

**JULY
2025**



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Supporting you every step of the way

WELCOME TO OUR Monthly Newsletter

July Newsletter: Welcome to the July Edition of YAY Today!

As we dive into the **winter season**, this month's edition of **YAY Today** is all about **creativity**, **connection**, and **community**. From **expressive beachside art** and **hands-on papercraft** to **inspiring stories** and **shared adventures**, July is filled with moments that are bringing us closer together. This month, we're shining a spotlight on **Lucas**, one of our dedicated **Youth Workers**, and celebrating **Diego**, our **Employee of the Month**, for his **positive impact** and **support**. You'll also catch highlights from our **magical day trip** to **Kryal Castle**, where participants stepped into a world of **fantasy**, **fun**, and **friendship**. Our **Saturday Social Program** is back with a full line-up of exciting destinations, including **historic mansions**, **wildlife encounters**, and **cultural exhibitions**. Whether indoors or out, we're **creating**, **exploring**, and **growing** together.



Employee of the Month – Diego

We're thrilled to celebrate Diego as our Shining Star of the Month!

As a Support Worker, Diego brings compassion, calm, and purpose to every day. With a background in clinical psychology and global experience, he offers care that's thoughtful, personalised, and deeply impactful.

His steady presence and heartfelt support uplift both clients and team members alike.

Thank you, Diego, for the difference you make—your dedication means the world to us!



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Meet Lucas: Youth Worker at YAY Today!

A chat with Lucas – one of our inspiring Youth Support Workers

What inspired you to become a Youth Support Worker?

Dealing with the diversity of thoughts, behaviours, and actions makes this work a unique learning experience that's hard to find in other fields. The opportunity to help young people and witness their progress in first-hand has always seemed like a powerful motivation for me to start working in this area.

What do you enjoy most about your job?

It might sound contradictory, but what I enjoy most is the unpredictability. Every day is different, and it often brings unexpected, positive surprises. The job presents challenges, and you have to come up with solutions. Seeing people's lives improve through these solutions is always rewarding.

What are your top strengths as a Youth Support Worker?

Patience, adaptability, and a good sense of humour. Not taking myself too seriously helps me tackle challenges with a lighter approach, making my clients feel safe and not judged.

Do you have any hobbies or interests outside of work?

Music and sports are my passions... even though I have zero talent for either! But whenever I get the chance, I'll grab my guitar (and probably butcher a song) or try out a new sport with absolutely no delusions of becoming an Olympic medalist.

What's one fun fact about you that clients might be surprised to learn?

Once, I participated in an urban mobility contest in my hometown and somehow won. I know nothing about architecture, but apparently, the judges thought otherwise. The prize wasn't cash (unfortunately), but at least my mom was proud to see my face in a fancy magazine.

What do you think makes a great support experience for clients?

A great support experience is one that helps clients reach their goals without them even realising it. It's all about guiding them step by step, with patience. Every client is different, and their needs aren't always obvious. A support team that truly listens, understands those needs, and respects what makes each person unique can help them regain confidence. It makes all the difference.

We'd love to share your story.

If you're open to being part of the New Section, simply email us at support@yaytoday.com.au, and we'll be in touch with the next steps!



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Client Spotlight – JC's Café Success!

We're so proud of **JC**, who has recently started working at **All Things Equal Cafe** after completing his **barista training** with us at **YAY Today**! Our team popped in to say hello and see him in action—and he's **absolutely thriving** behind the **coffee machine**. Watching **JC** grow in **confidence** and **skill** is what it's all about. Well done, **JC**! You're an **inspiration** to us all.



Recipe Corner: Traditional Filipino Lumpia

This month's recipe is a **YAY Today favourite**—a **Filipino classic** perfect for sharing. **Lumpia** is a **crispy spring roll** filled with **minced pork, carrots, and onions**, then **fried to golden perfection**. Loved at gatherings and celebrations, it's a must-try for newcomers to Filipino food. Whether served as a **snack** or **treat**, it's a **delicious** reminder that food brings people together.

This **July**, we invite you to join our **Winter Holiday Program**. It's a **fun** and **inclusive** series of activities designed to keep **minds engaged, bodies active, and friendships growing**.

From **creative cooking sessions** to **indoor rock climbing, science adventures, and wildlife excursions**, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

Support workers are available to assist with transport, and some activities include a **small out-of-pocket cost**.

Let's make this winter a time of **connection, creativity, and unforgettable memories!**

LEARN

PLAY

COOK

ENGAGE

WINTER HOLIDAY PROGRAM
JULY 07 - JULY 20

Support Workers are available to assist with transport.

Tuesday 08/07
Cooking Class: 10:30am - 1:30pm
GESAC: 2pm - 5:00pm

Wednesday 09/07
Rock Climbing: 10am - 1:30pm
*out of pocket cost of \$10
Cooking Class: 1:30pm - 4:30pm

Thursday 10/07
Cooking Class: 10am - 1pm
Science Works: 10am - 4:30pm

Friday 11/07
Bounce Glen Iris: 10:00am - 1:00pm
*out of pocket cost of \$20

Saturday 12/07
Moonlit Sanctuary: 1pm - 4pm
*out of pocket cost of \$20

0466 986 540
437 North Road, Ormond
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Highlights from our Day Trip to Kryal Castle

Our recent adventure to **Kryal Castle** was nothing short of magical! From **unicorn rides** and **live jousting shows** to **potion making**, **Knight School**, and **archery**, participants stepped into a world of medieval fun and fantasy.

The day was filled with colour and excitement—featuring **face painting**, **crafts**, **mascots**, and the enchanting **Unicorn Liberty Display**. Laughter echoed through the castle grounds as everyone enjoyed hands-on activities and unforgettable moments.

It was a day of **connection**, **creativity**, and **community spirit**—and we're so grateful to everyone who came along and made it special.

A big thank you to our **support workers** for making the day smooth and accessible for all!

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Saturday Social Program

Saturday 5 July – Rippon Lea Estate

*Step back in time as we explore the beautiful **Rippon Lea Mansion and Gardens**. A relaxing day filled with **history, nature, and charm**.*

- 192 Hotham St, Elsternwick VIC
- Out-of-pocket: \$20

Saturday 12 July – Moonlit Sanctuary

*Meet some of Australia's favourite animals and enjoy a peaceful walk through the **sanctuary**. A fun day for **all wildlife lovers!***

- 550 Tyabb-Tooradin Rd, Pearcedale VIC 3912
- Out-of-pocket: \$20

Saturday 19 July – Top Arts at NGV

*Be inspired by **incredible artworks** from young Victorian artists at the NGV's **Top Arts exhibition**. A perfect indoor **cultural day out**.*

- The Ian Potter Centre, Fed Square, Melbourne VIC

Saturday 26 July – Hellenic Museum

*Discover **ancient treasures** and fascinating stories at the **Rituals: Gifts for the Gods** exhibition. A unique and meaningful afternoon.*

- 280 William St, Melbourne VIC 3000
- Out-of-pocket: \$10

Let's Explore Together!



This July, join us for exciting Saturday adventures—from historic homes and art exhibitions to wildlife encounters at Moonlit Sanctuary.

There's something for everyone—relaxing, inspiring, and fun!

To book your spot, contact Einat on 0466 986 540.

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Creative Corner

Yay to Friday



Creativity
in the Sand

Creative
Hands at
Work

