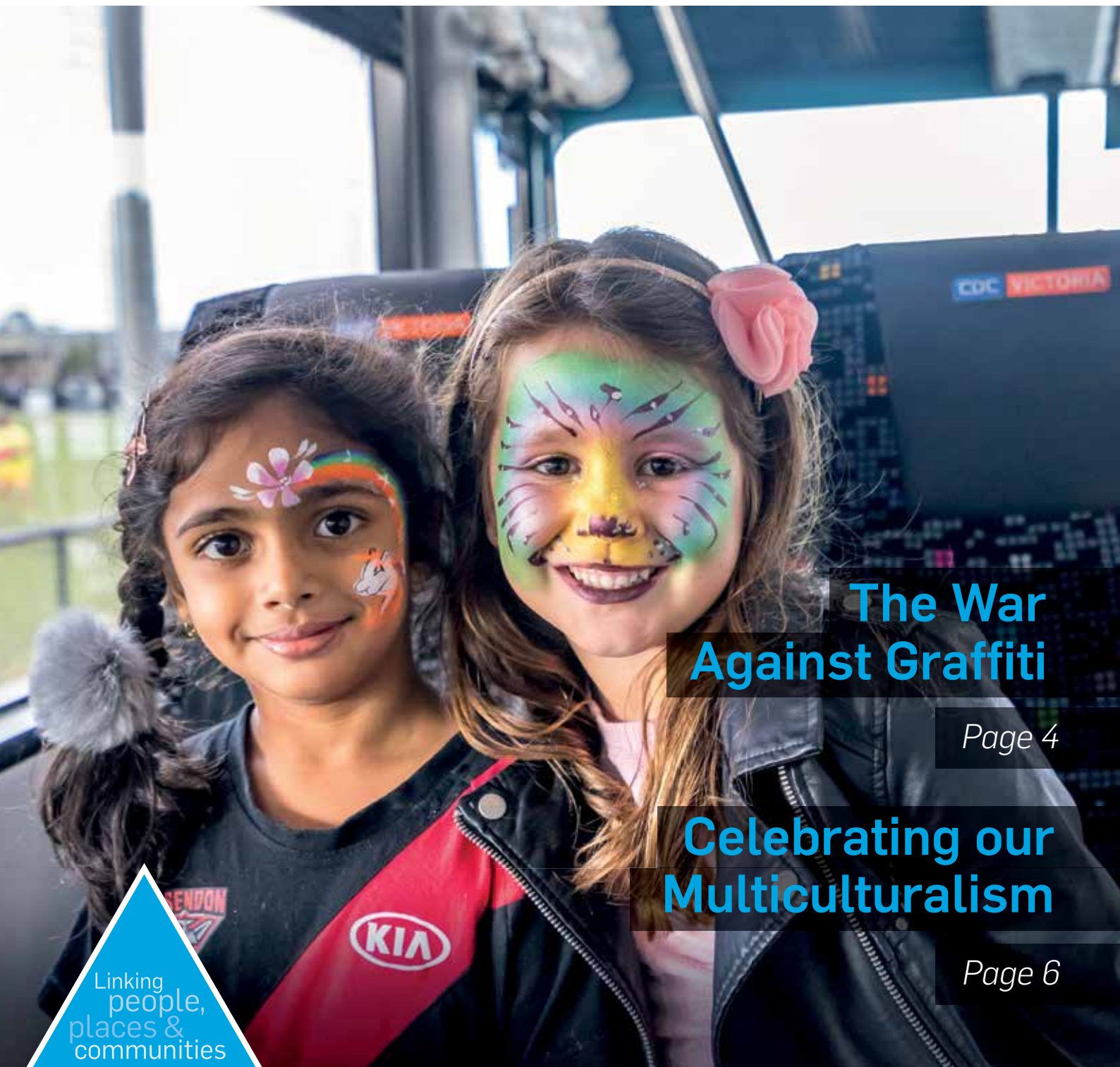


Connect

CDC Victoria's bi-annual newsletter: Keeping you informed and connected with our initiatives, developments and the people who drive our business

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News

Visit Melbourne by Bus Campaign

Have you seen the amazing artwork from the 'Explore the world of Melbourne by Bus' campaign yet?

It features gorgeous artwork showing iconic spots like Werribee Mansion, South Melbourne Market, Port Melbourne Pier, St Kilda Beach, Brunswick Street etc. Click on the banner on our website and you'll be taken directly to the official interactive page that let's you plan your bus journey to these iconic areas.

Do you want some of these amazing posters in your home? Click on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/cdcvictoriabus/> Send us a Private message so we can set yours aside for pick up at our Altona head office.



Photo credit: Imran A

Avalon Show Shuttle buses

CDC Victoria was proud to be the official partner contracted by V/Line to provide bus services to the 2017 International Avalon Air Show. A total of 71 buses was provided for this event, ferrying 36,494 passengers from Tuesday, 28 February to Friday, 3 March. The 71 buses were supplied by all 6 CDC depots in Melbourne and regional Victoria, namely, Geelong and Ballarat. It was a highly successful event with good feedback received from customers and the organisers (V/Line and PTV).



CDC Promo Bus Gets its First Gig

As part of Werribee Football Club's (WFC) round 5 VFL game on Sunday 5th May, WFC hired the Promo Bus to help celebrate its multicultural themed 'Welcome to Wyndham Day'.

The CDC Promo Bus was a large part of the day, providing the perfect place for kids to get their faces painted, play video games on board our state-of-the-art custom built bus and just enjoy the space.

WFC also used the promo bus as a unique space for them to interact with their members, sell merchandise and raise funds for their club. Special thanks to our driver Imran A. from Werribee Depot for taking these photos.

New St Albans Interchange

From Sunday 4 June, St Albans Station will be serviced by a new bus interchange with the removal of the level crossing at St Albans Station on Main Road. There will be minor changes on Route 418 and improved connections with train and bus services. Route 418 will also use the bus terminus on Caroline Springs Boulevard, outside the Caroline Springs Library, rather than in the Caroline Springs shopping centre car park.

Changes to the St Albans bus interchange will occur on six routes.

- Route 408 St Albans Station to Highpoint Shopping Centre via Sunshine Station
- Route 418 St Albans Station to Caroline Springs via Keilor Plains Station
- Route 419 St Albans Station to Watergardens Station via Keilor Downs
- Route 421 St Albans Station to Watergardens via Keilor Plains Station
- Route 425 St Albans Station to Watergardens Station via Delahey
- Route 942 Night Bus City to Footscray to Sunshine to Deer Park to St Albans

To get a new timetable call PTV on 1800 800 007 or visit <https://www.ptv.vic.gov.au/timetables>

The War Against Graffiti

Did you know that our buses get vandalised by graffiti and tagging on a daily basis and that it costs CDC about \$500,000 a year in repair and maintenance costs?

This is a ridiculous amount and only creates a disservice to the community since buses need to be taken off-road in order to be cleaned and repaired. Some passengers comment on social media that drivers need to say something and stop these vandals. But the sad reality is if they do, they get abused when the vandals retaliate.



At CDC we understand that sometimes we need to look at the bigger picture and have a long term goal rather than a quick-fix solution. This is where our hands-on Anti-graffiti workshops come in.

“CDC recognised that just sweeping the problem under the carpet and admitting defeat was not going to fix the issue so instead we chose to think outside the box and focus on a long-term engagement plan,” said Michelle Ho McKersey, Manager of Community Engagement at CDC.

The workshops aim to educate the youth and empowers them to handle situations more assertively. Participants literally have to graffiti a bus and when they least expect it, have to clean off the graffiti accordingly.

Most youth react the same way and understand how hard drivers and staff have to work on a daily basis to keep buses clean and inviting for passengers.

Usual responses are: “This is such a hard job” and “It’s such a selfish habit”.

The second part of the workshop includes a role play where youth learn to empower themselves and react more assertively. The aim is not to create a big-brother mentality but to provoke these

youth to make the right choices and respond more appropriately.

“Very often youth leave these workshops feeling empowered and confident enough to want to make a difference in society. We love that CDC can be a part of that process,” said Michelle.

This is CDC’s third consecutive year of running these workshops and we have to say the hands-on approach is certainly turning some heads.

Here are some snaps from our first ever workshop in Geelong, with our latest partner – Geelong Leisure Networks.





New Buses for Ballarat Depot

It was certainly a rare sight to behold as a convoy of 13 new Scania buses made its maiden journey from Werribee Depot to Ballarat Depot on the morning of 27 January 2017. The buses were ordered specifically for the Ballarat network upgrades.

Led by our refurbished and repurposed "Promo bus", the convoy hailed the start of the much anticipated new Ballarat bus network. We were so excited to see so many bus enthusiasts situated strategically along the route to Ballarat. Their mission – to capture pictures, videos and witness the monumental event as the convoy travelled from Werribee to Ballarat. CDC even engaged a drone pilot to capture the special occasion. See video here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l3eL_ms2VY

Said Mr Nicholas Yap, CEO of CDC Victoria, "The convoy made an otherwise mundane journey into something worthwhile for our staff and it enabled many of our bus enthusiasts to capture the moment and be a part of the journey."

Mr Geoff Howard, State Labour Member for Buninyong in the Victorian Parliament, joined CDC employees and local WIN TV, to welcome the convoy at the depot.

Ballarat's Bus Network Transformation

After almost a decade of the same network, the Ballarat community received a much needed transformation to their bus network on 29 January this year. The new bus network provides more frequent services, delivers better service coverage and improved train connections.

The overhaul resulted in 19 of its routes simplified to 15 efficient routes that covers more of Ballarat than ever before. This includes an expansion of services into urban growth areas previously unserved by public transport.

To cater to the changes in routes, CDC employed 30 new drivers to handle the increase in demand. This number includes four more female drivers bringing Ballarat's total to 11, which is the highest number of female drivers at any of our depots.

Customer Service Representatives were also engaged to assist commuters for the week leading up to and after the bus network launch date. This was certainly a welcomed service for the community as they learnt the new routes.

Besides training and equipping bus drivers and new employees, customised driver handbooks were also produced. All of its digital channels including social media were tapped on to inform the Ballarat community of the changes to expect.

Mr Glenn McKenzie, Service Delivery Manager of Ballarat Depot, acknowledged that the successful transition was a result of team effort.

He said: "The successful delivery of the new Ballarat bus network would be best put down to a coordinated, passionate and community-focussed effort from a dedicated group of people both at the Depot and from Head Office."



Celebrating CDC's Multiculturalism

Friday, the 24th March 2017 was a special day for CDC as we celebrated our multiculturalism with the 'Taste of Harmony' festival.

Across all six depots, drivers and staff were encouraged to wear cultural attire in order to celebrate our cultural diversity.

CDC employs over 800 staff from over 80 nations so it was definitely a feast for the senses, with a kaleidoscope of colours and costumes from around the globe taking over from our usual uniforms and office attire.

This was also CDC's third consecutive year that we participated in the multicultural festival that aims to foster diversity in the workplace.

Nick Yap, Chief Executive Officer of CDC said,

“The community we serve and our employee base is increasing in diversity continually. To celebrate this richness and to raise further awareness through 'A Taste of Harmony' is such a treat.”

Ballarat Depot which used to have a predominantly anglo-saxon identity certainly vamped up their efforts this year – resulting in being featured in the Ballarat Courier and on WIN TV news on the same day. (Click here for article) <http://www.thecourier.com.au/story/4551302/ballarat-buses-helping-to-drive-diversity/?cs=62>

Across all six depots, drivers and staff united over cultural conversations and food, while there was a distinct air of pride for those that dressed up.



Passengers on buses made polite conversation with drivers while an exchange of cultural conversation made the various journeys much more entertaining.

“The workplace for our bus drivers is behind the steering wheel and not a table. The idea of having our drivers dress in their cultural attires as part of ‘A Taste of Harmony’ is to share and celebrate our diversity within the communities that we service,” added Nick.

“Each year, it is evident that staff and drivers really enjoy being dressed in their cultural attire and exchanging notes about their individual cultural heritage with other drivers and passengers alike.

Thanks to all our passengers for engaging our drivers and having conversations about their culture.





Above: Our handsome Promo Bus.



Left: Satelite Fuimaono, Goran Gorgioski and Tony Tosevski from Altona Depot.



Above: Our esteemed drivers who transported the 13 new buses to Ballarat in convoy.



Left: A group of our awesome drivers from various depots enjoying a break on the Promo Bus at the Avalon Air Show.

Face to Face with Desmond John McGeorge (Des)

Age: 52 years

Time with CDC Geelong: 22 years

Wife: Sharon

Kids: Des has 4 kids ranging in age from 22-27 years. Jessica, Andrew, Amy, Caitlin

Grandchildren: Taylor (5) and Charlie (12-months)

Hobbies: Loves spending time with family, golf

Most recent achievement: Our whole family took part in the 8km Mother's Day Classis Run to raise funds for Cancer Research.

"My wife, Sharon is a breast cancer survivor so we wanted to do our bit for the cause and it was special since the whole family did it."

Motto in life: "Stay happy, enjoy life and family always comes first"





This post:

reached **12,984** people!

had **237** post clicks




inspired **15** shares



One of our shuttles at the Avalon Air Show.



Driver Ari Gekas from Oakleigh Depot.

-  [cdcvictoriabus](#)
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-  [cdc-victoria-pty-ltd](#)

Want to stay in touch and connect with us?

Find out more about CDC's community engagement initiatives?

Read more about our partnership with the Western Bulldogs, Williamstown Football Club, The Vic Maori Wardens, Werribee Football Club, Victoria University, Western Chances and Brotherhood of St Laurence.