



Managers report 2021 in review

As 2021 draws to a close, I would like to thank everyone who has continued to support BCC through another challenging year. We continued to follow the public health orders, opening and closing our centre as allowed with COVID mandated restrictions, in fact we were only open for 28 weeks during the year. But we managed to continue our core work **'creating a confident and connected community'**.

During the year we welcomed new staff members and some fantastic new classes. Nic joined our team as our new art teacher, Cathy came on board to teach Adult Literacy and the amazing Tracey teaching Auslan. We also ran Introduction to Horticulture for the first time in partnership with the Down's Estate Community Project. Unfortunately our frequent shutdowns played havoc with our timetable and our English classes became used to jumping back to online teaching. Our English teacher Wendy has been fantastic, in the class or back online as required. We will be saying a sad but 'happy retirement' to Shirley, our long time computer teacher as the year ends. Shirley has been with us for many years and she will be sadly missed.

In May welcomed our new Program Coordinator, Kelly, 3 days before lockdown 4! Kelly has been behind a lot of our social media and the competitions we have been running during the year keeping everyone connected. We love the energy she bring to the centre!

We have also been working behind the scenes on our building project. After many meetings, presentations, emails and phone calls, we are finally able to let you know that we will be relocating at the end of 2022 to the Healthy Futures Hub (formally Linen House) in East Rd, Seaford. The opportunities the partnerships this hub will bring to BCC, will enable us to better serve our local and wider community. We would like to thank Jan for her invaluable support on this project.

We have assisted over 40 community members to apply for the \$250 State Govt Power Saving Bonus. We have also helped numerous community members download their COVID Vaccination Certificate to their phones or obtain their hard copy certificates.

Early in 2021 we had Peninsula Health run a COVID testing clinic in our portable to allow locals easy access to a testing clinic.

There are a couple more thank you's required! A huge thank you to Helen. She has yet again been staying in touch with our members during the regular lockdowns, mailing out newsletters, (including the fun COVID pills), and making everyone feel welcome and COVID safe when they visit our centre. Her cake classes have also been lots of fun.

Thank you to our volunteers, including our Committee of Management (COM). Without the support of our volunteers, we would not be able to provide support to our community. To our COM; Mandy, Therese, Shell, Jenny, Val, Karen, Jo and Michelle, thank you for giving up your valuable time to provide valuable strategic support and direction to the BCC staff. Thanks to our volunteers who have provided office, program and building support during the year - Karen, Roslyn and Ronald.

2022 will be a year of change as we work towards relocating. We will be holding some of our classes off site at the Davey Richardson Pavilion as the building works at Linen House progress. We will also be undertaking a project during the year to recognise and celebrate our history, over 30 years in our current facility. If you would like to be part of this project or have photos or stories, let our office know.

Our staff are taking a well earned break and our office is closing Friday 17 December 2021 and reopening the office on Tuesday 18 January 2022.

We hope you all have an enjoyable Christmas and New Year and we will be in touch to let you know when your classes are returning. Thanks again for your support of BCC!

Meredith Mackenzie - Manager

