

# MOCSIS NEWSLETTER

## AUGUST SEPTEMBER 2021

Monash Oakleigh Community Support & Information Service

[admin@mocsis.org.au](mailto:admin@mocsis.org.au) 95684533



While some among our political leaders scrabble for ways to keep up with the covid pandemic, the MOCSIS community is efficiently getting on with the job of helping those around us who are doing it tough in these difficult times. Congratulations to President Kathy and the Committee for their leadership, and thanks to all the volunteer workers, donors and supporters who keep this service going.



Kathy's nomination for the 2021 Sir John Monash Volunteer of the Year Award is timely – it is hard to imagine anyone more worthy of winning this award, and thanks go to Liz and Joy who drew up her nomination. Good luck Kathy – we are with you all the way.

Throughout our many lockdowns MOCSIS volunteers have been busy, not only at Downing Street. Maureen has been baking the most beautiful bread, and Kathy vouches for Jane's Lemon Curd (recipe on the next page) as "the best ever".



## *Jane's Lemon Curd*

*3 eggs & 2 yolks*

*1 tablespoon lemon rind*

*1/2 cup lemon juice*

*1 cup caster sugar*

*150 grams of diced butter*



*Beat together the eggs, rind, juice & sugar.*

*Place in a saucepan on low heat and add diced butter - just adding three cubes at a time, after previous cubes have melted.*

*Stir on heat until mixture thickens and all butter has melted.*

*Cool slightly and strain.*

*Refrigerate strained curd for at least 1 hour before use.*

## **How Does Our Garden Grow?**



Thanks to Joy for this report. The MOCSIS vegetable garden continues to flourish despite Covid. The garden team Joy, Rosalie and Jane, have been busy encouraging the winter crops to do "their thing", and as a consequence are currently harvesting lots of broccoli, spinach, silver beet, and very soon bok choy. Unfortunately, we seem to have lost the battle of the brussels sprouts versus the nocturnal visitors to our garden!

The potting shed has had a new lease of life, with smart new vinyl blinds replacing the very dilapidated original ones. Many thanks to Peter Booth for paving the entrance, which will enhance the operation and care of the entrance blind. We are looking forward to propagating seeds for our Spring/Summer planting in the improved solar space.

We are excited to have been invited to participate in the Monash Open Garden Day to be held (Covid permitting) Saturday 6th November. The garden team look forward to receiving your cuttings and/or seedlings to sell on the day. We also plan

to have a cake/produce stall on the front verandah along with information about the work that MOCSIS does. If you can make something for the stall we would be "over the moon", but please remember goods need to have a label listing all ingredients. We will send a reminder email closer to the day. Enjoy the beautiful Spring days to come.

### **Thank you, Treasurer Peter**



The floor of the garden shed mentioned in Joy's report looks really good. You are obviously a man of many talents.



### **New volunteers**

A warm welcome to Michelle and Patrick both of whom are currently doing the training course. We look forward to meeting you and working with you.

### **MOCSIS AGM**

We hope to see all MOCSIS volunteers at this year's AGM which is scheduled for Monday the 13<sup>th</sup> of September at 1:00PM at the Oakleigh Hall in Drummond Street Oakleigh - covid restrictions permitting.

### **Training**

The last Ongoing Training at the Oakleigh Bowls Club on the 30<sup>th</sup> of July was cancelled due to covid restrictions. Watch for details of the next session when covid restrictions ease.

### **MOCSIS June 2021 statistics**

Emergency relief in the form of food vouchers and food parcels was provided to 197 interviewed clients during June. The total number of emergency relief services provided, which includes bread and fresh fruit and vegetables recorded by postcode, was 755.

## Tax Help

Marlene and Rob will be doing Tax Help on Fridays in August and September. Appointments are being made which hopefully, covid restrictions will allow.



## Meat purchase

It has been very difficult to keep up with the increasing demand for food parcels now we no longer receive the wonderful frozen meals from the RACV. As a result, the Committee decided to trial the fortnightly purchase of meat for the next 6 months. The packaging of this meat for distribution to our clients has become another task for our indefatigable secretary Karen.

## Diary Dates

**AGM** Monday 13 September at 1 pm. Oakleigh Hall Drummond Street Oakleigh

**MOCSIS Open Garden Day** Saturday 6 November. 25 Downing Street

## Newsletter Contributions

Grateful thanks to Kathy, Jane, Maria, Joy and Maureen who contributed to this newsletter. My call goes out to everyone for information, ideas or photos for the next one. Rosemary

## Zoe from CISVic

took a series of photos, including this one when she visited MOCSIS recently. There will be more in the MOCSIS AGM report

## Food for Thought

Know how to listen and you will profit even from those who talk badly. Plutarch

