

Giving Matters Tomorrow:Today Foundation News

Welcome to our first newsletter for 2010. The Foundation is busier than ever, with some exciting developments to report.

Moving as we grow

Since Tomorrow:Today started in 2002 we have had an office within Delatite Community Health Service. The support of Benalla & District Memorial Hospital in providing this office space has helped us to grow as a strong, independent community foundation. The Foundation is now expanding and so has moved to a larger office in town:

**Shop 10 Cecily Court
66 Nunn Street
Benalla 3672
Phone: 5762 1211
admin@tomorrowtoday.info**

Please note our new phone and email contacts as well. Feel free to drop in and say hello.

Annual Appeal

Tomorrow:Today Foundation is an independent, not-for-profit community foundation. It provides funds purely for the benefit of Benalla and district. Donations to our Public Fund are fully tax deductible and will be kept in perpetuity, with the interest used to support charitable organisations within our community.

Last year we held our Inaugural Annual Appeal for the **Tomorrow:Today Foundation** Public Fund. We are again running an appeal for donations to the Public Fund with the aim of raising \$25,000. If you wish to donate, please send a cheque made payable to **Tomorrow:Today Foundation** to PO Box 281, Benalla.



Foundation Ambassadors Kerryn Dobson, Melanie Schneider, Marg Aldous and Jill Nicholson at the Open Garden, November 2009.

Open Garden Fundraiser

The Open Garden fundraiser at **MARANGY**, was a great success last November during the Benalla Festival. A highlight was the warm hospitality provided by our Ambassadors who served delicious home baked refreshments as a fundraiser for the Education Program. \$2,500 was raised over the weekend.

We need your help once more when Marangy takes part in Australia's Open Garden Scheme on the Anzac Day long weekend – opening on Saturday 24th and Sunday 25th April 2010. Our Ambassadors are again coordinating the refreshments, baking for and serving at this fundraiser for the Education Program. Jill Nicholson is leading the organising team which includes Melanie Schneider, Marilyn Bourke and Janet Cooper. Please give

Jill a call on 5762 1295 or email jill.nicholson@benalla.net.au if you would be happy to help serve or bake (cakes, muffins and slices)

STOP PRESS...

The Foundation is delighted that a second garden, **EMU BRIDGE**, will now be opening in support of our Education Program. Ken and Marilyn Bourke have created an exceptional country garden that has opened in Australia's Open Garden Scheme many times in the past. It has undergone enormous change in recent years, making it a 'must see' for any garden lover.

Please help spread the word amongst your friends that the gardens are open, 10am – 4.30pm Saturday 24th and Sunday 25th April. The gardens are both out Kilfeera Road, with refreshments available at Marangy.

together we make a difference



Back to School Vouchers

This year **Tomorrow:Today Foundation** distributed \$20,000 worth of FRRR Back to School vouchers to families in need throughout Benalla and District schools. Over the past 7 years **Tomorrow:Today Foundation** has distributed \$129,000 worth of vouchers. These support families in our community who find it difficult to meet the costs of going back to school. With the help of school principals, vouchers are distributed in a simple but effective way.

Education Program

Over the last two years we have been working on a major Education Program that involves family, community and school life. In consultation with local and external educational experts, local community groups and government agencies and in partnership with the Hume Regional Office of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, **Tomorrow:Today** has developed a long term program that responds to the issues of social disadvantage and low educational attainment.

Our "Foundation Year" has begun, with numerous different projects underway. We believe that it will take 10 years of active resourcing to sustainably change Benalla's educational outcomes.

Welcome Stacey

We have welcomed an additional member of staff to the team – Ms. Stacey Lord is our new Education Program Manager. Stacey started with **Tomorrow:Today Foundation** in February bringing extensive experience in working with young people and with the general community.



*Governors and staff of the Ian Potter Foundation with directors and staff of **Tomorrow:Today**.*

Hands on Learning

Not all students are good at sitting in classrooms all week. Through a partnership with **Tomorrow:Today**, Benalla College has commenced a new curriculum stream using the highly successful "Hands On Learning" approach that has been employed in more than a dozen schools in Victoria. Working with one teacher and a tradie, two groups of students work one day a week each on building and construction projects. Hands on Learning is a great example of finding learning styles that suit the individual student.

Boys, Blokes, Books and Bytes

Working with librarians from FCJ, Benalla College and the High Country Library in Benalla, the Education Program is supporting the Boys, Blokes, Books and Bytes reading program for middle-years boys. The program aims to develop a reading culture among adolescent boys through a series of activities in the school and public libraries that will operate in Benalla in Term 3.

Careers Mentoring

SlingShot Mentoring is a partnership between **Tomorrow:Today** and The Centre aimed at matching

students with people from a range of professional backgrounds to act as mentors. Working with our local LLEN (North East Tracks Local Learning and Employment Network), SlingShot Mentoring is a part of the Careers Day to be held in Benalla on Tuesday 18 May. The Careers Day workshops will provide an opportunity for students to discuss their career aspirations with people who have experience in the field. More mentors for these 'one-off' workshops are always welcome, so anyone interested should contact **Tomorrow:Today**.

Ian Potter Foundation visit

Governors and staff of the Ian Potter Foundation made a visit to Benalla in February to learn more about the Education Program and to meet with representatives of our partner organisations such as the Department of Education & Early Childhood Development. The visit included a tour of Benalla 31 and meetings with Principals and lead teachers from Benalla's schools, afternoon tea with the Mayor, Councilors and staff and Member for Benalla Bill Sykes at Benalla Rural City, and a tour of the Benalla township. A terrific lunch was provided by the hospitality team at GOTAFE.

More Information - Please send me information on:

- Donating to the Foundation
- Workplace giving
- Remembering the Foundation in my Will
- Tomorrow:Today Foundation's Annual Report
- Becoming a Foundation Ambassador

Name:

Address:

Phone: Email: