

LIVING CONNECTED NEWSLETTER

Welcome to our first Newsletter of 2019

In this Issue:

Seniors Festival 2019
FREE Home Service 2019
UOWx and Campus East
Student Volunteers
Research Plans

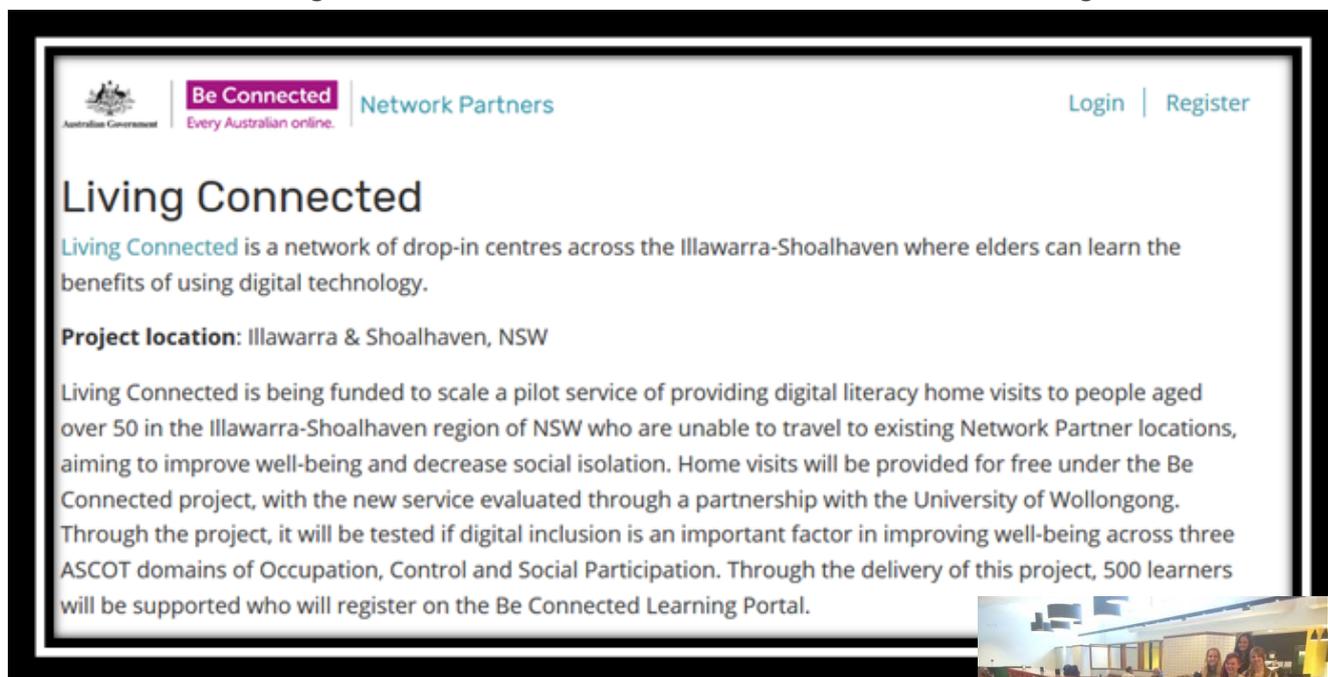
Seniors Festival this February

We had a great time helping seniors to make videos about their life experiences. Splicing together short video clips, adding digitised photos and overlaying a narration has produced some interesting results. Starting at the Seniors' Festival, many of the participants continue to come to our iAccelerate Sessions Tuesdays and Thursday mornings to finish off their efforts. Anyone else can come and start theirs, with our help of course!



FREE Home Service 2019

With funding we have received this year from the Federal Government's Be Connected program, we are able to expand our home visits and begin some research into the outcome of our services. The following is on their website



The screenshot shows the 'Living Connected' page on the Be Connected website. At the top, there are logos for the Australian Government, Be Connected (Every Australian online), and Network Partners. There are 'Login' and 'Register' links in the top right. The main heading is 'Living Connected'. Below it, a paragraph states: 'Living Connected is a network of drop-in centres across the Illawarra-Shoalhaven where elders can learn the benefits of using digital technology.' A 'Project location' section lists 'Illawarra & Shoalhaven, NSW'. A larger paragraph describes the project: 'Living Connected is being funded to scale a pilot service of providing digital literacy home visits to people aged over 50 in the Illawarra-Shoalhaven region of NSW who are unable to travel to existing Network Partner locations, aiming to improve well-being and decrease social isolation. Home visits will be provided for free under the Be Connected project, with the new service evaluated through a partnership with the University of Wollongong. Through the project, it will be tested if digital inclusion is an important factor in improving well-being across three ASCOT domains of Occupation, Control and Social Participation. Through the delivery of this project, 500 learners will be supported who will register on the Be Connected Learning Portal.'

UOWx and Campus East: student volunteers and interns

To help us with the existing and new services that we are offering this year, we are recruiting new student volunteers. Last week we inducted a group of students who are residents at Campus East adjacent to our home, iAccelerate, on the Innovation Campus. This week we aim to recruit at the University's Shoalhaven and Bateman's Bay campus for student to help with our new services in those areas. Many of these students will put their volunteer hours with us through the UOWX program which connects students with valuable co-curricular community activities. The personal and professional development gained through these activities is formally recognised through the UOWx Award.



<https://www.uow.edu.au/student/life/uowx/getinvolved/volunteer/UOW256498.html>

Research Plans

Taking advantage of our partnership with the University of Wollongong, we are this year doing some research into the value of the Living Connected program. For this, we have engaged one of our volunteers, Laura a Master's student in the School of Health & Society who is already putting together her research proposal.

Web: <http://livingconnected.org.au/> Email: admin@livingconnected.org.au Phone: 0409753808