

Labour Day - March 8th.



Have you ever wondered what it's all about? Great to have a Public Holiday but how did it originate?

Labour Day is a public holiday celebrating the achievement of the 8-hour day in March 1956. The movement was spearheaded by the Stonemasons who believed in eight hours labour, eight hours recreation and eight hours rest.

The outcome at that time was that the work week was reduced to 6 days a week, 8 hours a day whereas formerly it was 10 – 12 hours per day and sometimes 7 days a week.

Within days an 8 Hours League was formed with the aim of extending the victory to all workers. In May 1856 a march was organised to celebrate the event. Around Australia the movement pushed for the attainment of this ideal and other trades were invited to participate in the celebrations.

Arising directly out of these events in 1856 the Melbourne Trades Hall was opened in May 1859. At the opening ceremony the toast of the evening was the "The 8 Hours System: may its physical, intellectual, moral, and social advantages be extended to every member of the human family."

The five-day 40-hour week was achieved almost a century later in 1948.

Today the Labour Day march is a celebration of organised labour's achievements on behalf of the worker. Happy Labour Day!

EYA On the Move

WAYSS Emergency Youth Accommodation is undergoing a transformation! A refurbishment project is set to begin early in 2010

thanks to funds provided by the Nation Building program,



which is part of the Economic Stimulus Plan. The current facility will be demolished and a new 10-bed facility will be built and aims to be back in operation by December 2010. An interim, short stay service will be run in temporary facilities during the building phase. Access to the temporary short stay service will remain the same, with referrals being made through a Youth Intake & Assessment worker during business hours and referrals direct to the service after hours.

International Women's Day - March 8th

International Women's Day (www.internationalwomensday.com) is held each year on March 8, and commemorates the economic, political and social accomplishments of women around the world. This year's theme is "Equal rights, equal opportunities: Progress for all". International Women's Day is marked around the world with celebrations and events that raise community awareness of women's issues. Women's health and information services across Australia include:



National

The Australian Government Office for Women (www.fahcsia.gov.au/sa/women/progserv/Pages/default.aspx) is a policy advisory unit of the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA).

The Australian Women's Health Network (www.awhn.org.au/content/view/5/27/) provides a national voice on women's health issues through advocacy and the provision of information.

The Multicultural Centre for Women's Health (www.mcwh.com.au) works to improve the health and wellbeing of immigrant and refugee women across Australia by providing education, advocacy, training and research.

Women's Health Australia (www.alswh.org.au) is a national longitudinal study providing information on women's health issues in Australia.

Victoria

The Jean Hailes Foundation for Women's Health (www.jeanhailes.org.au/component/option,com_frontpage/Itemid,1/) responds to the needs of women through research, community and professional education, and clinical care.

The Queen Victoria Women's Centre (www.qvwc.org.au) is a non-profit organisation that works with women's services to help them develop to their full potential.

The Royal Women's Hospital (www.thewomens.org.au) is Australia's largest specialist hospital, working to improve the health of women and newborn babies.



PROGRAM PROFILES

WAYSS has 12 programs servicing the needs of homeless people and victims of family violence. Each newsletter we will profile three of those programs. Detailed information can be found on the WAYSS website

Social Housing Advocacy and Support Program.

SHASP has 4 main components.

Intervention At Risk Tenancies (IART) SHASP Support Workers provide short-term support through a case managed based approach. In partnership with the client, they will identify and address issues impacting on the client's Office of Housing "at risk" tenancy.

Establishing Successful Tenancies (EST) This component of SHASP aims to identify and address the issues impacting on a client's ability to make a successful transition into a Office of Housing property. SHASP Case Workers provide ongoing support for up to 6 months to assist clients in establishing their tenancy.

Advocacy SHASP advocacy provides assistance to clients who are unable to advocate on their own behalf and who do not require ongoing support.

Assistance to Early Housing Applicants Client's housing options are explored and a support letter is prepared for OoH Segment 3 applications.

PRAP

The Private Rental Access Program (PRAP) provides services to women and children escaping family violence, clients with mental health issues and young people. The three components of PRAP have referral partnerships within the Southern Region. These clients are referred to PRAP for assistance to obtain/maintain private rental accommodation. The program is currently accessible by worker referral only. The Brokerage component of PRAP is time and amount limited subsidized through rental payments. PRAP and use of PRAP resources assists the client and Case Worker to address current issues without the client's private rental accommodation being compromised through an inability to pay the rent owed.

Family Violence Crisis

WAYSS Family Violence Crisis Service operates extended hours, 7 days a week. This service provides assistance to women and children escaping family violence to access support, advice and short-term crisis accommodation. This service also has access to a range of transitional housing and support options.

WAYSS Ltd also has a domestic violence outreach program for women and children experiencing family violence who require longer-term support.

The World's Greatest Shave 11-13 March

In 2010 approximately 10,000 more people in Australia are expected to be diagnosed with a blood cancer or related blood disorder. There are already an estimated 40,000 people currently living with one now.

Receiving no ongoing government funding, the Leukaemia Foundation relies entirely on community support.

The Leukaemia Foundation improves the quality of life for patients and their families through free services including education, information, emotional support, transport to and from hospital and accommodation for regional people who relocate to capital cities for treatment.

80 per cent of children survive acute lymphoblastic leukaemia today compared to 20 per cent a few decades ago due to the difference research has made.

Anyone can participate in the World's Greatest Shave, including individuals, teams, schools, community groups, clubs and companies. For more information call 1800 500 088

Useful Contacts

WAYSS Family
Violence Crisis Service
A/H 0400 503 338

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Mornington Peninsula
Domestic Violence
Service 5971 9454

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Hanover - Dandenong
"Bob's Place"
Crisis Accommodation,
Housing Support and
Family Focus
9792 0750

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Office of Housing

- Dandenong
9767 8777

- Frankston
9784 3200

Links



WAYSS

www.wayssltd.org.au

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The Association of
Neighbourhood Houses
& Learning Centres Inc.
www.anhlc.asn.au

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Hanover Welfare
Services

www.hanover.org.au

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Homelessness Australia
www.homelessnessaustralia.org.au

