Youth Foundation 3081
AND PARKVILLE COLLEGE

What a busy year 2016 has been for Youth Foundation West Heidelberg (3081) as it saw the inception of its sister program, Youth Foundation Parkville College, provide young people in youth custody, opportunities to run projects of their own design. The number of projects funded by Youth Foundation increase each year and 2016 is no exception with approximately $23,000 granted to 24 youth led projects. Youth Foundation has also supported young people in civic engagement initiatives, ensuring that their voice is heard in local matters. Please enjoy reading about our local young people and their wonderful contribution to their community in 2016.

Parkville College

Thanks to the donations from several Bendigo Banks' across Victoria, La Trobe University and private donors, 8 projects were funded across 5 campuses of Parkville College and there are plenty more projects in the pipeline.

Songs from Within - CD - A compilation CD with all songs written and performed by Parkville College students. The CD cover and insert features photos from the photography students.

Boys Secure T Shirt - The boys in secure welfare designed a Parkville College t shirt as a welcome gift

for others when they arrive. The boys identified that the shirt will help them to feel like they are part of the school and something they will wear with pride when they are released.

Cultural Cooking classes - The project was led by

Tanzanian and Aboriginal clients at the Malmsbury campus. "The series of cooking classes will help us to not just learn about each other's cultures but to help us connect with our own culture. My mum has given me a traditional recipe that I want to learn to cook and for others to try." The multicultural days also included traditional arts and sports from the various cultures.

Wild Action Incursion - All of the Malmsbury campus enjoyed a hands on experience with various wildlife thanks to the driven student, keen to have a career working with animals.

Lego Robotics - Led by a young man who wants to get into the automotive industry. He figured that as robots build cars, they should learn how to build and program robots.

Parkville Planes - After the success of the lego robotics project, students were keen to progress their new design and computer programming skills by building toy planes.

Parkville Bulldogs Footy Jumper - The inter-unit footy games were the first time that the various units got to mix with each other. A one-eyed Bulldog fan decided at least one side should be called the "Parkville Bulldogs" and wear the footy jumpers.

Project Jumper - A competition was held at Malmsbury to design Parkville College logo for a warm jumper. Similarly to other uniform projects, the clients wanted a uniform to provide a sense of belonging to a school and to wear on their release.

Macleod College VCAL

Once again Macleod College VCAL students took on YF3081 as part of their learning, spending term 2 researching their community projects. However this year was a little different with students taking on bigger community issues. Banyule City Council's Mayor at the time, Craig Langdon and Councillor Tom Mellican met with the students to hear their concerns, which included:

- Access to free exercise equipment at Macleod Park
- Improve safety at Olympic Park Heidelberg

- Increase access to water at Cartledge Reserve, Bellfield
- Improve basketball courts at Macleod College, outside Nets Stadium
- Improve the toilets at Malahang Reserve, West Heidelberg
- Increase awareness of family violence to young people. This led to a series of stickers printed for young people with slogans such as "Don't neglect, promote respect"

Council has since cleared the shrubs at Olympic Park to improve visibility and their views have contributed to the current master plan's of both Olympic and Macleod Parks.

Melbourne Polytechnic – Heidelberg

- **The Happy Room -** Students were funded to create what they called a "happy room". A space at school where they could meditate, chill out or just get a little peace.

- **Gifts for teens in refuge -** Students purchased personal DVD players, DVD's and games when they became aware that teens who escape domestic violence to a refuge with their families, are not provided with teen appropriate entertainment.
- **Hygiene Packs for Homeless -** Sixty care personalised male and female care packs were put together for local homeless people.

The Pavilion School

Youth Foundation 3081 has a long history with the Pavilion School and the students value the opportunity to be heard. This year they looked at the school's surveys to find what the students cared about and what may prevent them from attending school. The results are impressive.

- A Cleaner Start - Students who understood that their mates may not come to school if they do not have clean clothes, purchased a washing machine, dryer and clothes steamer for the school. These items have also come in handy when students have got caught in the rain or need to iron clothes for a job interview.

- Indigenous Camps - Two classes went on separate camps that had indigenous components. This was particularly important to the Aboriginal students and their families. The students who planned one of the camps put their management skills to good use once again and organised the schools first ever sports day.
- Victoria Class Bike Project – students participated in several workshops to do up 2nd hand bikes to sell at a discounted price to other students. The social enterprise will see money raised going towards other old bikes and parts for the students to do up.
- Deakin Class Hoody – students designed and printed their own hoody to keep students warm and to enforce the sense of belonging to a group.

Other highlights

- The talented VCAL students at Diamond Valley Learning Centre have created a film that raises awareness about youth homelessness as well as recording and releasing a CD of their songs.
- The students of the Parallel Program at Bundoora College will celebrate the end of year with a city experience
- Twenty local Somali boys spent the summer holidays doing intensive soccer training with Melbourne City. The highlight was at the end of the program they met one of the players and got free tickets to a game at AAMI Park
- After the tragic death of baby Sanaya in West Heidelberg, local mums were successful in getting a grant for a memorial to be placed at Darebin Creek. This is to remember not only Sanaya but all young children lost too soon.
- Young people who attend Open House were successful in a grant to support a local Bat and Joey Sanctuary to purchase food, blankets and possum boxes.

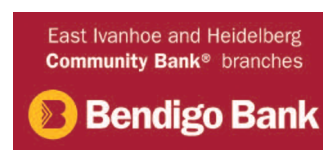# Youth Foundation 3081 and Parkville College Celebration

September saw the largest annual celebration of Youth Foundation projects with 200 people in attendance at La Trobe University. The celebration brought together young people, funders and the broader community to hear about projects and issues that young people care about as well as celebrate the achievements of young people in postcode 3081 and Parkville College. La Trobe's Deputy Vice Chancellor, Professor Jane Long handed out certificates to successful applicants.

We also welcomed the first Patron for Youth Foundation 3081 and Parkville College, Mr Bernie Geary. Bernie has a long history working with young people in the 3081 area as well as being Victoria's fist Children's Commissioner and a current member of the youth parole board. He is going to be a valuable patron to Youth Foundation and we're very excited to have him on board.

Check out some of our videos of celebrations and projects at www.bchs.org.au/video-gallery

Youth Foundation is made possible by the following supporters:

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As well as the kind donations from the Bendigo Bank Community Bank branches of Warburton, Yarra Junction, Boronia, Ringwood, Coleraine and District, Buninyong, Lang Lang, Pearcedale, Koo We Rup, Tooradin, Narre Warren, Altona, Laverton, Point Cook, Gisborne as well as Windsor Management Insurance Brokers and Sandhurst Trustees.

For more information on Youth Foundation 3081 and Parkville College contact katy.richards@bchs.org.au