



Newtown Neighbourhood Centre Newsletter

Centre News

December 2007/January 2008

Hi All

Currently we are all recovering from the fantastic Newtown Festival. It was a great day for all with the sun, the bands, the people, the roomies art space, the Children's area, the dog show, and the diverse mix of stalls, the writer's tent, and the community spirit. It was an enormous success from all perspectives and the success really demonstrates how even though we are a diverse community we are a very strong community.

There are so many people to thank for our festival firstly I would like to say the biggest thank you to our wonderful volunteers. We had over 110 who volunteered. Volunteers worked everywhere from the stage, traffic marshals, bucket collectors, dog show handlers, working on various stalls, a photographer and they also played wonderful music. I would like to say a big thank you to all our volunteer coordinators Cathy, Tracy, Daniel, Amber and Lauren, another thank you to our volunteer steering committee James and Gabe. Thankyou also to Caro and her wonderful team for organising the children's area. I also would like to say how much we appreciate our Festival Directors, Sue and Tina who managed to always improve the Festival just a little more than last year. I would also like to thank the local community who for one day a year accommodate the massive crowds and general influx of people that come hand in hand with a large community festival like this. I would also like to thank all the people who so generously donated to the Centre. Don't forget all the money raised at the festival goes back to the community via the services we offer.

We also have two new staff members to welcome to the NNC team. Firstly, Shashanka has come on board as the Financial Administrator. We have divided the administration section into two areas we now have Shashanka as our Financial Administrator and Sam will still be our Centre Administrator. I would also like to welcome Paul to the role of Programs Manager, which is a newly developed position. Both men come with a lot of experience working within marginalised communities. Why don't you drop in for a chat and welcome our newest team members?

As another year comes to a close the staff and management committee would like to thank you for all your support throughout the year and wish you all a peaceful and happy New Year. The Centre will be closed over the Christmas break from the 24th and reopen on Wednesday the 2nd January. We will also be holding a Christmas BBQ on the 17th so please come along and help us celebrate the festive season. We will also be holding a volunteer Christmas celebration on the 13th. I look forward to seeing all of our volunteers and thanking them for all the support and dedication they give to the Centre. Most of the projects will be hosting their own Christmas parties so please check out this newsletter or talk to one of our staff and see when your Christmas party will be or what date your service will be resuming.

I would also like to let you know that I will be taking extended leave from December and will return to the Centre in March. I look forward to catching up with you all in March.
Cheers
Lisa Burns
Executive Officer

Contents	Page
Centre News	1-2
Farewell to our friend and co-worker Helen	2-3
Housing Assistance & Referral Service	4
NNC Bingo	4
Homeless Persons Legal Service	4
Tai Chi	5
Christmas BBQ/Issue based BBQ's	5
Wrap with Love	6
Multicultural Neighbour Aid Updates	6
Shopping Service Update	7
Boarding House Project News	8
Newtown Festival 2007	9-11
Newtown Festival Sponsors	12
Volunteers	13
Emergency Aid/Food over Christmas	14-15
HARS Flyer	16

Farewell Helen



It is with great sadness that I inform you all about the death of our good friend Helen Petagna.

Helen was the former Centre Coordinator and Boarding House Coordinator of the Newtown Neighbourhood Centre from 2000 to 2005. Her legacy will be her strong dedication to this community.

After Helen left the Centre in 2005, she and her husband Lachlan decided to take a sea change and move to Stockton. Even though she loved the relaxing life style and the wonderful beaches I know part of her heart remained in Newtown. She often spoke about how much she loved working at the Centre. She used to say it was the best place she ever worked and how much she missed it.

Helen was very committed to improving services especially for people who were vulnerable and marginalized. She was a great activist for the rights and dignity of people residing in boarding houses. Helen was pivotal in the campaign to lobby to keep the Active Linking Initiative (ALI) project funded. She was a favourite amongst our clients and I believe this was due to her compassionate and friendly nature.

I remember at Helen's farewell a board member, James, in his farewell speech, spoke of how unusual it was for a boss to be both loved and respected. Well, she was one of those rare bosses that was both loved and respected.

On a more personal note I would just like to say how I will miss those friendly chats. Helen was instrumental in giving me the courage to believe I could do this job. She always made herself available whenever I had an issue I was not sure how to deal with. Helen was very generous with her praise and support. Even when I last spoke to her about a month ago she did not want to talk about her illness she wanted to know how I, my brother, my dog and the Centre was going.

Helen, I was going to ring you this week and let you know how the Newtown Festival went. You would have told me what a bloody good job we all did. I also know I would have gotten off the phone feeling good about myself, the Centre and all we try to achieve here. That to me was one of her skills, she knew how to motivate, appreciate and support you. As you can see Helen was not just a friend she was a bit of a mentor for me.

Helen, we know that everybody here will miss you greatly but I also know our sector lost a strong and committed advocate. Helen was someone who believed in social justice for all people, but especially the most vulnerable members of our community.

– Lisa Burns

Helen was the most welcoming woman I have ever met. A woman who saw the good in everyone. Even when her health was not 100% she would put others first, without as much of a mention of her own needs. This is how I saw Helen in the year that I was fortunate enough to be on her team of staff. Helen took me under her wing and I felt very warmed by her. My heart will always remember what she gave me. Helen, you will always shine in my heart. My love goes out to Helen's beautiful children, now adults who she gave passage into this world - your mum's memory will live on in so many people, the people she gave so much to. With all of my regards.

– Rowena Vlotman

I remember Helen as one of the strongest and most easy-going people that I have ever met. When I first came to work for Helen she was adamant that I was the 'one' for the job and made it known to me that my skills were exactly what were needed for the project. She was warm and flexible and she allowed everyone to bring their own personality into their work. She had an amazing ability to recognise people's strengths and encourage them to use them. She celebrated every person at NNC for his or her diversity and skill and there was a positive magnetism to Helen that made her very popular. We always had a laugh in that back office where we worked together and I can hear her now laughing at my 'terribly healthy diet', my perfectionism and her dirty phone handset that I would tease her about and then secretly clean every now and then. She had the most amazing and honest open-door policy of anyone I have ever met. She never turned anyone away and always had an ear for her clients, work colleagues and friends. She made time for all, even when there was

precious little. I have wonderfully warm memories of talking about music, food and her passion for community, her dogs, her garden, how her dogs were tramping all over the garden and how that brought her so much joy. It seemed to me that Helen could find joy almost anywhere and had a wonderful ability to celebrate anything and everything. She always spoke so lovingly and proudly of her husband, daughter and stepchildren and her sense of family was solid. She was a potent woman with great ideas and grounded skills. I will always remember her determination and happy down-to-earth nature. I am better for having spent time with Helen. I learnt many wonderful things from her and I will definitely miss her.

- Sam Jenkins

Helen. The most amazing, beautiful lady. She inspired me with such passion for working within the community, especially her fierce belief that all humanity be treated with the kindness, respect and dignity that they so deserve. It will always be a pleasure and an honour to have been able to share a chapter in Helen's life. Sadly she will be missed, but she will always be cherished in my heart. Much love to you Helly-baby.

- Gwendalyn Thomas (aka Wonderland)

Goodbye to a Special Lady. It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to Helen. It was great knowing her and working with her for a number of years. On behalf of the seniors of the Multicultural Neighbour Aid Projects at Newtown Neighbourhood Centre we would like to say thank you for your commitment and dedication. Your easygoing manner has made us feel welcome at Newtown. Helen was always very composed and was able to deal with the most stressful and difficult situations. Always maintaining a professional approach to her work. Helen loved her family and friends and was extremely proud of their achievements. Once again thank you Helen for your valuable contribution, both as a manager of the NNC and also as a friend. You will never be forgotten, with love always.

- Dushanka Dobrich and Marie Kostov

Housing Assistance and Referral Service (HARS)

Over the last year we have seen an increase in people looking for accommodation. It has become increasingly difficult to find secure, appropriate and affordable housing as rent prices soar, and waiting lists for the Department of Housing and Community Housing Schemes get longer, particularly in the inner west area.

It has become a priority for us at the Newtown Neighbourhood Centre (NNC) to address this issue. In response to this overwhelming need we have started a new service in partnership with the Inner City Homelessness Outreach and Support Service (ICHOSS). The new service is called the Housing Assistance and Referral Service (HARS).

The aim of this new service is to assist people who are homeless or in unsuitable and/or insecure housing to find secure, affordable and appropriate long term housing. In particular we will be assisting people to fill out Department of Housing and Community Housing application forms. We will also be able to assist people through making referrals to supported accommodation services and other services that assist with housing related needs.

The service was launched at a BBQ out the front of the NNC on Monday the 19th November. The service will be operating Monday afternoons from 3:30-4:30pm at Newtown Neighbourhood Centre in the downstairs meeting room. This is a free service and you do not need an appointment. This year the service will run until the 10th of December and will start again the first Monday in February 2008. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this service further please call Beck on 9516 4755.



NNC Bingo



- Where:** Newtown Neighbourhood Centre, in the upstairs room (opposite Newtown train station).
- When:** Every second Friday. It will be on the 14th December and will restart for 2008 on Friday the 8th of February
- Time:** Starts 10am, finishes 1pm.
- Cost:** \$2.50 for 1 booklet (10 games) or \$2 for more than one
- Prizes:** include groceries and household goods, chocolates, toasters, kettles, towels, watches, CDs and much, much more.

So come on down to the Neighbourhood Centre and join in the fortnightly fun!
All ages allowed. We regret that there is limited access for those with mobility difficulty



Homeless Persons' Legal Service (HPLS)

Newtown Neighbourhood Centre in partnership with HPLS and Newtown Mission Church run a free weekly legal service where people can receive advice and assistance on issues such as housing, employment, Centrelink and Mental Health. The service is for anyone who is homeless, in insecure or short-term housing.

- Where:** The Drop In Centre at Newtown Mission Church 280a King Street Newtown Neighbourhood Centre
- When:** Every Friday from 1:30-2:30pm.

If you need legal advice, please come down and chat to our friendly lawyers. Joel and Rebecca from NNC will also be there to assist you.

Tai Chi



Newtown Neighbourhood Centre is holding tai chi classes on Tuesdays, so come along and feel better, look better, think better and relax from the inside out.

Where: Newtown Neighbourhood Centre
(Opposite Newtown Train Station)

When: Tuesday 1-2pm

The last class for the year will be on the 11th December. Tai chi will restart again for the on the 5th February 2008

What to wear:

Comfortable clothes and comfortable flat-soled shoes

Cost: \$2.50 unwaged and \$5 waged

The classes will be taught by Master Sue Chang B.A. BJ Uni. M. TCAA.

Registered Fitness professional, Fitness Australia

Bookings are essential so please call Beck on 9516 4755

Please note that an enrolment form needs to be filled out prior to attending classes. These can be collected from NNC or simply call Beck on 9516 4755.



Christmas BBQ



It's the end of the year already can you believe it! Come along to our Christmas BBQ and celebrate with us.

When: Monday 17th December 11:30am-1:30pm

Where: Out the front of NNC
(opposite Newtown Train Station)

Issue based BBQ's

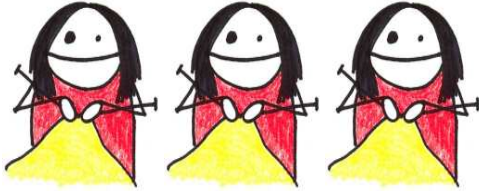
Our monthly summer BBQ's are a great opportunity to raise awareness of different issues and services that may be helpful for the community to know about. At our BBQ in October two lawyers, Lis and Chris, from the Public Interest Advocacy Centre (PIAC) came along and talked to people and gave out information about what you can do if you have fines that you cannot pay. There is actually a lot that you may be able to do if you are in this situation. So if this is a problem for you please come and speak to the friendly lawyers at the Homeless Persons Legal Service at Newtown Mission Drop In Centre every Friday from 1:30-2:30pm.

If you have any ideas for our next BBQ, maybe some helpful services or issues facing this community, please come and let us know.



Lis Baraka and Chris Hartley from PIAC

Wrap With Love



The Neighbourhood Centre runs a weekly group making wraps and blankets for people in need in both Australia and overseas.

Are you a knitting expert?

A knitting novice?

Or just not a knitter?

Well it doesn't matter what your level of skill is.

Come and join:

Wrap with Love

A social group of knitters who get together to make wraps for those in trauma both here and overseas.

When: Thursdays
10.45am to 12noon

The last group for the year will be on the 13th December.

WWL will restart on the 7th February 2008

Where: Newtown Neighbourhood Centre
Newtown Town Hall, Bedford St. Newtown
(Opposite Newtown Train Station)

If you have any spare wool (ply 8, 5, 3) or knitting needles (size 8) or have any queries, please contact Beck on 9516 4755.

Communities from Former Yugoslavia Neighbour Aid

We would like to extend our **Seasons Greetings and a Happy New Year** to all our participants in the Day Care Centre program, Monday "Wrap with Love" knitting group and Gentle Exercise Class. Thank you for your participation and contribution to the various programs and activities during the year at Newtown Neighbourhood Centre. We hope to see you all in 2008!

Restart Dates for 2008

21st January - The Day Care Centre
4th February - Monday "Wrap with love"
knitting group
7th February - Gentle Exercise Class
11th February - "At the Movies"

Greek Neighbour Aid Update

The Marrickville Greek Speaking Seniors Group celebrated Melbourne Cup Day on Tuesday 6th November. Festivities were two-fold, as the group happily celebrated its 23rd anniversary! The event included a communal lunch, big birthday cake and traditional Greek dancing. The Mayor of Marrickville, Dimitrios Thanos was a special guest and had lunch with group members and discussed various issues and areas of concern relating to the elderly living in the Municipality. He also wished them all luck in the Melbourne Cup.

On behalf of the Greek speaking Seniors Group, Marrickville Community Health Centre and Newtown Neighbourhood Centre I would like to thank Marrickville Council for their ongoing support over many years, including allowing us to access council premises for our gatherings and providing a transport service to our frail members.



Shopping Project



NNC Shopping Services

The shopping services are for older people, people with disabilities and their carers living in the Marrickville Local Government Area. The Aim of the Service is to ensure people can participate in the community and remain living in their homes.

Bus Service

- Door to Door Service
- Fortnightly on either a Tuesday, Thursday or Friday
- Marrickville Metro Shopping Centre
- Assistant on bus to carry Shopping on and off the bus. (Weight limits do apply)
- Two hours to browse the Shops at your leisure.
- A volunteer can be provided if you need support whilst shopping.
- Cost \$5.00

Assisted Car Shopping Service & List Service

- Fortnightly on either a Tuesday, Thursday or Friday
- Marrickville Metro Shopping Centre.
- One-on-one assistance with staff member whilst shopping
- If housebound a List service is also available
- Cost \$5.00

Seats Available: Places are available on the Shopping Bus, if you know of someone who may need assistance let them know and we will be happy to talk to them.

It's all in the Timing: Please remember the service has 2 runs each morning: 9am and 10am. Please be ready when the Bus Assistant calls for you. It's better for all if shoppers are ready when the bus arrives.

Also less time on the bus gives you more time shopping!

Shopping Bags: Please help us by using bags with zippers or a tie of some kind to stop your shopping from spilling out in the bus. Please think about heavy they are.

Seat Belts: All Shoppers' are reminded to wear seat belts when travelling in the bus. Shoppers can help the Bus assistant by remembering to buckle up when on the bus. We know the seat belts are not always easy to put on and get off, so the Bus Assistant can help you with this, as safety must come first.

Other Shopping Services: If at any time you need food shopping outside your scheduled shopping days, these food retail outlets can assist you:

Woolworth's Marrickville

463 Illawarra Rd. Marrickville 9559 4011 Home delivery fee = 6 bags at \$7, every bag after is an extra 35cents

Franklins Newtown

336 King St. Newtown 9517 2085
Delivery before 3pm Wed or Fri. Fee \$5 flat rate. Phone orders ring before 3pm with your order. Must introduce self first at store. Accepts cash only on delivery

IGA Dulwich Hill

New Canterbury Rd. Dulwich Hill 9560 3077
Home delivery \$5 surrounding suburbs Mon-Sat. Phone orders accepted \$10 local area cash accepted.

Banana Joes/ Foodworks

Illawarra Rd. Marrickville 9559 7064
Home delivery for pensioners orders over \$50 free, orders below \$50 \$3.30 surrounding suburbs

Call Gavin: I am in the office Tuesday to Friday, so if you have any concerns or you need information regarding the Shopping service or any other services please call on 9516 4755.

Happy and safe shopping in 2008.

Gavin Cane

Boarding House Project News

from Leigh Connell

What a busy time of year and its still 3 weeks to Christmas!

Whilst the masks from the Masquerade Ball have been put away, there are more occasions for the fabulous frocks and outfits to have an airing. Performing on the stage with the Sydney Street Choir, ROOMIES exhibition opening, International Day of Disability event and of course the BHP Christmas party.

The Newtown Festival saw the choir do two performances, one on the main stage after the wonderful volunteer Francis Edwards and the other with the ROOMIES art space launch. Many thanks to the choir and to the many boarding house residents who participated in those performances. The festival also saw the launch of the ROOMIES art tent, a wonderful marquee funded by Festivals Australia that will be a permanent display of art works and a facility for workshops. On the marquees first outing we had 8 workshops that were run by practicing artists including two of our boarding house residents. The artistic mediums included printmaking, window wire tapestries, garland making, scratchboards and card making. This is an activity that we would like to offer each year at the festival and to encourage community participation and support for the ROOMIES project.



The other exciting activity taking place is the ROOMIES annual exhibition that is on at Addison Road gallery until December 3rd 2007. The final day will be an opportunity to meet the artist & a celebration of International Day of People with a Disability.

The KITES group have been participating in a series of Printmaking workshops, which has resulted in some lovely designs and cards for the residents to distribute over the festive season. They have also taken to a trip to the beach, movies and had a barby.

The women's group have sung along at the movie Hairspray, taken the ferry to Manly, dressed up beautifully at the Chinese gardens and are about to start making cards for Christmas. The regular activities of bowling, teakwood and bingo continue to be popular.

The Department of Ageing, Disability & Homecare (DADHC) have been working with the Boarders & Lodgers project, getting an update of the residents with disabilities living in the unlicensed Boarding Houses. Our role of supporting people with disabilities and frail aged people and informing managers of where to get assistance continues to be invaluable for these residents. Most of this support is around making sure the residents have systems in place for paying rent and bills, linking into support services for meals, health and at times seeking more secure or appropriate accommodation.

BHP Activities Restart Dates

January 2008

- Thursday 3rd – BBQ & games
- Friday 4th – B&L
- Tuesday 8th – Choir
- Friday 25th – womens group
- Wednesday 30th - KITES

February 2008

- Monday 4th – Bowling @ Steel Park
- Tuesday 5th - ROOMIES art group
- Thursday 7th – Taekwondo
- Friday 8th - Bingo



SUNDAY

11th November 2007 – 9.30am – 6pm

8 HOURS OF FREE ENTERTAINMENT,
ARTS, ENVIRONMENTAL WORKSHOPS
AND LITERARY DISCUSSION!

It was a gala occasion, hugely entertaining, vaguely medieval, enlightening and very chilled ... that was the Newtown Neighbourhood Centre's 29th annual Newtown Festival.

After a very wet and nail biting lead up week to the festival, the weather goddesses blessed Newtown's day of days with glorious weather. Up to 80,000 people descended on Camperdown Memorial Rest Park to soak up the sun, to picnic with friends and family, to take part in the varied program of entertainment, workshops and literary discussion and to catch up on a bit of retail therapy.

Newtown Festival really is a true community event. The day attracts a diverse mix of individuals, where young and old, community groups, environmental and political groups, local residents and the broader community all came together to celebrate Newtown's unequalled diversity.

The festival relies on and receives a lot of goodwill from all sectors of the community. Over 200 performers supported the Newtown Neighbourhood Centre by donating their time and talents to play for free on the festival day. As well over 130 volunteers gave invaluable support as traffic and stall marshals, gold coin collectors and stage supervisors.

The Newtown Festival also prides itself on providing an opportunity for Australian artists to gain exposure in one of Sydney's biggest free community events. As in previous years, the Festival hosted non-stop entertainment on 3 stages and 4 performance areas, and

included a kid's zone, an eco area, a creative local village and a writer's stage.

The 2007 lineup on the three stages focused on Sydney's and in particular Newtown's finest talents. Bands played a diverse mix of sounds from rock, indie, funk, soul, jazz alternate, hip-hop and reggae.

The infamous and much awaited Newtown Dog Show kicked off at 9.30am this year in front of the main stage. In true Newtown fashion both dog and owner got into the true spirit of the event. Up to 100 dogs and owners turned out in some wild and wacky costumes to participated in the doggie dashes and fun competitions such as the 'dog and owner look alike' and the 'best trick'. As always the dog show proved to be a highly entertaining and well-attended event with a local drag queen hosting the show.



Auntie Ali Golding performed the Welcome to Country on the Main Stage followed by a minute's silence for Remembrance Day. Francis Edwards with the Sydney Street Choir followed next on the Main Stage and bands such as Wons Phreely, Rumpunch, Ben Walsh's The Crusty Suitcase, Dog Trumpet, The Mares and Dead Letter Chorus. Crowds of thousands were enjoying the diverse line up on this stage and if they were not dancing before King Farook hit the stage they were

certainly were up dancing to the infectious beats of the bands high-energy music.

The Essential Stage had an equally vibrant atmosphere with huge crowds enjoying the great line up including Miss Little, Bitchslap, The Crooked Fiddle Band, The Sniffer Dogs, The Shake Up, Max Judo, The Paper Scissors, Peabody and last but not least Melanie Horsnell.

Newtown Festival was proud to present the inaugural Vocal Local Village at the festival, showcasing the creative local talent of Newtonians. The area was highly creative, colourful, musical, entertaining, slightly kooky, relaxed and 'green'. Supported by local contingent Figure8 with their solar sound rig, the area was a blissful space of co-creation. The Vocal Local Stage hosted brilliant local acts such as the Fuji Collective, Taiko No Wa, Vanessa Hoffman, the Phonies, Kelly Doll and Cougar Jones, DJ Mashy, Tetronomicon, Jess Green, Charlie and the Maddox Factory, Urban Qabila, DJ Kundalini, Basslines FBi Radio and Entropic.

Kamikaze Couture also featured in the 'Village' presenting a theatrical wardrobe wonderland of unbridled extravagance. Kamikaze invited festival-goers into their boudoir to be frocked up and transformed for the festival day.

Roomies Art Gallery showcased artworks from over 30 artists in the 'Village' and presented art workshops throughout the day. Also in the area was the NNC's Tai Chi group and Wrap with Love, the local knitting group.

From its small beginnings 4 years ago the Newtown Festival's Writers Stage has grown in popularity to be an integral part of the whole event. Coordinated by local bookstore Better Read than Dead, the program included a mega line up with the delights of authors such as Australian literary icon Tom Keneally – twice winner of the Miles Franklin award and social researcher Hugh Mackay. A panel of great female crime writers including Clinical Psychologist Leah Giarratano - author of *Vodka Doesn't Freeze* and

Catherine Howell - ex-ambulance driver turned author of *Frantic* were also highlights for festival punters. The grand finale at 4pm with The Chaser guys who were released from detention for after their recent APEC prank pulled a quite a few punches with festival audiences at the overfilled writer's area!



The Kids Magical DreamZone was also an area of the festival that was at capacity throughout the whole day. Themed on dreaming and magic this year, the kids zone focus was on interactive experiences and hands on workshops where children were creating rather than just being entertained.

There were workshops in creating treasure maps, treasures, witch-hats and other activities such as painting on big mirrors and dream drawing. As well there were jumping castles, cup and saucer rides, a Petting Farm where children could cuddle up to our cute, furry and feathered friends, face painting and magic bubbles.

The Kids stage featured Witch School workshops, magic shows, Aboriginal storytelling and puppet shows.

Newtown Festival functions with a strong environmental focus and is committed to reducing its ecological footprint. With a long-term vision of becoming a waste free event, the short-term goal is to be a waste wise event. The key sustainable features of the Newtown Festival so far include: solar generator, recycling stations, biodegradable packaging, creative workshops re-using materials diverted from landfill, a dedicated Eco Zone and free eco workshops.

In the Eco Zone, Newtown's own The Watershed, presented a tremendous program of informative, interactive workshops offering a truckload of practical advice on how to reduce your ecological footprint, with a local relevance. These workshops included, Recycle More Recycle Better, Worm Farming, Natural Baby Care, Eco Choices for Sustainable Living, Detox Your Home and Basic Bike Maintenance.

Around the park on the festival there was street theatre, Capoeira and belly dance performances and an amazing selection of tasty treats in two dining areas where the hungry masses could feed their hungry tumms, washed down with wines and local brews. And if that wasn't enough, there were 250 market stalls where festival patrons could shop until they dropped.



The wonderful community art project 'Art on the Fence' that grew from the requirement to have the festival site fenced in 2006 was further developed in 2007. Themed DreamArt this year, the project saw a huge number of local community groups, schools and individuals take a paintbrush to hand to paint large murals that were hung on the fencing around the festival site on the day. Artworks were auctioned off throughout the day with proceeds going to the NNC.

As in previous years festival patrons were asked to give a GOLD COIN DONATION at the entry points to the festival and the Newtown Neighbourhood Centre raised an unprecedented amount of money for the Centre's activities and programs for the disadvantaged people in our community.

Thanks to all those that donated a gold coin or two!

Yes... it definitely was another great and hugely successful Newtown Festival. A very BIG thank you to everyone who participated in the day – bands, volunteers, NNC staff and Board members.

A special BIG thank you also to everyone who came to the festival, gave a donation at the gates, embraced the ethos of the festival and helped create a positive and relaxed vibe on the day.

See you next year, second Sunday in November for our 'pearl' anniversary – our Big 30TH celebration!

*Sue Andersen and Tina Demetriou
Festival Directors*



All photography by William Newell.

Thanks must also go to our wonderful sponsors – please support the people who support the NNC and the Newtown Festival

NEWTOWN FESTIVAL MAJOR PARTNERS



NEWTOWN FESTIVAL MEDIA PARTNERS



NEWTOWN FESTIVAL LOCAL AND COMMUNITY SPONSORS

Sign Wave, Newtown
Courthouse Hotel
The Bank Hotel
Kamikaze Couture

Sassy Treats
Marlborough Hotel
The Watershed
Matisse Derivan
Constant Security

Coopers Arms Hotel
Town Hall Hotel
Figureight
Dalton

VOLUNTEERS

Newtown Neighbourhood Centre has had some fantastic volunteers and students throughout 2007. Without you the Neighbourhood centre would not be able to provide the services it does. Your contribution has been invaluable.

To thank you all and to celebrate the year that was, we will be having a volunteers Christmas Party in Thursday December 13th.

If you have volunteered with us this year and would like to come to dinner, please RSVP to Beck on 9516 4755.

Newtown Neighbourhood Centre relies heavily on the good work of volunteers to run the number of services it does. We value volunteers and the contribution they make to the Neighbourhood Centre's programs and the broader community. If you are interested in volunteering with us for 2008 please contact Rebecca Dudding on 9516 4755.

Would you like to volunteer with the Shopping Service?



The Shopping Service

We are currently looking for more volunteers for our Shopping Project. The Shopping Project runs a crucial service to the frail elderly and people with a disability.

‡ We need volunteers to meet shoppers from the Bus service at the Metro shopping centre and assist them with their shopping.

‡ The Shopping service runs on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

‡ The time commitment from volunteers is around 2 hours on any one of these days.

‡ The assisted shopping service is also in need of volunteers on Fridays. This service has a flexible time frame from a whole day down to a 2-hour session.

For more detailed information on the shopping service volunteer roles available please call Gavin (Shopping Service Coordinator) on 9516 4755.

Would you like to volunteer with the Boarding House Project?



Do you have a few hours each week to contribute to the Community?

Some ways you can assist:

→ We are looking for people to assist with INDOOR BOWLING at South Marrickville every Monday morning from 10am – 12:30pm

→ Every second Friday to help out with the fun and activity of BINGO at the Newtown Neighbourhood Centre between 9:30am – 1pm

→ Visit a Boarding House Resident for a chat and coffee during the week at a time to suit

→ Provide Social support to walking groups. Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons for an hour and a half.

→ Volunteer with the womens group that meets every Friday to support each other and have fun.

For more information visit the Newtown Neighbourhood Centre web site www.newtowncentre.org or call 02 9516 4755 and ask to speak with Leigh.

Emergency Aid and Food over Christmas

<p>Anglicare Emergency Assistance Program</p> <p>44 Frampton Avenue Marrickville</p> <p>Mon-Fri: 9am - 4:30pm</p> <p>Ph: 9560 8622</p>	<p>May be able to assist with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Food vouchers or parcels - electricity bills - water rates - gas bills - removal costs - prescriptions <p>Appointments necessary.</p>	<p>Closed from 23/12/07 Reopen 7/1/08</p>
<p>Exodus Foundation</p> <p>180 Liverpool Street Ashfield</p> <p>Mon – Fri: 9am - 5pm</p> <p>Sat: 9:30-3:30</p> <p>Sun: closed</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ph: 8752 4600</p>	<p>Breakfast: Mon-Fri 9-10am Sat 9:30am</p> <p>Lunch: 11:30- 12:45pm</p> <p>Emergency relief: rent, gas, electricity. Food parcels</p> <p>Legal Advice: Wed: 9am – 11:30am</p> <p>Doctor - Mon: 11:30 – 12:30pm</p> <p>Nurse – Thur & Fri: 11.30 am - 12.30 pm</p> <p>Centrelink Info: Thurs: 1.30 - 3.30 pm</p> <p>Make an appointment for these services at the office</p>	<p>Xmas Day lunch 11.45am - 2.30 pm</p> <p>Hampers available the 10th and 17th December 12-1:30pm for Exodus cardholders only.</p> <p>Open boxing day, new years eve, new years day and public holidays from 9:30-3:30pm</p>
<p>Matthew Talbot Hostel</p> <p>22 Talbot Place Woolloomooloo (only men over 25 years)</p> <p>Ph: 9357 1533</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Breakfast 7:15am - Lunch 12:30pm - Dinner 4:45pm <p>Open every day</p>	<p>Christmas Hampers will be given out at the Christmas lunch.</p> <p>OPEN all Christmas as usual</p>
<p>Mission Australia</p> <p>224 Riley Street Surry Hills</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Counselling Service - Court Support - Doctor Weds - Dental by Appointment - Fitness classes - Art classes 	<p>24 hour crisis line</p> <p>1300 886 999</p> <p>Ph: 8218 9400</p> <p>OPEN all Christmas as usual</p>
<p>Newtown Mission Drop In Centre</p> <p>280A King Street</p>	<p>Lunch (free): Tue, Wed, Fri: 1-3pm Dinner (free) Thur: 6-7:30</p> <p>Food parcels available during open hours</p>	<p>Ph: 9519 9000</p> <p>Christmas Lunch 12pm Hampers available on Christmas day</p> <p>Closed 26/12/07 Reopen February 2008</p>

<p>Salvation Army 54 Dulwich Street Dulwich Hill</p> <p>Tues, Wed, Thur: 9.30 am - 11.30 am</p>	<p>Food Vouchers Assistance with electricity, gas, Telstra landline and water rates.</p> <p>Appointment and health care card necessary.</p>	<p>Ph: 9569 4511</p> <p>Closed from 20/12/07 Reopen 8/1/08</p> <p>Hampers available if in need, you must ring for an appointment first.</p>
<p>St John's Anglican Church, Ruff Edges</p> <p>120 Darlinghurst Rd Darlinghurst</p> <p>Mon & Fri: 10:30 am - 2 pm</p> <p>Rough Edges Drop In Café Wed-Sun 8-11pm</p>	<p>Counselling by appointment only.</p> <p>Food Vouchers; Emergency financial assistance; (access through Rough Edges Drop In Cafe)</p> <p>Dinner Wed-Sun 8-11 (free)</p>	<p>Ph: 9360 6844</p> <p>Closed 26/12/07 and Reopening 2/2/08</p> <p>In January open Wednesdays only during the day and Thursdays and Sundays 8-11pm</p> <p>Open as usual from the beginning of February</p>
<p>St Constantine's Greek Church 378 King Street Newtown</p>	<p>Lunch (free) Mon-Fri: 12-2pm</p>	<p>Ph: 95197868</p> <p>Closed Christmas Day</p> <p>Hampers available 2 days before Christmas</p>
<p>St Vincent de Paul Family and Welfare Centre</p> <p>317 Cleveland Street Redfern</p> <p>Mon -Fri: 9 - 3pm</p>	<p>Emergency Material Aid via home visitation. Can assist with furniture, clothing, bills</p> <p>Phone for an appointment.</p>	<p>Ph: 9698 3711</p> <p>Closed public holidays 25/12/07, 26/12/07, 1/1/08</p>
<p>St Vincent de Paul</p> <p>125 Pitt St Redfern</p> <p>9:30-4pm Mon-Fri</p>	<p>- Emergency Aid via home visitation. Can assist with food vouchers/bills.</p> <p>- Anger management groups (male and female)</p> <p>- Women's group on Mondays</p> <p>- Individual counselling</p> <p>- Prescriptions (Non addictive medication)</p> <p>Phone or go into the office</p>	<p>Ph: 9698 1529</p> <p>Closed from 24/12/07 reopen on 2/1/08</p> <p>No home visits in the first week of Jan, see the office.</p> <p>Hampers and toys available, ring or go into the office</p>
<p>St Vincent de Paul Building B, Old Lewisham Hospital</p> <p>Mon-Fri: 10am-4pm</p>	<p>- Food Parcels - Home visits - financial assistance may be available from time to time - Shower facilities</p>	<p>Ph: 9550 9861</p> <p>Closed 25/12/07, 26/12/07 and 1/1/08</p>
<p>Wayside Chapel</p> <p>29 Hughes Street Potts Point</p> <p>Open 7 days</p> <p>9am - 8.30pm.</p> <p>Telephone lines: 7am - 9pm</p>	<p>- Lunch on Sunday's 12pm - Low cost meals available daily - Opportunity shop - Emergency material Aid, clothing and food vouchers, - Showers - Movies Thursday afternoons - AA and NA meetings - Living skills course - Youth centre 3-9 7 days a week, - 9-11 free breakfast for youth</p>	<p>Ph: 9358 6577</p> <p>Xmas Day lunch 12pm Xmas day entertainment 9am - 4.30 pm (free)</p> <p>CLOSED Public Holidays</p> <p>Register for a hamper and presents from the 30/11/07 by phone or going to the office.</p>
<p>Wesley City Mission 220 Pitt Street Sydney Mon - Fri 9 am - 4 pm</p>	<p>Food Packages Come to office during opening hours</p> <p>No Financial Assistance</p>	<p>Ph: 9263 5555</p> <p>Contact the office to request toys for Christmas. From 29/11/07</p>

Housing Assistance and Referral Service (HARS)

Assisting people to find secure, affordable and appropriate housing.

Where: Newtown Neighbourhood Centre, opposite
Newtown Train Station, in the downstairs meeting room

When: Mondays 3:30-4:30pm

Last day will be 10/12/07 restarting on the 4/2/08

- This is a free service
- You do not need an appointment



HARS is a joint initiative of Newtown Neighbourhood Centre and the Inner City Homelessness Outreach and Support Service (ICHOSS)