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Community Learning Centre (Inc.)

## GLYDE-IN NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2025

### In Memory of Mal Christison



It is with deep sadness that we acknowledge the passing of Mal Christison on August 1<sup>st</sup>. As past Chairperson of our Management Committee and Out and About Committee, Mal was a dedicated and long-serving member and volunteer of the Glyde-In. Mal's commitment, wisdom, and unwavering support have left a lasting impact on our community. On behalf of the Glyde-In Management Committee, staff and members we extend our heartfelt condolences to Mal's partner Lynn, family and friends as we honour his unique contribution to our centre and the legacy he leaves behind.

**Jane Vallance**

**Mal's funeral service will be at the East Chapel, Fremantle Cemetery  
on Tuesday 19th August at 1.30pm .**

**The wake will be held from 3.45pm at 8 Knots Tavern, 110 Riverside Rd, East Fremantle.**

### Enrolments Term 3



Thank you to everyone who braved the cold and wet weather to enrol in person. What a morning it was—wrapped up in winter jackets, scarves, beanies and even gloves for some! We had a lively start, complete with a few unexpected IT issues to keep us on our toes. The weather was especially wild around 8:30am, which we suspect caused our system to

respond sporadically. Fortunately, things settled down quickly, and enrolments continued smoothly. We appreciate your patience during the brief hiccup and extend a big thank you to our incredible volunteers who took great care of everyone.

Several talks and outings filled up during enrolment week ***but we still have some spaces available in the activities listed below.***

### **TALKS**

AS1 - Astrology: ancient wisdom for modern life, Friday 8 August 10am

AS6 - A Not-So-Short History of Glyde-In, Thursday 21 August 10am

AS7 - Re-Imagining Mulan, Friday 22 August 10am

AS10 - Dame Dorothy Tangney, Political Pioneer, Friday 29 August, 10am

AS13 - What is a Soroptimist?, Monday 22 September, 10am

### **NOT SO TRIVIAL**

BN1 - How philosophy has changed the world, 8 Thursdays 31/7 to 18/9, 1 - 3pm

BN5 - Everyday Astrology: A 4 week introduction to the stars and your story, 4 Fridays 22/8 to 12/9, 1 - 3pm

BN6 - Witchcraft and Neopaganism, 4 Mondays 1 – 22/9, 1.30 - 3.30pm

### **MIND & BODY**

CM1 - Yoga Restorative (Tuesday), 9 Tuesdays 29/7 to 23 /9, 4.30 – 5.45pm

CM3 - Saturday Yoga, 9 Saturdays 2/8 and 27/9, 8 – 9.15am

### **OUT 'N ABOUT**

DO4 - Opshop tour, Thursday 28 August

DO5 - Kings Park Wildflower Wonders Walk, Monday 1 September

DO7 - Canning River Kayak Tour, Friday 12 September

DO9 - Araluen Tulip Festival, Wednesday 17 September

DO10 - Amaze Miniature Park, Wednesday 24 September

### **CULTURE CLUB**

EC5 - Garrick Theatre: Hansard, Sunday 28 September

### **BY HAND**

FB2 - Pastels: Dawn to Dusk, 4 Fridays 22/8 to 12/9, 1 - 3.30pm

FB3 - Soy Candle Making, Tuesday 26/8, 1 - 3pm

FB4 - Drawing for Fun, 4 Fridays 29/8 to 19/9, 10am - 12pm

FB5 - Weaving Watercolour – Our inner World, 4 Mondays, 1 to 22/9, 1 – 3pm

FB6 - Introduction to Screen Printing with cut out stencils, Friday 19 September, 10am - 1pm

FB7 - Introduction to Screen Printing with drawing fluid, Friday 26 September, 10am - 1.30pm

### **COMPUTERS & TECHNOLOGY**

HC3 - Transferring Photos (Android devices), Monday 18 August, 9 - 11am

HC4 - Transferring Photos (Apple devices), Monday 18 August, 11.15am - 1.15pm

HC6 - MyGov, Monday 25 August, 11.15am - 1.15pm

HC7 - WhatsApp, Monday 1 September, 9 - 11am

HC8 - Organising your emails, Monday 1 September, 11.15am - 1.15pm

HC9 - e-Safety, Monday 8 September, 9 - 11am

HC10 - Facebook Settings, Monday 8 September, 11.15am - 1.15pm

HC11 - Wide world of podcasts and audio-books, Monday 15 September, 9 - 11am

You can call the office on 9339 3964 to book or use our website [www.glydein.org.au](http://www.glydein.org.au)

## Message from the Committee

### *Call for Nominations for Glyde-In Management Committee*

Dear Glyde-In Members,

We would like to announce that nominations are now open for positions on the Glyde-In Management Committee. Serving on our Management Committee is a wonderful opportunity to shape the direction of our centre, support lifelong learning, and make a positive impact in our local community

#### **Why join the Glyde-In Management Committee?**

At the October AGM, several long-standing members are stepping down. The Glyde-In needs new committee members to step forward to secure the ongoing viability of the centre. We are looking for people who care about the centre and what it offers to the community, and that are willing to help shape its future and sustain its operations for all members.

#### **What does a management committee member do?**

The Committee meets for one to two hours monthly on Tuesday afternoon. The agenda usually covers activity reports, financial reports, operational and staffing matters and future planning. Occasional special projects arise where committee members can opt-in to working on an issue such as planning for special events or applying for grants.

Our goal is to have a committee membership of 12 so that quorum can still be reached if members are away or unavailable.

You may want to know that after the challenging period through the COVID years, the centre is now running very well, with over 600 financial members and a healthy but disciplined budget.

#### **What would you get out of it?**

Experience meaningful engagement where you can contribute your skills and ideas to enrich the programs and initiatives of the centre.

Be part of a diverse team focused on community development, inclusion and engagement.

Develop new networks and make stronger connections with people and groups in the local community.

Learn and participate in running a successful community organisation.

#### **Who can nominate?**

All current Glyde-In members are eligible

No previous committee experience is required - just a passion for our centre and its mission.

### **How to nominate**

If interested, contact the office to speak with one of our committee members. You will need two nominations from current GI members to join the committee.

Your contribution can make a real difference. We encourage members from all backgrounds and experiences to consider putting their name forward. Fresh perspectives help us grow stronger, and your voice matters.

Let's continue to make Glyde-In a vibrant, inclusive, and inspiring place for all.

Warm regards,

Glyde-In Management Committee

## **AGM Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2pm- All Welcome**

### **Reflections from Term 2**

#### **Harnessing our Oceans for a Better Future    Ken Farmer**

When the Term 2 Programme came out I knew that this talk was for me. I have been involved with the Indian Ocean since my teen years in the early 60s - surfing, swimming, windsurfing and diving all along the coast. But I know there is much more to the ocean, and I thank Lyn Beazley for taking me on a profound and important journey.

Most of us know that the sea level along our picturesque coast was once a lot lower but it was a shock to learn that the water level was 120 metres lower than it is today. That of course was a little before my time. Whenever I go swimming I wish the water was a little warmer but alas I now know that it is not possible. The Indian Ocean is warm thanks to the way the currents interact and influence the wonderful weather we enjoy right here in Perth. Lyn explained the research that is being conducted within our waters. How fantastic to know that cancer fighting drugs, bone replacement nacre from pearl shells and fully degradable plastics are being developed from various forms of sea life and sponges.

If you were not one of the lucky 38 Glyders that attended this talk all is not lost. Just enjoy the west coast and sip on a glass of chardonnay as you watch the sun set over the ocean.

Thanks to the wonderful Celine and Jacqui for organising this talk.

#### **80 Years on - Is the New Yalta on the Horizon?    Ken Farmer**

There can be no doubt that Alexey Muraviev is the most popular of Glyde-In speakers. I didn't want to miss out so I was ready to enrol at 1 second past 9am Enrolment Day.

I was ready for the first lecture, but - disappointment! Not with Alexey of course, but a hospital appointment took precedence. Lecture 2 was detailed, with great pictures and video clips as well as a wealth of knowledge. For Alexey's talks, we do well to do a little research in preparation.

Of course we all know the name, Yalta; a place of beautiful buildings and coastline. It's the sort of place that Donald thinks Gaza will look like when he takes over. I would rather he went to the other Yalta, a rural settlement in the Donetsk Oblast. Now derelict thanks to Vlad. *(Yalta is a resort city on the south coast of the Crimean Peninsula surrounded by the Black Sea. It's the administrative centre of Yalta Municipality, a region in Crimea.)*

The famous picture of Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin was superimposed by Alexey with Xi Jinping, Trump and Putin. What a trio. I thought I heard Alexey say that Donald had a long term plan. I must have misheard. I'm convinced the only plan he could make is how he could cheat at his next game of golf. (Sorry, that's just me.)

This lecture opened our minds to new possibilities and directions the world may be going in. Thanks Alexey for a great presentation. A small request; if these guys ever decide to meet up can you suggest that Laverton would be a nice place to get together?

May I suggest the following: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yalta\\_Conference](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yalta_Conference)

## Amateur tramp Ken Farmer



During my drive home from Glyde-In the word that came into my head was puzzle. I am sure it was on the screen when Melanie de Cull completed her presentation about her great-grandfather but maybe it was because that was how I felt about what I had just listened to. I can't describe the presentation in detail because it was too complex. What I understood was the deep interest we humans have in our own family history. This was demonstrated by the many questions asked by the 30+ audience members. Melanie was very enthusiastic and at times I felt she was a little emotional when she was sharing this with us.

Many of us have children who reach a certain age and start to ask us about times of our lives that have now become vague. I know people who, like Melanie, discovered long lost relatives or discover their name does not match the one on their birth certificate. I have a friend who chooses to call himself Danny even though his name is David. Heaven knows why. We now know what an overwhelming experience it must have been for Melanie to discover her grandfather was the journalist and author Aidan de Brune.

If you missed the talk Amateur Tramp, Aidan's story is on Wikipedia and is well worth checking out.

## Christmas in July Afternoon Tea Jane Vallance

Forty guests attended our recent Christmas in July afternoon tea. The entertainment began in the garden room with readings from three wonderful local poets. Josephine Clarke's work reflects her Italian immigrant heritage and how culture is nourished at the kitchen table. Kevin Gillam reflected his knowledge and experience of the wheat-belt and inland WA. Carolyn Abbs told whimsical stories of the beach and ocean around where she lives and writes in South Fremantle.



Afternoon tea was served in the back room and veranda, decorated in Christmas style. We found our newly renovated floor in the back room to be a great improvement on the carpet tiles. The afternoon tea was served in high-tea style. A huge thank you to all the volunteer cooks - Sandra Bantoft, Cathy Hill, Lizzy Hughes, Catherine McAuley, Kath McFee and Jane Vallance. Also to Lorriane Potts, Pat Keo, Barry Ross, Gordon MacNish and Michael Leach who helped with set up and clean-up.

The last session was back in the garden room with the Glyde-In singers directed by Digby Hill. The Glyde-Ins are an acapella choir singing what is broadly described as world music; medieval and ancient songs, songs in many languages and a sprinkling of modern and popular songs. Digby provided our guests with lyrics for well-known Christmas songs and Christmas singalong finale. It was a wonderful afternoon.

*And a word from Susan Di Pietro: My husband and I attended this year's Xmas in July - and what a wonderful experience. It was very entertaining and opened my eyes to the talent we have amongst the Glyde-In Community, from the very talented poets to the choir and all those who provided the sumptuous afternoon tea. So thanks to all those involved in making the afternoon so pleasurable for the rest of us.*

## Democracy understood John Flint

I have just returned home from a wonderful (as usual) Glyde-In session that was a presentation about Understanding Democracy. I learnt more in the hour there than I had in my previous 80 years. The talk was by a very enthusiastic, intelligent, fountain of subject knowledge, Hajo Duken, and two of his knowledgeable students. The information given was mind nourishing. We discovered what makes the world tick (good, bad and else) and how to be alert to the changes that some political leaders and others with a vote would like to make to our Australian Constitution.

## How Philosophy has Changed the World **Ken Farmer**

This is a topic that obviously has a great appeal to the mature gentry of Glyde-In. Forty four attendees had come to express their Love of Wisdom. Meera Finnigan has a large following for good reason. Such a lovely person.

We now have a brief knowledge of the six various categories that have shaped the western world. When I am tasked with writing a review I can usually gather enough thoughts during my drive home. In this case there was so much to take in that I had to go for a 30km bike ride so that I could think about what I had just heard. My conclusion: this is all too much to cover in a one hour discussion and I think a bit more detail about just one of those six categories would have been more meaningful to me. Despite this the talk today was an opportunity to reflect on how much those ancient Greeks - like Socrates, Plato and Aristotle - still affect our lives, our thinking and our attitudes 2500 years later. There is no doubt that my life has been influenced by these men and I am sure that others, like Justin Longmuir, have done a lot of reading and thinking about Plato but I am perplexed as to what is his philosophy in bringing on Nat Fyfe in the last quarter. Did he really forget to read The Republic? Perhaps he is more inclined to follow the works of Machiavelli. Perhaps Meera will share her view term.

What good fortune. When I got home I discovered that Meera will be back next term for an eight week deep dive. Another full house I expect.

## Getting to know our Flora **Ann Reeves**



Over four weeks we learned a lot about our local wildflowers. Alex Chapman, Botanical Taxonomist and Biodiversity Informatician, described how plant families arose over billions of years, and how they are classified today – and indeed how that is continually changing with new DNA discoveries, much to the chagrin of many botanists. He taught us the basics of intricate floral parts and leaf shapes - who knew that leaves could grow in so many ways! It would take the memory of an elephant to name them, but it was fun trying. We approached the technology of Florabase to identify plants, and we spent a blustery sunny morning

wandering Cantonment Hill to see how our learning could help identify what we saw. It was an enjoyable course, and the love of WA plants and their individual identities remains a happy life-long pursuit.

## A few photos from Term 2

### *The Giants*



### Visit to the WA Police Historical Society



## Christmas In July



## Volunteers Wanted



The Glyde-In can always use more volunteers. Right now we need people to join the **Out and About Committee**, where you get to plan the exciting trips that are so popular. Perhaps you have some great ideas and don't mind a bit of phoning around and hosting an outing or two every term?

Our **jam and chutney makers** also need a hand. If you enjoy making goodies, we'd love to hear from you. Our jams and chutneys are a terrific fundraiser for the Glyde.

