

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2017



FAREWELL TO KAREN

After eight years of dedicated service, we farewelled Karen, who is moving to country Victoria. Karen has been a popular English tutor, being the mainstay of the English conversation class. We will remember not just her marvellous sense of humour, but also her cheerful contribution in the kitchen. We wish her and her son much blessing in the future.

Roslyn Brown, Adult Education



MARY GROVES

2017 Chisholm Volunteer Award Nominee

Mary Groves was selected as this year's inaugural Chisholm Volunteer Award Nominee for Dixon House. She was presented with her certificate by the Hon Julie Bishop MP, and Julia Banks MP in June, 2017.

Mary was nominated for her dedication to our weekly Homework Club program as a volunteer tutor for over 4.5 years. Her longstanding commitment to make the drive across Melbourne to Dixon House helps to keep our free program alive, despite the transitions in venues and coordinators. Besides tutoring over 15 primary school students during her time with us, she has mentored university tutors in their volunteer role, and guided children in appropriate behaviour. We thank her very much for contribution to our Centre!

Oanh Lam, Youth Programs

COORDINATOR'S UPDATE

It has been a busy year at Dixon House, starting with the Clayton Festival where we made many connections with community members and organisations. Then we had our 25th anniversary dinner sponsored by Rotary Club of Clayton where we celebrated the work and impact of Dixon House over the years.



In June, we had a Monash Council sponsored art exhibition where we showcased the talents of the Expression Through Art group. Visitors were very impressed at the standard of the works displayed (below). We finished off term 2 with an excursion to Lysterfield Park Lake; an outing enjoyed by participants, volunteers, and staff alike (above).

In the second half of the year, we offered again beginners' computer classes, and a low cost IELTS class. Through Monash and Kingston Council funding we were able to offer two exciting new courses – Fit2Learn, a program introducing kinaesthetic learning, and LACE, a program for learning Australian culture and English. Next year, we are looking forward to embarking on a film project where we will produce short videos about Dixon House, its history, its achievements, and its current activities. We also made some changes to improve our efficiency, for example, a revamped website with more information and the option to register and make payments, and we also started accepting electronic payments through our new Paypal/EFTPOS machine.



Towards the end of the year, David Nettelbeck stepped down as President after serving faithfully for several years, to be replaced by Vaughan Smith, our former Committee Secretary. David will still be with Dixon House as an English language volunteer. We would like to thank both gentlemen for their previous and future contributions to Dixon House.

We would like to wish everyone a very merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year.

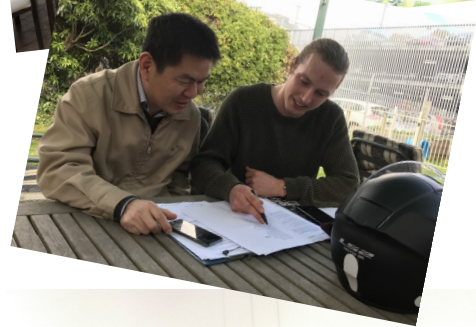
Winston Chee, Programs Coordinator

ENGLISH PROGRAM



The English program has continued to grow during 2017, and many new tutors have stepped up to provide the teaching. Both classes enjoyed excursions to the city, the Multi-Level English group did some dancing, and the **new LACE (Learn Australian Culture and English)** students visited the Koori Heritage Museum and the Melbourne Sports Museum. The photo below depicts the group studying aboriginal artefacts. Other popular topics of this program included Aussie brekkie, Aussie architecture, a visit from Aunty Diane for the focus on aborigines, and a visit from Life Saving Victoria.

Roslyn Brown, Adult Education



YOUTH PROGRAMS

The Homework Club has been going well with an additional 11 pairs of volunteer students.

The Fit2Learn program also started at Westall Primary School to promote fitness, teamwork and academic success. The children enjoy learning from their tutors. The Centre for Multicultural Youths also recognised our Homework Club as a runner up in the My Education Awards, as well as Sabrina Cong (tutor) and Mochammad Hadi (student) for their contribution to the programs. Well done, everyone!



Oanh Lam, Youth Programs

OTHER PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES



Sewing Class - JOIN US!

All skills level catered for by experienced instructors. Equipment and materials all included in \$50/term fee. Classes run on Monday mornings.



FUNDRAISING & DONATIONS

The September BBQ fundraiser at Bunnings, South Oakleigh provided much needed funds to manage Dixon House and Emergency Relief programs. Additional donations, whether in kind or cash, is much appreciated. Thank you for your continued support!

Cash donations can be made as a direct deposit to:
Account Name: Dixon House Neighbourhood Centre
BSB: 033-090 / Account no: 449020

Dixon House Neighborhood Centre is supported by:



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