

HIPPY AUSTRALIA NEWSLETTER



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HIPPY Australia, a history through location.

Beginning in 1997, HIPPY was originally housed in Moor Street Fitzroy, where HIPPY Fitzroy now resides. At this early stage HIPPY was a one man, one site, show.

HIPPY, slowly grew to be in three locations, partnering with other service providers in those communities to deliver the program. With a view to further growth, HIPPY Australia packed its bags and moved into the Brotherhood of St Laurence head office on Brunswick Street housed within family and child programs, Community Services. During this time HIPPY established sites in nine loca-

tions across Victoria, New South Wales and Tasmania.

Over the next few years hard work, mixed with the building evidence that HIPPY worked, enabled HIPPY Australia to pull the attention of service providers and communities across Australia and engage funding bodies including Corporate sponsor AXA, the Sidney Myer Fund and the State and Federal Governments.

With the recent and rapid growth of the program, due to the Federal Governments commitment to roll-out the program over the next 4 years, our sites have increased from 9 to 22 and our staff numbers from 3 to

6. Our little Brunswick Street office simply could not accommodate us all.

After months of planning, building works are now complete and you can now find us busy at work on the mezzanine level of 145 Smith Street, Fitzroy.

Our new location provides us with training room facilities, meeting rooms, storage space, our own HIPPY office and a huge range of fantastic Café's at lunchtime.

Where to next? Paris? Rome? The moon!

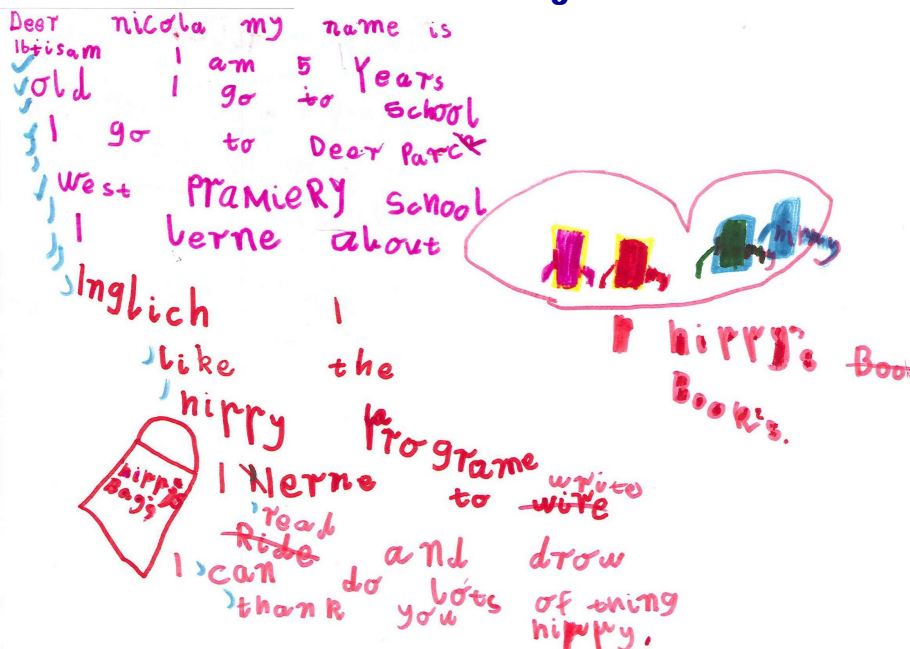
• Please see the back page for new contact details

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HIPPY works — and we've got it in writing!

Mother and daughter tell us about their HIPPY experience



Written by former HIPPY Moonee Valley Coordinator, Nicola Mackenzie.

As children and parents complete the last weeks of HIPPY and prepare for graduation parents are also asked to complete a graduation survey.

Visiting families to complete the survey is

a wonderful opportunity to connect with parents and children and to learn how HIPPY has impacted on their lives.

I recently visited to a parent who had moved out of the area and had not been able to attend many parent group meetings. Badra welcomed the oppor-

tunity to talk about how HIPPY had helped her child prepare for school and that it has supported her to teach her daughter.

She said that HIPPY has helped her understand what her child was learning and how to talk with her child's teachers. She said that when she teaches her child she is excited. She now knows that there are many opportunities in her day that she can use to teach her children for example using cooking as a time to teach Ibtisam about science. Badra explained that when she started HIPPY she read the story books and did the HIPPY activities in her first language but gradually introduced English words as well. As Ibtisam became more confident and interested in English Badra used English when doing HIPPY.

Ibtisam loves HIPPY and wanted to give me a letter explaining why she loves it.

Here is a copy of her letter.

• Nicola Mackenzie is now working for the HIPPY Australia head office.



HIPPY Locations and partners in 2009

HIPPY in Girrawheen and Rockingham, WA will be delivered by Ngala

Ngala is an early parenting centre with a passion for supporting and guiding families through the journey of early parenting. Ngala means 'Mother and Child' or 'We Two' in the Aboriginal Bibbulmun dialect. For over a century, Ngala has promoted the right of every child to grow in healthy, nurturing, safe and caring environments. Ngala recognises that 'family' remains the primary means for meeting the needs of young children.

Girrawheen is approximately 15km north of Perth. HIPPY will operate in Girrawheen and surrounding suburbs where the families come from a wide range of cultural backgrounds. Ngala has been working with families in this community for a number of years with a focus on nutrition and breastfeeding. They have connections and partnerships with many other agencies working in this area.

Rockingham is located on the coast 47kms south of Perth, is one of the fastest growing local government areas in WA and has high numbers of young families. Ngala has worked in Rockingham for 15 years and provides informal parent child "coffee mornings", parenting workshops and consultations from Ngala's Rockingham house which is centrally located and very family friendly.

HIPPY in Alice Springs, NT will be delivered by Yipirinya School

Yipirinya School is an Independent School catering for Indigenous students from the town camps and outstations of Alice Springs, some of the most disadvantaged students in Australia.

The School is controlled by a Board of Indigenous Elders representing the different language groups of Alice Springs. It was founded 30 years ago and provides for children from child care to year 10. The HIPPY program will complement the School's Child Care and Pre-School programs.

HIPPY in Inala, QLD will be delivered by The Brisbane South Division of General Practice (BSDGP)

The BSDGP Patients and Communities team delivers health promotion and education in the community through schools, community groups and services, clinical services, child and youth resiliency programs and parenting programs.

The team works closely with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and disadvantaged young people to provide more sustainable, comprehensive health care services and supports.

BSDGP is looking forward to working with the Brotherhood of St Laurence to deliver the HIPPY to Inala.

HIPPY in Clarendon Vale, Tasmania will be delivered by Colony 47

Colony 47 is a non-government organisation providing services in the areas of housing, employment, youth and family relationships. Colony 47 Family Services has a commitment to working with families to strengthen relationships. This includes family members of all ages, ranging from children and young people 0-18 to parents, grandparents, carers and guardians.

Having been in operation for 34 years, HIPPY will compliment the many service already provided by Colony 47, as well as the philosophy of the organisation generally.

HIPPY in Launceston, Tasmania will be delivered by Anglicare Tasmania

Anglicare Tasmania is the largest non-government provider of community and human services in Tasmania and has been operating for 25 years.

Anglicare Tasmania offers a wide variety of services and supports to individuals, families and communities across Tasmania. Over the last four ½ years Anglicare has had a particular focus on children aged 0-5 through the Communities for Children Initiative. With well established partnerships, and a broad range of family and children's services, HIPPY will form part of the Anglicare Children, Families & Community stream, complementing existing early year's programs.

HIPPY in Sheffield, Tasmania will be delivered by Playgroup Tasmania

Playgroup Tasmania is a community based organisation working with parents to heighten their skills as educators. For 30 years now, Playgroup's core business is promoting the value of play and interaction between parents/carers and their children, as the long term foundation for literacy, numeracy and social development. We are delighted to be working with families in the Sheffield community in beautiful rural setting of Northern Tasmania.

HIPPY in Claymore, NSW will be delivered by Macarthur Diversity Services Inc. (MDSI)

MDSI is an innovative service provider whose strength is in their diversity of services and staff. MDSI provides programs ranging from welfare services, education, social support, aged day care and community projects across the four service areas of children, youth, family and aged. Their mission is to provide services that facilitate acceptance and inclusiveness, develop individual, family and community resilience and build enduring relationships.

HIPPY will compliment MDSI's two Playgroups, Multicultural Family programs and other services to children and families. Most importantly HIPPY will bring about positive results of the children of Macarthur.

HIPPY in Charnwood, ACT will be delivered by UnitingCare Kippax

UnitingCare Kippax has a strong focus on meeting the needs of people in the West Belconnen region of Canberra and believe in the importance of building a strong and supportive community around children from as early an age as possible.

UnitingCare Kippax works with a range of organisations and Individuals to provide holistic services within the community.

HIPPY in Riverview, QLD will be delivered by Playgroup Queensland

Playgroup Queensland is the peak body for playgroups throughout Queensland with a vision and mission to support families with children under school age. Playgroup Queensland has been operating for over 35 years and currently provides services to more than 19,000 families.

The Early Intervention Team includes Supported Playgroups Program, Accessible Playgroups Program, Sing and Grow Music Therapy Program, My Time Programs and PlayConnect Playgroups. Playgroup Queensland works from a strengths based perspective and recognises that parents are a child's first and most important educator.

HIPPY in Rosebery, Tasmania will be delivered by Circular Head Rural Health Services Inc.

Circular Head Rural Health are a charitable institution established seven years ago to improve the health and wellbeing of families in the isolated rural region of the far north west of Tasmania. Over those years they have progressively increased health promotion programs particularly relating to families with young children. HIPPY fits perfectly within the framework for assisting families to become more confident and gain more skills for the important job of raising children. Circular Head look forward to delivering the program this year in the mining town of Rosebery.

HIPPY in Windale, NSW will be delivered by JobQuest

JobQuest is a community based organisation that aims to build a resourceful, connected and accepting community through developing empowered, skilled and caring individuals.

JobQuest delivers a range of programs under contract from both Federal and State Governments. These involve employment, youth and training services. JobQuest is also a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) with the authority to issue nationally recognised qualifications in a range of industries. JobQuest are looking forward to delivering HIPPY within the community of Windale.

HIPPY in Elizabeth Grove, South Australia will be delivered by Anglicare South Australia

Anglicare SA is one of South Australia's largest and most diverse community sector organizations providing a wide range of services in various locations.

Anglicare SA has delivered a range of holistic and diverse quality programs and services for over 40 years to individuals and families in the northern metropolitan region and in particular to highly disadvantaged and marginalised groups, people with special needs residing in lower socio-economic communities.

Children Celebrate at the HIPPY Graduation



Burnie



Fitzroy



La Perouse



Geelong



Geelong



Burnie



Moonee Valley



La Perouse



Moonee Valley & Fitzroy

December 2008





Working for an Australia free of poverty



redefining / financial services



Australian Government

Funded by the Commonwealth Government

The Home Interaction Program for Parents and Youngsters (HIPPY) is a home-based parenting and early childhood enrichment program targeted at disadvantaged families in our community.

HIPPY empowers parents as their children's first teacher and fosters parent involvement in school and community life, to maximise the chances of a successful early school experience. For some parents, it also offers a supported pathway to employment and local community leadership.

HIPPY Australia would like to thank all of its funding bodies and individuals for their support. We couldn't do it without you.

www.hippyaustralia.org.au



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HIPPY Australia welcomes Bob, Lou and Nicola



This year HIPPY Australia warmly welcomes the arrival of three new team members. This team has come onboard to assist us with the workload the federal roll-out has bought upon us.

As HIPPY Consultants we welcome Lou Gilfillan, former Coordinator at HIPPY Moreland, and Nicola MacKenzie, former Coordinator at HIPPY Moonee Valley. We are very lucky to have Lou and Nicola

joining us, as they bring with them a wealth of knowledge and experience from having worked in HIPPY sites.

The consultants role will be to assist new and existing sites throughout the establishment of the roll-out and to work on some new and exciting curriculum projects.

Robert Mildred has joined us as the HIPPY Accountant. He moved to Victoria in May last year after leaving his position

as Finance Director for Alice Springs Town Council with the intention of retiring in Sunbury. In the meantime he has been working in the Tiwi Islands assisting with the local Government reform process for the new Tiwi Islands Shire Council.

The HIPPY accountant will guide the sites through the funding process and will be a critical friend in all areas of the roll-out process.

Family fun day at CERES environmental park

In October, children and parents from HIPPY Fitzroy and HIPPY Moonee Valley went on a wonderful excursion and picnic to CERES Community Environmental Park in East Brunswick.

Many activities were provided on the day to keep the little ones busy.

The children enjoyed playing with the farm animals and exploring the pond for tadpoles and frogs.

They painted wooden spinning tops, donated from wood-turner groups across Australia and took part in an Indian dance class.

These activities were followed by a sausage sizzle and family picnic. Many thanks go to the volunteers on the day for their assistance in making this such a fun and successful event.

