

**CONTACT Bundoora Community Centre Inc**

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***Special thank you to the members who attended the Annual General Meeting.***

The recent Annual General Meeting was well attended and demonstrated members' strong appreciation for the Contact volunteer community and the commitment that contributes to Contact's continued success.

**Presidents Report:**

This year has been both challenging and rewarding for the Committee. As volunteers, we work very hard to ensure the continued success of Contact. Our aim is to keep the centre running as smoothly as possible and support Contact's ethos of caring and sharing. To the current committee and desk volunteers you have done a fantastic job over the last 12 months, as I am sure you would all agree.

To our Members and Teachers thank you so much for your participation and continued support. It is so nice to see all the fantastic work you do and hear all the chatter and laughter in the hall each week.

The biggest highlight for Contact last year was the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration held in October, which was an amazing success. As part of this celebration, we launched our book, were acknowledged in Parliament on the day by Colin Brooks who was unable to attend, had historical displays, interviews with past and present members and class demonstrations. 3 Life Memberships were also awarded to well deserving recipients, Jenny McGuirk, Kath Wills and Rhonda West. It was so pleasing to see past and current members.

Last week at the Banyule Volunteers Dinner Rhonda deservedly won a Volunteer of the Year Award, 2026 Banyule Lifetime Contribution Volunteer Award. Congratulations on an amazing effort to Contact and the community. Well done.

In March, we held a Sausage Sizzle to raise funds for the farmers impacted by the fires. I would like to acknowledge the generosity of members who not only purchased sausages on the day but supplied the bread, onions, sauce and sausages. This event raised \$1,414.50, plus the donation of \$1,000 from Contact funds making a total of \$2414.50. \$1,207.20 has been sent to both BlazeAid and Buy a Bale. Thanks so much to Brenden, Michael, Tim and Geoff for their help on the day.

Our End of Year Breakup was a resounding success thanks to entertainment from Boo Boo and the Bear from our OMNI Men's Group who meet the second and fourth Thursday mornings each month. In appreciation of their contribution to the day, Contact donated the proceeds of the Raffle money received on the day to Prostrate Cancer.

The soup days were a hit also, with members sitting together to enjoy a nice hot cup of soup for lunch over the cooler months. So nice to see our members mingling.

Memberships for 2026 are 314 so far. Currently we run 49 classes over two and a half days. An incredible effort, particularly for a volunteer run organisation.

Teachers are the backbone of Contact. We are extremely fortunate to have such talented teachers to inspire our students. Thank you once again for all your hard work and your willingness to pass on your expertise to your students. We have introduced 2 new classes in Term 2, Air Brush Painting and Falls Prevention and Balance, which are doing well.

Then there is also our Charity work. The Sewing for Charity Table is such an asset to us. These ladies work tirelessly making items for cancer patients, nursing homes etc. which are donated on behalf of Contact.

Treasured Babies is such a worthy cause. Thank you to everyone who knit and sew items and to Glenys Williams for co-ordinating collection and forwarding these items to Treasured Babies.

There is also the Jewellery for Good group, who make and sell items to raise funds to donate to Charity on behalf of Contact.

In addition, we would also like to thank all our generous members who donate food items each week, which are passed on for distribution to families in need.

We are trying to make your need to find change each week easier by introducing an electronic payment facility. This will be introduced soon, so keep looking out for it.

Term Tickets are working well and becoming more popular.

Thanks to the teachers who offered the come and try free sessions during Seniors Week.

We are extremely grateful for the assistance and generous support from Banyule Council. Without their help we would not exist.

We are also grateful to Watsonia Neighbourhood House for offering us a collaboration agreement to employ Kylie Loy for 5 hours per week to support and promote the continued success of Bundoora Contact. This arrangement is working well and producing results.

The Committee were saddened to receive Helen Webb's resignation in March. The job of secretary is so important and covers a huge number of tasks. The most outstanding contribution was the publication of the 50-year history of Contact, which was launched at the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration last year. The research, documentation and organising that went into the book's creation was enormous. An incredible effort. We sincerely thank her for the tremendous amount of time and commitment she devoted to Contact as Secretary, covering all the tasks, not only the book.

*Anne Macaulay*

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## **EFTPOS Machine Arriving at Contact**

We are pleased to announce that an EFTPOS machine will be available at Contact from the start of Term 3.

This payment option will be available at the Front Desk.



### Advanced Care Planning – Thursday 16 July 12.30 – 2.30pm

Join us for an informative and supportive session on Advanced Care Planning, led by Ella Chitchley and Linda Heard from the Northern Health ACP Program.

<b>A</b>	<b>Appoint Another</b> – You can sign a legal form making it clear who you want to make <b>MEDICAL DECISIONS</b> for you if you are too sick to do it yourself. This is a ‘Medical Treatment Decision Maker’.
<b>C</b>	<b>Chat &amp; Communicate</b> – Talk to your family, friends and doctors about your values, beliefs and health care preferences. Tell them about what is important for you. Also talk to your doctors or other health professionals to find out more about what might be ahead.
<b>P</b>	<b>Put it on Paper</b> – If there is something you feel strongly about, you can write it down in an Advance Care Directive. You can write down your health care values and preferences for future medical treatments, including what type of medical treatment you would agree to, and what you would not want.

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Book with the Front Desk Volunteers, or ring 9467 6305, or email: [classes@contactbundooracomcen.com.au](mailto:classes@contactbundooracomcen.com.au)

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### Thai Coconut Pumpkin Soup



- 2 tbsp vegetable oil (*or other oil*)
- 1 brown onion, *diced*
- 2 garlic cloves, *finely minced*
- 3 tbsp Thai red curry paste
- 1.8kg pumpkin or butternut squash – *peeled, deseeded then chopped*
- 2 1/2 cups vegetable stock
- 400ml (1 can) coconut milk
- 1 tbsp fish sauce

1. **Sauté** – Heat oil in a large heavy based pot over medium high heat. Add onion and garlic, cook for 2 minutes until soft.
2. **Add curry paste** and cook for 2 minutes.
3. **Add pumpkin** and stir to coat in the flavours
4. Set aside 1/4 cup coconut milk for garnish. Add stock, remaining coconut milk and fish sauce.
5. Bring to simmer then reduce heat to medium and simmer until the pumpkin is soft.
6. **Blitz** using stick blender until smooth.
7. **Serve** topped with garnishes, eg coriander, including remaining coconut milk. Enjoy!

## Congratulations Rhonda

A wonderful recognition for Contact Bundoora. We could not be happier with the result at the Banyule Council Volunteer Awards held at the Ivanhoe Town Hall recently.

Contact Bundoora's very own Rhonda West received the award for 'Volunteer of the Year – 2026 Banyule Lifetime Contribution Award'. What an incredible and well deserved achievement.

The recognition is a true testament to Rhonda's many years of dedication, generosity and commitment to both Contact Bundoora and the wider community. Her volunteering has touched the lives of so many people over the years.

Congratulations Rhonda, we are all so proud of you!



## Well Done Yani Moediman

At the recent Heidelberg Artists Society event, 'Chillin in Banyule' Banyule Mayor Cr Alison Champion attended and viewed a range of works, including cards and paintings by talented local artists.

The Mayor purchased Yani's artwork - Seduction, which is now displayed in her office as part of her personal collection.



*'Seduction'*

Painted with alcohol ink, poured onto a special paper then blown with a straw. No brush is used in this type of painting.

### DONATED GOODS STALL

**Tuesday 4 & 5 August**

Donations are accepted, encouraged, and appreciated up until Thursday 30 July

Donations of appropriate materials, such as new or used craft supplies, can be given directly to the Desk Volunteers

All items must be clean and in good condition/working order

**NO CLOTHING WILL BE ACCEPTED**

## Dates to remember:

Thursday	25 June	Term 2 ends
Tuesday	14 July	Term 3 begins
Thursday	16 July	Presentation – Advanced Care Planning
Tuesday/Wednesday	4 & 5 August	Donated Goods Stall
Thursday	17 September	Term 3 ends
Tuesday	6 October	Term 4 begins
Tuesday	3 November (Melbourne Cup)	Closed
Tuesday/Wednesday	10 & 11 November	Mini Market
Tuesday	1 December	Term 4 ends
Wednesday	2 December	Contact Break up

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