

ESSENDON

Support arrives for mums

Natalie Savino

Caroline Chisholm Society's new hub to aid young families

A SUPPORT service for pregnant women and young families is returning home after a difficult five-year wait.

The Caroline Chisholm Society will open its new purpose-built service hub on Mt Alexander Rd after lengthy delays forced it to occupy temporary locations, including a rental in Moonee Ponds and an office in Caroline Springs.

Chief executive Helen

Cooney (pictured) said she was delighted the \$3 million project – stimulated by a State Government contribution of \$950,000 and generous community and philanthropic donations – had finally come to fruition after what had been “an emotional rollercoaster”.

“We’re so excited that we

can open this building so people can come in and see what we do,” she said.

The organisation was based in Park St, Moonee Ponds, for 40 years before it was agreed a new building would be required.

The service now offers three consulting rooms instead of one, allowing pregnant women and new mums to receive preloved baby and maternity goods.

The society also runs playgroups and parenting classes, and organises home-visiting casework support for mums facing social isolation, peri-natal anxiety and depression, family violence or homelessness.

“What we do is support mums and families from the time they learn of their pregnancy until their youngest child is school-aged,” Ms Cooney said. “We know

the demand is out there. You need facilities like this to deliver those services.”

Ms Cooney said the hub also featured a space for mums to receive emergency relief with dignity. An open house event will be held at 977 Mt Alexander Rd, Essendon, on Saturday, March 4, after the official launch at 10am.

Donations can be made on Fridays from March 10.

Email secretary @caroline.org.au for an invite to the opening.

HEALTH

Help study into cancer

MORE than 130,000 new cases of cancer will be diagnosed in Australia this year, new data reveals.

The Cancer in Australia 2017 report found almost 50,000 people are estimated to die from cancer this year, with lung cancer expected to be the leading cause, followed by bowel cancer.

The findings come as more volunteers are needed for a study into the causes of cancer.

The Australian Breakthrough Cancer (ABC) Study will examine the lifestyles of 50,000 people who have not been diagnosed with cancer, comparing those who go on to develop the disease with those who don't.

More men are required to reach the study's target of 15,000 men this year.

Participants need to be between 40 and 74 years old.

Details: abcstudy.com.au

MOONEE PONDS

No apartment ruling just yet

PLANS for a four-storey apartment complex in Moonee Ponds will likely be heard by a tribunal in April.

A proposal for 32 apartments at 2-4 Smith St and 19-21 Park St was destined for VCAT after the council failed to make a decision within 60 days.

It has caused a stir among residents, who described it as an overdevelopment.

Councillors agreed last month meeting they would have knocked back the proposal if they were in a position to make the final call.

A compulsory conference was heard on February 20 with a final hearing scheduled for Tuesday, April 18.

For updates, go to mooneevalleyleader.com.au



NONNA'S TASTE TEST

BOCCE, card games and culinary delights were at the heart of an Italian culture splash at Resurrection House.

Italian teacher Luisa Leo said it was the second time the Aberfeldie students had enjoyed the event.

Mums, dads and grandparents also enjoyed the activities by bringing their traditions into the classroom.

There was dancing by the Sicilia Bella Folk Group, arancini-making, soccer and a round of scopa, an Italian card game.

“It’s just really to have a cultural experience,” Ms Leo said. “It was a great community effort. The kids loved it.”

Caden, Nonna Giovanna and her granddaughter Isabella.

Picture: KYLIE ELSE

Cup tour opp

COMMUNITY groups, councils and racing bodies can apply to be a host destination for this year's Melbourne Cup tour.

The 18-carat gold cup is set to visit 30 locations as part of its annual tour across Australia and New Zealand. Victoria Racing Club chief executive Simon Love said he never dreamt the tour would evolve into a “significant” event. Successful destinations will be announced in June. Submissions must be received by April 3 at melbournecuptour.com.au



City Scholarships

General Excellence Scholarships are now available for Years 5 to 10 for a 2018 entry. Applications close Sunday, 30 April 2017. Apply at www.haileybury.vic.edu.au

Award-Winning Teachers. Parallel Education. Small Classes.

KEYSBOROUGH BRIGHTON BERWICK CITY BEIJING



HAILEYBURY

V1 - MVVE01201MA

MOONEE VALLEY LEADER, Wednesday, March 1, 2017

03

press reader Printed and distributed by PressReader
PressReader.com +61 604 275 4604
COPYRIGHT AND PROTECTED BY APPLICABLE LAW