



*Achieving greatness together*

SUPPORTER NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2017





Stephen Silk, CEO

## 2017 OFF TO A TREMENDOUS START

**What an exciting start to 2017! We've welcomed 174 children to Malmsbury Camp and City Camp for our Holiday Camp program, and seen our first ever group of Year 12 students complete their multi-year University Pathways Program journey.**

We'll soon start delivering our first full year of Future Focus – a multi-year program for students in Years 7 and 8.

Our pilot year in 2016 was really well-received and it's great to be supporting students from six key schools across Melbourne's North Western suburbs as they transition from primary to secondary education.

Our annual major fundraising event, the Doxa Racing Lunch, is on Friday 10 March. This year Greg Miles OAM is our guest of honour; and he will be interviewed by Bruce McAvaney and our MC for the day will be Michael Felgate. It's sure to be a fantastic day so please visit our website, [www.doxa.org.au](http://www.doxa.org.au) to book your tickets.



## OVER 120 BRIGHT YOUNG STUDENTS APPLY FOR CADETSHIP

**This year we received over 120 applications for a position on our life-changing Cadetship program.**

These talented young people have been offered a place to attend university, but due to challenging life circumstances may not be able to accept the offer without financial support. We have interviewed applicants and are now seeking companies to come on board as Cadetship Program Partners. Sponsor companies provide Cadets with an annual flexible work placement, a mentor, and financial assistance. Their support also provides Cadets with a structured development program. If you work for an organisation who might be interested in becoming a Cadetship Program Partner, we would love to hear from you.

*> Cadetship has given people like Kim and Shelley the support needed to get through uni.*



*Smiles all around from our Year 12 UPP students – congratulations all!*

## UNIVERSITY PATHWAYS INSPIRES SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

**Our University Pathways Program offers students in Years 9 – 12 an insight into professional careers and study pathways.**

Throughout the multi-year program students visit university campuses

and faculties as well as corporate workplaces where they engage employees in conversations about their careers and what study was required to get there. All of this learning is supported by extensive developmental workshop activities that assist to build personal skills and aspiration. Workshop topics progress each year so that they are age-appropriate and complement school-based learning. We offer the University Pathways Program to disadvantaged schools and students free-of-charge and are able to do so

with the support of our wonderful trust and foundation partners such as the Newsboys Foundation and trusts managed by Perpetual.

Our first-ever group of students to complete the full program have just completed their final residential at City Camp. This group of students have been really grateful for all the opportunities and we are proud to share Liang's feedback on the next page.

*"An endless thank you to you all from the beginning to what seems like the end, but we all know you'll always be there where ever our journey may take us.*

*The opportunities to visit law firms, insurance companies, not-for-profit charity organisations, and more. Each place we went to left a mark on us, as we got to see how truly wide the world is. I was able to have my mind broadened, from the wisdom and stories shared by people who worked in those places with unshakeable determination.*

*Each time when we had networking dinners, it made me realise that this person who is in the top of their field, is just like us – human. That each of us have the potential and the endless possibility to do something great, and to inspire and be role models for the younger generation.*

*You have helped shape the journey, paths and dreams of us. Despite this year being the last camp I go on, I feel less scared of VCE going in with a community and family like you guys behind me. You have prepared us and motivated us beyond what words can express."*

**Liang**, Year 12 participant in the University Pathways Program



*Ty and Kobe (right) learning about their communication types*

## **KOBE'S EXPERIENCE AT FUTURE FOCUS**

**Our Future Focus program for students in Years 7 – 8 was introduced last year thanks to funding from the Colonial Foundation.**

The program runs for two years and seeks to connect young people to schooling and assist them with the knowledge and skills to tackle the issues relevant to early adolescence. Kobe, a Year 7 student, spoke at the inaugural Awards night and it's truly inspiring to see the impact the workshops are having on this young man's journey towards finishing school and reaching his dreams.

*"I may be a boy in the western suburbs, but that can't stop me. I may be 13, but that can't stop me. I may be small, but that can't stop me.*

*Because I have the right mind set. Because I believe in myself. Because I can do anything. Because I am a dreamer.*

*I will, I know I will.*

*Before this camp, I never ever thought like that, like this. Before Sange Carters talk. I never thought like that.*

*Her class taught me so much. It inspired me... so much. I took a lot from that class. But the main thing I took from that class was... I want to be like that.*

*Straight after that session, I thought to myself. How can I, what if, that would. All this stuff that I had never thought of, just made sense like clicking your fingers. It was like my mind had just discovered another world. I thought about my dream job, as an architect in whole different level. I wanted to find out more. So I organised to speak with an architect, and it was one of the best things I have ever done."*

**Kobe**, Year 7 participant in Future Focus.



*Campers making origami lotus flowers*

## HOLIDAY CAMP PROGRAM BRINGS SMILES TO YOUNG FACES

**Our annual Holiday Camp program saw 174 children from across Victoria experience joy, fun laughter and friendship at our Malmsbury and City camps.**

Throughout January we offered five-day programs for primary school-aged children who are experiencing significant disadvantage in their home lives. Children staying at Malmsbury Camp got to experience the Australian bush and its many associated delights such as horse riding. Young people staying at City Camp had a more urban experience that saw them getting on trams for the first time, visiting the

MCG and even learning circus skills and origami on St. Kilda beach.

Sending children to Holiday Camp was the focus for our 2016 Christmas fundraising appeal. Thank you to everyone who supported us.



## OUR ANNUAL MAJOR FUNDRAISER

### The Doxa Racing Lunch – Friday 10 March

The Doxa Racing Lunch returns this year on Friday 10 March at the RACV City Club, 501 Bourke Street with a stellar line-up of racing and sporting identities. Our guest of honour is the “voice of racing” Greg Miles OAM and he will be interviewed by Bruce McAvaney OAM, one of Australia’s most revered sports broadcasters. Michael Felgate will MC. This is a day not to miss and we’d love to see our supporters there.



*Greg Miles with his binoculars and microphone on standby*

**Funds raised will go towards our flagship Cadetship program, enabling disadvantaged young people to complete their education and gain meaningful employment.**

### **Book your tickets online at [www.doxa.org.au/events](http://www.doxa.org.au/events)**

*Ticket price includes: a two course lunch, beverages (beer, wine, soft drinks), tea, coffee and pralines. There will also be live and silent auctions, a raffle, door prize and entertainment. Ticket prices for Members and Life Members are \$145, all other individuals \$150, and a table of ten for \$1,450.*

*Find out more  
about Doxa*

Find us online to discover more about our wonderful programs that offer positive life experiences, education opportunities, and employment pathways to young people experiencing disadvantage. Doxa is committed to the physical, emotional and psychological wellbeing of every child and young person that accesses our programs. See more at [www.doxa.org.au/childsafestandards](http://www.doxa.org.au/childsafestandards).

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We acknowledge the traditional owners of the lands and waters where we work and live