



livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au

LIVING & LEARNING
NILLUMBİK



Image: Art for Kids at Eltham Living & Learning Nillumbik

LIVING & LEARNING NILLUMBİK 2021 WRAP UP

When I reflect on 2021, the South African concept of Ubuntu comes to mind. This Zulu word literally means “I am because we are”. Desmond Tutu explained “You can’t be human all by yourself, and when you have this quality – Ubuntu – you are known for your generosity. We think of ourselves far too frequently as just individuals, separated from one another, whereas you are connected and what you do affects the whole world”.

Even though most of us will remember 2021 as another year of lockdowns and restrictions, it was also a year during which the L&LN community yet again embraced all opportunities to share, learn and most importantly connect. It was heart-warming to witness the shared compassion amongst participants, students, tutors, volunteers, trainers and staff and everyone was super excited to reopen our sites and resume some of our face to face programs this term.

Thank you for everyone’s generous support and a big shout out to the amazing L&LN team who had worked tirelessly to adapt, offer support and create ongoing opportunities.

Wishing everyone a wonderful Christmas break and an exciting 2022!

- Cobie Vermeulen, Coordinator
Living & Learning Nillumbik



Diamond Creek
119 Cowin Street



Eltham
739 Main Road



Pantom Hill
18 Bishops Road





NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE WEEK

8-14 MAY 2021 'Honouring our community heroes during COVID'



Neighbourhood Houses
The heart of our community

Living & Learning Nillumbik is a proud member of Neighbourhood Houses Victoria, with our sites in Eltham, Diamond Creek and Panton Hill all registered Neighbourhood Houses.

In May we celebrated Neighbourhood House week at our Eltham, Diamond Creek and Panton Hill Houses.

With this year's theme being 'Honouring our community heroes during COVID', our team arranged for some yummy custom made cookies to thank all our participants, volunteers and tutors who continued to care and support each other through any means possible during the 2020 lockdown.

They are our community heroes!

“ Neighbourhood houses are the heart of our communities. They bring people together to connect, learn and contribute to their local community through social, educational, recreational and support activities. ”

- Neighbourhood Houses Victoria



Pictured above: Writers Group at Diamond Creek celebrating Neighbourhood House Week.



Diamond Creek
119 Cowin Street



Eltham
739 Main Road



Panton Hill
18 Bishops Road

What Living & Learning Nillumbik means to our community

I ❤️ Living & Learning Nillumbik because...

- Brings community together
- sense of belonging
- safe place to learn and grow
- giving service through volunteer program.



I ❤️ Living & Learning Nillumbik because...

It has become my family
❤️ Liz



I ❤️ Living & Learning Nillumbik because...

it provides opportunities for self improvement and socialisation.

Thank

I ❤️ Living & Learning Nillumbik because...

it encourages COMMUNITY

I ❤️ Living & Learning Nillumbik because...

I have met lots of amazing people and learnt a lot too

I ❤️ Living & Learning Nillumbik because...

I can learn new things but more importantly be with others to connect and support each other.



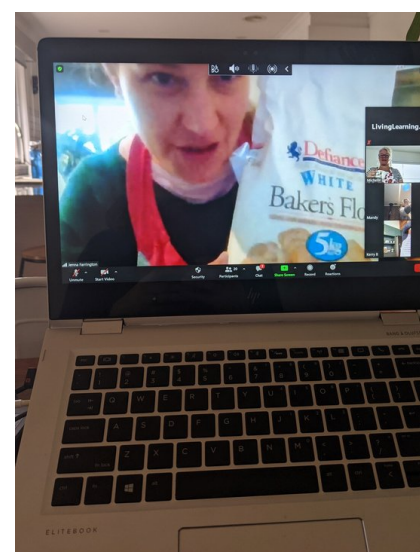
I ❤️ Living & Learning Nillumbik because...

I have learnt skills that have improved my quality of life. I have met amazing people on the journey!





The faces of Living & Learning Nillumbik





Pictured above L&LN staff, volunteers and Cr Geoff Payne at the Volunteer morning tea.

NATIONAL VOLUNTEERS WEEK

To celebrate National Volunteers Week in May we hosted a morning tea for our Living & Learning Nillumbik volunteers. From Makerspace Coordinators, Community Gardeners and Tutors to Admin and Event Support Volunteers, we are so grateful to the many hours, hard work, and warm smiles that all our volunteers bring to our centres.

It was a beautiful sunny morning under the oak tree at Eltham Neighbourhood House where we all enjoyed a delicious morning tea spread from a local café. It was wonderful to see volunteers from all of our centres in Eltham, Diamond Creek and Panton Hill come together with Living & Learning staff. We were also very pleased to welcome Councillor Paine to the event to present certificates and goodie bags to our volunteers. Councillor Geoff Paine thanked the volunteers for being the threads that hold the community tapestry together.

Our Neighbourhood Houses would not be able to serve the community if it weren't for our amazing:

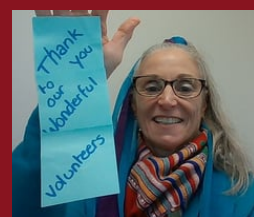
42 volunteers who generously give their time (which is over 140 hours a week!!).

We thank our volunteers from the bottom of our hearts!

NATIONAL 17-23 MAY 2021
VOLUNTEER
 WEEK
 RECOGNISE. RECONNECT.
 REIMAGINE.

AON
 National Volunteer Week 2021
 Exclusive National Sponsor

Volunteering
 NATIONAL



Thank you from L&LN





diversARTy



It was with great delight that we were able to run our 10th annual diversARTy exhibition, after being unable to do so in 2020 due to COVID19.

diversARTy celebrates the diversity of activities, abilities and people who come together to share, learn and connect at Living & Learning Nillumbik.

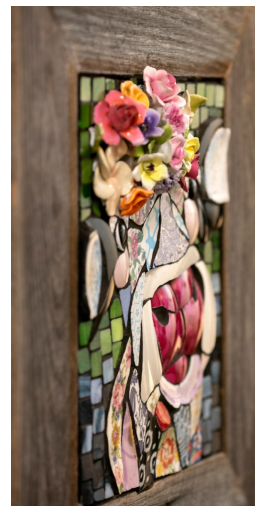
The exhibition held in November, showcased a range of works, including visual arts, textiles and crafts. The exhibition is a wonderful way to bring together the community and the tutors and participants of Living & Learning Nillumbik and showcase the high calibre of work that is produced throughout the year in the various programs and classes.

Long-time diversARTy volunteer exhibition coordinator, Sue Hawthorn, said

“For some it is their first experience having their work displayed in a gallery space... For others it is another opportunity to see their work on walls, plinths, in cabinets and even hanging from the ceiling. diversARTy. I cannot imagine a better name for such an amazing collection of work created where people share, learn and connect”



Click here to watch the celebrations from the Exhibition Opening Night Saturday 20 November 2021



We're helping
eligible community
members access the

\$ **250**

Power Saving Bonus



L&LN helping community members experiencing power bill stress

Living & Learning Nillumbik is helping community members experiencing financial hardship to access the State Government's \$250 Power Saving Bonus.

The Power Saving Bonus provides eligible Victorians with a one-off \$250 payment, to assist households with the cost living during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"The pandemic has only exacerbated existing poverty within our communities, and many people have lost work or significant income as a direct result of Victoria's lockdowns," Neighbourhood Houses Victoria CEO Nicole Battle said. "This bonus offers some financial relief for these community members, many of whom have to choose whether they can pay their next electricity bill or put food on the table." To help spread the word about the bonus, the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning has engaged Neighbourhood Houses Victoria in partnership Good Shepherd.

"It makes sense to have Neighbourhood Houses spreading the word about this bonus," Nicole said. "Being such grassroots organisations, they are best positioned to reach people within their communities who already come to them for other support services such as food relief, job seeking support, digital literacy programs and Centrelink assistance."

Living & Learning Coordinator, Cobie Vermeulen, said our three Neighbourhood House centres located in Diamond Creek, Eltham and Panton Hill are able to support local community members complete their online applications for the bonus. "We know there are members of our community who have never used a computer before or lack confidence and skills to do something like submit an application online," Cobie said. "We don't want this to be a barrier to them accessing the \$250 payment, so we are available to step them through the process, and make sure they aren't left behind."

To be eligible for the Power Saving Bonus, applicants must hold a pensioner concession card or receive JobSeeker, Austudy, Abstudy or Youth Allowance.

For assistance with accessing the Power Saving Bonus, email info.livinglearning@nillumbik.vic.gov.au or call on 9433 3744.



Living & Learning Nillumbik proudly hosted the Safe Seats Safe Kids program in 2021 and will continue to offer this service from our sites.

We invite parents and carers (including grandparents!) to book in for FREE car restraint fitting or safety check at:

- Eltham Living & Learning - Mondays fortnightly
- Panton Hill Living & Learning - second Monday of the month
- Diamond Creek Living & Learning - first Friday of the month

Bookings are essential via www.safeseatssafekids.com.au/venues-mec/
Please use location drop down box to find the venue.

The program is hosted by Kidsafe Victoria in partnership with Neighbourhood Houses Victoria. Further information about the program can be accessed on their website <https://safeseatssafekids.com.au>

Congratulations Red Hat Sparklers!

The wonderful Red Hat Sparkler's had much to smile about at their first outing for 2021 with a lunch at Bridges, celebrating the social group's 110th outing!



If you are a woman and enjoy meeting new people and visiting new places, then the Red Hat Sparklers group is for you. On the first Thursday of each month this all female group visits a new and interesting place and enjoys lunch together too. If you are over 50 wear something red on your head and under 50's get to wear pink headgear instead.

One thing is guaranteed - you will have fun!

Supporting over 50s to Be Connected

Launch your adventure into the world of phones, computers, websites, emails and new friends.

Whether you're looking for help in navigating the online world or already know your way around and would like to help others, the Be Connected program has the resources and people to guide you on your journey.

Living & Learning Nillumbik provides FREE one-on-one digital tutoring at Diamond Creek, Pantan Hill, Eltham, Hurstbridge and St Andrews.

Technology and the internet can feel foreign and daunting. Our friendly and supportive tutors can help you learn the basics of using digital devices and engaging with the internet, including:

- how to use your device or laptop
- communicating with family and friends who live far away
- finding new friends who share interests and hobbies
- accessing online services

To participate or volunteer, call 03 9433 3744 or email info.livinglearning@nillumbik.vic.gov.au



Australian Government

Be Connected
Every Australian online.

Network Partner

Be Connected Digital Mentor volunteers currently needed!

For more information contact on
9433 3744 or
info.livinglearning@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

BE CONNECTED GOES VISITING

Our Be Connected volunteers had their first outreach session to a local retirement village in early March. Congratulations to our volunteer digital mentors on a very popular and successful morning. The 8 learners who joined us were all very appreciative of your time, expertise and your patient and encouraging approach to answering their questions about using their devices to get online.



SCHOOL HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS

We ran a number of much loved school holiday workshops this year across Eltham, Diamond Creek and Panton Hill including:

- Lego building
- Drama
- Nature Journalling
- Art
- Pottery

We look forward to running more kids activities in 2022!



If you have any suggestions for additional kids programs at L&LN please get in touch with us!



Nationally recognised training

L&LN REGISTERED TRAINING ORGANISATION

L&LN is an approved Registered Training Organisation (3989) and Learn Local provider offering nationally recognised qualifications and a diverse range of short courses offering pathways to employment and further education.

Living & Learning Nillumbik has a strong reputation built on the high quality of our training and learner support services. Our trainers have the same teaching qualifications as those training at other providers, like TAFEs, and they have a wealth of experience in their specific industry.

Current qualification courses on Living & Learning Nillumbik's scope of registration:

- CHC30121 Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care
- CHC50121 Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care
- CHC33015 Certificate III in Individual Support (Ageing, Home and Community)
- HLTAID009 Provide CPR
- HLTAID011 Provide First Aid



Fee Sievers

Past student



"I trained here many years ago now and they are fantastic - Nillumbik students on placement are always well received and their aged care courses have a great reputation in the aged care sector."

**For more information
see our website**

www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au



Employment and career pathways

LEARN LOCAL / PRE-ACCREDITED TRAINING

Living & Learning Nillumbik helps community improve job prospects and skills through flexible and affordable Learn Local endorsed training, programs and projects.

Our Learn Local courses for 2022 include a range of exciting new pre-accredited courses including: **Community Energy, Digital Skills basics, Intro to Horticulture, Urban Food Gardening, Tools of the Trade for Women – Basic home maintenance skills for women Daily Grind hospitality course, Intro to Community Services and Creative Industries** to help you:

- land your first job
- finish school
- get back to work after long-term unemployment
- change your career
- get into further training or university
- develop social skills and increase confidence

Enrolments now open for the February 2022 intake for:

- Digital Essentials Level 1

Learn the basics of various areas of technology, the ways people can use these devices to connect with others and access services over the Internet.

- Intro to Horticulture

For people who love gardening and the outdoors, are considering a career in horticulture or who would like an introduction to aspects of working in the industry.

- Intro to Community Services

The program will provide introductory level content with a focus on employability skills, professional communication, confidentiality, ethics, disclosure, employment expectations and further pathway opportunities.

WHAT'S ON AT L&LN 2022



Course and Activity Guide
January – June 2022

Where people share, learn and connect

Explore our wide range of short courses, qualification courses, activities, events, MakerSpaces and social groups available at our Eltham, Diamond Creek and Panton Hill sites.

Living & Learning NILLUMBIK | Nillumbik

livinglearningnillumbik.vlc.gov.au

To see all that L&LN has to offer during Terms 1 and 2 in 2022, download a copy of our course guide [here](#)





Free Taster sessions for Seniors coming in 2022

Throughout early 2022, Living & Learning Nillumbik is pleased to offer free trial sessions of some of our programs. This is a great opportunity to see what is on offer, enjoy a coffee, chat and meet new people.

Taster sessions at Diamond Creek in January and February 2022

Games, chats and coffee – taster session

Thursday 3 February 1pm – 3pm

Have a hand of cards or a game of scrabble or just sit and chat.

Drama for seniors – taster session

Friday 28 January 11am – 12pm

Reclaim your confidence and voice and enjoy a few laughs.

Drop in for assistance with your digital device – enjoy a coffee and chat

Tuesday 8 February 10.30am – 12pm

Need some help with your digital device, mobile phone, iPad, laptop? Come with your questions, have a coffee and we can assist with answering your questions.

Macramé – taster session

Thursday 3 February 12pm – 1pm

Learn and practise a few knots to see how shapes are created with macramé.

Memoir writing – taster session

Wednesday 2 February 11am – 12:30pm

Gather some hints and tips for recording your memoirs.

Tai chi – taster session

Wednesday 9 February 10am – 11am

See how Tai Chi can assist with balance and coordination, relieve tension and stress.

Exploring art – taster session

Thursday 3 February 9:30am – 11:30am

Try your hand at drawing or painting or get some expert tips.

Free Taster sessions at Eltham in February and March 2022

Contact Living & Learning for times
and dates at Eltham and Panton Hill

Arts for Health – taster session

Monday 31 January 11.30am – 12.30pm

Increase mental health, well-being,
confidence and social connection through art.

Clay – taster session

Friday 4 February 10am – 11.30am

A fun short session if you have always wanted
to give clay and pottery-making a go.

Community Garden – “Intro to the Garden”

Wednesday 2 February 9.30am – 10.30am

Come along to an introductory session at
Eltham community organic vegie garden.
Learn what we are planting and meet our
wonderful volunteers.

Taster sessions at Panton Hill in February and March 2022

Watercolour art – taster session

Friday 4 March

A fun taste of watercolour painting.

Mosaic – taster session

Friday 18 February and

Friday 25 February 11am – 12pm

Catch the ‘mosaic bug’ from our experienced
tutors. Continue creating by joining our
Mosaic MakerSpace.

Community Garden – “Intro to the Garden”

Come along to an introductory session at
Panton Hill community organic vegie garden.
Learn what we are planting and meet our
wonderful volunteers.

Enquiries and Bookings through Living & Learning Nillumbik

Phone: 9433 3744

Email: info.livinglearning@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

Cost: Free

Bookings prior to the date of taster
session essential

Website: [livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au/
seniors](http://livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au/seniors)



E-news

Our eNews updates you with all the latest news, upcoming events, courses and activities direct to your inbox.

Sign up today [here](#) or via the QR code



Thank you Panton Hill Playhouse

Living & Learning Nillumbik partnered with Panton Hill Playhouse for the second year in a row to collect gifts for Diamond Valley Community Support's annual gift appeal.

The gift appeal supports vulnerable and disadvantaged families who live in the Nillumbik Shire Council area, through the provision of Children's Toy Parcels for those who cannot afford them along with Christmas food hampers.

Thank you to all the generous people who made a donation.



Pictured: Allira, Panton Hill Living & Learning Nillumbik, Maree, Belinda and Codie the dog from Playhouse



Merry Christmas



The L&LN team shared a meal to celebrate Christmas and the end of year at the Panton Hill Hotel. It was so great to be together in person with no COVID restrictions.

Wishing you all a safe and merry Christmas

LIVING & LEARNING NILLUMBIK END OF YEAR OPERATING HOURS

OUR OFFICE WILL BE CLOSING
THURSDAY 16 DECEMBER 1PM AND
REOPENING TUESDAY 11 JANUARY
2022

WISHING YOU ALL A SAFE AND
MERRY FESTIVE SEASON.