

# latest @ hamilton

adult campus news & views

## Newsletter No. 1 – Term 1 March 2015

### *From the Assistant Principal*

Welcome to the 2015 school year. There are about 120 new students at Hamilton this year and I want to especially welcome them and hope that their time here is productive and useful.

Julie, Kathryn, Heather and I have enrolled or re-enrolled around 500 students over the past few months into SACE and VET courses. We often ask how people get to know about Hamilton and many times we hear that it is by friend's recommendations. It is very satisfying to know that so many here in our community, value the work of our staff and enjoy their experiences so much that they encourage others to join us.

Much work goes on in the background to ensure Hamilton maintains a high reputation. I want to thank all the teachers who deliver courses that are so popular with the adult community and the support staff who also contribute much to the positive experiences of students. I dare not start to name individual teachers as would probably miss someone out or run out of room in this column.

I do have to thank the College Executive Team who have allowed the Adult Campus the leeway to provide interesting, innovative and creative courses.

The Adult Campus Team is a dream to work in. Karly and Lyn primarily deal with the Adult administration and their knowledge and skills are tremendous. They are usually the first people that students meet in the College and they present a professional, friendly and accurate introduction. The other office staff are increasingly becoming involved in the adult section of the College and contribute to the welcoming atmosphere and ongoing support of students.

Julie Harwood is an excellent Counsellor, with a great sense of social justice, compassion and a level headed approach to her work. She is a great support to individuals and also works to see that the College community assures adult student well-being.

Kathryn Needs has a great entrepreneurial streak. Her work last year in promoting the College through Art Exhibitions, public speaking occasions and the production and distribution of advertising materials, has meant an increase in enrolment. She also has built strong relationships with students and assists them in maintaining their goals.

Heather Thomas works tirelessly to ensure that our Registered Training Organisation status is strong and secure. This allows us to provide the many nationally accredited VET courses that have helped adult students in future employment pathways.

As I said, it is a dream team – almost too hard to leave. But the rumours are true; I will take long service leave from the beginning of next term and will not return to the College. I don't have firm plans for retirement but I'm sure many adventures will present themselves. I am proud of having been part of adult education at Hamilton and having followed Noel Milburn (who founded the Adult Campus) and Pam Cashen. I'm sure another Leader will carry on the work and that many more mature learners will pass through the College.

**Peter Tucker**

### *Key Dates Term 1*

#### March

9	Adelaide Cup
12	College Sports Day
13	Student Free Day

#### April

Week beginning April 6

	Reports distributed
10	End Term 1
27	Term 2 begins

### *Welcome*

Welcome to students new to the College and welcome back to those continuing at Hamilton this year. I hope that you are happy with your subject selection and have settled in to classes well. You will have discovered that Hamilton offers a rich and varied selection of courses to students from all kinds of backgrounds.

Please let us know if we can assist you in any way. The Adult Campus staff are:

Peter Tucker	Assistant Principal, Adult Campus
Kathryn Needs	Coordinator – Adult Learners
Julie Harwood	Student Counsellor
Heather Thomas	Assistant Principal, VET
Kirsty Ramsay	Careers Adviser
Lyn Wright	Student Services
Karly Baum	Student Services

If you want some more advice about courses and other options for study please feel free to make an appointment with a counsellor.

This year, to assist students acclimatise to the surroundings we ran Orientation sessions during the first week back at school and these were attended by approximately 30 new students. We will also be running Spotlight Seminars throughout the year on applying for university and TAFE, and job and career readiness. To further assist students with their studies individual tutorial support and mentoring is available. Please see Kathryn for further information.

Good luck with your studies. I look forward to meeting you personally during the year.

**Kathryn Needs**  
**Coordinator – Adult Learners**

## Vale Margie

We were deeply saddened to hear of the sudden death of one of our finest textile students, Margaret Smith.



Margie first enrolled here in 2009 and soon became a treasured member of the Textiles classes. She had an enormous talent for quilting and her work was admired by her classmates. Margie inspired others with her skills and talents in this field and also in her upbeat and positive outlook. School was just one part of her busy life and she also devoted time to the Royal Show as a judge, to the Bellevue Heights Nursing Home as a volunteer and she taught Teddy Bear making.

Her classmates shared some of their thoughts on Margie and agreed that her love of her family was evident in many things she did and things she talked about in class. She shared stories of her children and grandchildren, she brought her sister to class one time and her husband, Maurie, was also well known to the class.

Talented, positive, quick witted, humorous, wicked, story teller, heart of gold are other descriptions her friends used. She loved purple, chooks, cats (especially Larry), the bush, words like “Jiggerpuss” and making sandwiches for the class. We will miss Margie.

## Daymap

Daymap is our main organisational system in the College. You can see your timetables, attendances and notes from you teachers on Daymap and you can access this from home.

## Applications for Special Provisions

If you are studying SACE Stage 2 subjects with an exam and want to apply for Special Provisions, applications must be completed and submitted to Student Services by mid March. Forms are available from Student Services.

Please note that if additional reading and writing time is required, each candidate must complete two supervised, timed essays. It is the responsibility of the candidate to contact Peter Shaw, Coordinator – SACE, to arrange for these essays to be set at a mutually convenient time and place within the College.

Please do not delay if you believe you qualify for Special Provisions and be sure you complete all the documentation required on the form. If you do not know your SACE registration number you can obtain this from Student Services when you collect the form.

**Peter Shaw**  
**Coordinator – SACE Management**

## ID Cards

By now all students should have ID cards. It is expected that adult students wear ID and a clip is issued with the card for this purpose. There are a large number of adult students enrolled at the College as well as the students in the continuing school. It is important for the security of staff and students that people on the Campus are authorised to be here. Do not invite visitors to the College. If you have forgotten to put on your ID card, you may be asked by a member of staff to show your card and/or identify yourself. Please respond politely – staff, particularly those on yard duty, are entitled to ask for this information. You will be issued with an ‘Adult Student’ sticker if you are not wearing ID in class. ID cards also serve as library cards and transport concession cards. Lanyards, like those being used by Staff for their keys, are available to adult students for ID card purposes. ID card wearing is common practice in business and workplace – please wear yours.

## Mixing with School Students

It is College Policy that adult students do not mix with the school students, except at Year 11 and 12 level where there are hybrid classes. This is also an expectation if you are a parent of a student enrolled at the College. This is usually not an issue for adults who are here only for particular lesson times. There is a lounge area for adult students which may be used during breaks.

## Dress

It is an OHSW requirement that shoes be worn at all times. Science labs, Art areas, Photography areas Tech Studies workshops, and Home Economic kitchens require covered footwear. Please comply with this OHSW requirement. Thongs are not appropriate footwear at the College in any area.

It is expected that adult students attending the College wear neat, casual dress at all times. Clothing should be appropriate to a learning environment and not skimpy and revealing or distracting to others.

## Mobile Phones

Mobile phones must be switched off in class and in the Library. It is distracting to other students and to the teacher when your phone rings and even more so if you engage in a conversation. Messaging is similarly so. Should there be an emergency or a one off need to leave the phone on this should be negotiated with the teacher at the start of the lesson. Business calls will need to be taken before or after class.

## Diaries

You should have all received a diary when you paid your fees. If you missed out you may obtain yours from Reception.

## Lift Users

We are aware that many students use the lift to access classrooms upstairs. Occasionally the lift is out of order. We would like to contact people who need to use the lift if this happens. We are compiling a register of lift-users. Please let the office have your name so that this list can be as comprehensive as possible.

## Hamilton is a Non Smoking Worksite

The Education Department has directed us to comply fully with legislation so there is no smoking on college grounds. If you do continue to smoke in school hours, you must leave the grounds of the college completely. Please be mindful though, that people smoking in front of the college sends a bad image of us to the community as does sitting on neighbours’ fences or littering with cigarette butts.

## Adult Bulletin

A weekly bulletin is printed at the beginning of each week with important information about events and issues which relate to adult learners. A printed copy is put around the adult lounge area and an electronic copy emailed to all adult learners. A copy is also lodged on Daymap. Please read it regularly.



## *2014 Registered Training Organisation VET Graduation Ceremony*

On Thursday, 4 December 2014 we held our first RTO VET Graduation Ceremony. This was the first time Hamilton Secondary College has had a separate event to honour and celebrate the achievement of our Registered Training Organisation graduates. There was a fantastic turnout with nearly 200 students and their families present – even a Cummins Area Student who made a special trip to receive her Certificate II in Tourism from her VET Trainer Ms Flora Botting – someone she had only spoken to via phone calls, seen during video links and communicated with via emails and the postal system to gain her qualification via distance education.

I thanked our industry partner the SA Aquatics and Leisure Centre for the use of their world-class facility, our wonderful RTO VET Trainers at Hamilton and also the other members of the organising committee Jessica Lock, Kirsty Ramsay, Laura Kavanagh and Belinda Hawker for all their hard work in putting together this inaugural event.

The event began with the screening of some short films in the background showcasing examples of the creative work produced by some of our Diploma and Advanced Diploma in Screen and Media students and of our Certificate III in Media students. The CEO of the RTO and Principal of Hamilton Secondary College Mr Roger Hooper addressed the audience along with our Guest Speaker Jake Tiver, a past Certificate II in Hospitality student who spoke about his time at Hamilton and how it has helped him succeed in his career pathway.

The VET Trainers were proud to be able to present their students with their qualifications they earned including Diplomas, Advanced Diplomas and Certificates. The students worked hard during the year to earn this Vocational qualification. I sincerely hope that this hard-earned qualification equips these students with the keys to a rewarding career working in an industry they are passionate about. Many of our Vocational Education and Training graduates have gone on to secure employment in a range of industries such as hospitality, sport and recreation, community services, viticulture, tourism, information technology, business administration, creative industries such as film production companies, television studios, graphic design studios, just to name a few.

If you (as an adult student) or your son or daughter are interested in enrolling in any of our VET courses then please contact me on heather.thomas@hamcoll.sa.edu.au

**Heather Thomas**  
**Assistant Principal, RTO Manager and VET Curriculum Pathways**



### *Art is Magic!*



Art teachers, Ben Benassi and Julia Morris are magicians according to some of their students. They somehow conjure art works from people who didn't believe they were capable of creating.

Already this year lovely pieces of art are emerging from the Hamilton Art Rooms.

They are often carried past my office by people beaming with pride. Heather (pictured) couldn't believe the success of her first painting and Helen (whose applique is pictured) is overjoyed at her creation.

There is no magic though. Our students have talents they have ignored, forgotten or have not had the opportunity to explore. And Ben and Julia are just very, very good teachers!



*Photos from the Cultural Tourism Excursion*



## Tertiary Results for 2014

Congratulations to the following students who were offered tertiary placements in the first round:

Name	Course, Tertiary Placement
Lucas Croft	B Sport, Health and Physical Education, Flinders University
Saran Dolley	Foundation Studies, University of SA
Rushley Ebero	B Nursing, University of SA
Rajab Al Habibi	B Information Technology, Flinders University
Jennifer Kilroy	B Architectural Design, Adelaide University
Kelly McCulloch	Foundation Studies, University of SA
Zain Muhammad	B Science, Adelaide University
Caitlin Slevac	B of Education, Flinders University
Aman Syed	B of Business, University of SA
Khanh Tang	B Arts/B Economics, Adelaide University
Eiman Usmani	B of Engineering, Adelaide University



## Adult Welcome BBQ



## Student Committee

Each year students volunteer to join the Adult Student Committee. The work of this group is to provide a voice for adult students through representation on the College Governing Council and its subcommittees.

The committee also organises regular celebratory and social events for the student body. For example the Welcome BBQ is provided by the Student Committee. If you would like to join the committee, even just for a term you are most welcome. Meetings are announced in the Weekly Bulletin.

## Adult Learning Support

When you go into any new environment, it takes some time to adjust to the new sights, sounds and customs of those who are already familiar with it. At Hamilton, we hope you quickly feel a part of the learning community, so that you can achieve the goals you've set for yourself. Naturally, your subject teachers will be the ones you form the closest bonds with, but they are not always available when you have questions about your learning. We have three programs running at the College to assist you get the information you need.

**Learning Support** – If you have questions about curriculum, research, computers or just about anything else, there are teachers available to assist you. You will see the TUTORIAL SUPPORT TIMETABLE in the Adult Tutorial room. It lists teachers and their fields of expertise. We hope you will approach these teachers as they are expecting to help students in their rostered times. The teachers are able to assist you (or find assistance) on any college issue you may have. They will be on duty in the Adult Tutorial Centre which is next to the adult lounge area.

**Tutoring** – If you feel you would benefit from a tutor who can meet with you on a regular basis and assist you with your subjects then please see Kathryn Needs, Coordinator – Adult Learners.

**Library** – Support is offered by the library staff. They will assist you in accessing the resources like books, CDs, DVDs, magazine articles and anything else that may be relevant to the topics you are researching. They know what is available in the library and can significantly shortcut the time it takes you to access information.

**Kathryn Needs**  
Coordinator – Adult Learners