

FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER – DECEMBER 2010

Foundation lunches

On 21 September, a lunch was held at Sportsbrand Media Group where Moses Abbatangelo, Dean Troth and Ann Van Leerdam of Concern Australia, and Andrew Pappas and Christopher Vogt of Prahran Mission, spoke to staff about the projects the Foundation is funding and volunteering opportunities. Since then, Sofie Desmet of Bennelong Funds Management has offered to volunteer with Concern Australia and the LiveWires project.

Concern Australia is also the [Charity in Focus](#) on the Bennelong Group website this quarter – a great story and beautiful pictures.

Visit days

Accompanied by staff and Foundation and Group Board members, we've recently visited a number of organisations we support, all with very positive feedback from those involved.

- [Prahran Mission](#), where we spoke with the CEO Quinn Pawson, Manager of the Employment Programme Andrew Pappas, and a participant in the programme, Agnes;
- [Breast Cancer Network Australia](#), where we met with Sally Hines, Services Manager of the organisation;
- Collingwood College, which is a [Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation](#) school. We observed the kids in the garden, then had lunch with some Grade 5 students who had prepared a beautiful meal;
- South Melbourne Mission Kindergarten, which is the project we're funding through [Ardoch Youth Foundation](#);
- together with a journalist from the Age newspaper, Eric Johnston, we visited Sacred Heart Primary School in Fitzroy which is part of the [Song Room Project](#). The children are mostly African and Asian migrants and Grade 6 students gave us a wonderfully uplifting performance of songs from different countries.

If any staff member would like to visit an organisation we're supporting, Susan is happy to arrange it and accompany staff on the visit.

Youth Committee update

The Youth Committee meet monthly to discuss possible projects put forward by committee members or staff in their business units. After several years being a very valuable member, Leanne Sullivan from Crown Content has resigned from the committee as she leaves the business to commence maternity leave. We thank Leanne for her contribution and wish her and her husband all the best for the arrival of their baby in January.

The Committee welcome Madeline Ryan from Crown Content as Leanne's replacement. Madeline has always been an enthusiastic supporter of the Foundation, attending lunches and Make a Difference Days in the past.

Make a Difference Days

A Make a Difference Day was held in early December with children from the South Melbourne Mission Kindergarten, taking them on an excursion to the Collingwood Children's Farm. The children enjoyed the visit immensely, particularly seeing many of the children had never been out of their local neighbourhood let alone visit a farm. A special thank you to all volunteers on the day.



We are now looking forward to our annual **Mirabel Foundation day** at Luna Park, which will be held on Monday 17 January.

The Foundation also likes to involve our external service providers in Foundation activities, and recently Deloitte contacted us for suggestions on charities we support that their staff could be involved in through their 'Impact Days'. We recommended Mirabel Foundation and the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre (ASRC) and on 12 November, staff from Deloitte devoted a day to volunteering with these very worthwhile organisations. Both Mirabel and ASRC are very appreciative of any volunteer support and grateful for Deloitte's involvement. Deloitte are also partnering with us for the Mirabel day in January.

Foundation grant applications

Please [click here](#) for an overview of applications approved by the Trustees at last month's Board Meeting.

Please contact [Susan Frances](#) or any member of the Youth Committee if you have an organisation you'd like the Foundation to consider, or if you'd like any information on volunteering, either personally or at the Make a Difference Days.

Other news



Kelly Chapman is a member of the Youth Committee and her partner, Dean Fiore, is a V8 Supercar driver. Dean very kindly offered to feature Cottage by the Sea on the bonnet of his car when he raced in Tasmania, and he then got the V8 drivers to sign the bonnet so he could present it to Cottage by the Sea. Dean's generosity in not only featuring Cottage by the Sea, but in getting the signatures and delivering the bonnet to Queenscliff, is very much appreciated.

Contact

If you would like further information on any of the organisations currently supported by the Foundation or would like to suggest a project for future funding, please let me know.

Susan Frances
E-mail: susan@benngroup.com
Telephone: 03 9617 0480