

# The Haven Education Centre



*making a difference!*

# Haven Happenings

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Term 3

Friday 18th September 2015

# The Haven Education Centre



*making a difference!*

## From the Director...

Well another term down and one to go! Yes, it's been very busy with a variety of projects carried out and a number of excursions including Kings Cross, The Sydney Jewish Museum and Little's Beach.

A new garden, complete with fire pit new along with outdoor furniture constructed by staff and students has been built. This has now been sanded and oiled four times too (student quality control). They even rolled and wacker-packed the decomposed granite which acts as a barrier between the mulch and the fire pit. Safety first and once again suggested by students. I Hope you enjoy the round-up of Term 3 at the Haven.

## Smoking Ceremony

Local educator and Elder, John Oates (*Uncle John*) has been a regular visitor to The Haven this term. After watching the progress of our new garden and the fire pit he offered to do a Smoking Ceremony for us. The students were both keen and impressed to be involved. He wore traditional garb on the day and stayed for lunch with students and staff.

John also came as our guide/mentor when we went to view our region from Bullbaring lookout (some folks call it Captain Cooks' lookout at Copacabana) and then on to Littles Beach. On the way to Littles, *Uncle John* pointed out medicinal and bush tucker plants to our group. We were also privileged to be shown an ancient carving of an orca (killer whale) which is thousands of years old.

## NRMA Visit

Two weeks ago we had a visit from Mr. Kyle Loades; local NRMA Director and his wife. After having a tour of the facility and admiring our new additions and renovations they presented us with a surprise, a cheque for \$2500. They were joined by long term Haven supporter and former NRMA employee, Mr. Keven Redmond and his wife.



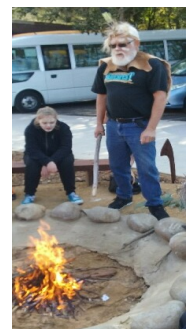
Lets hope he gets re-elected!!

Obviously, the money will be put to good use. Kyle has contributed to our program in many ways over the last ten years. I do not know whether the other NRMA Directors are so hands on and supportive but we are very grateful for his interest, efforts and support. He has helped at working bees, painted and ran the Barby over the years.



## New Garden

Students have been working diligently on our new garden this term. A large number of girls and boys have been involved. They had to landscape the area, build a new fire pit, establish a new car park, build four new seats around the fire pit, concrete a new path, collect and spread the mulch on top of the weed mat. It was truly amazing to see the enthusiasm and effort of all concerned. Staff were involved and a special thank you to Craig at **Forrester's' Beach Sand and Soil** who really looked after us with price/advice and sponsor **B & K Revegetation** who lent us equipment to complete the work.



## PCYC Oztag

The PCYC held its annual 'Kids verse Cops' Oz-tag Day at Bateau Bay this term. The day is aimed to help change the negative view some students have on the police by interacting with them on the sporting field. The Haven Education Centre once again entered a team. The team consisted primarily of current students, but also included two previous students to help bolster the team.

The team bus made its way to Bateau Bay with spirits very high and they were all very eager to play. When we arrived we received our playing shirts, which the students were very impressed about. The boys played six games all up, in which we won one game. However, we only lost two games by a try or two. The Haven boys did extremely well and tried their hearts out. They were all exhausted, but most importantly had a fun and fantastic day.

## Little Beach Excursion

What a beautiful day we had at Little's Beach. John Oates, an Indigenous Elder came with us. We stopped at the lookout at Copacabana, on the way there and we all learned a little bit more about how things were done before European settlement. John showed us a huge bush turkey's nest, they stand about a metre and a half high and are about 2 to 3 metres across and are really well hidden. On our walk down to Little's Beach John showed us a carving of a killer whale that was just off the beaten track, it was very old and of historical origin.



Once at the beach, lunch was started and the students were given time to explore the surrounding area. Matt P became a conservationist and put rubbish that had been left there into the bins that were provided, he wanted to know why people couldn't just pick up their own rubbish and put it in the bin. Great question Matt! Shannon found a Wahoo ball and Wendy, Jay and Matt joined in kicking it around. Unfortunately, Shannon went into the creek after the ball and informed me when he came out that he had a swamp in his shoes now. You do make me laugh Shannon! Once lunch was cooked and eaten we proceeded back up the track to the buses. It was a great day to spend with the students.



## Urban Walk—Kings Cross

Our Urban Walk tour took place this term. The tour provides students with a better understanding of the sorts of issues homeless people might face as well as the risks of drugs and addiction. We also tapped into the issues of gentrification of Kings Cross and the effects it places on pre-existing residents. Here are some thoughts expressed by our students.

Our tour guided shared her story of addiction. She was addicted to drugs for seven years. She associated drugs with music. When she decided to break her habit, it took her years to be able to listen to music and not get 'high'. Her parents helped her break her habit. They took her away from Kings Cross, her dad took her to the Blue Mountains where he spent time with her and surrounded her in nature, supported her and looked after her (Group 2).

**I disliked participating in the Urban Walk Tour as I felt a sense of helplessness because I couldn't help change their lives (Jess)**

We walked past the Kings Cross Injection Centre. I liked the idea of having one located in an area where people can get access to it, if they feel the need to use drugs. This center creates a safe place for not only drug uses to go, but also to keep needles of the streets out of harm's way for small children (Matt P).

- There are 3 different types of homeless people.**
- 1. Primary – live on the street.**
  - 2. Secondary – homeless shelters.**
  - 3. Tertiary – Boarding Houses (Group 1)**

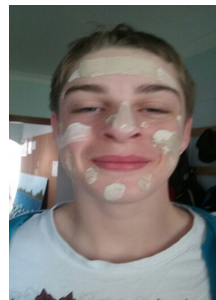
## Haven Picture Board



**2015 Haven Oztag Team**



**NRMA Visit**



**A smoking ceremony is an ancient custom among Indigenous Australians**



**Cooking with Julie Goodwin**



# Cooking with Julie Goodwin

Through Term 3, we had the privilege of being invited to Julie Goodwin's Cooking School.

We were broken into groups where we all were able to cook a dish while watching Julie demonstrate on the big screen. We cooked two meals which the students and staff at the end all sat down together to eat the meal that they prepared. This was the first time ever that the staff and students all sat down together and ate a meal.



Julie also joined us for the meal which the kids got a buzz out of, they were asking her all sorts of questions which she happily answered.

The Students behavior was outstanding to say the least.

I was very proud of them. I would never hesitate in taking any of them back to Julie's Cooking School. At the end, Julie presented us with her four cooking books, which the kids showed a great interest in and got her to sign.



## Jewish Museum

By Matt L (Student)

Excursions are fun, when I walked in I was amazed, there was a massive room with two people in it, one was a Canadian Woman and the other was a Hungarian/ Jewish Holocaust survivor named Joe. Our school was split up into two groups and I was lucky enough to have Joe as our Tour Guide. He took us upstairs first, to a picture of a toddler in a Nazi uniform; he said that this kid would grow up to be a Nazi because that would be all he knew. Then he told us about an Aboriginal group who attacked a German Embassy in Australia. When we moved along, he showed us a 3D carving of what people would look like in the Holocaust, and then we

walked into another room, this room had two walls full of Jewish artifacts from during the Holocaust, there was the Tora, the book of the Jews and other interesting artifacts, there was a photo of two people saving a Jewish Woman as well. Then we walked up some stairs into an area that had pictures of how the prisoners in Concentration Camps were treated, like being shot and gassed. It also showed a list of all the people that the Nazi planned to kill in each country, it equaled to eleven million! We then walked through to an area that had a blanket woven from human and animal hair, it was really big! Next to that there was a Children's Memorial, inside there was a pile of shoes that represented the size of all the children

killed in the Holocaust, I walked further and saw a gigantic bowl that dripped a drop of water every few seconds, and represented the 1.1million children killed because each day 1.1million drops fell. We then walked out and into a Conference Room of sorts, and Joe told us about his story, how he was sent to a concentration camp but escaped and joined the Underground, it was extremely interesting. The whole day was sad but it was also very interesting to learn how the Holocaust happened and what went on during it.