

NEWSLETTER 1



MONASH OAKLEIGH COMMUNITY SUPPORT AND INFORMATION SERVICE INC

Reg. No. A0002446N
ABN 71 024 168 108

DIARY- UPCOMING DATES

Foodbank Deliveries:- **1st May, 15th May**
Committee Meeting:- **9th May 1:30pm**
Trivia Night:- **17th May 6:30pm**
Volunteer Week:- **20th – 26th May**
Lunch at Foresters Arm Hotel:- **24th May 12:30pm**
King's Birthday:- **10th June MOCSIS Closed**
Training, South Oakleigh Bowling Club :- **10th July**

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Welcome to the first newsletter for 2024 and apologies for taking until May to get it published.

ALOK VERMA RETIRES...

Alok has been volunteering with MOCSIS for 6½ years. At the same time, he has been holding down a full-time job. Alok was a great support during the tough COVID times when many of our volunteers could not come into the House.

Alok has recently taken on a new job, with an international company. Sadly, Alok has made the decision that it will be too difficult volunteering and juggling his workload;

which includes international travel- often coming up very quickly.

We wish Alok all the best for the future and most sincerely thank him for his support of MOCSIS.

Kathy Hosie President



CHANGE OF HOURS

Liz said it still can be difficult to fill the roster each month although not as difficult as previously. Anecdotaly volunteers are happier with the earlier closing time.

OZHARVEST FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Taking Allison's suggestion, volunteers on duty can bag some of the fresh produce on a Monday, to avoid the queue of clients waiting for fruit and vegetables. This can be done quite easily leading up to 12:00pm if we are quiet. Hoping this will reduce stress for volunteers and move clients on quickly. It also means that the fruit is not being over-handled.

Clients only need to show their Centrelink card.



MOCSIS will be closed at 12pm, so those on the roster can also attend.

Training 17th April

Kathy opened the meeting and introduced Helen Byrne- Trainer with CISVic. Helen gave an interactive session addressing challenging behaviours of clients, managing aggression, communication barriers, frequently presenting clients, and tools and resources needed when interviewing clients. Helen advised that preparation is important such as an awareness of agency policies and procedures. Negotiation skills are helpful to defuse situations with Helen referring volunteers to their interview skills including observing and attending to cues, listening, being empathic and open. *Helen also emphasised what a welcoming and capable agency existed at MOCSIS and we all agreed that most clients do not present these behaviours. Helen gave her work email if we had any specific questions.*

VOLUNTEER WEEK – 20-26th May

The theme for this year is '**Something for Everyone**'. This aims to recognise the diverse passions and talents everyone brings to the act of volunteering. The website has resources, such as posters, invitations, certificates email banners etc for any organisation to use; to help increase the awareness of the vital role that we, as volunteers play in many peoples lives.

Kathy and the committee have in fact invited everyone for lunch at the **Foresters Arms Hotel** on the **24th May** at **12:30pm**, to recognise all the hard work you do! Please join us all there. There is parking around the back in Dalgety St. We will pay for the lunch, drinks are at your expense.

Please let Kathy know if you can come by the 17th May, so she can make the booking.

So in keeping with the theme for this year- you should find something to your liking on the menu!!

We would love to see you all there!

RECYCLING CANS & BOTTLES

A reminder that if you wish to donate your can & bottle cash to MOCSIS- you need to enter the following code **C2000008941**

You can bring your containers to MOCSIS and put them in the large plastic bag on the back porch. Allison's husband is happy to take the empties and return it for MOCSIS



50 YEARS CELEBRATION

Those who attended the afternoon tea, found it to be a wonderful afternoon and celebration of our 50 years of service to the community. Here are just a couple of the pictures from the day, as Aniela had already posted many more for us all to see.

GARDEN

Joy, Dianne and Rosalie have continued to keep the garden flourishing and productive. We have had John Allen join our ranks in March and he is also helping in the garden. Welcome John and thank you to the gardeners for all your hard work.



Trivia night

South Oakleigh Bowling Club, Friday 17th May

\$20 per head. Please inform Karen ASAP if you & friends or family are able to attend. The Bowling Club is very supportive of us and we have always received a very generous donation from the Bowling Club at this event in past years. It would be great if we can get a table or two together.

BYO table snacks & supper, drinks available at the bar.

Tax

We have made the decision not to provide Tax Help this year. The demand has dropped considerably over the past few years.



Proposal for Council Nov 23 (3).pdf



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Dear Councillor

MOCSIS data recording process

Rosemary's question of why the double handling? This has resulted in the expulsion of THE RED BOOK. Thanks Rosemary!

GRANDCHILDREN PHOTOS

Kathleen has 'suggested' that I cannot fill the newsletter with photos of **Samara**- What the...? So in the interest of fairness (& interest) I'm offering everyone the opportunity to have your grandchild's/niece/nephew's photos to be also included in the newsletter. Email them to me for inclusion. 😊😊 sjminogue1@gmail.com



For you attention

Kathy is still in discussion with Monash Council with regards to getting funding for a paid coordinator. As you know Kathy will be stepping down at the next AGM in September. Just a reminder that if anyone has any ideas for how to do this, they can contact Kathy.

From Kathy's email...

As you know I have been in discussion with Monash Council regarding providing ongoing funding for a paid coordinators position.

This has been in partnership with Waverley CIS, Chris Brassington is their President.

A report was commissioned by Council staff, I asked for CISVic's input and Chris and I also contributed .

The report was completed back in February and my understanding was it would then go to Council's Executive team.

After following this up several times it has only recently gone to Russel Hopkins the Director- Community Services.

I sent out a joint statement and a copy of our submission to all Monash Councillors on the 30th April. I have attached these documents for your information.

*So far only 3 Councillors have responded, **Josh Fergus, Nicky Luo and Tina Samardzija.***

I am asking if you could contact any/all Councillors asking for their support (their details are on the Council website).

Please spread the word amongst your friends and neighbours too.

- Most Councils provide some level of funding for their CIS agency, we are one of the few that does not receive funding from Council for a paid position.

*- Chris and I have no one who is willing to take on the managerial role of President, **we are in crisis.***

- We provide in cash and kind over \$1,000,000.00 to Monash every year.

- These support services are too important to fail

Thank you for your ongoing support!

Kind regards

Kathy

Please find attached those letters again for you

JUNE ROSTER

This is out now and there are still three dates that need people

Friday 21st , Thurs 27th and Fri 28th

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

Sunday 12th May

