



Storehouse seasons

Tiny Toes' Playgroup – the start to fruitful lives

Now in its fourth year, the 'Tiny Toes' Playgroup is reaching out to a special group of people in our community, meeting a very real need for them. An initiative of The Kogarah Storehouse, it seeks to provide for parents with pre-school children an opportunity for the little ones to learn to relate to and feel comfortable playing with other children their same age.

It also provides just as important an opportunity for the parents to relate with and get to know other parents in similar life situations. Mothers make up the main group and many of them are from migrant backgrounds with little or no other family connections or support around them. They can feel quite isolated and have little opportunity for social interaction with other mums who can be sharing the same experiences. Close bonds have developed among the group members because of their common underlying

circumstances.

The morning is well co-ordinated with the children being given a variety of activities and games to be involved in, which can also include the parents. Narelle, who oversees 'Tiny Toes', says she constantly sees children who at first come along and cannot leave their mum's side. However, after a couple of weeks they happily go off and play with their new found friends. Without 'Tiny Toes' they wouldn't get this exposure to meet other children outside of the home and start to develop trust and confidence which is the start to a fruitful life.

Anyone is free to join but places are limited due to space and resource restrictions, however, please give a call on 9587 5761 to enquire about joining 'Tiny Toes'.

Another great, successful program at The Kogarah Storehouse.



Lala's Greetings

Welcome to the Winter edition of "Storehouse Seasons". The days are short and the weather cool, so it is a good time to sit by a warm heater and have a read through this edition. I recommend the article on "Tiny Toes" playgroup as it shows how Storehouse has a broad commitment to meet the needs of people in our wider community – not only the less fortunate. I do hope you find our articles interesting.

The beginning of each calendar year is an important time at The Storehouse as we look ahead and plan the activities and programs that will fill our calendar. Equally, the middle of the year is important as we go about setting budgets for the coming financial year. Our programs and services come at a cost and that cost is met by you, our supporters and sponsors. We honour your generosity – so let me assure you, that by careful planning and judicious spending, we get the most "bang" for our clients out of every dollar you have donated. Thank you from the bottom of my heart!

Blessings,

Lala Noronha
Manager



AUSTRALIAN UNEMPLOYMENT GOES OVER 5%

It is a sad fact that one in twenty Australians of working age are currently unemployed. This fact was highlighted by the May 2019 release from the Australian Bureau of Statistics. While it is true that 95% of Australians are fortunately in work, the same report suggests 8.5% of those people are not getting as much work as they would like, or need, to make their lives comfortable.

It all seems rather gloomy, and it would be, if it hadn't

all happened before. The Industrial revolution of the 18th Century saw a similar type of transformation in work and processes. The switch from agrarian to industrial production led initially to loss of jobs but then to an increase in standards of living, prosperity and population growth. The graphs of World Gross Production (GDP) and World Population are almost identical and show an exponential growth in both since the 18th Century.

Today, the changes we see in technology, and consequently the nature of work and employment, might not be all gloom but simply a reshape to the nature of how and where we work. But individuals need to be adaptable, and ready to upskill and move if possible, to where the work is. A big ask for some with limited means and this fact alone brings many to The Storehouse seeking assistance whilst they re-establish themselves in an ever-changing world.



About The Kogarah Storehouse

Our mission: "To be a haven of hope and practical help to people in need in our community"

Established in 1992, The Kogarah Storehouse Community Centre is a non-government, not-for-profit, registered charity with (PBI) Public Benevolent Institute DGR status. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible. It operates from the Kogarah Uniting Church and is an outreach mission of the church.



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