



Encounter Centre Inc



NEWSLETTER

April 2019

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Board Brief

I think that we have settled in quite well under the new management and now the Board is looking forward to improving the Centre, both financially and by creating a better environment for our volunteers and participants.

By now, most people will know that our first step in doing this is going to be the up-grade of our kitchen, to improve the working conditions of our volunteer staff, who do a wonderful job of providing inexpensive meals every day. It will be slightly bigger, more modern and will have stainless steel benches, shelves and new equipment. A lot of thought has been put into its design, not only for workplace health & safety, but to make it more functional and a more pleasant place to work. This can't happen without funds, both grant and our own money.

Our building has been chosen to be a Polling Booth venue for the Federal Election on **Saturday, May 18** and so we will use this opportunity to raise much needed funds for the up-grade as well as use it as an opportunity to showcase the Encounter Centre to the people of Victor Harbor and Encounter Bay.

We will have the usual Sausage Sizzle, Shop and Plant Nursery Sales. Please encourage friends & family to vote at our location on the day, instead of at pre-polling.

We are overdue to have an Open Forum, so it has been decided that it will be on **Tuesday, May 28** at **10.30am**. Open Forums are for everyone, not just Members, but also for volunteers, staff and anyone with an interest in the Centre. We are making steady progress in our future aims, but I'm sure that there are some questions you would like to put to the Board and Management or just like to know what our plans are for the future. There can be some apathy when things are running relatively smoothly, but the AGM supported the Open Forum concept, so it would be disappointing if we didn't get a reasonable attendance.

I would like to thank Patricia Lloyd and Adrian Jansz who worked on the development of our new website. We appreciate the time and effort that was expended and the professional result they have produced. It is about to go "live", but a little more work is needed before we can add "Shopify" (online sales) to the site.

Ian (Chairman)



Shelley's Scoop

Where did the last month go?

April has been a very short month with Easter and Anzac Day following so close together. The Centre has been very busy nonetheless. We have welcomed new Volunteers Pat Carter and Jayne Gower in the last month. Pat has joined us in the Nursery and Jayne in our kitchen.

Hilary O'Moore has resigned from her position as NDIS Coordinator. Hilary was instrumental in assisting our participants, and our organisation with the transition to the NDIS, and we acknowledge her wonderful contribution. We all wish her well as she grows her business in the area.

Michelle Dugmore is able to assist with all NDIS enquiries; we are committed to helping everyone get the most from their NDIS plan. Jamie Rowe has returned to the workshop after his much deserved long service leave. Our volunteers around the Centre continue to work tirelessly in the workshop, paint shop, our 2 retail outlets, kitchen, nursery, driving our buses, our activities for people living with disability, and a range of other functions that keep us rolling along smoothly. None of this goes unnoticed. Thank you for your efforts! We have been busy preparing for our very first Audit under the NDIS, which will take place in the coming months. This means that we need to be able to demonstrate that we do what we say we do for our participants. It is also an opportunity to showcase the great services our excellent staff and centre have to offer.

Shelley



Around the Workshops

Hi Everyone. I am back from my 6 weeks long service leave and had a wonderful and relaxing time.

A huge thanks go to David Mitchell for managing the paint / workshops while I was away, he did a fantastic job.

Also a very warm welcome to Shelley, our new Centre Manager – I hope her time here will be fruitful and enjoyable.

Production in the paint & workshops is running along smoothly, sales in both shops have been pretty good so far this year.

We have one new line in the shop – a 4WD Money Box, from a design by one of our volunteers. It seems it may be quite popular as the few we have made have sold out.

The School Bus Toy Box seems to have become popular again, and are rolling out the door.

Thanks to all the volunteers in paint/workshops for their fantastic work.

Cheers

Jamie

Ocean Encounter

April seemed to have flown by with our crew making some fun Easter craft to take home as gifts for family and friends.

Our resident DJ (Nat) put on a mini disco whilst Nick was away which was a huge success with everyone.

Surfing has now finished so we are now planning another aquatic activity to start soon.

Stay posted.

Margie has been away, unwell, so we wish her a speedy recovery. Sue B. is back from Sri Lanka and Greg has also been away on holidays, so Michelle has been helping us out much to the delight of everyone.

Looking forward to what May brings us.

Till next time.

Lyndall.

Encounter Life

Wednesday April 3 we travelled to Morgan Park Nursery to acquire seedlings for our Kitchen Garden. We returned to the Centre and planted our new charges. Kym Edwards is doing a top job encouraging participants to get involved in the garden's care and maintenance. The new plants are doing really well after the garden beds were refurbished earlier in the year. Garden produce will supply the Centre kitchen and participants with fresh food. Excess produce will be available for sale a little down the track.

April 10, had us searching local supermarket brochures in order to find the prices of a predetermined shopping list. The goal was to arrive at the most budget conscious total outlay. For a change of pace we went to Kent Reserve and enjoyed nature and the adult exercise equipment at the reserve. Everyone enjoyed our big day out. On Wednesday, April 24, we went to Granite Island to investigate the new businesses on the island. Some walked the Causeway and some travelled with me on the bus across the Causeway. Cheers everyone,

Greg.

Gone Fishing

April 2: No fishing day today; we had a BBQ instead at Waitpinga at the picnic grounds. Eggs and bacon for a late breakfast then a sausage sizzle for lunch washed down with soft drinks.

The weather was mild with sunny periods and we were entertained with kangaroos hopping around and varied bird life.

So once again another good day out with the fishing group.

April 9: We heard about some bream in the John Crompton Reserve in Encounter Lakes so we headed there.

After a rainy morning the weather warmed up into a lovely sunny warm day with only a slight breeze. A couple of the guys tried their luck but only caught a couple of bites but no fish

were landed. Some of the group enjoyed a walk to the beach, so another good day out in a lovely setting by the lake and with good company.

April 16: For the Easter break we planned a BBQ at Horseshoe Bay on what turned out to be a beautiful day with blue skies and warm sunshine.

Being school holidays lots of families were enjoying the lovely beach conditions. We fired up the BBQ for eggs and bacon for morning tea, then for lunch we had pizzas and soft drink finished off with Easter Eggs, which of course were really enjoyed.

We did try a spot of fishing from the jetty but the fish weren't biting, still lots of laughs and good company made for another fun day.

April 23: Easter Holiday Break.

April 30: We decided on Granite Island, but with no access allowed today we set off for The Hindmarsh River Mouth. After morning tea of hot coffee and cakes we tried our luck but the water level was at its highest, due to the river being dammed at the beach. And then the wind got stronger but we managed to find some sheltered spots, but after lunch away from the beach we did manage to get a few bites but back to the river for another day as they were much too small.

It was a cool day with a bit of late sunshine but as always another great day out with our mates.

Eric, Steve, Garry & Roy.

Pelican Aktion Club.

April 1: Aktion Club Dinner Meeting, a good meeting chaired by John.

Excellent effort, thankyou John.

April 8: Off to Glenelg with plans to walk along the jetty, but due to a very cold, windy night we settled for fish & chips in the Glenelg Square.

April 15: Cooking night with the guys making and decorating cup cakes and Easter eggs.

April 22: Easter Monday so no activities.

April 28: Mini Golf. A very competitive and enjoyable night with much laughter and good banter.

ACE Program

Well, Hello! It's been such a long time since I have put together a piece for the monthly newsletter – something must have gone astray!

We have just started the 2nd term for 2019. We have been back for just one week - with lots to look forward to including History Month (May). We welcomed several new students last term, and also welcomed back a few students who had been away, so our numbers have grown once again. Welcome back to Nilda Porsadas, Van Vuong and Renxian Dean.

And welcome to new students Maralyn Flink (originating from the Philippines), Peter Oldenburg (Germany), Delia West and Ching Lange (Phillippines), Olena Mortynenko (Ukraine) and Hannelore Kunthe (Germany).

This term we have 14 students registered in ESL and 9 students in Literacy for Life, all supported by our wonderful tutors who work hard with students on many levels every week. Thank you!

Last term we worked with verbs and tenses, telephone calls, taking messages, dates and times, dictation, an excursion to Victor Harbor Library where some students joined in a free Tai Chi session, and we also had a lovely Harmony Day Celebration with a picnic and games at Lakala Reserve in Port Elliot.

This term we will research some local history, students will also make short presentations about historical/cultural events from their country of origin for History Month. We will be looking at health, and learn about making appointments over the phone, making a visit to the doctor/pharmacy and understanding what is written on medicine packages, and more! Well, that's the plan!

More news next month once we are well and truly into the swing of things.

Best wishes,

Anita and Team.

Weekend Activities.

Storm Boy Movie 1976.

This was so popular we required both buses to pick up the participants. During the movie volunteers worked hard in the kitchen to produce pizzas and popcorn.

Thankyou for the hard work.

After lunch we drove to Pt Elliot to check out what has changed there since 1976.

We visited the Armfield Slip and were invited to view the two boats featuring in both Storm Boy movies. We were also given a tour of the shed to see how they build wooden boats.

A big thankyou to Sue for organizing this very interesting visit.

April 26: AFL. Port Power v North Melbourne.

Only 4 participants put their hands up to go to the game and watch the "swampies".

All were very polite and humored Roy (the only Port supporter) by clapping when Roy did.

The round 18 game Crows v Essendon looks like a sellout. Our buses are filling fast so get in early.

Let's do Cooking. On Tuesday & Thursday.

April 2 & 4 – Sticky BBQ wings with veggies and rice.

April 9 & 12 – Chicken Laksa Soup.

April 16 & 23 – Today we made open toasted sandwiches with cheese tomato and ham; also a toasted bread pizza, always enjoyed.

Art. With Wendy

Our entry for the Bunnings Easter Art Work was rewarded with a \$20 gift voucher. It was a great effort from all.

Well done guys.

On April 28 the Art Group went to Horseshoe Bay and we had a wonderful class in the sun and fresh air.

The participants really enjoyed painting the bay. **David.**

The V's Sewing Group.

During April we made Japanese Perfume fans; they were very popular for Easter gifts for family and friends.

We loved making the Funny Face Cushions, all very different but look great.

Check us out on Encounter Centre Face Book.

Lyn.

A few more teacher / student jokes.

Teacher: Donald what is the chemical formula for water?

Donald: H.I.J.K.L.M.N.O

Teacher: What are you talking about?

Donald: Yesterday you said it's H to O

Teacher: Glen, why do you always get so dirty.

Glen: Well, I'm a lot closer to the ground than you

Teacher: George Washington not only chopped down his father's cherry tree, he admitted it.

Now, Louis, do you know why his father didn't punish him?

Louis: Because George W. still had the axe in his hand.