

LIVING CONNECTED NEWSLETTER

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Starting 2021

As with many other enterprises, Living Connected is bouncing back to face-to-face business in 2021.

Group Sessions

In the Illawarra we are now running 3 well-attended weekly

Dropin sessions at Unanderra Community Center Mon 1:30pm), Woonona Bulli RSL (Thurs 3pm) and iAccelerate (Tues 10am) on the Innovation Campus. We are also holding monthly sessions at Albion Park Rail (see picture), Nowra, Culburra and Bundanoon. All sessions are free of charge.

See our website for details

New Team Members

On Saturday March 6, the post graduate residences at Wollongong University held a welcome to new students and several new student volunteers and interns were recruited at the Living Connected table. We have also welcomed others who have heard of our work and come on board to help out at our Dropin Centres and Zoom Sessions.

Seniors Festival

It used to be called *Seniors Week* but now the NSW annual event is called *Seniors Festival*. This year the dates are April 13-24 we will hold several special events aligned with our various Dropin Sessions. See details in the relevant Council publications and our Facebook and Web pages.

Partnerships

Living Connected could not operate without strong ongoing partnerships with community and aged-care organisations. Over the past few months, we have been partnering with Warrigal Care to deliver Samsung tablets to seniors in the Illawarra and Shoalhaven and help recipients set them up the way they want. We are just about to embark on new venture with IRT, teaching residents in their facilities in the Illawarra, Shoalhaven and southern Sydney about their digital devices in preparation for the roll out of a new app, IRT Connect. A big thanks to all those who partner with us.

Home Visits.

In 2019 we were funded by the Goodthings Foundation to develop our now popular home service. This is our most costly service, but we have been providing it free of charge, firstly as a condition of the grant and then due to challenges with COVID. Our original intention was to provide a first visit free each year and then charge after that with a significant discount for pensioners. This will be our policy from now on. We are hoping that those who have government care packages, will be able to pay for our service through them. We are talking to home care managers about this. We will make further announcements soon. We do want to ensure that everyone who needs our help can continue to get it.

