



GippsLeader

GCLP news, notes & events

9 September, 2004

It's a busy time in the GCLP year with just a few program days remaining and the group's focus moving towards their closing residential and graduation .Behind the scenes, the office team is working ahead to deliver stimulating, valuable program days as well as a number of other projects. Heading the list are the recruitment of candidates for next year's Program and organising the 2004 Not for Profit Board Orientation Series. Within the next week or two we will begin work on the 2004 Yearbook, graduation dinner and planning for next year's program.

Please remember, the GCLP team is made up of three part-time employees so you may need to leave a message for Ian, Nicola or Tracey to call you back.

2005 Recruitment

Great response to our Special Recruitment Edition of GippsLeader last week, now we just have to maintain the momentum!

Sally Paech (2004) is initiating contact with local newspapers in South Gippsland while Jahna Pulford (2004) is organising articles for the Tyers community newsletter as well as several school newsletters.

Deb Bye (1996) is featured in an article which will be offered to the Gippsland Times in Sale. Deb, who makes an enormous community contribution as volunteer manager for new Christian community radio station, Life FM, has also agreed to interview GCLP Executive Officer, Ian Gibson, on air.

Diane Wilkinson (1998) has also agreed to interview Ian. Diane is actively involved with Gippsland FM, the community radio station broadcasting out of Morwell.

Frankie MacLennan (2004) will be featured in an article to be written for the Yarram Standard.

GCLP Project Officer, Tracey Matthies (2003), is a former journalist and can help with copy for articles for inclusion in in-house magazines or newsletters. Remember, the most powerful messages come from personal stories, so take the generic media release from Tracey and include your personal experiences of GCLP.

Tell people what you learned from GCLP and how you are using those lessons in your career, personal or community life now, and stress the power of the GCLP network.

The GCLP Committee of Management recently agreed that the 2005 group should reflect the usual mix of sectors, location, age and gender, but with a strong preference that at least two participants live or work in each municipality throughout Gippsland.

Take action now to identify and nominate candidates for next year's program:

- Refer people to www.gclp.asn.au where they can read more about GCLP and apply on line
- Request brochures and yearbooks from the GCLP office and share them with interested people
- Refer people to the GCLP office (gclp@igain.vic.edu.au or 5135 4304)
- Let the team in the office (Ian, Nicola or Tracey) know about potential candidates so that they can follow up where appropriate

Networking Opportunities

*Good food, great company and an opportunity to build on your GCLP networks! Graduates from all year groups and 2004 participants in the South Gippsland area are getting together for dinner at **Café Tsunami**, 8 Williams St, **Inverloch**, on **Wednesday, September 22** from 7pm. RSVPs to Martin Fuller (2003) at MartinF@wgcma.vic.gov.au*

Coming soon – an opportunity for graduates and participants in the Sale area to catch up for dinner and networking. Watch this space for details.

Also coming soon – the 2003 year group is in the early stages of organising an evening to catch up.

If your year group is organising an event, let the GCLP office know (gclp@igain.vic.edu.au) and we'll include it in the GippsLeader and post it on the calendar at www.gclp.asn.au

Board Orientation Series

The Board Orientation Series is shaping up well. The Series will be held at the Latrobe Motel Convention Centre, Princes Highway, Traralgon on the evenings of Wednesday, October 13, 20 and 27. Speakers will address a wide range of issues relevant to serving on the board of a not for profit organisation including legal and non-legal responsibilities, financial responsibilities and strategic planning. The fee of \$260 includes a two course meal at each session.

A minimum of 30 people is required to run the Board Orientation Series. Thank you to those who have already enrolled and thank you also to those who have forwarded details of the series on to other interested people.

An enrolment form is attached with this e-newsheet and can be returned to the GCLP office when completed.

Community Leadership Australia

GCLP chairman, Barry Rogers (1996) and GCLP Project Officer, Tracey Matthies (2003), met with representatives of community leadership programs from across Australia, as well as Fiji and New Zealand, at the August meeting of Community Leadership Australia.

CLA allows leadership programs to share ideas, discuss concerns and plan for the future strength of community leadership programs in Australia and beyond.

The August meeting focused on alumni/graduate matters and included a discussion led by Tracey on the work of GCLP to re-engage with graduates this year.

A key message to come from the CLA meeting was that all leadership programs would welcome contact and involvement with graduates of other programs. This means that GCLP graduates who move out of the region can make contact with other leadership programs and be assured of a warm welcome, while graduates of other programs who move to Gippsland can make contact with GCLP. Craig Moon (GCLP 2003) has joined South Australia's leadership group for a number of social and networking functions since moving there temporarily this year.

Burning issues which came up for discussion included the involvement of people with disabilities in leadership programs, monitoring and ensuring appropriate attendance levels at program events, and the value of mid-year reflections.

A written report of the August meeting, including several recommendations will be presented to the GCLP committee. The next CLA meeting will be held in March, 2005.

News from the GCLP office

Are you a financial member of the graduate group? Your graduate group membership helps with the provision of services and support to graduates including yearbook, website, and graduate events. A payment form is attached with this newsletter.

Yearbook update – the 2004 yearbook will be published in time for the graduation in November. The graduate section will follow the same format as last year with the graduate's name and year followed by position title and organisation name. The remaining three sections will be "skills offered", "areas of service" and "community involvement." A photograph of each graduate will also appear beside your profile.

Many graduates have experienced changes in their lives and/or careers since the last update of yearbook profiles and website bio notes. You can edit your website bio notes at any time but you will shortly receive a form inviting you to update your yearbook profile. Your prompt reply will help to ensure that the yearbook is published on time.

Social Capital Research Project

Carolyn Theodore recently met with the GCLP's Research Steering Committee to seek feedback on the proposed research questions for her PhD research entitled, "What ways and by what means does the GCLP influence the social capital of the Gippsland Region?".

The research proposal will shortly be presented to Monash University academic and ethics panels. Once approved, people associated with the GCLP will be invited to participate in the research throughout 2005 via a range of methods including surveys, interviews, and a reference group.

Carolyn would like to acknowledge and thank the people who have already contributed their time and enthusiasm for the GCLP. This has ensured the development of a workable and relevant research design.

Items of interest

Congratulations to Andrew Dunn (1998) who has won a prestigious national award for small animal practice. Andrew, of the Moe Vet Centre, was interviewed about his honor on ABC Regional Radio this week.

Congratulations also to Lindie Hutton (2004) who recently received a 10 year service award. Lindie is Nurse Unit Manager at Maryvale Private Hospital in Morwell.

Next time you feel as though it's just too far to travel to a GCLP program day or networking event, consider these people...

- **A 2004 participant in Leadership Fiji has not missed a single program day or event despite having to travel by boat, plane and bus for seven hours each way! He was inspired to apply for the program by his brother, who had to make the same journey, the previous year.**
- **A participant in the Goulburn program moved to Tasmania mid-year but commuted to attend the remaining program days.**
- **A Leadership Victoria participant was transferred by his company during his program year. The company was so committed to the employee's participation in the program that they paid for him to commute from Sri Lanka to complete the year!**

A small but enthusiastic turnout enjoyed dinner at Café Evviva in Traralgon last week. Graduates from three years were joined by Ian Gibson as the token

male. Tracey Matthies (2003) had a particularly good evening after winning a large box of fruit and vegies in a pub raffle while catching up with Michelle Toppin (2003) before the dinner. Coincidentally, Tracey's husband won a bottle of wine at Rotary the same evening, so they had a great weekend!

Who was that rebel who stood up in the middle of a school concert in Kernot Hall, Morwell last week and sang the St Kilda Football Club theme song in protest against its exclusion from a class item? The graduate in question was joined in hearty, tuneless song by two teachers and several students!

David Roberts (1999) has two events of interest for basketball fans.

- Some of Australia's top women basketball players will be in action in the WNBL Pre-Season Tournament to be held in Sale from September 17 to 19. Teams from Adelaide, Sydney, Dandenong, Bulleen and the AIS will take to the court at the Bishop Phelan Indoor Sports Stadium, Pearson St, Sale. Tickets will be on sale at the door, enquiries to 5142 3432.
- Latrobe City Pacers' player, Vashon Weaver, will run an eight-week specialised jumps' program for junior boys and girls in the Latrobe Valley during term four. The "Vertical Explosion Jumps Program" will teach the juniors how to jump higher and be stronger on the court. For more information contact David Roberts on 0412 274 465 or a/h 5174 1226.

Gippsland Community Leadership Program
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