

Bulletin #22 – 15th November 2021



Little book boxes make a return in the community

Local children are again able to read, wherever they go in the community, thanks to the Little Book Boxes initiative being reinstated after the COVID-19 pandemic saw the boxes removed.

The initiative encourages community members to take a book, read a book and share a book.

Over 30 book boxes are hosted by a range of local businesses across Portland and the Heywood district, aimed at increasing early childhood exposure to reading.

The boxes have all been refreshed by VCAL students at South West TAFE Portland campus, with a fresh coat of bright red paint, making them more visible and vibrant in the community.

United Way Glenelg Executive Officer, Nicole Carr, said that Little Book Boxes is an important community initiative to encourage children to read and the reinstatement of them is welcome and exciting for the community.

2021 has been a challenging year for the students to carry out community projects with restrictions hampering face-to-face learning. The Little Book Box has been one of the activities the students at South West TAFE have been able to carry out throughout the year, with the support of their teachers.

If your business or sporting club would like to host a Little Book Box, please contact Nicole at United Way Glenelg on 0410 513 305.

Photo: United Way Glenelg EO Nicole Carr, and South West Tafe VCAL students Trinity Boers and Dante Nuku.

Glenelg Community Coronavirus Q & A Thursday 18th November 12:30pm to 1pm



Local health professionals and community leaders from across Glenelg are joining forces to answer the Glenelg Shire community's questions about the coronavirus pandemic and its impacts locally.

You can join either using Zoom or live stream via Southern Grampians Glenelg Primary Care Partnership Facebook page.

Guest panellists:

- Dr Kaushik Banerjee, Director Medical Services, Portland District Health
- Karena Prevett, Acting CEO, Portland District Health
- Aaron Kennett, Environmental Health Officer, Glenelg Shire

For more information contact Janette Lowe, E: janette.lowe@wdhs.net

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82461715611?pwd=ZUs4VUxBRFN0aXJYNENibzF2elAyUT09>



**Mac McInnes, interim Chairperson
Southern Grampians Glenelg Primary Care Partnership**

Invites you to attend our

Annual General Meeting

Thursday 25th November 2021, 12noon to 1pm

Online - Attendees will be emailed a zoom link on receiving your RSVP

RSVP: by Tuesday 23/11/21 Email: robyn.holcombe@wdhs.net

**Guest Speaker: Bridget Tehan, Senior Policy Advisor
Victorian Council of Social Service (VCOSS)**



Bridget Tehan has worked for more than 10 years in emergency management in both the government and not for profit sectors. Bridget is currently a senior policy advisor at the Victorian Council of Social Service and works to highlight the role of the community sector in building resilience and to explore the role of the sector in emergency management. Bridget also works to highlight the needs of vulnerable and disadvantaged people before, during and after emergencies as well as their needs in the mitigation, transition and adaptation to climate change.



VicHealth® The Big Connect

VicHealth is launching *The Big Connect*, an integrated health promotion package focused on supporting the mental health and wellbeing of Victoria's young people through the creation of 100,000+ new social connection opportunities. This is VicHealth's first major investment as part of Future Healthy - and they have up to \$5 million in funding available.

In addition to funding, The Big Connect integrates sector capability building, educational support for families and a public-facing health promotion campaign.

Through The Big Connect, VicHealth will invest in organisations across Victoria who know their local areas better than anyone and know how to make change happen. Organisations who are ready to make a big difference. This could be in a geographic area or for group of people with similar challenges around being connected.

Projects funded through The Big Connect must be for young people and must be informed by what they have asked for or expressed a need for. See our [Funding Guidelines](#) to hear what young people across Victoria and their parents have told them so far!

Applications are now open and close 2:00 pm Tuesday, 7 December 2021.

[Click here](#) to read more



Brophy Family and Youth Services now have an office open in Hamilton providing youth support in the Southern Grampians region. Brophy provides community-based programs and services that aim to support young people to achieve their education and employment goals, support social and emotional wellbeing, provide financial assistance, support and advice and strengthening the capacity of our LGBTIQ+ community. We work alongside schools, employers, businesses and other community organisations in the region to build advantage and create meaningful connections.

You can get in touch with us here at Brophy Hamilton by calling into our office at 98 Thompson Street on Monday, Wednesday or Thursday, give us a call on 5599 9245, or 1300 BROPHY or jump on our website www.brophy.org.au



YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

FOR ADULTS SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE IN
THE GREAT SOUTH COAST, VICTORIA



**MENTAL
HEALTH
FIRST AID**
Australia



**Register your interest
today:**
[live4life.org.au/gsc-courses](https://www.live4life.org.au/gsc-courses)

Youth Mental Health First Aid teaches any adult (18 years and over) how to assist adolescents who are developing a mental health problem, experiencing worsening of a mental health problem or in a mental health crisis.

Topics covered include:

Adolescent development, depression, anxiety, panic attacks, eating disorders and suicidal thoughts and behaviours.

For more information and to register your interest go to
www.live4life.org.au/gsc-courses



**GREAT SOUTH COAST
Suicide Prevention
Place Based Trial**

This initiative has been developed from a partnership between Western Victoria Primary Health Network, Youth Live4Life and the Great South Coast Suicide Prevention Place Based Trial.

Youth MHFA course registrations open

Register your interest to

<https://www.live4life.org.au/gsc-courses>

Livingworks START free training

LivingWorks Start is a 90-minute online training program for all Australians 15 years and over to learn how to recognise when someone is having thoughts of suicide and respond to keep them safe.

<https://forms.office.com/r/0wE2rhUbz3>

Storytelling for Change Online Masterclass

24th & 25th November

Storytelling for Change: 24th & 25th Nov 2021, 10am – 1pm

Interactive Online Workshop

Dates: 24th & 25th Nov, 2021 Time: 10am – 1pm

This Masterclass is delivered over two sessions and aims to build your confidence and skills in crafting and sharing stories that communicate the drivers of violence against women.

Discounts apply for concession card holders and staff working in the following organisations, please [email us](#) to find out more:

- Victorian Women's Health Services
- Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations

[Click here](#) to register

Free Parent Webinar: Gaming & Young People

Did you know? Adolescents have an average spend of \$50 a month on in-game purchases. (Rockloff et al, 2020)

Bethany Community Support invites all Great South Coast and Barwon parents to attend this **FREE** online information session.

This session will cover:

- Understanding gaming
- The connection between gaming and gambling
- In game purchasing
- Setting boundaries with your child
- Top tips for parents
- Access to free resources



Date: Wednesday 24th November 2021

Time: 7:00 – 8:00pm

Link to register: <https://bit.ly/3msBub5>

Great South Coast:

Lily Bourke

e. lbourke@bethany.org.au

m. 0418 667 612

Barwon:

Hannah Martin

e. hmartin@bethany.org.au

m. 0456 111 534

bethany
community support



Wannon Water is here to help

Did you know that 20 per cent of people had trouble paying their water bills last year yet only 2.5 per cent asked for help? If you're having difficulty, please call Wannon Water to access a range of support programs.

Their Customer Relations Team members are specially trained and will support you through the process. They understand that every situation is unique and that financial stress impacts all of us in different ways. They'll work with you to find the best solution for your needs.

Contact Wannon Water on freecall 1300 926 666 or use the chat function on the website at wannonwater.com.au



FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES



Applications now open for the Youth Engagement Grants

Applications are now open for the Youth Engagement Grants. Small multicultural and Aboriginal clubs and community organisation are invited to apply for grants of up to \$50,000 to support young people make positive life choices and reach their potential.

An information session will be held online on Wednesday 3 November 2021.

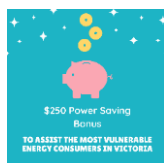
Applications close 4pm on 13 December 2021. Find out more [here](#)



Barwon South West Waste & Resource Recovery Group

Barwon South West Waste and Resource Recovery Group's Can Do Communities program provides grants of up to \$500 to incorporated community groups for activities that contribute to community capacity to reduce waste and litter. There is no closing date, the application process is quick and easy and Education Officer, Linda Grant would love to chat with you about your project ideas. Visit www.reduce-recycle.com.au/community/programs or contact info@bswwrrg.vic.gov.au for more information.

South West Sport – Current Grants



\$250 Power Saving Bonus

Launched by the State Government on 1 February 2021, the \$250 Power Saving Bonus (PSB) is a financial package designed to assist the most vulnerable energy consumers in Victoria. It is a one-off payment available to over 900,000 eligible Victorian households with at least one eligible concession card holder. The \$250 Bonus will be available until 31 January 2022 and will be limited to one payment per eligible household. Consumers submit their applications through the [Victorian Energy Compare website](#)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

	<p>Accidental Counsellor Training - Tuesday 23 November from 9.30am to 4.30pm</p> <p>Where: The Lady Bay Resort, 2 Pertobe Road, Warrnambool 3280</p> <p>This will be a fully subsidized and catered event for Carer Support Provider staff. Numbers are strictly limited.</p> <p>Please RSVP: Vicki Kearney, Coordinator, SWCRSN vkearney@mpower.org.au or by phone: 5561 8111</p>
	<p>Mental Health in the Workplace Training</p> <p>Red Cross has developed Mental Health Matters short courses which are delivered as workshops and can be customised to suit your workplace situation. Call 1300 367 428 (option 2) to book an information session or workshop at your workplace.</p>
	<p>Introduction to Prevention of Violence Against Women (PVAW) - Free Online Course</p> <p>Click here for more information</p>

Resources – links to Government, Organisational and Community Resources – [Click here](#)

Our Team

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