



CONTACT Bundoora Community Centre Inc

Reg. No. A13082 R ABN 870 182 345 25

Bundoora Hall, 20 Noorong Avenue, Bundoora 3083

All Correspondence: PO Box 139, Bundoora Vic 3083

Telephone: (03) 9467 6305

Website: www.contactbundooracomcen.com.au

Congratulations and thank to all who made the 50th celebration such a great success.

This wonderful milestone provided the perfect opportunity to honour the extraordinary legacy of all who have contributed to Contact over the years. In particular our incredible community of volunteers, who continue to dedicate their time and care to every aspect of Contact’s operations.

The celebration was held as a drop-in event, welcoming community members throughout a four-and-a-half-hour period. The people who attended enjoyed displays of the many crafts taught at Contact over the years, along with live demonstrations. Guests also had the chance to view a video featuring reflections from both past and present members, and to celebrate the launch of the book on the history of Contact.

It was a truly special occasion, a chance for long-time members to reunite, reminisce, and celebrate the enduring spirit of Contact. We were especially delighted that some of the original and early committee members were able to join us.

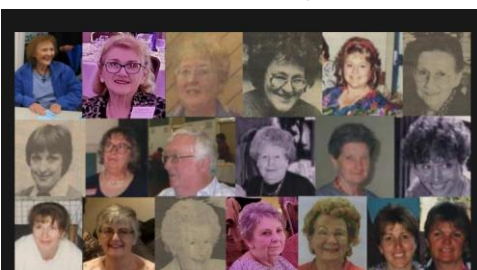
While many things have changed over the decades, one thing remains constant; Contact continues to be a true Community Centre built on the principles of “Caring and Sharing.”

Special thanks to the subcommittee Yvonne, Glenys, Val, Rhonda and Joan who put in an enormous amount of work to ensure the day was something to remember. You did a fantastic job.



Early Committee Members – from left Karen Roe, Margery Hamilton, Jan Sirianni, Jenny McGuirk and Robyn Pearce.

The book ‘**Celebrating Fifty Years of Contact Bundoora Community Centre Inc.**’ applauds everyone who has contributed to Contact; as a committee member, class participant, teacher, volunteer or visitor. Even if you are not mentioned individually in the book your contribution to Contact’s rich and remarkable history is just as meaningful. To purchase a copy of this publication (\$25.00) please visit the Centre during operating hours or email info@contactbundooracomcen.com.au for further information. There is so much to celebrate about this Centre.



*Celebrating Fifty Years of
Contact Bundoora Community Centre Inc.
October 1975 to October 2025*



A big thank you to the **North East Link Community Fund** for their generous grant supporting the 50th celebration. Their contribution allowed us to showcase the brilliant crafts as they deserved, set up the hall beautifully, and provide food for our visitors. Thanks to the support, everything looked wonderful and the day was a real success!

‘Caring and Sharing’

Colin Brooks was unable to attend the 50th celebration as Parliament was sitting. He did however acknowledge Contact in Parliament on the day of the celebration. The following was taken from Hansard. Thank you Colin for your continued support.

Colin BROOKS (Bundoorra – Minister for Industry and Advanced Manufacturing, Minister for Creative Industries) (09:51):

“Today I rise to recognise a remarkable milestone: the 50th anniversary of Contact Bundoorra Community Centre. From its beginnings in 1975 when a small group of mothers and children met monthly at the Uniting Church in Bundoorra, Contact has grown into a welcoming space for everyone, for learning, creativity and connection. This milestone is made possible by the dedication of the centre’s countless volunteers, who have been the reason for its ongoing success. I would like to particularly acknowledge Kath Wills, who has volunteered for nearly 50 years at Contact, averaging 10 hours a week and contributing across many different roles. Kath continues to serve at the centre today, demonstrating outstanding commitment. And for many years the unstoppable Mrs Wilma Stubbs would come to my office to photocopy the centre’s program and advocate for the centre’s work. I would also like to recognise Merle Foggie, the centre’s oldest member, at 101 years of age. Merle began participating in the early years. For over 30 years she taught students with disabilities a variety of crafts and still participates in the cross-stitch class, exemplifying the centre’s spirit of learning and generosity.

Today, as Contact celebrates 50 years of community learning and caring, I would like to thank and acknowledge all those who have contributed to the centre and its role in making our community a better place”.

A collection of photographs from the 50th anniversary can be found at:
<https://contactbundooracomcen.com.au/gallery/>

MINI MARKET

Tuesday and Wednesday, November 18th & 19th

The Mini Market provides members and non-members with an opportunity to sell items made throughout the year, and for buyers to purchase unique gifts. This is a great opportunity to buy **Christmas gifts** that are truly special.

- All items submitted for sale must have the items clearly labelled with the seller’s name and selling price. A supervisor on the day will allocate an area to display the items. 10% commission is deducted from all member sales. Non-member commission is 20%. Funds from sales are returned to the member upon collection of unsold items at the end of market day (Wednesday).
- Items to be dropped off at 9.30am Tuesday and collected at 1.00pm Wednesday.
- The mini market sells **new or un-used** handmade craft items. If the supervisor feels the items are unsuitable, they have the right to remove them from the display.
- Although Contact will supervise all items, no responsibility is taken for any loss or theft.
- The market is open to all members and people in the wider community.
- The market will be held in the hall from 10.00am until 1.00pm Tuesday and Wednesday.



‘Caring and Sharing’



End of Year Break-up

When: Wednesday December 3rd, 2025

Time: 12 noon at Bundoora Hall

**Enjoy music from the talented
'BooBoo and the Bear' and a visit from
Santa.**

Look forward to seeing you there

All members are welcome and encouraged to attend the end of year breakup. You are asked to bring a small plate to share with those at your table. Tea and coffee will be provided. Just let the front desk volunteers know if you would like to join in the celebration but do not have a class table.

Please do not look at this celebration as an either/or. (Either I go to the end of year celebration at Contact or go out somewhere with my class.) Why not do both? There is a long holiday break to follow. Why not come to the end of year celebration and meet up with your class members in January? A lot of effort is put into organising the break-up and it would be great to see as many as possible support it. Last year we had the very popular Ruby Tuesday Singers and we are introducing a new group this year. We are also reducing the number of raffle prizes and increasing the value.

Thank you to the teachers who have donated, or intend to donate, prizes. Thank you also to the members who have donated goods for the hamper. Further donations can be made up to the day of the break-up. Goods suitable for inclusion in a Christmas hamper would be gratefully received. All non-Christmas food items will be donated to Food Share.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE:

Thank you to all the members who have taken the 10-ticket book of tickets to sell. This is the major fundraiser for Contact for the year and is what enables door fees to be kept to a minimum. Your support is encouraged and appreciated.

Goods suitable for inclusion in a Christmas hamper would be gratefully received. Please leave them with the volunteers at the front desk, or place in the container beside the entrance ramp.

Additional raffle tickets are available from the volunteers at the front desk and will also be on sale at the Christmas break up, where it will be drawn. Great prizes to be won.

Tickets are 50 cents each or \$5.00 a book.

Contact is collecting no longer used **mobile phones** to be donated to 'DV Safe Phones' (Domestic Violence). Private information will be deleted if not already done, then they will be upcycled. Every three minutes someone in Australia calls for emergency help due to domestic violence, yet many victims cannot call at all – their phones are often taken, broken, or monitored by perpetrators.

Repurposing donated phones into secure, untraceable lifelines, helps victims stay connected to loved ones, reach support, and rebuild their lives.

Coffee pods can also be left at the front desk and will be dropped off at a local collection point for recycling.

'Caring and Sharing'

The History of Aprons

Do you think kids know what an apron is?

The principal use of Grandma's apron was to protect the dress underneath, but along with that it served as a potholder for removing hot pans from the oven.

It was wonderful for drying children's tears, and on occasion was even used for cleaning dirty ears. From the chicken coop, the apron was used for carrying eggs, fussy chicks, and sometimes half hatched eggs to be finished in the warming oven.

When company came those aprons were an ideal place for hiding shy kids. When the weather was cold, grandma wrapped it around her arms. Those big old aprons wiped many a perspiring brow, bent over the wood stove. Chips and kindling wood were bought into the kitchen in that apron.

From the garden it carried all sorts of vegetables. After the peas had been shelled, it carried out the pods. In the Autumn, the apron was used to bring in apples that had fallen from the trees. When unexpected company drove up the road, it was surprising how much furniture that old apron could dust in a matter of seconds.

When dinner was ready, Grandma walked out into the porch, waved her apron, and the men knew it was time to come in from the fields for dinner.

It will be a long time before someone invents something that will replace that 'old-time apron' that served so many purposes.

There are two things we get
everyday when we wake up.
A **chance** and a **choice**.

J. Prince



Glenda Morris - 1st Prize in the Open Pastel section
'The Tomato Source'



Vikki Denton 1st prize in the Novice Pastel section for
'Blue Dog'

Two students in the Wednesday Painting class with Margaret Nigro won several awards at the Whittlesea show including two first prize awards as pictured above. Congratulations.

Congratulations to the three Contact members who were awarded Life Membership at the 50th Anniversary. All three women have made a remarkable contribution to Contact.



Jenny McGuirk was the Inaugural President of Contact. Jenny, and the group of amazing young mothers who supported her, faced many challenges in their journey to commence what became Contact Community Centre. They were constantly fundraising, juggling family life and finding creative ways to make things work. Details of the struggles of the early committees (written by Jenny) can be found in the book 'Celebrating 50 years of Contact Community Centre'. Jenny was president for six years and on the committee for a total of 13 years. We are forever thankful for her leadership, intuition and hard work. Thank you Jenny.



2025 has been a big year for Kath Wills. She has received an award from Banyule City Council for her almost 50 years of volunteering at Contact, she has been mentioned in Parliament and has received Life Membership. This recognition is well overdue and well deserved. Kath is a recognisable face to all who come to Contact. She has undertaken many roles and currently works as a front desk volunteer. She is well versed in all the happenings at the Centre and is almost always requested for photocopying. Kath is a quiet achiever and her contribution to Contact is very much appreciated. Thanks Kath.



Rhonda West is no doubt known to most Contact members for her tireless work. She has been a teacher, student and long term committee member. Rhonda has been president for nine years and undertaken almost all other roles on the committee. She is not one to sit on her hands and her offers of help are always followed by action. It would be difficult to estimate how many hours Rhonda has put into ensuring the smooth running and success of Contact. Her leadership, creativity and hard work is unparalleled. Sincere thanks Rhonda.

Twas the night before Christmas,
I'm glued to the tree.
I'm wondering what Santa brought just for me.
Could it be cardstock or chipboard or lace?
Or a Cricut, I said,
with a smile on my face.
And that's when I heard him,
"Hi Santa," I said"
You know....good little girls
Should be in their beds."
"I know I should Santa,
And now I've got caught.
But I was just so excited
To see what you brought."
"Well, let's take a look
In this room where you work.
He shook his head quickly,
And left with a jerk.
I heard him exclaim
As he put it in gear.
"You've got enough crap,
I'll see you next year!"



Treasured Babies

Thank you to the members for the knitted/crochet garments that have been sent off to the Treasured Babies.

13 sets, 9 blankets, 16 hearts, 3 hats and booties, 2 cardigans and 2 hats.

These special gifts are much appreciated.

Jewellery Sales

The Jewellery for Good group will be selling beautiful hand made jewellery on November 11, 12 and 13. Please support this initiative. Proceeds from these sales will be donated to **Golden Retriever Rescue Inc.** Fundraising from the group goes to various charities over the year.

Cheat's Frozen Christmas Puddings (Women's Weekly)

These deliciously sweet frozen puddings are perfect for a hot Australian Christmas celebration.

2 litres of vanilla ice-cream- softened

800g golden fruit cake – crumbled

1/3 cup (80ml) brandy or rum

Chopped pecans, orange rind strips and chocolate curls to decorate.



Chocolate Sauce:

180g dark (semi-sweet chocolate) chopped

1 cup (250ml) thickened cream

Method:

- Line eight ¾ cup (180ml) moulds with plastic wrap extending 3cm over the edge of mould. Could use mugs/glasses if you do not have moulds.
- Process ice-cream, cake and brandy in batches until combined. Spoon ice-cream mixture into moulds. Cover with plastic wrap then foil; freeze overnight.
- Make chocolate Sauce: stir ingredients in a small saucepan over low heat until smooth.
- Just before serving ,turn puddings onto a baking paper-lined tray; gently peel away plastic, transfer puddings to serving plates. Drizzle sauce over puddings; decorate with nuts, rind and chocolate curls. Enjoy.

Dates to remember:

Tues/Wed/Thurs	November 11, 12, 13	Jewellery for Good sales
Tuesday/Wednesday	November 18/19	Mini Market
Wednesday	December 3	Contact Break-up
Tuesday	February 3	Contact resumes for 2026
Thursday	April 2	End of Term 1

Thank you to Colin Brooks and his staff for the printing of this newsletter.



It may seem a little early but this is the final newsletter for 2025.

The Committee would like to wish you and your families:

A happy and stress free lead up to Christmas.

A joyous Christmas day with family and friends.

A happy, healthy and prosperous 2026.

Please keep the more vulnerable of the Contact community in your thoughts over the break. The kind act of a phone call or a 'meet for coffee' invitation could make someone's day. Please make the effort if you can. It can be a lonely time for many.

'Caring and Sharing'