



Newtown Neighbourhood Centre Newsletter

Centre News

October 2007/ November 2007

Hi All

What a busy and exciting time it has been here at the Centre. In September our Boarding House Team hosted a Masquerade Ball and what a fantastic event it was. It was lovely to see everybody dressed up in their best clothes with their beautifully designed masks. Everybody had a great time and we received many requests to make the ball a weekly affair! The success of the event was made possible by the hard work of the Boarding House team Leigh, Joel, Gwen, Andra, Soniya, Frances and Nat. I would also like to thank Marrickville Council for funding the event, Penny Sharp for attending, Petersham RSL for the fantastic venue, the Sydney Street Choir for their beautiful voices and staff family members who assisted in making it a night to remember.

The Centre has also started up the Summer BBQ's. We recently held our first BBQ and it was great to see all our regulars and some new faces attending. We have decided to add to our BBQ's this summer by holding information sessions on different issues. For the October BBQ we have invited Chris Hartley from the Homeless Person's Legal Service (HPLS) to provide information about what people can do when they are having difficulty paying fines. So, if you are having trouble paying fines due to financial, medical or personal hardship come along and talk to Chris and see if he can assist you. Other areas and issues we aim to address at future BBQ's include information on the Centrepay service, how to make a complaint with the Ombudsman and Drug and Alcohol related information. If you would like us to provide information on other issues at the BBQ's please come and talk to Beck at our front counter and we will see if we can assist you.

We recently held our annual general meeting. I would like to thank our board of directors who truly govern the Centre with skill, commitment and dedication. I would especially like to say thank you to Susan Heyne who decided it was time to retire from the board after being a member for 4 years. Thank you Susan and we will all miss you very much and your skill and expertise in all things community. I would also like to welcome Janine Fullin and Dr. Michael Harries to our board. Janine has had extensive experience in the community sector and Michael has a strong background in business, IT and computing as well as a commitment to social equity. Please read the article about our board members included in this newsletter and see how fortunate we are at the Centre to have such a diverse and capable board. I look forward to working with them all in making the centre even more responsive and accountable to the local community. I would also like to thank the Hon. Anthony Albanese for speaking and the Sydney Street Choir who inspired us all with their wonderful sounds. I would also like to say thank you to Kel and Sam for all their hard work not just at the annual general meeting but their dedication and support in producing our annual report. If you have not already received a copy of our annual report please give us a call and we will send one out to you and you can see our accomplishments over the last twelve months.

The **Newtown Festival** is just over a month away and we still need more volunteers to support us on the day. So if you have a couple of hours to spare please come along and lend a hand. Please remember all the money made at the Newtown Festival goes back to the community in the form of services and programs. With some of the profits last year

we now run a weekly Homeless Person's Legal clinic, Tai Chi group, a support group for aged Greek men and monthly BBQs. We also held forums including 'Meet your local candidates' for the state election and our refugee forum. We purchased a new computer with Internet access for our front foyer that can be used by the general community. We have also employed a Community Development Worker who hosts some of these activities and as a result of her dedication we are supporting more of our front counter clients who have greater needs.

Sadly, we are farewelling Geoff our volunteer counsellor. Geoff has been with us for over three years and every Friday would volunteer to see three clients. Geoff who is a trained counsellor and works in the field approached us to see what he could do to support the Centre. I, on behalf of all of us at the Centre, would like to say a big thank you to Geoff, the Centre will miss you greatly and we know how precious your time and commitment was and we really do appreciate your generosity in supporting the Centre and this community.

Hope to see you all at the Newtown Festival!

Lisa Burns
Executive Officer

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What does the NNC Board of Management do?

*Good governance creates a strong future for an organisation by continuously steering towards a **vision** and making sure that day-to-day management is always lined up with the organisation's goals. At its core, governance is about **leadership**.*

The role of the NNC Board of Management is to govern the organisation within the approved budget and in accordance with NNC stated objectives, policies and procedures as specified in the Policy and Procedures Manual. The NNC Board should make sure at all times that it is fulfilling its role and responsibilities.

The NNC Board of Management has specific responsibilities; there is a nomination procedure for Board positions, Board member roles, an orientation process for new members, a code of behaviour and an outline for Board meetings and keeping of minutes.

Board has 4 main areas of responsibility: legal, policy & planning, financial and other.

1) Legal Responsibilities

The Board needs to ensure that NNC operates in line with the Constitution; the Associations Incorporation Act; and Funding Agreements.

2) Policy and Planning

The Board needs to ensure that NNC has clear goals; and plans are developed and evaluated on an annual basis.

3) Financial

The Board needs to ensure that NNC has an approved budget for the year; that NNC has sufficient income to meet the budget requirements; the conditions of the Funding Agreements are followed; that funds are properly accounted for and that an audit is completed every year.

4) Other Responsibilities

The Board has a key role in representing the organisation; appointment of the EO; and to support and work closely in conjunction with the EO.

*** President Terry Murphy**

Terry's commitment to this community is highlighted by his involvement in so many services and organisations. Terry has been President of Newtown Neighbourhood Centre since 2000. He has served on the board of Inner Sydney Regional Council since 1990, been the chairperson of South Sydney Community Transport since 1997. Terry is a Patron of Alexandria Boys Scouts, a member of South Sydney City Council Traffic Committee from 1995-2004, member of Sydney Traffic Committee 2004-2007. He has served as an Alderman of South Sydney Council (12years), Alderman of Sydney Council (5years), Chairman Sydney Park Planning Committee, Chairman of Planning and Building Committee, Secretary of St Vincent de Paul stores committee, Chair of Management Committee and a Member of Erskinvilla (Youth Refuge).

***Vice President James Thomas**

James has been volunteering with the Newtown Neighbourhood Centre for 7 years, initially through his involvement with the Newtown Festival, and more recently as a Board member. He joined the board in 2003, following requests from a number of NNC employees, who felt his extensive experience in the private sector could bring the Board some specific expertise. He has been serving as Vice President of the Board for the last two years, and plays a leading role in the Newtown Festival sub-committee. He has also assisted the Neighbourhood Centre on a voluntary basis with recruitment support and various functions for clients.

***Secretary - Gabrielle Jones**

I have a Bachelor of Social Work, Master of Social Policy. I live in the Marrickville LGA, and have enjoyed participating on the Newtown Neighbourhood Centre Board of Management since November 2006. I am very interested in good governance practices and contributing my time and experience around non-government organisations in my local community.

I am a Social Worker, and have been working in the human services field for 18 years. For

the past 9 years I have worked to support, network and resource non-government disability organisations at National Disability Services NSW. I am currently the Convenor of The Women's Library in Newtown - a volunteer run organisation providing a lending library, resources and community space for women.

I have been a member of a number boards and management committees in the past including Marrickville Youth Services; Youth Action and Policy Association, South Sydney Youth Services Anti-Racism Steering Committee, Central Sydney Regional Reference Group for the NSW Strategy to Reduce Violence Against Women, and Australian Federation of Business and Professional Women local and State Executive Committees.

***Treasurer - Karen Walsh**

Karen's background is in social work, social policy, community development and human services management. She has worked in these fields in the UK and in Australia, both in the non-government and government sectors for the past 20 years. Karen has a particular interest and extensive experience in policy development and service delivery, which seeks to improve outcomes for Aboriginal people. She currently works in a service improvement role at the NSW Department of Housing and has also held roles in partnerships and planning, as well as strategic policy at the NSW Aboriginal Housing Office.

Karen is committed to social justice and in effecting social change. Her interest in community development and community capacity building are the main reasons for her involvement in Newtown Neighbourhood Centre.

Ordinary Members

***Matthew Bowden**

I have been on the Management Committee of the Newtown Neighbourhood Centre for the last 3 years. I live in Marrickville, and have been living here for 7 years. I have lived in Sydney's Inner West since I arrived from England in 1995. I have always enjoyed

living in the Inner West; I love the diversity of our community and the friendly neighbourhoods we make.

I am employed by People with Disability Australia Incorporated (PWD). PWD is an organisation of and for people with disability and is a leading disability rights and advocacy organisation. PWD also works with many people who live in the Marrickville Local Government Area. As an organisation we are committed to promoting the rights of people with disability who live in Boarding Houses, a passion we share with the Newtown Neighbourhood Centre.

I am proud of the role that the Newtown Neighbourhood Centre has in our community, providing essential services to people with disability, older people and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. The passion of the staff, volunteers and people who access the Centre make it a vibrant and important place.

***Janine Fullin**

Janine is employed by the Office for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Health (OATSIH), within the Commonwealth Department of Health & Ageing. As Regional Coordinator, Janine works with Aboriginal medical services in the development of local and regional primary health care services to communities living in the far west of NSW, including Bourke and Broken Hill. Janine also has specific responsibility for sexual health and population health projects for Aboriginal communities across NSW. Prior to this Janine worked for Ashfield Council as a Community Worker with the portfolio responsibility of aged and disability services. This work included collaboration with local HACC service providers, and engaging in joint projects with services providing support to people with a mental illness living in local licensed boarding houses. Janine has also worked in a direct support role with people with an intellectual disability and/or mental illness for a range of organisations, including DOCS.

Janine is a resident of Dulwich Hill and has completed university study in adult education,

and social policy at the University of Sydney. With her studies now complete, Janine has decided it's time to play an active role in supporting the work of community based non-government organisations to continue to provide and further develop quality, targeted services to people in the local community. Joining the Board of the Newtown Neighbourhood Centre will enable Janine to do this, and also give her a current understanding of the opportunities and challenges of such service provision, and the links between government policy and its implementation "on the ground". Janine is very much looking forward to the opportunity to work over the coming year with the NNC Board, staff and local community on both existing and new initiatives.

*** Dr. Michael Harries**

I have a Doctorate in Computer Science from UNSW and a Bachelor of Economics from University of Sydney. I work as Director of Technology Strategy for an international software company (Citrix). I have business experience in both small and large organisations.

I also have a passion for social equity. I have worked on an IT committee for Oxfam when it was Community Aid Abroad. I have provided backup IT support for NSW Federation of Housing Associations as well as being involved with local schools, clubs and centres including Newtown public school, Newtown performing arts high school, Marrickville Red Devils and Addison road child care centre. I have become familiar with the goals of Newtown Neighborhood Centre over the last few years and would like to support the organisation as best I can with my business and IT experience.



What's On at the Centre

Join in the fun of



at Newtown Neighbourhood Centre's
fortnightly Bingo Group.

- Where:** Newtown Neighbourhood Centre, in the Hall (opposite Newtown train station).
- When:** Every second Friday. It will be on the 5th October, 19th October, 2nd November, 16th November, and 30th November
- 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

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

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 Newtown Neighbourhood Centre or call Beck on 9516 4755.



GENTLE EXERCISE CLASSES

Open to Men and Women over the age of 55



When: Thursdays 9:30 – 10:30am

Where: Newtown Neighbourhood Centre
1 Bedford Street Newtown
(Opp. Newtown Train Station)

Cost: \$3 per session

Gentle Exercise can help you with problem joints, arthritis, or just increase your overall wellbeing while meeting new people.

Classes are conducted by a trained instructor.

Call Dushanka at NNC on **9516 4755** if you would like to book into the class, or for further information.

SUMMER BBQs

It's that time of year again, summer BBQs are back! Our next BBQ will be:

**Monday 15th of October
11:30-1:30pm**

Out the Front of the Neighbourhood Centre
(opposite Newtown Station)



Tax Help

Tax help is a volunteer service supported by the Australian Taxation Office.

- Are your tax affairs simple?
- Do you earn less than \$35,000

Newtown Neighbourhood Centre will have a Tax Help volunteer available at the centre one day a week until the end of the tax period. This is a FREE service.

Please make an appointment by calling 9516 4755 or at the Front Counter of the centre.



DO YOU HAVE FINES THAT YOU ARE UNABLE TO PAY?

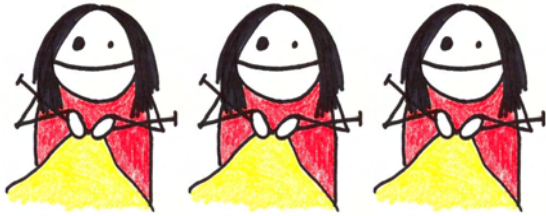
The Public Interest Advocacy Centre (PIAC) will be having a stall at the October BBQ and will be giving out information and assistance to people with outstanding fines.

Room Hire at NNC

The Newtown Neighbourhood Centre provides meeting spaces on a regular and casual basis for different social justice, self-help, political, recreational and cultural groups.

For more information on our facilities please see our website www.newtowncentre.org or call Sam during office hours on 9516 4755.

Wrap With Love



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

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.

Shopping Project News



It's all about the Assisted Shopping Service

This service caters for the frail aged, living in the Marrickville LGA. This service is for clients who require one to one assistance to do their shopping. Such as a client who is too frail, has mobility issues, or other health issues that prevents them from using the community bus.

What can the service do for you?

We can take you to the shopping centre by car and a worker or volunteer will assist you with your shopping needs. Also we have a service that is called 'list shopping', this is for people who are unable to leave their home or have mobility issues. This service will provide grocery list shopping and home delivery.

Do I live in the right area?

The client needs to live in the local Government area of Marrickville.

What days shopping day?

The service runs on a Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

Is there a cost for this service?

This service has a cost of \$5.

Who do I talk to?

Call the Newtown Neighbourhood Centre shopping service on 9516 4755 and ask to speak with Gavin, or drop in to the Centre, located at 1 Bedford St Newtown.

Multicultural Health Week 2007



In July our seniors from the Multicultural Neighbour Aid - Communities from Former Yugoslavia project participated in the week long activities organised by the Sydney South West Area Health Service to mark the Multicultural Health Week.

The group of 10-12 seniors dressed in their traditional costumes created a very colourful scene at Canterbury hospital where they performed for the hospital staff. The group performed a number of traditional dances and some of the staff saw just how much fun our seniors were having that they decided to join in with them.

The elderly showed that being older is not a barrier to being active and involved in the community. Dancing is a great way to keep fit and it's also fun to do, especially with their peers. These are the skills that they have learnt when they were young and they are strongly imbedded in them. Dancing is not seen as a form of exercise but a way of having fun. The wonderful thing about our dancing is that you do not need a partner to dance; anyone can join in the circle and have fun.



Boarding House Project News

Spring has sprung with it there is much action and activity for the Boarding House Project.

The hit event recently has been the masquerade ball with its op shopping and grooming sessions leading up to the event and of course the night itself. See page 9 for more details.

On the art front a series of print making workshops have begun at the ROOMIES art space with wonderful print maker Seraphina Martin. Prints from these sessions will be featured in the ROOMIES art space tent at Newtown Festival along with a variety of workshops and an exhibition. This is an exciting event and a great opportunity for exposure to the larger community. On the tail of the ROOMIES art tent will be the annual art exhibition to be held at Addison Road Gallery with assistance from one of ROOMIES great supporters, Terry Cutcliff.

The local clubs community grants presentation was held in September. Petersham RSL was the only Marrickville club contributing to this program and it was great to be in receipt of a cheque for \$5,000. These funds will be used to help set up programs and volunteer artist links at the ROOMIES art space.

Weekly rehearsals with Sydney Street Choir are going from strength to strength. 14 Boarding House residents attend regularly with some enjoying a recent performance at well renowned music venue The Basement. Well done to Cheryl, Anthony and Andrea for the Basement gig and to other members, Michael, Sandra, Janet, John, Dot, Philip, Maryanne, Bill & Don.

Bowling, taekwondo, bingo, KITES and women's group are going well. The Summer BBQs and games will start up in November.

The Boarders & Lodgers project has been working with local agencies to set up regular info sessions for managers/owners of unlicensed boarding houses. The aim is to provide a forum to learn about programs and support available to frail aged or younger people with disabilities living in this accommodation. Agencies involved include, BSC Crystal Street op shop, Rawson House, The Mission, My Place, Salvation Army and local churches. For more info call 9516 4755.

Boarding House Masquerade Ball



Friday 14th September
Petersham Bowling Club

The Boarding House Masquerade Ball held on at Petersham Bowling Club was a fabulously frocked up success! About 150 boarding house and group home local residents dressed up, enjoyed a great dinner and danced the night away, surrounded by clouds of bubbles and streamers.

Sydney Street Choir, who rehearse at Marrickville Community Health Centre on Tuesdays, entertained all with two sets of local classics like "Newtown! Newtown!" and "Marrickville Road – take me home!". The barefoot bowling was also greatly enjoyed by all who ventured away from the dance floor for a breath of fresh air.

The shopping trips, 'salon' and mask-making workshops run ahead of time by Newtown Neighbourhood Centre's Boarding House Project meant that everybody dressed to dazzle and the stunning hand made masks will become collectors' items!



Andra Keay
NNC 9516
4755

This project was supported by funding from Marrickville Council.



Youthblock Health & Resource Service

142 Carillon Avenue Camperdown
Tel: 9516 2233

- All services at Youthblock Health are **free**. No Medicare card is required
- Youthblock Health and Resource Service is for **young people** between the ages of 12 and **24** who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and poor health.
- There is a team of counsellors, health workers, music and visual artists, doctors, a youth health nurse and a dental therapist all working together to improve young people's health and well-being.
- Young people can come individually for counselling or to group programs such as music and arts.
- Call or drop-in between 9-5:30pm and arrange to talk to an intake worker.
- They provide the following services:
 - Counselling
 - Health Programs
 - Music Program
 - Medical Services
 - Dental Services
 - Visual Arts Program
 - Aboriginal Cultural Program
 - Internet Café



Homeless Persons' Legal Service (HPLS)

NNC in partnership with HPLS and Newtown Mission Church have started a legal service where people can receive free legal 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.

When: Fridays from 1:30-2:30pm
If you need legal advice come and chat to our friendly lawyers. Joel and Beck from the NNC will also be there to assist you.



9:30am – 6:00pm

The **Newtown Festival** is an annual, free, outdoor community cultural and music event that celebrates the diversity of cultures and lifestyles in the area.

Presented by the **Newtown Neighbourhood Centre**; the festival is in its 28th year and has become the principal **fundraiser for the NNC**.

The Festival **aims** to increase awareness of and raise funds for the Newtown Neighbourhood Centre and the vital programs it provides to those in need in our community.

Celebrating diversity, the Newtown Festival is a place where people of Newtown can come together to celebrate their unique and vibrant community, creating a sense of acceptance and co-creation.

A creative program, The Newtown Festival will again offer a program that is as diverse as its community. Based in Sydney's largest and most vibrant live music district the talent is plentiful.



Program inclusions for the 2007 Festival:

- 3 music and performance stages
- Writers Tent
- Eco Zone
- Kids Zone
- Huge market
- Newtown Dog Show
- Street Theatre
- Dream Art, fence art project
- Roomies Artspace Launch
- Rides and activities



Main Stage line-up:

9:00am	Dog Show Registration
9:30am	Newtown Dog Show
10:50am	Aboriginal Welcome to Country by Aunty Ali Golding
11:00am	1 minute silence for Remembrance Day
11:01am	Francis Edwards, Vietnam Vet
11:06am	Sydney Street Choir
11:25am	Wons Phreely
12:15pm	Rumpunch
1:00pm	The Crusty Suitcase
1:50pm	Dog Trumpet
2:45pm	The Mares
3:45pm	King Farook
4:50pm	Dead Letter Chorus

Essential Stage line-up:

10:00am	Miss Little
10:50am	Bitchslap
11:40am	The Crooked Fiddle
12:30pm	The Sniffer Dogs
1:20pm	The Shake Up
2:10pm	Max Judo
3:00pm	The Paper Scissors
3:50pm	Peabody
4:30pm	Melanie Horsnell

‘Vocal Local’ stage (community space)

Showcasing the creative local talent of Newtonians, this area will be interesting, kooky, creative, colourful, musical, chilled, entertaining and relaxed. Supported by local contingent Figure8 with their solar rig, this area is a blissful space of co-creation. Joining this area this year will be Kamikaze Couture – a theatrical wardrobe wonderland of unbridled extravagance that invites you to challenge who you are and how you dress. Keep an eye out on our website for this fabulously creative and interesting program.

Eco Zone Workshops

Delivered by the wonderful staff at The Watershed, this program will be listed on our website shortly. The eco workshops will consist of a series of free, informative, interactive workshops with practical advice on how to reduce your ecological footprint, with local relevance.

Writers Tent

Coordinated by local bookstore Better Read than Dead, this program will include the delights of people 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 the book *Frantic*. The grand finale at 4pm with *The Chaser*!



Kids Zone – a magical DreamZone

The kids DreamZone - in your dreams you can be anyone you want, you can do anything, it's all about that magic this year! This year it's all a bit different which is exciting for everyone!

All the workshops and events created for the kids are hands on activities, the children are always involved in the whole act more than just entertained, they can implement their own ideas and creativity at all times, they can walk around and do all different kind of activities, so outside the program we have the following attractions:

- **Witch-craft:** a magic art and craft area where children can be as creative as they want to be. The children can make treasure maps, treasures, witch-hats, or anything they feel like.
- **The magic mirror area:** Painting on big mirrors. Mirror, mirror on the wall, who is the greatest painter of them all?
- **Jumping Castles:** back on popular demand, jump your heads off, kids!
- **Cup and Saucer Ride:** a fun spin for everyone.
- **Petting Farm:** come and cuddle up to our cute, furry and feathered friends.
- **Face Painting:** for children and adults, we all know you love it!
- **The Magic Pillow Area:** an area for children and parents where you can lie around on pillows and read books. Come and relax in this dreamy atmosphere
- **Nature Craft with Wollie Creek Preservation Society:** to be updated.
- **Dream Drawing:** Come and draw your dream: what do you dream? What are your dreams? You can draw in black and white, or in colour, or use some glitter and stars, share your dreams with others and show what it is you dream of.
- **Magic Bubbles:** who blows the best big magic bubbles, come and join this bubbly fun!

The **Kids Zone stage** will feature local school bands the North Newtons, the Darlington Dynamics, a Pirate Treasure Hunt, Witch School Workshops, Manik Jones and his magic tricks, Aboriginal storytelling, puppet shows and more...

New in 2007!

- The festival has re-created a community 'vocal local' space that will showcase some of Newtown's most creative and inspiring artists including musicians, performing artists, creative artists and more...
- The Roomies Artspace project will also be launched at the festival.

- Dream Art – a community ‘Fence as Art’ project will be run again this year.
- Silent Auction – due to the overwhelming talent involved in the ‘Fence as Art’ project in 2006, we will be holding a silent auction on the day of the artwork, with all proceeds going back to the centre.
- All dressed up with Kamikaze Couture. The creative genius that is Kamikaze Couture will be onsite to ‘dress you up’. Come and visit them in the community space and step out in a whole new persona.
- Solar Generator – more local creative minds, Rejenr8 will be onsite with their solar generator, keeping the entertainment going in the local area.



Gold Coin Donations, as in previous years festival attendees will be invited to make a gold coin donation on the day.

Remember – NO BYO and NO glass on the grass. All festival-goers are reminded that we have a strict ‘no glass on the grass’ and ‘no byo’ policy. The **2 on-site bars** will be well equipped to keep everyone happy.

Come early to register for the DOG SHOW from 9:00am – 9:30am. Registration is \$3 per category entered. Payment is only possible on the Festival day. All registration money comes straight back to Newtown Neighbourhood Centre.

Dog Show categories are:

- **Small doggie dash**
(Little and lithe sprint)
- **Medium doggie dash**
(Bantamweight critters)
- **Large doggie dash**
(Definitely a galloping field)
- **Open doggie dash**
(Take on the best!)
- **Celebrity look-a like**
- **Quirkiest characteristic**
- **Costume Ball**
- **Most disadvantaged**
- **Best in Show**



FESTIVAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Would you like to have fun whilst doing something good for the community? Try volunteering at the Newtown Festival. Join a great team of people either pre-event or during the event.

Contact: Cathy Wills Email: cathyawills@yahoo.com.au
or Mob: 0412 214 844

FESTIVAL SPONSORS

Would you like to reach crowds of up to 80,000 in one day? The Newtown Festival and associated media coverage offers extensive and rewarding opportunity for sponsors. Contact: Tina Demetriou Email: festival2@newtowncentre.org or Mob: 0428 102040 or Sue Andersen Email: festival@newtowncentre.org or Mob: 0427 863 486



“bird” by John Goldsmith



Australian Government
Festivals Australia

The Australian Government is proud to be associated with Newtown Festival. Roomies ArtSpace at Newtown Festival was made possible by Festivals Australia, an Australian Government program which supports cultural activity at regional and community festivals.

Roomies ArtSpace will have a tent, art workshops and art displays in the community area at Newtown Festival on Sunday November 11th.

The Roomies ArtSpace tent brings together local artists with mental illnesses or disabilities and the broader community. A number of arts and disability groups will be involved, as will many local artists. We hope this event will lead to the ongoing involvement and acceptance of “outsider” artists in the inner Sydney community.

The Roomies ArtSpace Tent will be officially opened at 10.30 with a special speaker and a performance by Sydney Street Choir, but from 10 till 4 boarding house artists and artworkers will be on hand to demonstrate tapestry, printmaking and ceramics. Members of the public are invited to participate in a series of workshops through the day but you’ll need to book on the day, because there are a limited number of places in each workshop.

This project was made possible by a grant from Festivals Australia, an Australian Government program which supports cultural activity at community festivals.

At the Festival, Roomies ArtSpace is also launching the Roomies 2008 calendar, offering community art classes on Thursday and Friday afternoons at Roomies ArtSpace in Addison Rd Centre. Classes will be designed by local artists and art workers for both children and adults and will include print making master classes.

For more information about classes, workshops and the Roomies ArtSpace Tent, contact Andra Keay on roomies@newtowncentre.org or info@roomies.org.au or visit the Neighbourhood Centre in Newtown opposite Newtown Railway Station.

ROOMIES ARTSPACE



Roomies/Newtown Festival

Ph 95164755 Fx 95192509

PO Box 19

Newtown NSW 2042

VOLUNTEERS

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 please contact Beck 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 around 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.

STARS Training

STARS (Skills, Training and Resource Service) is funded by the Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care (DADHC) under the Home and Community Care (HACC) program, Canterbury City Council, and Leichhardt Council.

If you are a volunteer and are interested in doing STARS training **please call STARS on 9750 9344**. Training is free for new volunteers. Bookings are essential. Training is held at various locations in the Inner West area



Child Protection Week was on from the 2nd to the 8th of September. Unfortunately child abuse continues to affect too many child in our community, stopping child abuse starts with you! The National Association for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (NAPCAN) highlighted 10 ways that you can help make your street child friendly.

1. Meet your neighbours: Say hello! Remember their names
2. Introduce your kids in your street: Make sure everyone's got friends to play with.
3. Welcome newcomers: Make up a Welcome Pack with local schools, playgroups, child health centres, kids sporting clubs, music lessons, the closest all night chemist etc.
4. Involve kids in the life of your street: Help them organise a child friendly activity.
5. Get the kids in your street to map your neighbourhood: Ask them to identify the places where they don't feel safe. And do something about it!
6. Be generous with your neighbours: Share your time, share your toys, share your pets!
7. Watch out for kids: Drive slowly!
8. Exercise together: Organise a weekly walk.
9. Care for your street: Hold a clean up your street day.
10. Show kids you value them: Ask for their opinion, send the kids you know a birthday card, or just a note to say "well done" to celebrate their achievements.



Anti-Poverty Week
14-20 October 2007

Anti-Poverty Week focuses on poverty around the world, including Australia. Its main aims are to:

- strengthen public understanding of the causes and consequences of poverty and hardship;
- encourage research, discussion and action to address these problems.

Last year, over 400 organisations and more than 7000 people were involved around the country. Everyone is welcome to organise activities or join in something being organised by other people. The activities can be large or small, and activities at local levels are especially welcome. The website www.antipovertyweek.org.au includes basic fact sheets, promotional material, a calendar of activities and links to other sources of info and ideas.

Millennium Development Goals

In September 2000, all 189 member states of the United Nations signed on to the Millennium Development Goals – a set of eight targets that aim to half world poverty by 2015. In 2007 we're at half time. At Newtown Neighbourhood Centre we feel passionately about issues of social justice both locally and globally. Here's a list of things you can do to help make poverty history:

- Write a letter to your local Member of Parliament asking them to take action to reduce poverty and achieve the Millennium Development Goals.
- Consume responsibly: buy fair trade and environment friendly
- 2007 is an election year: think about how your vote will impact poverty locally and around the world.
- Talk to your friends, family, neighbours about the importance of ending poverty
- Buy and wear the 'make poverty history' armband and T-shirts
- Write an article for your local newspaper.
- For more ideas check out www.makepovertyhistory.org



“bird” by John Goldsmith

The Roomies Artspace annual exhibition will be opening on Thursday November 29th will run till December 9th at the Addison Rd Gallery, Marrickville.

On Sunday December 2nd join the Roomies artists and friends for a ‘Meet the Artist’ day and celebrate International Day of People with a Disability with us.

**Don't DIS
my ABILITY**
INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY
3 DECEMBER

After meeting the artists and touring our studio and exhibition (at Addison Rd Gallery), you can stroll around the Organic Markets and visit the rest of Addison Rd Centre’s Open Day activities, including jumping castles, trapeze artists, bands and dancing.

A number of arts and disability groups will be involved, as will many local artists. We hope this event will lead to the ongoing involvement and acceptance of “outsider” artists in the inner Sydney community.

For more information about the exhibition, open studio day or Roomies Artspace, contact Andra Keay on roomies@newtowncentre.org or info@roomies.org.au or visit the Neighbourhood Centre in Newtown opposite Newtown Railway Station.

Or come to Hut 43 Addison Rd Centre, 142 Addison Rd, Marrickville on Sunday 2nd December between 11 and 3pm.

Roomies/Newtown Festival
Ph 95164755 Fx 95192509
PO Box 19
Newtown NSW 2042

roomies@newtowncentre.org
an initiative of Newtown
Neighbourhood Centre

**ROOMIES
ARTSPACE**

