



EXODUS COMMUNITY NEWS

Olympic Village Exodus Community is part of the parish of St. Pius X, West Heidelberg

BREAD TEAM - OVER 16 YEARS OF SERVICE

One of Exodus Community's longest running ministries is the Bread Team, with over 16 years of service in the local area.

Bread donated by Bakers Delight Ivanhoe is collected weekly, repacked into lots and distributed to local families. Some also collect bread at our weekly Drop-In.

The Mall Bakery in Heidelberg West also supported us for many years.

Those who receive the bread are very grateful to our very generous volunteers who distribute rain, hail or shine. We particularly thank Carmel and Brendan Abrahams who have just completed many years of service in collecting the bread and delivering it to the Exodus Shed – a most helpful contribution! Marist young adults have just taken over management of this valuable activity

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

During the summer break, a four-day programme of youth activities was conducted in support of local youth. Abbas Aweys, a local Somali community member was once again significantly involved in gathering local Somali youth and engaging with Melbourne City soccer. A clinic was held for these boys.

We also used LaTrobe University Sports Centre for swimming and indoor games. It was fiercely hot! Two days in the city included using public transport to travel,

learning about some Melbourne landmarks, enjoying a session of ice-skating, ten-pin bowling and an afternoon at the movies.

A day-trip to Walhalla and catching up on some Victorian history concluded the summer youth activities. During the Easter school holidays, the youth participated in some other activities to build confidence and friendships.

As always, Banyule Youth Services have been supportive of our activities. Participants are also grateful to other generous supporters and Exodus volunteers.

WAY OF THE CROSS

The contemporary theme to Exodus Community's Way of the Cross, make this Good Friday service appealing to people not only from Olympic Village, but many other areas.



Each year the Faith Development Team generously give their time and skills to prepare a contemporary service with reflections that everyone present can relate to.

A crowd of around fifty gathered in perfect weather this year, to

walk the streets of Olympic Village and reflect on the meaning of this holy day, through the current day struggles of people both locally, and the broader community.

Exodus is grateful to all who are involved in the preparation of this special service.

ART AT EXODUS

Exodus has a new a program. We now have an art class every Tuesday from 10.00am till 12 noon in The Shed.

We have the best teacher in the world! His name is Chris Roberts, a recently retired arts teacher from Marcellin College and he is very encouraging to all of his students, some of whom are particularly gifted and some of whom, (the writer) less so!

Our classes are so varied and interesting; *Sea Scope*, concentrating on the horizon line and colours of the waves, the earthy colours of *The Outback*, reflections of the moon on the water with *Night Scope*, *Melbourne Skyline* with charcoal and to challenge our left brain, *Upside Down Drawing*. It has been a wonderful experience.

The students encourage each other and each of us leaves the class feeling very relaxed, and with a feeling of accomplishment. It is great fun and everyone is welcome.

Chris would love to have more students. You don't need to be a Picasso, just a lovely human being. Come along on Tuesday or if you would like more information, call Meg on 041 855 4246.

Meg Rice

SUPPORT

Over the summer period Exodus received many generous donations of goods, gifts and money that were distributed to local families.

A family group, chose to donate vouchers to Exodus rather than give each other Christmas gifts. Another family made a very generous donation from a Family Trust. An Exodus volunteer organized a fund raising lunch.

Staff at Marist Centre Brunswick made vouchers available for distribution to those in need of extra support. Several other individuals, family groups and Marist communities contributed significantly to supporting our summer Youth Group activities. Nearby parishes had Christmas collections just for Exodus ministries.

Banyule Youth Services also supported our three-day Youth Programme.

Holy Name Primary School students in East Preston and St John's Primary School, Heidelberg raised money to support families attend Family Camp.

Staff and students of OLMC Heidelberg, Sacred Heart College, Geelong, Marcellin College, Bulleen supported us, as did the Rotary Clubs of Rosanna and Preston and Quota International. The practical items such as toiletries, laundry detergents, school stationery as well as Christmas gifts were all gratefully received.

Another very successful movie day featuring "Brooklyn" was held at Balwyn Cinemas on Friday 12 February.

Exodus thanks Jo Magnanini for her ongoing support in organising these very enjoyable fund-raisers. Nearly \$1,000 was raised at this event.

Exodus members are most grateful for the thoughtfulness and generosity shown to us throughout the year, especially during Christmas/summer time

and assure all who contributed that their kindness is appreciated.

FAMILY CAMP 2016

Camp was an amazing experience for both the children and adults. There were so many different activities to take part in this year including candle-making, the flying fox, the reptile room and every kid's favourite – the pool.



We also went on little bush walking adventures and a trip to the lake.

It was a great experience and HEAPS OF FUN.

Serah & Karina

ANNE HALL - BANYULE VOLUNTEER AWARD

Each year the Banyule City Council acknowledges volunteers who work within the Banyule area. All members of the community are welcome to nominate a worthy volunteer.

Last year, our Drop-In Team received an award for their generosity in volunteering.

This year we have nominated Anne Hall.

For more than ten years, Anne has been a very active volunteer in a number of Exodus Community teams, supporting local people. These include delivering bread with the Exodus Bread Team, weekly homework support and after school learning (specializing in cooking), with Kids in the Shed, Ministry Support Team, raising funds and lifting the profile of Exodus through social awareness.

Anne has also been a significant mentor to local women.

Anne has worked with a wide range of volunteers and clients; managing, driving, organising, sharing, creative ideas, promotion, listening empathetically, offering practical assistance and one-on-one care of children.

Anne is recognised by her fellow volunteers as a most stable, reliable and generous member of The Exodus Community, bringing local knowledge, compassion, understanding and insight to issues confronting many in Heidelberg West. Her pleasant manner, common sense and ability to work with people of all ages, is admired.

Anne is patient, accepting of circumstance, generous, tolerant and ready to listen and try to understand while sharing her knowledge and support of others ideas.

Kindness and reliability also contribute to Anne's valued qualities, along with her lovely sense of humour.

The Banyule Volunteer Awards dinner this year will be held on Wednesday May 11th where some Exodus Volunteers will join Anne for the occasion.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Exodus Retreat: 29 April to 1 May
- Reflection Day: Saturday 2 July, 10am in The Shed
- OLMC Mothers Day Luncheon 12 May, 1.00pm in The Shed



Storage King Heidelberg West is a proud supporter of Exodus Community.