



Central Highlands Association
of Neighbourhood Houses

Feel Welcome

2024 resource guide to neighbourhood houses in the Central Highlands



This guide has been developed by the Central Highlands Association of Neighbourhood Houses with the support of Health Futures Australia, Australian Medical Association (Ballarat Subdivision) and Compassionate Ballarat.

To find out more about neighbourhood houses and the ways we work together in our region visit our website chanh.org.au.



NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES ARE AMAZING ORGANISATIONS.

Born of the need to create safe spaces for women in the 1970's, Neighbourhood Houses have evolved to become a second home for people from all walks of life - where they can learn, share and connect.

Our purpose is to build resilience and wellbeing, in line with the needs and aspirations of our communities.

IN THE CENTRAL HIGHLANDS:

- There are 14 Neighbourhood Houses in 11 different communities offering activities for everybody – regardless of age, background or gender.
- Neighbourhood Houses value your learning, friendship and personal growth – to create stronger communities together.
- Neighbourhood Houses provide people with opportunities for training, volunteering and contributing to their community.
- No two Neighbourhood Houses are the same – they are place-based, and responsive to local people and needs.
- Neighbourhood Houses are community led associations partially funded by the Victorian Government Department of Health and Human Services.
- Many Neighbourhood Houses provide Learn Local – Department of Education and Training subsidised Adult and Community Further Education programs to support pathways to learning and employment.
- Many Neighbourhood House programs or events are free of charge or gold coin donation.





**DR MARK YATES,
BALLARAT INNOVATION AND RESEARCH COLLABORATION FOR HEALTH**

Neighbourhood Houses are about finding and then sharing the wealth of knowledge, skill that resides in community and then harnessing it to improve health and wellness. As a geriatrician working with people who have to manage many different chronic illnesses I know how important it is to be supported to stay well. I also know that staying well more than managing the illness it is finding wellness by having connection, togetherness and avoiding isolation. Neighbourhood Houses are doing this in the whole community, building networks to support wellness through purpose and learning. They are building community resilience and population wellbeing at a time when crisis - be that drought, fire or pandemic - will test us all.

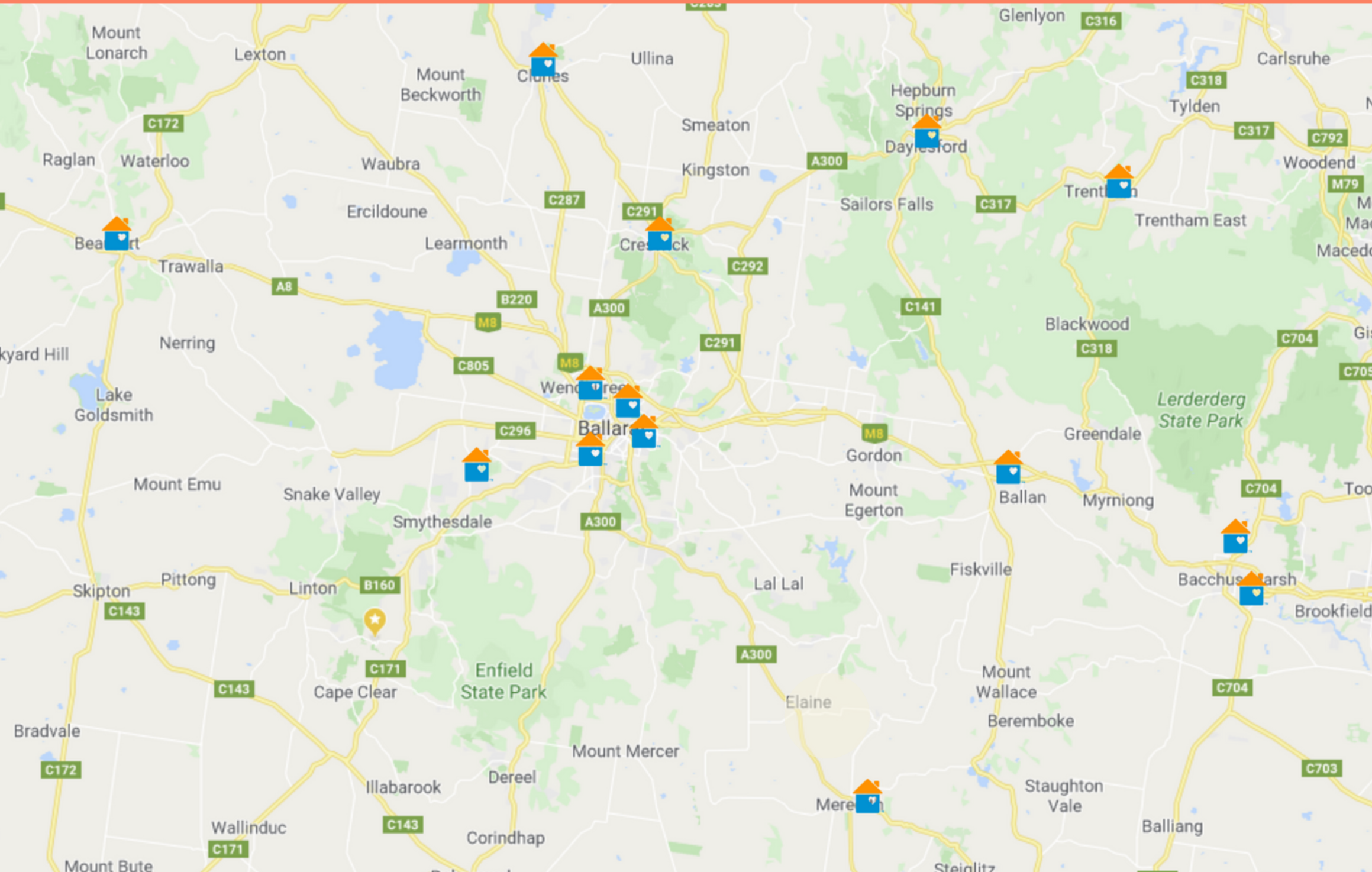
**DR SHELLEY BOWEN,
HEALTH FUTURES AUSTRALIA**

Health, safety and wellbeing is at the forefront of all of our minds, with many members of our community highly vulnerable in our fast changing environment. Neighbourhood Houses provide a beacon of light and hope for communities – they reach deeply and widely into our communities, support all community members to thrive through social connection, capability building, and social enterprise. I see a bright and needed future for the Neighbourhood Houses network in being the hubs for community health and wellbeing where all of the community is welcome, and we all get to make sure that our most vulnerable are included. Health Futures Australia – a ‘prevention for purpose’ charity, is privileged to work so closely with the Houses in delivering impact for our communities well into the future.

**DR LYNNE REEDER,
COMPASSIONATE BALLARAT**

Compassionate Ballarat recognises the significance of social connections, and the important role Neighbourhood Houses play in fulfilling the human need for that connection within local communities. When done well, these reassuring opportunities for contact remind us that we are simply better together.

OUR LOCATIONS



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Using this guide to support healthier lifestyles



CAN NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES MEET YOUR NEEDS?

Discuss whether community based activity will provide your client with the support needed.



FIND A GOOD FIT.

Review accessible locations on the map and the overview of the house to see which organisation will work for your client.



SET IT UP.

Your client can take a photo of the page on their phone to follow up, or you may want to make an appointment time for them to go to the house.



Formerly Beaufort Community House & Learning Centre
Building on 40 years of community connection

We know our people are the best part of our organisation. Our community thrives on kindness, friendship and generosity-togetherness is in the spirit of everything we achieve.

If you are interested in meeting new people, exploring new skills, volunteering your time and energy, or participating in community events, trips or workshops come and find out more about our current programs, opportunities and activities

Pyrenees Community House

Facilities

- Kitchenette with tea and coffee
- Public access computers
- Class rooms & Meeting spaces
- Outdoor sitting area
- Accessible toilets

Activities

- Arts - Drawing & Painting, Theatre Dance
- Wellness - Strength & Fitness
- Lifeskills - Literacy, Cooking, Recycling & Upcycling, Languages, Sewing
- Events- Markets, Information Sessions, New Residents Welcome
- Technology - Internet Access, Introduction Courses

Contact Us

Phone: 03 5349 1184
Address: 72 Neill St
Beaufort

Website: www.pyreneeshouse.org.au





Tucked alongside Haddon Primary School is the friendly Haddon Community Learning Centre - where we love to practice those two inspiring, exciting and enriching things - community and learning. Whether you are interested in starting something new, making friends or joining a group - we have opportunities where you can connect, contribute and develop in ways that are personalised to you.

Haddon Community Learning Centre

Facilities

- Kitchenette with tea and coffee
- Public access computers
- Class rooms & Meeting spaces
- Indoor & Outdoor sitting areas
- Accessible toilets
- Photocopying & printing

Activities

- Education - Learn Local (subsidised) and user pays
- Arts - Drawing & Painting, Craft
- Wellness - Yoga/ Tai Chi, Strength & Fitness, Walking, Meditation, Healthy Eating
- Lifeskills - Cooking, Budgeting, First Aid, Business Development
- Technology - Internet Access, Introduction Courses, Individual Support
- Personal Interest - Animals, Gardening

Contact Us

Phone: 03 5342 7050

Address: 396 Sago Hill Road
Haddon

Website: haddonlearning.org.au





Our organisation is for everybody - our goal is to provide educational, social, recreational and health opportunities for all members of our community. We believe that community is at the heart of everything, so we have created a range of activities, courses and services for people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities to meet and share in a friendly and welcoming environment.

Join us in building great connections and a sense of community spirit- caring for ourselves and each other.

Meredith Community Centre

Facilities

- Kitchenette with tea and coffee
- Public access computers
- Class rooms & Meeting spaces
- Outdoor sitting area & Play space
- Accessible toilets
- Photocopying & printing
- Kitchen available for users with appropriate safety registrations

Activities

- Wellbeing - Yoga/ Tai Chi, Strength & Fitness, Walking
- Personal Interest- Cooking , Craft, Sewing, Information sessions
- Technology - Internet access, Introduction & skills classes, Individual support
- Food Pantry

Contact Us

Phone: 03 5286 0700
Address: 4 Russell St
Meredith

Website: meredithcommunitycentre.com.au





Find your place in our neighbourhood centre. We are here to help you discover your pathway to community and build your skills in a supportive environment. Whether through volunteering, learning, employment support or community projects, we offer classes, events, activities and our very special workforce development social enterprise 'Our Kitchen SE,' where people from all walks of life come together to learn to cook, participate and have fun.

Ballarat Neighbourhood Centre

Facilities

- Main Office, with hubs in Delacombe, Lucas and Alfredton
- Kitchenette with tea and coffee
- Public access computers
- Class rooms, Meeting spaces & Function Space for hire
- Community Garden
- Accessible toilets

Activities

- Education - Learn Local (subsidised) and user pays
- Wellness - Tai Chi, Walking, Healthy Eating
- Lifeskills - Literacy, Numeracy, Cooking, Budgeting
- Events- Festivals, Information Sessions
- Technology - Internet Access, Introduction Courses, Individual Support
- Personal Interest - Gardening, Sewing
- Community Lunch, Chatty Cafe

Contact Us

Phone: 03 5329 3273
 Address: 11 Tuppen Drive, Sebastopol
 Website: ballaratnc.org.au





Our vision is to provide lifelong learning opportunities for everybody - to be safe and welcoming place where people from all walks of life can develop skills, confidence and a sense of community involvement. We deliver a diverse range of classes and activities every term which enable people from our community to try different things and connect with like minded people in our community.

Ballarat North Neighbourhood Centre

Facilities

- Kitchenette with tea and coffee
- Public access computers
- Class rooms & Meeting spaces
- Community Garden & Outdoor sitting area
- Accessible toilets

Activities

- Education - Earn Local (subsidised) and user pays
- Arts - Painting/ Drawing, Sculpture, Craft
- Technology - Internet Access, Introduction Courses, Individual Support
- Personal Interest - Local History, Gardening, Sewing

Contact Us

Phone: 0491 753 307
Website: www.bnnh.org.au





In 2019 we began an exciting new venture- establishing a new Neighbourhood Houses in Ballarat East. Our goal is to create a supportive and welcoming organisation where community members, students and volunteers can work together to provide activities, community events, training and a home for groups with shared community interests. We are still growing, finding new connections and creating the vision for our future- and would love to hear from all interested community members.

Ballarat East Neighbourhood Centre

Facilities

- Kitchenette with tea and coffee
- Meeting spaces
- Contact us to find out more!

Activities

- Education - user pays
- Arts - Drawing & Painting, Craft
- Wellbeing - Yoga/ Tai Chi, Healthy Eating
- Personal Interest - Local History, Gardening
- Events and Community Projects

Contact Us

Phone: 0422 612 052
 Address: Barkly Square,
 25 Barkly St
 Ballarat East

Website: ballarateastnh.org.au





For more than 40 years we have been bringing people together to connect, learn, volunteer and contribute. We are a place where people of all abilities, backgrounds and ages can come together to develop skills, become involved in community life, try out new interests and activities and find out about other services and opportunities in our area. We also offer free and low-cost access to computers, printing and garden equipment.

Wendouree Neighbourhood Centre

Facilities

- Kitchenette with tea and coffee
- Class rooms & Meeting spaces
- Public access computers
- Men's Shed
- Outdoor sitting area
- Accessible toilets
- Bus Hire
- Low cost printing, laminating and binding

Activities

- Education - Learn Local (subsidised) and user pays
- Wellbeing - Healthy Eating
- Lifeskills - Literacy, Numeracy, First Aid, Driving, Budgeting
- Workskills - Business Development, Resume Support, Workplace Readiness
- Technology - Internet access, Introduction & Skills
- Community Groups, Events and Projects

Contact Us

Phone: 03 5339 5069
 Address: 12 Holly Grove
 Wendouree
 Website: wnc.org.au





Our beautiful 1800s public hall is the centre of a responsive and dynamic community space, encompassing a wide range of activities, programs, and events. We bring people together to connect, learn, reduce social isolation and contribute to Ballan (and surroundings). The programs and activities delivered in our house encompass health and wellbeing, education and employment, arts, recreation, support and access, children and families, seniors, and youth services.

Ballan Neighbourhood House

Facilities

- Community kitchen with tea, coffee, biscuits and fruit
- Public gathering spaces
- 'Work from home but not alone' - computer, internet access and printing
- Commercial licenses kitchen for hire
- Hall and rooms for hire

Activities

- Term program with a range of arts, literary, health, connection and empowerment opportunities for all ages
- Access to council library and maternal health services
- MECWA ages and allied health checks and community meals
- The Studio - Yoga, Pilates and Wellness classes
- Employment services support

Contact Us

Phone: 03 5368 1934
Address: 143 Inglis Street
Ballan

Website: ballanneighbourhoodhouse.com.au





We provide a range of nationally recognised training- such as Early Childhood Education and Care, Individual Support (Ageing and Disability), First Aid, RSA and Food Hygiene. We offer pathway courses such as floristry, computers and return to study designed to enable you to reach your full potential. Alongside our courses, we host welcoming community groups, including Men's Shed, Garden Club and Local Embroiders Guild. Connect with us to connect with your community.

Laurels Education and Training

Facilities

- Kitchenette with tea and coffee
- Public access computers
- Class rooms & Meeting spaces
- Outdoor Sitting Area
- Accessible toilets
- Work Sheds
- Function Space
- Library/ Free Book Exchange
- Photocopying & printing

Activities

- Education - Registered Training Organisation (subsidised), Lean Local (subsidised) and one-on-one support.
- Lifeskills - Literacy, Numeracy, First Aid, Resume Development
- Technology- Internet access, Introduction & Skills, Individual Support
- Community Connection - Employment Services, Parent Support, Men's Sheds, Garden Groups, Quilting & Embroidery, Weight Watchers

Contact Us

Phone: 03 5367 1061
 Address: 229 Main Street,
 Bacchus Marsh
 Website: thelaurels.org.au





We take great pride in being a place for everyone. Our programs and workshops cover a range of general interest and hobby topics, with something for all ages and abilities. Our classes are more than a place to learn, they are a place to belong and find new friends. People can also visit our centre for community group meetings, join support groups and often just to have a cup of tea and a chat. You are always welcome at Darley Neighbourhood House.

Darley Neighbourhood House

Facilities

- Kitchenette with tea and coffee
- Class rooms & Meeting spaces
- Outdoor sitting area
- Accessible toilets
- Photocopying & printing

Activities

- Education - user pays
- Arts- Drawing & Painting, Craft, Mosaics
- Wellbeing - Yoga/ Tai Chi,
- Lifeskills - Cooking
- Events - Information Sessions
- Venue Hire
- Marsh Mender Repair Cafe
- Food Pantry

Contact Us

Phone: 03 5367 4390
 Address: 35 Jonathan Drive
 Darley
 Website: darleylearning.com





Located in beautiful historic grounds our neighbourhood centre is a comfortable and welcoming space where people young and old (and in between) come to share, learn and enrich our community. We deliver a wide range of learning programs, interest workshops and events- with a focus on traditional skills, arts, wellbeing and culture. We are a centre for sustainability, promoting food sharing, sustainable living practices and recycling initiatives.

Creswick Neighbourhood Centre

Facilities

- Kitchenette with tea and coffee
- Public access computers
- Commercial kitchen
- Class rooms, Meeting spaces & Function Space, Gallery
- Community Garden, Greenhouse & Food exchange/ free food table
- Outdoor sitting area & Play space
- Accessible toilets

Activities

- Chatty Cafe
- Food Access, via Foodbank Community Share Pantry, Lunches
- Arts - from Drawing to Dance
- Wellness - Yoga, Strength & Fitness
- Events- Festivals, Community Market
- Technology - Internet Access, Introduction Courses, Individual Support
- Personal Interest - Cooking, Gardening, Sewing
- Volunteering

Contact Us

Phone: 03 5345 2356

Address: 19-21 Victoria St,
Creswick

Website: creswicknc.org.au





We are a community focused organisation working together with local people, businesses and other community groups to contribute to making Clunes a wonderful, welcoming place to live. Our friendly and dedicated volunteers create a range of events, programs and projects to suit different people's needs and interests- including our Open House Dinners, Social Enterprise and Community Garden. Come get involved, we are a place for everyone.

Clunes Neighbourhood House

Facilities

- Kitchenette with tea and coffee
- Public access computers
- Class rooms, Meeting spaces
Function space, & Gallery
- Greenhouse & Community Garden,
- Outdoor sitting area & Playspace
- Food exchange/ free food table
- Work shed
- Accessible toilets

Activities

- Arts - Drawing/ Painting, Craft, Dance, Theatre, Circus, Sculpture
- Wellbeing - Yoga/ Tai Chi, Walking, Healthy Eating
- Lifeskills - Literacy, Numeracy
Budgeting, First Aid
- Sustainability - Recycling, Emission Reduction, Food Security
- Personal Interest and Community Programs

Contact Us

Phone: 03 5345 4078
Address: 70 Bailey St
Clunes
Website: clunesnh.org





We are dedicated to providing a happy, welcoming place where people from all walks of life can come together to learn, meet and share. You can find us in the historic Old Daylesford Courthouse, where we deliver provide a wide range of facilities, services and activities, including nationally accredited and general interest courses as well as community projects, community information, a decent cup of tea and a chat.

Daylesford Neighbourhood Centre

Facilities

- Kitchenette with tea and coffee
- Hygiene Station, shower, laundry, accessible toilets
- Public Access computers
- Co-working, Classroom, Function & Meeting Spaces
- Community Garden
- Free BBQ area & Outdoor Area
- Photocopying, Laminating & Shredding Service
- Volleyball & Basketball Courts for Hire

Activities

- Art - Studio space
- Wellbeing - Yoga/ Tai Chi, Meditation
- Professional - Employment Support
- Technology - Internet Access
- Community Projects

Contact Us

Phone: 03 5348 3569
Address: 13 Camp St
Daylesford
Website: dncentre.org.au





Small, sweet and full of activity, our neighbourhood centre is a wonderful place to connect, learn and contribute to our community. Our educational and recreational programs, groups and events are social and supportive, and cover a wide range of health, hobbies and special interests. We are a base for local volunteering, where people can contribute to our organisation, community projects or special events.

Trentham Neighbourhood Centre

Facilities

- Kitchenette with tea and coffee
- Public access computers
- Class rooms, Meeting spaces & Function Space
- Food exchange/ free food table
- Accessible toilets
- Indoor sitting and relaxing area
- Photocopying & printing

Activities

- Wellness - Yoga/ Tai Chi, Strength & Fitness, Walking, Meditation, Healthy Eating
- Sustainability - Community Recycling, Sustainable Living
- Events- Festivals, New Residents
- Technology - Internet Access, Introduction Courses, Individual Support
- Youth and Children - New Parents, Youth Groups, Interested based classes
- Community Projects

Contact Us

Phone: 03 5424 1358
Address: Cnr Market & High Streets, Trentham
Website: trenthamnc.org.au

