



# GippsLeader

## GCLP news, notes & events

21 July, 2005

### **GCLP makes CLA history**

The Gippsland Community Leadership Program has helped to make history with the incorporation of Community Leadership Australia.

GCLP has been a supporter of the CLA initiative since its early days, but the process of incorporation has been a long way.

The goal was finally achieved on June 21, 2005.

CLA brings together the officers of community leadership programs from across Australia twice a year and is an excellent opportunity to share ideas and experiences, discuss challenges and work together to improve the deliver of CLPs in general.

This practice of working together is so valuable that CLA has drawn excellent support from not only Australia, but also Fiji and New Zealand.

### **Program News**

**Sale was the location for the Mid Year Reflection last week. As an opportunity to consolidate the year to date, participants reflected on their development as a group, their own learnings and how the program days have developed an awareness and insight into community leadership and a vision for Gippsland. Andrew Kneebone (GCLP 1996) was invited to facilitate the session along with Ian (on Vietnamese time!). A highlight of the day included a hypothetical session concerning the future of Gippsland with participants taking on a role they didn't necessarily agree with! The session ran into the evening with a dinner and trivial pursuit quiz - followed, for some, with late night karaoke! Next week GCLP 2005 will be visiting Loy Yang Power Station for the Industry Leadership for Sustainability Day which will include speakers Richard Elkington, Alistair Tompkin, Neil Lawson, Marlene Battista and Donna Faulkner. It will also include a far reaching view of Gippsland from the 19th floor of the boiler house!**

### **Networking event**

The 2002 group are having a get together on Sunday August 7 at 12.30pm at the Grand Junction, Traralgon. It's purely social for all who attend to catch up and see what's been going on in their lives.

## Forum Launches

The West and Central Gippsland launches of the GCLP discussion forum have been hailed as outstanding events. Not only did graduates get a hands on experience of using the discussion forum, they were also able to network across year groups and with GCLP committee members.

The West Gippsland launch was held at the Warragul Tafe Campus in the internet café. Although only a small number was present, it was a valuable session which saw those present posting messages and using the live chat room.

The Central Gippsland launch attracted a larger turnout at Lowanna College where the fun of the live chat room forced the use of GCLP time cards to bring the session to a close!

GCLP chairman and 1996 graduate, Barry Rogers, attended the Central Gippsland launch from the comfort of his home, logging on to the discussion forum to post messages and join the live chat room.

All year groups have now been invited to join the discussion forum, which can be found by going to [www.gclp.asn.au](http://www.gclp.asn.au) and following the link in the left hand menu. Log in details can be obtained by emailing GCLP Project Officer, Tracey Matthies, or GCLP Program Manager, Nicola Epps, at [gclp@igain.vic.edu.au](mailto:gclp@igain.vic.edu.au)

Future launches are planned for East Gippsland (tentatively set for Thursday, August 25 at Bairnsdale) and South Gippsland (details to be advised.)



Left: Jason Potts (2005) (front left) gives Jenny Hammett (2000), a helping hand with the discussion forum.

Below right: Nicola Epps (left) explains a feature of the discussion forum to Rasa Bennett (1996).



## News from the GCLP office

Whilst Ian has just returned from Vietnam, Nicola has recently returned from Bendigo where she attended part of the Australian Small Town's conference, accompanied by Monash University PhD student Carolyn Theodore. Together Nicola and Carolyn presented a workshop 'Social Capital, Leadership and Community Participation in Gippsland'. This was based on a paper written by Carolyn and Ian Gibson, focusing on the

impact of GCLP and development of social capital in Gippsland - the subject being explored by Carolyn in her thesis. The presentation followed two others concerning social capital and community development, including an excellent presentation from Glenys Butler, Manager of Community Development at Wellington Shire Council. Nicola said that a highlight was being able to talk about the program as it runs, giving practical examples of the benefits it offers participants and graduates - all illustrated with photo's of participants and some of the projects graduates have been involved in throughout Gippsland. Carolyn described the picture of social capital in Gippsland as "a kaleidoscope" and those attending said they felt a "feeling of richness" developed by GCLP had been well conveyed in the presentation.

### Items of interest

**Mick Murphy (2002) has made posts in education and youth – with opportunities for graduates to assist with some valuable programs.**

Leonie Blackwell (2002) says she has struck it lucky for a second time. "I'm off to Spain for three weeks in September thanks to one of my clients paying for me to go while their family is on holidays. Two years ago I was paid to go to Europe for six weeks. The perks of the natural therapies world!! :-)"

**Coming up in Melbourne next week is Leadership Victoria's Leadership Forum with a superb panel to be moderated by ABC presenter, Jon Faine. Full details and registration information are included in the attached flyer.**

Leadership Plus, a community organisation that promotes people with disabilities as leaders, is holding a forum on issues surrounding leadership and people with disabilities. Again, full details and registration information are included in the attached flyer. The registration date has been extended, but you will need to respond promptly if you are interested in attending this event.

**And a third attachment with this GippsLeader is an invitation from the Gippsland Ethnic Communities' Council to a public lecture on Reconciliation: Implication And Diminishment to be delivered by Ms. Lillian Holt, B.A. (History and Journalism) Univ. of Qld., M.A. University of Northern Colorado,`a Vice-Chancellor's Fellow at the University of Melbourne, on Friday 12 August 2005 at 7.30 pm, at Club Astoria, Maryvale Crescent, Morwell 3840.**

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