



WHAT IS THE MARRAR WOORN NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE?

Marrar Woorn is a community space in Apollo Bay. It is a lovely yellow house on Pengilley ave, recently renovated to connect with the Apollo Bay Library.

HOW IS THE MARRAR WOORN HOUSE USED?

Marrar Woorn has 4 rooms available, these rooms are used for service delivery from employment services, financial services, substance abuse intervention and more. It is also used for the delivery of Adult Education created both by Marrar Woorn and from educators hiring the space to deliver their classes.

At the moment Marrar Woorn is running the Certificate III of Children's Services. We chose to run this program to meet identified need in this town for more childcare workers.

Adult Education also includes non accredited training. This year Marrar Woorn has been running some very successful cheese making courses. We will run some photography courses and resin art classes. This adult education had been subsidised through a grant from the government agency ACFE (Adult Community Funded Education) which the coordinator applies for at the end of every year.

Marrar Woorn also runs term program based on need and interest as identified by the community.

Where possible we use local tutors to deliver all courses and programs.

Marrar Woorn is available for community use, the rooms are available for meetings, community groups, interest groups and gatherings. Did you know, if you are a community group, use of Marrar Woorn is free?

Marrar Woorn also has a lounge and kitchen area, stocked with coffee, tea, milo and biscuits; that can simply be used to get out of the house and have somewhere comfortable to convene; we have a small library of books and resources you can read or use.

Marrar Woorn also has a public access computer with internet access and guess what? That is also free!

THIS IS THE PHYSICAL SPACE BUT WHAT CAN MARRAR WOORN DO FOR THE COMMUNITY?

Marrar Woorn has a coordinator funded by state government through DHS (Department of Human Services). The role of the coordinator is to work with the community to identify needs and interests and to help develop programs and projects to meet these. The coordinator is also tasked with helping the community identify their strengths and weaknesses and give them the tools to create a better community for themselves.

The coordinator also has an obligation to maintain reporting requirements to ACFE, DHS and ANHLC (Association of Neighbourhood Houses and Learning Centres) as well as maintain networks outside of Apollo Bay and to continue to engage in Professional Development.

This coordinator (me!) is currently undertaking study at RMIT university in Community Development. This study will develop the ability of the coordinator to better engage the community with the house and to develop better services and programs for this community.

SO HOW ARE WE GETTING FEEDBACK FROM THE COMMUNITY?

Well, you can come in and see the coordinator during working hours, you can email on rcox@swarh.vic.gov.au you can call on 03 5237 8590 you can message the coordinator on facebook 'marrar woorn coordinator' however this group has been created as a forum for all sorts of community feedback. If you ask a question or make a comment we will share that feedback with the community to build on it and when we have a consensus, we will implement change and we will let you know. This group is all about transparency!

Marrar Woorn can be booked for any day and time (availability pending), it is open Monday to Friday 8.30am-5.00pm as long as one of three staff members are on site and the coordinator is available Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8.45am-3.15pm unless there is an outside commitment relating to the position.