copy at all three venues, and on our website [HERE](#).



Monday 6 July, **Kid's in Philanthropy** held a school holiday program for secondary students across Melbourne.

Tahlia represented our organisation to speak about the positive impact our programs have in the community.

Thanks to the students for another generous donation of trail mix for our food relief program!

Kids in Philanthropy delivers a range of school programs that engage students in social justice and support young people experiencing disadvantage.



Thanks.

Mark.

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