



Make a difference

DINGLEY VILLAGE INC

Newsletter Issue 28, 2018



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www.madv.com.au

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Make a Difference is here in Dingley Village, to support vulnerable families and those experiencing crisis.

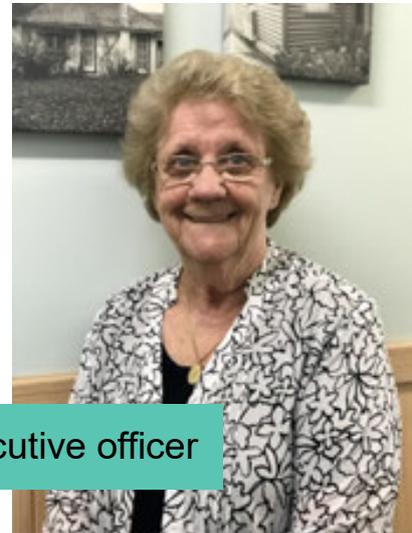
Anyone experiencing difficulties can ask our help, the issues people bring to the talk may be: financial, family breakdown, substance abuse, gambling, mental health, housing, employment or domestic violence.

Make a Difference has professionally trained staff that can provide in house support, or refer to other rescues.

MADDV receives NO state or federal government funding and is reliant on the community for support.

They are committed to “make a difference” for those who ask our help.

Chairman David Maddil believes that
“every successful journey starts with a single step”
that step is sometimes to the doors of
Make a Difference Dingley Village



Our Executive officer



Our Financial Counsellor



Our admin Staff



Our Volunteers
Marlene and Alma



Did you know?

- young children who receive lots of affection from their dad will have a more secure relationship with him.
- Children whose fathers are involved in their life are more likely to be emotionally secure, confident to explore their surroundings, and have a better social connection with their peers.
- When fathers are involved in their child's everyday activities (e.g. eating meals together, reading and helping with homework), children tend to have fewer behaviour difficulties and better social skills.
- How a father feels about being a dad and how he cares for his child has a large influence on a child's social and emotional development. Children whose fathers feel good about being a dad and are sensitive and responsive to their needs tend to have a better social and emotional skills.

Dads being involved

Father and families can get involved with their children and the early childhood service by:

- Becoming familiar with their early childhood service and getting to know the staff.
- Sharing children's developmental milestones with early childhood staff
- Giving feedback to the staff about experiences their child has enjoyed (e.g., a weekend trip to the zoo or a family picnic)
- Listening and talking to their children regularly to help their child learn, even if their child cannot understand words yet.
- Explaining to their child how things in the world work and having a go at answering their questions (e.g. "why is the sky blue?")

Success story- Nina and Bob- Making a difference.

The names have been changed to protect the identity of the clients.

“Bob” and “Nina” attended Make A Difference Dingley Village in a complex situation. Nina was scared as Bob had told her that the family were in a mountain of debt. Nina knew nothing about this as Bob had always been the one to manage the family finances, and it wasn't until crisis point that Bob confronted Nina and advised her of the dire situation they were in.

Nina and Bob have two children, with another on the way, so this shock really worried Nina as she knew that she would not be working for some time. Nina came to see me.

Through discussions with Nina, I was able to uncover the circumstances surrounding the debt and present options to Nina that could be discussed. Nina left feeling like there was hope.

My next appointment was with Nina and Bob together. It was clear at this appointment that there was a lot that needed to be addressed. Working together, we uncovered issues and addressed concerns.

Bob had had significant health issues over a number of years and this led to a fear within the relationship that things can change at any time. As it was, Bob was able to work, and had a great job that he enjoys, but the accumulated debt meant that each pay packet went to the debt and left very little to nothing for the family to live on. This was a cycle that wouldn't be broken without something changing.

I began negotiating with creditors on behalf of Nina and Bob, aiming to come to an arrangement that would put them in a position where they could survive without stress in their life and begin to manage their debts.

Over the span of the coming weeks, negotiations continued. I had the pleasure of advising Nina and Bob that through successful negotiations, the creditors had agreed to waive the full debt.

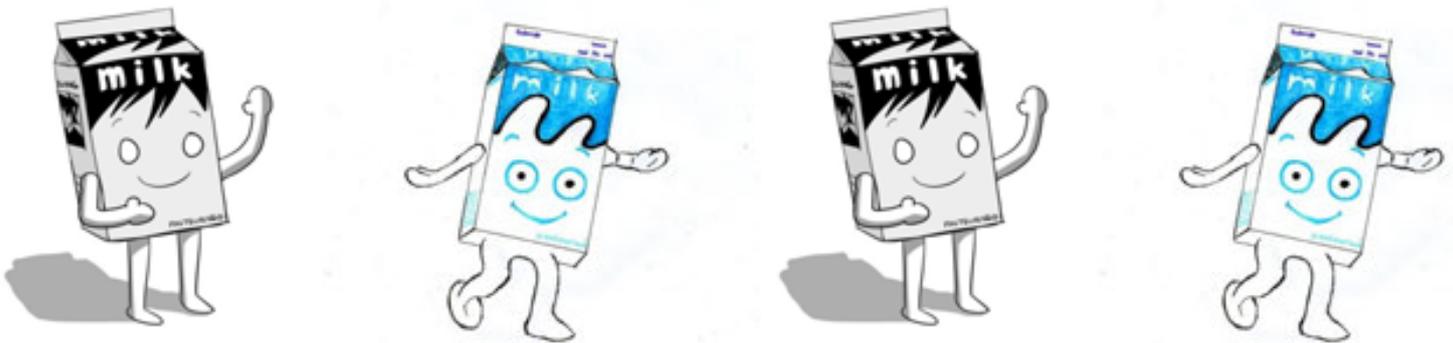
This outcome changed the life of Nina and Bob. This waiver has allowed them to 'start fresh', focusing on prioritising their remaining debts and has put them in a position where they can manage them. This has subsequently provided ease and comfort to their lives and they now feel like they have a chance to gain control back in their lives and focus on their growing family.

Written by Kate Smith Financial Counsellor at Make a Difference



Spring

“Long Life” Milk Drive



Drop donations into us at the Dingley Village Neighbourhood Centre

“The hard Road”

The Salvation Army national Economical and social Impact Survey 2019

“The top 10 things that I Can't afford”

- an internet connection
- money to participate in school activities
- a hobby
- new clothes
- Outdoor leisure equipment
- 2 pairs of shoes
- Opportunity to invite friends home to play and eat
- Fresh fruit and vegetables every day
- Books to read



HOW

Our help can vary according to your situation. Some need food or financial help, others need assistance with issues, such a gambling, substance abuse, domestic violence

WHEN

Any day of the week, our staff and volunteers will assist you.

WHERE

At 31b Marcus road, Dingley Village
(home of the Neighbourhood Centre)

WHY

Our team of Board members, professionals staff and volunteers are committed to “Make a difference” for those in need.



Bill's story,

Our Social worker found Bill sleeping in the Park.

He was 42 years old, separated from his family, and made redundant from his work.

His sole income is Newstart of \$545 per fortnight.

After talking to him, our Social worker found an organisation in West Melbourne that would offer short term accommodation while assisting with on going planning.

A volunteer took Bill to the accommodation and we hope this is a positive step for him.





On 1st of August 2018

Crazy Socks day was our “Make a Difference day” in 2018.

Several hundred children from our 3 Local Dingley primary schools wore CRAZY SOCKS to school and donated a gold coin to Make a Difference Dingley Village.

It has been suggested that the community could join us in 2019.

Parishioners at local churches, members of several clubs and the sporting community also took part!



“Phoebe’s Story”

Phoebe took the children to visit her mum, some distance away. She returned home to find the house empty of furniture and her husband had left.

The neighbours were generous over the weekend, and on Monday Phoebe visited “Make a Difference”

We could help with food, electricity and gas, while our financial counsellor could ensure she had access to bank accounts and help with an outstanding debt.

The weeks and months ahead were difficult as phoebe attempted to establish a new life for herself and the children.

Make a difference was there to provide support in difficult times.

Phoebe believes that we “made a difference’



5 November 2018 International Volunteer managers Day



Website: volunteermanagersday.org/

International Volunteer Managers Day is a day to let those volunteer managers know that the spirit of volunteerism is enhanced and enabled by them - and to thank them.



The activities team—Glasshouse View—Retirement Village 2018
Jenny, Dot, Eileen, Del, Elaine

Community bonds are our best insurance

Remember just weeks ago when all we could talk about were the 12 Thai boys and their soccer coach trapped by rising water and facing near-certain death in a dark cave? Now, as the TV news crews have packed up shop, and we've all turned our attention back to the latest sports, political machinations, heroics and villainy, I've been reflecting on what made that incredible rescue possible. Because when disaster strikes, it is human nature that drives us to rush to the rescue, but it is good organisation and good leadership that give a rescue mission every chance of success. For two weeks outside the Tham Luang cave, that organisation was clearly visible, even above ground. We saw it in the truckloads of scuba tanks, coils of rope, water pumps and hoses. These tangible items mirrored the intangible human assets, the skills and training and experience of dozens of organisations and thousands of individuals, galvanised to beat monsoon rains, diminishing oxygen levels, starvation and the limits of human endurance in the race for survival. Australians were in the thick of it, like the cave diving doctor Richard Harris, who risked his own life to help the team to safety. Having suffered our fair share of disasters, Australians have developed the capacity to help respond to people in need. When bushfires whipped by wild winds and 46-degree heat killed 173 people in Victoria in 2009, and when scores were wiped out in floods in Queensland two years later, countless people offered to help on the ground, give blood or send cash. Each time disaster strikes, we rally to the cause. We respond instinctively, much as a family would. Yet beyond the emergency and defence services that step in first, and the SES volunteer crews who literally mop up, it's community groups that are there for the long haul with shelter, clothes, food, and a shoulder to cry on. In Thailand, you can bet the local sporting clubs, schools, and community groups will stay involved to help ensure the affected boys don't suffer lasting ill effects. Those same organisations also help the victims of tragedies and disasters that don't dominate the headlines – asylum seekers, the homeless, victims of violence and poverty.

Continued...

Without these organisations, our humanity would be diminished and our lives would be immeasurably poorer. But what enables communities to act effectively – and not just with good intentions – is organisation and community leadership. Australia has 600,000-plus not-for-profits and community groups: sporting and service clubs, charities, health services, foster care organisations, neighbourhood houses, schools and the like, spread across the nation, adept at helping where help is needed. They're able to do this because they've put so much time and effort into building their capacity to act, often over years. That's a result of never-ending meetings, fundraising events, phone calls, cashflow forecasts and grant applications. All of these things add up, over time, to community organisations with clout. And in a crisis, a well-oiled committee can pull in the favours, bring the right people into the room, make the right phone calls and lean on those in power. It is those organisations with strong leaders, a resilient culture, an ethical mission and decent resources that are our best insurance in times of trouble. That's where you come in. If you've ever watched help materialise when it's most needed, it's not a miracle. You're seeing the results of years of preparation. So if now's not the right time to volunteer to help, when is?

BY DENIS MORIARTY, GROUP MANAGING DIRECTOR, OUR COMMUNITY



Our editorial staff are exhausted!

Another issue - - - well done!

But - - - -

- - - will you read it?

- - - are you interested in us?

- - - will you support us?

Make A Difference is a not—for—profit Organisation

Donations can be made via our website

www.maddv.com.au



Our discount booklet is available for
purchase of \$10.00