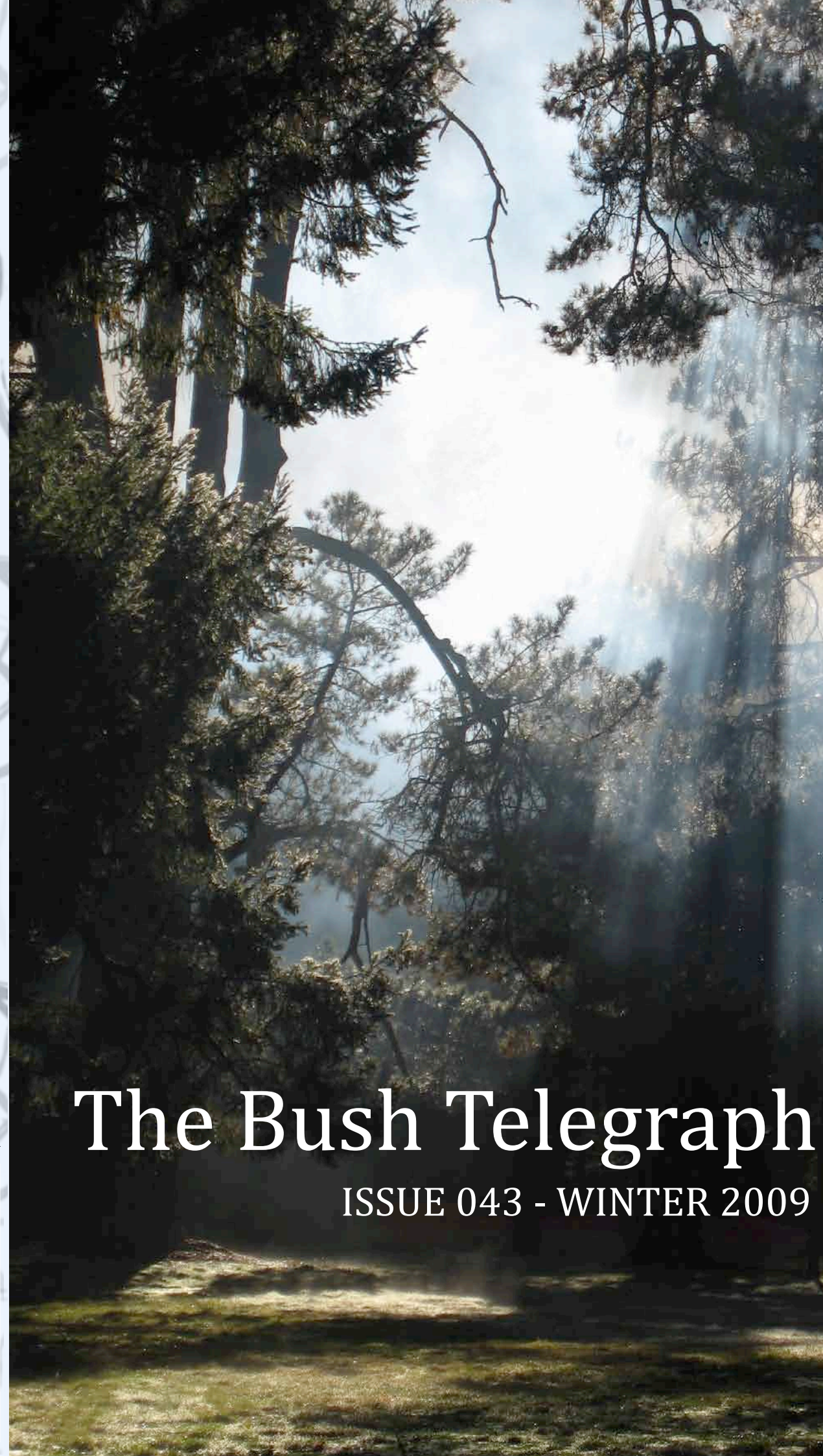




EVOLVE
AT TYPO STATION



The Bush Telegraph

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WINTER WELCOME

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the Winter 2009 edition of *The Bush Telegraph*. Being a relatively new member of the Evolve team, I am constantly amazed at the fantastic results our staff achieve with the Young Men's, Leadership and Education Programs.

I commenced my position as Finance and Administration Manager in November 2008 on a part-time basis and have been focusing on financial reporting and future growth. My background is mainly in hospitality and events, working both in financial and operation roles. I am also a Chartered Practising Accountant and over the past two years, I have become more involved in the not-for-profit sector and see my career continuing on this path.

Evolve has so much to offer the community but none of this happens without a strong financial plan. Our growth has not only been in the Young Men's Program but also in our newer programs throughout Greater Melbourne and regional Victoria. As many of you would have seen in our annual report, our 07-08 financial year was solid, enabling us to grow our staff team and deliver more programs. Unfortunately the 08-09 year will not yield as strong a financial result and Evolve is constantly reviewing expenditure to ensure no programs are lost. With Evolve heavily reliant on the generosity of our individual, corporate and philanthropic donors, the global financial crisis and the Victorian bushfires have resulted in a sharp decline in the number of donations we have received.

Our current focus is on maximising any opportunities that arise to secure funds and keep our work going. With tax time fast approaching we would like to remind you that Evolve has deductible gift recipient status and any donations made to Evolve are fully tax deductible. We thank you for your ongoing support.

The next few months will see Evolve continue to work on our strategic plan so that more disadvantaged young people can evolve into strong, caring and purposeful individuals. I hope you enjoy this issue of *The Bush Telegraph* and wish you a warm and safe winter.

Karin Vosmansky, *Finance & Administration Manager*



JOIN EVOLVE ON FACEBOOK!

As a Fan of Evolve, you will get all the latest news and events straight away instead of checking back to our website or waiting for *Bush Telegraph*! You can also interact with other supporters, post photos, ask us questions, visit our recommended links and choose to receive alerts and invitations for events. Additionally, when you join, it will display on your friends' newsfeed, letting them know all about Evolve too!

Become a fan of Evolve by typing 'Evolve at Typo' into the search bar on the Facebook home page and click 'Become a Fan'. We look forward to having you as a Fan!

GO G.I.R.L - Get Into Real Learning!



In collaboration with The Pavilion School in West Heidelberg, the Evolve Go GIRL (Get into Real Learning) program started in March. In a female-only environment, a group of young women have undertaken five weeks of individual and group activities addressing themes such as the depiction of women in society, stereotypes, conflict resolution and accountability for both the individual and the group in the community.

The staff at The Pavilion expressed their concern that the specific needs of the young women in their program were not being fulfilled. This is a gap in the curriculum which Go GIRL is addressing. The program is targeted at young women enrolled at The Pavilion between the ages of 14 and 17 years and this pilot program will develop organically depending on the young women who elect to participate. It is envisioned the young women will range in life circumstances. Our shared goal is re-engagement in education through relevant and fun activities.

The young women's group includes Year 9 to Year 12 students, young mothers, women who have experienced various degrees of trauma through victims of sexual assault, domestic violence and/or poor self esteem and bullying. Anecdotal evidence from a social worker working closely with young women in crises said that there was a shortfall in services for reconnecting girls with their community and Go GIRL would fill this gap. Research indicates that young people have a higher chance of employment and training if they complete secondary schooling.

The theme for Go GIRL in Terms One and Two focused on 'The Fundamentals' in which participants discussed women's roles in society and outlined personal strengths and challenges. The young women explored their passions and interests through drawing and painting a personal mandala. Week three was filled with hands-on activities that addressed individual's self esteem, personality traits and group initiative games. Using inspirational stories and images of famous women, female role models and peer mentors have guided these students through the first section of the program. Last week, nine participants went ice skating for the first time at Wonderland Park in Docklands and the afternoon was spent giggling, falling over and chatting about 'girl's stuff'.

Evolve's long term goal is to develop this program further and expand it to a State-wide forum. The Go GIRL Program is consistent with our objectives and it will improve the social inequities and challenge the barriers for young women in low socio-economic neighbourhoods. The Pavilion and Olympic Adult Education are working together to provide the community of West Heidelberg with access to a wide range of vocational programs and future educational pathways. These young women are also qualifying for the Certificate I in Vocational Preparation.



CHEF'S SPECIAL 2009

Our third Chef's Special follow-up to the Young Men's Program culminated on the 7th of May with a beautiful dinner, presented to 36 appreciative supporters of the organisation. The dinner was prepared, cooked and served by five young men under the watchful and expert eye of long-time program supporter, Barb Satori, and Evolve's own resident chef, Kate Doherty.



The program took place over four days and apart from the preparation and serving of a meal, included a series of mock job interviews for the boys, kindly conducted (voluntarily) by owner of the local Station Creek Winery, Dave Steer, giving the boys valuable experience in this daunting process.

The serving of a gourmet meal to 36 people when you have had absolutely no experience in this field must almost seem like an impossibility, but these young blokes stepped up to the challenge and were rewarded by the Employability Passport, under the auspices of Wangaratta training facility, The Centre.

The Centre's CEO, Danny O'Donohue, complimented the young men on their achievement as he handed them their Passport on the night. By far, though, the greatest reward for the boys was the sense of achievement that comes from understanding that they have the capacity to undertake

and complete such a challenging task, and to do so well, enough to receive the applause of others. This is something we hope they will take with them and continue to remember as they return to their homes and their communities.



Evolve had some wonderful support in promoting this event not only from the local community in the King Valley but also from Fairley Leadership, The Weekly Times and Pigs Will Fly Blog.

Look out for a post-event wrap in the upcoming edition of Food & Wine: A Taste of the Goulburn Valley magazine - www.valleysfoodandwine.com.au

DID YOU KNOW...?

That in December last year, **49,000** young people aged 15 to 19 years old were looking for full-time work. By January, it had risen to **59,600** and in February there were **71,000** young people were searching for employment.

EVOLVING LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

The Evolving Leadership Program (Wodonga Police Partnership) has drawn to a close with a celebration and presentation evening on May 7, staged by the young people who participated in the Program.

About the Program...

The young men and women that participated in the Program over the previous 12 months have really made the most of their opportunity to experience as many different activities and situations as we have been able to fit into four weeks.

Much of the fourth week of the program was spent on vocational education, preparing to join the workforce and planning career pathways, with students forming a clearer idea of where they are heading and how they are going to get there.

Week Four also included preparation for the presentation, including skill development and experience in public speaking and presenting, and from the quality of the preparations from all of the young people the time spent was well worth it.

Celebration & Presentation Night

The young people did themselves and their supporters proud on the Thursday evening, while at the same time all appeared to enjoy the chance to share their experiences within the program over the last 12 months. Most reported that the entire program was a highlight, while another common theme was the highlights associated with working as a part of a team and as a leader of a group during the seven-day hike.



On A Personal Note...

It has been a great privilege to work with this group of young people from Wodonga, and the achievements and progress they have made as individuals has been inspiring. There have been many volunteers that have made generous contributions of time, expertise and skill to make this program possible, not to mention our newly formed partnerships in Wodonga.

Jack Nelson

A big thank you to all the staff involved from Wodonga TAFE, Wodonga Police, and the crew at Typo Station for going the extra mile in helping out with the program. A special thank you to John Pimm, Paul McGill, Darren McCorry, Doug & Laurice Kneen, Inner Wheel and our other food packers.

EVOLVE CASUAL STAFF

Our programs can't run without the extra support of a number of casual staff. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank these wonderful people for their invaluable contribution.

Lou Owen, caretaker Jim's beautiful wife, does a fantastic job smoothing out the edges at Typo Station, helping with the care-taking, maintenance and in the kitchen whenever required.

Chris Thorne, Nicholas Brown-Graham and Suzanne McKay help out on program and make the 'Typo' experience event better for our young people.

Scott Malpass is simply a God to the Collingwood staff and is always on hand to fix their seemingly endless computer issues, as well as supporting our events and any IT related business.

YOUNG MEN'S PROGRAM - 18 MONTHS ON...

Callan started at 'Typo' 18 months ago, and he and his mum, Laura, were generous enough to speak at our recent Station Hand cocktail evening. Laura's speech was incredibly moving and Callan spoke about his experience with Evolve at Typo Station...

"My name is Callan, I am 17 years old and am currently in the last six months of the Young Men's Program. The Typo program changed my life completely. Before Typo, I was in trouble at school and near expulsion. Year nine was the worst. I was always in trouble with the law. I was on drugs and had a serious drinking problem. By the age of 15 I had been arrested for quite a few charges of theft. I got involved with the wrong crowd and they all encouraged me in what I was doing.

The school, my parents and the police didn't know how to help me anymore, that's when the school informed us of Typo Station. I went and sat the interview and was lucky enough to get into the program. I was really looking forward to going up to the Station. The time came and then it was set back a month because of fire damage. I was extremely disappointed and at the time I couldn't control my anger and went mental. But then when the time came again, I started my path to redemption and change. Not only did everyone else want me to change but most importantly I wanted to change.



When I first arrived at the Station, I was nervous and didn't know anybody. The thought of going and meeting new people didn't really worry me, it was the new places that scared me. But the staff and other participants were friendly. The longer I was there, the more I started to love life up there, even though I didn't have any TV or phones, that didn't matter because we found other things to do.

The hike part of the program is one of the most memorable parts for me. By the end of day two, I wanted to quit but I stuck it out till the end. When one of the other participants couldn't carry the weight of the hike

PASSION, PERFORMANCE & POSSIBILITY

Holy Trinity in Kew was the host of Evolve's classical music recital in May, managed by our volunteer, Sue Pitchford. As an active member of church choirs, Sue is passionate about music and equally so about young people. Sue came into the office six months ago and asked, "Would it be possible to host a musical recital where gifted young musicians can showcase their talent, whilst raising awareness of Evolve? The answer was "Yes!"

The recital included compositions by Satie, Debussy, Schubert, Cacchini and Handel, leaving the audience of 170 in awe of the talent shown by Stephen Kerr (principal recitalist & pianist), James Penn (Tenor), Brigitte De Poi (Voice), Michael Ryan (Cello), Tony He (Clarinet), Michael Choong (Piano), Claire Seton (Voice) and Jacqui Evans (Voice). These young musicians are all on a wonderful journey to a career in music and had a vision that through this recital, they may be able to help other disadvantaged young people along their journey by raising funds and awareness through this event.

A big thank you to our musicians for their time and talent, to Sue for her dedication, effort and belief and all those who gave their time and skills to help raise almost \$3,000 for Evolve.



EVOLVE STAFF LIST

Executive

Paul Stolz
Chief Executive Officer
(Collingwood)

Sasha Molodtsov
Marketing & Development
Manager (Collingwood)

Chris Ziebell
Head of Operations (Cheshunt)

Karin Vosmansky
Finance & Administration
Manager (Collingwood)

Administrative Support (Collingwood)

Dee Stanton
Office Administrator

Desiree Pettit - Marketing
Michael Tran - Marketing
Yvonne Melville - Finance

Intake & Youth Worker Team

Kate Walsh - Intake Worker
Andy Umbers (Collingwood)
Shane Carey (Collingwood)

Carey Moncrieff (Cheshunt)
Kate Doherty (Cheshunt)

Educational Programs

Andrew Peach (Collingwood)
Vicki Bucher (Collingwood)

North East Programs

Jack Nelson (Wodonga)
Aimee Shea (Wodonga)

Station Support

Jim & Lou Owen (Property)
Kate Doherty (Kitchen)

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pack anymore, me and another of the participants took some of the load off his back so that we could move on. During the hike, the Typo staff said to me that I had great leadership skills. That was one of the best things people had said about me in years and gave me confidence in myself which I hadn't had in years. By the end of the hike my self-confidence was very high and I had the satisfaction of knowing that I had finished something I had started and wasn't just a failure.

When I had left the Station, there was a significant change in my behaviour both at home and school. The school saw that I didn't feel the need to go and get myself into trouble. At home I was not getting into fights as much and I had more self control.

The support from the Typo staff is greatly appreciated. I can just pick up the phone and talk to someone who will give me advice when I need it and when it is necessary, I can arrange to meet someone. Andy also comes out to catch up with me and to see how I'm doing on a regular basis. Now 18 months on, I have turned my life around completely. I am no longer in trouble at school and am now studying Year 12. I am no longer in trouble with the police or hanging out with the group that encouraged the actions that got me into the trouble. I also got a job, and that kept me occupied and out of trouble.

Some people who know me still don't see the changes in me, but know my potential to become a trusted member of the community. My life goal is to become a fully qualified electrician and eventually own my own business.

I would like to thank my parents who didn't give up on me through the hard times even though they didn't know what to do. Also Andy and the rest of the Evolve staff who supported me through the program and still support me today. I would like to thank Father Ray Saggars who was the person who always saw the good side of me and never gave up on me and my best mate Marc, who has never judged me for what I did and accepts me for who I am."

Well done Callan!

MOTHER'S DAY CAMPAIGN

Thank you to our supporters who hosted Mother's Day fundraising events. The King Valley Cucina served up a delicious Special, with \$10 from each donated to Evolve, while Wishlist.com donated 10% of all purchases made via our website. Mutti's in the city gave Evolve 20% of each Mother's Day special and Redbox Vineyard & Winery in Kangaroo Ground donated \$10 from each Sampler sold.

Colin & Glenys from Redbox also donated a mixed half dozen of their wines for our Mother's Day raffle, won by Giles & Fenella Elsom, while 1860 Luxury Accommodation, owned by Evolve founder, Matt Pfahlert, offered a night's accommodation in their boutique bed & breakfast in Beechworth, won by Jenny Odgers. Congratulations to both our winners!



WINTER WISH LIST

A big thank you to those donors who have supplied us with wish list items from the Autumn edition - your contributions are always greatly appreciated. If you can assist us with any of the items below (or would like more information about them) please phone or email us any time.

Four compasses
 20 Head torches (LED, equivalent of Petzl Tikka
 Charcoal for the forges
 20 thermal tops, range of sizes
 20 thermal pants, range of sizes
 20 quality 1 1/4" augers
 Quality timber off cuts, suitable for making chopping boards, coat racks etc
 Christmas decorations (good quality), santa hats and sack, tinsel etc
 Christmas bonbons
 Baking trays
 Bags of concrete (chicken shed)
 First aid kit
 Drill set
 Old hand-held drills, in good working order
 Hiking packs
 Hiking boots, range of boys & girls
 Industrial cooking pots, pans & utensils
 Block splitters x 2
 Axe heads & handles
 8" bench grinder
 Anvil
 Garden tool handles
 30 Wide mouth 1L nalgene water bottles
 30 Safety whistles (no pea)

UPCOMING EVENTS

GEELONG V PORT ADELAIDE AFL CHARITY MATCH

Come along and support our Leadership Development Program students from The Grange as they collect donations for Evolve at Skilled Stadium!

Nine students have been granted permission by the Geelong Football Club to undertake a tin shake outside the ground before the Geelong v Port Adelaide match on June 28. They will also promote Evolve in their club newsletter and website, in the AFL Footy Record publication (you can pick up a copy at most news agents) and also on the big screen throughout the match. We would like to send a big thank you to Geelong FC for their support.



IN THE KING VALLEY THIS WINTER...

Weekend Fit For A King

Visit our supporters in the King Valley for this wonderful three day celebration of food, wine and entertainment at 17 wineries in the area. There is something for everyone, with kids activities, gourmet food, music and the King Valley Art Show. For more details, visit www.winesofthekingvalley.com.au.

DID YOU KNOW...?

When participation in formal post-school VET courses was considered as an alternative to persisting to Year 12 at school, the number of young people who appear to be at risk of poor transitions from education was found to decline from almost 20% to below 8%.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Corey – A graduate of our inaugural Connectus program, Corey has secured a brick-laying apprenticeship and also a part-time job at Hungry Jacks. Well done Corey – we hope you're enjoying the move from school to the world of work!

Beau – We featured a profile of another Connectus participant, Beau, in the Autumn edition of *Bush Telegraph*; we are very happy to congratulate him on his full-time appointment at the local abattoir.



Karin & Michael – Robbie will soon have a little brother or sister to enjoy after Karin announced that they are extending their brood. Congratulations to the Vosmansky family and our best wishes for good health and a smooth journey!

BROWN BROTHERS EASTER FESTIVAL WRAP

Three days of glorious weather set the stage for this year's Brown Brothers Wine & Food Easter Festival. Our yearly event is a family celebration of wine and food with music, tours and entertainment all part of the fun. Over 5,000 people joined us at the home of Brown Brothers, Milawa, and amongst them were six smiling faces from Evolve. "Sasha and her team of volunteers were a wonderful inclusion at this year's event as they circulated amongst the guests, helping out where possible," said Brown Brother's Guest Services Manager, Guy Wilkinson.

Our team bravely volunteered to host the Easter Egg Hunt, which combined hundreds of children with hundreds of chocolates, delivering predicable results. Bedraggled, but not deterred, the offer to help pass out balloons to the children was no lesser feat! It was an exhausting three days but everyone had a great time and resulted in a contribution from Brown Brothers of \$2,000 and a number of bottles of wine to Evolve.



"Brown Brothers is a family owned business which truly values people and family and we congratulate Evolve on all the wonderful work they do within the community to support people and families", added Guy, "I want to thank everyone who joined us, volunteering their time to help Brown Brothers and represent Evolve, which you did with a great deal of integrity and a good amount of fun!"

Evolve would like to extend a big thank you to both Brown Brothers and all our wonderful volunteers for their support.

MOVEMENT AT THE STATION

It is with sadness that we farewell two of the Evolve family this quarter...

We have a team of three very hard working staff based in Wodonga who run our Evolving Leadership and Connectus programs. One of this dedicated trio is **Karyn Looby**, who will have left us at time of publication. Team 'Dong' will not be the same without her and we wish Karyn all the very best with her future endeavours.

Due to Evolve's current financial constraints, we have also sadly said good bye to one of our Youth Worker team, **Rob West**. We wish Rob the very best of luck and success in his youth work.

WANGARATTA HIGH SCHOOL



We are pleased to have four very talented students joining the Evolve family for a term. Gabriel, Andrea, Akayla and Kayla are taking part in Wangaratta High School's Community Learning Centre program and have chosen Evolve to work with for their Winter project. These students will be presenting us with several designs for our 2009 Christmas cards and doing some pre-promotion to businesses in the North East.

Along with some of their own designs, they are running a competition in the VCE group in order to present a comprehensive portfolio from which we can choose. A visit to Typo Station in June will hopefully give them a little inspiration! Keep an eye out for our Christmas cards later in the year - if your business or workplace sends corporate cards, why not contact Evolve? Not only will you be supporting a worth charity (us!), our prices are very competitive. Minimum orders apply to tailored Christmas cards (with personal messages, signatures and logos). Contact Desiree for more information 03 9416 2322.

SAVE OUR RESOURCES!

If you currently receive a printed copy of The Bush Telegraph, please consider signing up to the electronic version of our newsletter. As well as saving us a considerable amount of money in printing and postage costs, you will also be freeing up staff so that they may work on delivering our programs instead of stuffing envelopes!

Go to www.evolve.org.au and click the 'Subscribe' link on the right hand side to receive an eNewsletter.

**THANK YOU FOR THINKING OF US
AND THE ENVIRONMENT**

GRANTS IN AUTUMN

Google Foundation

Online advertising
to the value of
\$46,000



ANZ Trustees

A grant of \$5,000
for the Go GIRL
program



Newsboys Foundation

\$20,000 for the
Young Men's
Program in
2009-2010



LET'S GO SHOPPING....!

Visit our Online Store today to send the gift of giving to a friend or family member - or pick up a little something for yourself! New to the online store are our aprons: one-size-fits-all with adjustable neckstrap and full wrap around, these aprons are incredibly durable and at only \$25 are great value too.



The aprons, along with our usual range of gifting goods are all available through the online store link on our homepage - www.evolve.org.au

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

Evolve would like to extend a big thank you and continued gratitude to all those people and organisations who support us and the young people we work with.

We would also like to give a warm welcome into the Evolve Family to the following people and organisations who have joined or assisted us since the last edition:

Donors & Helpers

Cinevision Multimedia
Darryl Twitt Honda
Hoo Hoo Club No.236
Katapult
Parks Mansfield
Shell
SPC Ardmona
Wangaratta CSS
Wodonga TAFE
Robert Pepper
Kevin McElgunn
Brian Moncrieff
Cathy van Gastelen
Carol Wadley
Owen Wilson
Dale McPhan
Telstra Wangaratta
Copy Print Scan
Wangaratta Library
Toner Action
Mark Bartley
DLA Phillips Fox
Bupa
Moorabbin Magistrates Court
Our Community
Ritchies
Adam Beel
Aimee Shea
Colin Chamberlain
Danie Rhook
Jacqui Saunders
Jenny Hiehoresen

John & Lorraine Theel
Kathleen Thornton
Liam Gardner
Maria Grech
Nicole Lindrea
Peter Wilson
Rinalda Pletikos
Beechworth Rotary Club
Brown Brothers
Country Women's Association
Owen Dixon Chambers
Rotary Club of Lilydale
Tim Hewitt
The Uniting Church of Australia
Matthew Cook
Judith Kefford
Geordie Muller
John North
Bill & Lesley O'Callaghan
1860 Accommodation
Matt Pfahlert
Redbox Vineyard & Winery
Colin & Glenys Spencer
Muttis
King Valley Cucina
Wally & Barb Satori
The Weekly Times
Sarah Hudson
Melinda Douloudis
Gail Plowman
Shirley O'Connor
Wangaratta Chronicle
Jamie Durrant

Emma & Grant Jones
Sarah Sproule
Cath Allen
Gun Communications
Susan Pitchford
Holy Trinity Church Kew
Fairley Leadership
Stephen Kerr
Claire Seton
Jacqueline Evans
Bridget de Poi
Tony He
Michael Ryan
Michael Choong
James Penn
David & Sharon Steer
'Boofa'
Aesop
Geelong Football Club

Trusts & Foundations

Google Foundation
RCS & EC Webb
ANZ Trustees Limited
Newsboys Foundation

Station Hands

An extra special helping hand...

Lorraine Meldrum
Tim Garrod
Garry Nash First National
Rotary Club of Lilydale

An additional acknowledgement to those special people who make anonymously - only you know who you are, but we are very grateful for your kindness.

ABOUT EVOLVE AT TYPO STATION

We provide a supportive environment for disadvantaged young people to evolve into strong, caring and purposeful individuals.

At 'Typo Station', our remote rural property in the foothills of the Alpine National Park in North East Victoria, we build skills, resources and support networks for long-term growth and life achievement through:

- A two-year life-skills and alternative education program for 14 - 17 year old young men experiencing difficulty at home, school or in the community
- Applied leadership programs for students in Year 9 experiencing disadvantage
- Tailored partnerships with alternative educational settings and agencies across Victoria, including Victoria Police and State Government