

CHILL THE ALMOST OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

OF ChIPS



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For those of you who have not yet had the pleasure of meeting the new Social Work student doing her placement at ChIPS, her name is Sarah, and you can have the chance to pop into number 8 between Monday and Friday, just to meet her or even just for a chat. Were looking forward to Sarah being around and helping out and hopefully all the ChIPS members are too.

Dear ChIPS Members,

Well the year is almost over and the advocacy committee is running full steam ahead! In the second half of the year, the Advocacy Committee has been looking into ways that we can inform the public about the challenges that adolescents living with Chronic Illness face, about the amazing ChIPS program and the strength and courage we all show.

The committee has been seeking out lots of opportunities and writing proposals to Media organizations, and if all goes to plan (and we all keep our fingers and toes crossed) we may have some up and coming newspaper articles to look forward to! The group has also been working on creating a new, fresh and funky ChIPS flyer for prospective ChIPS members, health professionals and business organizations. Advocacy committee is hoping to use some of the articles written for the flyer to update the ChIPS website.

Advocacy this year has seen all of

its members deliver fantastic speeches. Kim Stevenson and Louise DePino had the chance to talk to the Celiac Foundation. They had the unique opportunity of first delivering their speech about the ChIPS program and then their personal story. They delivered the speech to the parents of adolescents who live with celiac disease and then to the adolescents themselves. Heather Trewin told her personal journey to Harley Davidson Club of Victoria and Chantelle Baker spoke to the Centre for Adolescent Health about the ChIPS program and her passion for it. Finally, Emily Hewett and Elisha Mont delivered a speech to Caulfield Rotary club. All were very successful, well done to all the speech givers!

As the year progresses we hope to see more public speaking opportunities arise and for the ChIPS flyer to be completed.

See you round.
Advocacy Committee



Special points of interest:



STACE'S CAMP REPORT



On cloudy Monday the 25th of September some of the people on the ChIPS Camp committee - Emily S, Lou P, Elisha Mont, Stace and our new uni student Sarah- all went on a day trip to the 2006 Camp Site, Arrabri Lodge in Warburton. (Condolences to Andy and Bree who couldn't make it.)

After starting at ChIPS, then stopping at Ringwood Station, then after a food and toilet stop at Maccas, we eventually arrived an hour later, ready to check things out. As we got another tour around the campsite Elisha took pictures so we could start planning the camp. Some of the things shown to us were the pool, the trampoline, tennis court and volleyball nets. We were also shown grassed areas to muck

around on, the games rooms, the cabins, the rooms and toilets and where the meals and dining areas are.

Once we looked around the camp we all headed up a slight hill to reach the activity area where to Lou and Stace's surprise there were many toys to play on including a scary spider web, ropes course and a brand new rock-climbing wall. We were the first people on it! YEY! (All things to keep in mind for camp.) There was also a flying fox and a campfire area along with a huge oval, great for games and kicking the footy. Whilst Lou and Stace continued mucking around like monkeys, Sarah, Elisha and Emily talked business with the guy at the camp.

We all eventually headed back down to the base and got some forms and maps from the camp and made our way back home. By this time our stomachs were growling.

Sticking to the ChIPS camp drive tradition we tried to hunt down a bakery to get a pie or sausage roll (so did Emily who was driving and nearly crashed the hire car!) Some things at ChIPS may have recently changed but this tradition wasn't going too! In the middle of nowhere we found a little bakery. Everyone fed their stomachs and we kept marching (driving) on home. All in all it was a good day out and now we are all determined and excited to start planning the 2006 camp. Looks to be the best camp yet!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



Camp

KIMMY AND LOUISE DEPINO'S SPEECH

In July Louise DePino and I gave a speech at the Victorian Coeliac Society. The night of the speech was a night for all younger members of the Coeliac Society to meet up and hear about the different types of take-out foods they can eat. Coeliac disease is a condition whereby an individual cannot eat

foods which contain wheat, rye, oats or barley. Seeing as the night was for young people, it was a great time to attempt at recruiting some potential ChIPPERS! Louise and I gave our first speech (which was quite successful) to the younger members, who were given a copy of the ChIPS booklet. We then proceeded into

the next room and gave the same speech to the parents, who were full of questions about the ChIPS program and our personal experiences. Overall, the night was successful, and Louise's oh my god it's so cool speech, brought the house down!

By Kimmy

CHIP-IN REPORT

ChIP In goes WonkaMAD!!!!!!

As the sun went down on another day you could feel the anticipation and excitement as everyone got their last minute hamburgers, chips and munchies and settled down in

their cars ready for the magic of "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory".

Wonka, his serenading Oompa-Lumpas, and of course Charlie and rest of the much loved characters certainly didn't disappoint anyone, young or old. The movie had all the great colour and fun of the

original but added extra insight into Wonka's and Charlie's lives.

Although we were small in numbers, the Drive-In created a great fun-filled environment, which just added to the experience.

Thanks to the Village Drive-In Coburg for supporting our latest fundraiser.



CHIPS WRAPPER

Calling all budding writers, photographers and artists.

Magazine committee is currently searching for material for this years edition of WRAPPER!

We are looking for a range of entries. You may write about a personal experience, the impact ChIPS has had on your life, a poem, a creative article or any other subject you think others may be interested to read about.

We are also after original photographs and drawings, so have some fun and get out your drawing pad or spend a day out and about taking creative photographs. All photos are to go to my address

chantelle_lea@hotmail.com

As an added incentive magazine committee will be giving awards to the most outstanding entries. So ChIPPERS get active and share your talents with us all!

Please send electronic, word format copies of all written work. Photographs and Drawings may be submitted in electronic or hard copy form. With all entries please include your full name, address and contact phone number. Please note entries may not be returned.

We also need your help! As Being a ChIPPER is lots of fun and magazine committee thought that this year we would ask the ChIPS community to

share their funny and memorable moments that they've shared throughout the year, and

yup camp is included! Any memorable one liner quotes from ChIPS events, even your eight week group, as long as its from 2005! Send submissions to Emily Hewett's email(see below) please send in by 11th of November, Send your entries to:

Magazine Committee ChIPS
Centre for Adolescent for Health
2 Gatehouse St
Parkville 3052

Or Email
Emily Hewett

emilyhewett@yahoo.com



ChIPS WRAPPER-
Magazine

PURPLE SOUP

"To catch the reader's attention, place an interesting sentence or quote from the story here."

GROUP REPORT BY LOUISE DE PINO

I would like to introduce to you all our six newest ChIPS members! They were all lucky enough (or were they?) to be in my first ever group. So lets introduce them... First we have Scabella, the 'evil' one, or so she says. Next we have Alex the giggler who laughs at anything and is always happy. Now, there are two Alex's, but this one is the

resident know all, she loves to read and with Scabella is united on their love of Monty Python. Anyway, next there is Katie who loves her make-up and can't go anywhere without it and then we have Cassie, the quiet one, but had her moments of being loud. Finally, we have Robbie, who was the only boy in the group. He thought

that all of us were crazy, but he knows he's just as crazy as the rest of us. If I had to describe my group in 3 words, it would be crazy, loud and talkative. But I know many people who know me, would say that would be why we all got along so well. I just want to say thanks to all of you for taking part in my first group and welcome to ChIPS!



Groups 3 of 2005

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www.rch.org.au/chips

*“It’s not just about having a Chronic
Illness – It’s about getting on with
life!”*

MELBOURNE MUSEUM-SOCIAL

It wasn't particularly a nice sunny day for the Spring ChIPS social, but that didn't matter because we were undercover in the Melbourne museum all day! One by one the ChIPPERS rocked up and whilst we were waiting we caught up with all those whom we hadn't seen since the last social, and were introduced to the new members! The next step was to line up inside. Pity we didn't do it earlier though, the queue was long. Not just long, but long. Being school holidays a mass of children were in queue, along with their parents, grandparents, and whoever else they thought they'd bring along with them to ensure the queue was extra long. Fortunately it moved quickly, and even more fortunately, those with concession or students cards got in for free...SCORE! Some of us took a free Age newspaper, and then proceeded to split up into groups to look around.

There were butterflies, dinosaurs, animals, naked manikins, a rainforest, a revolving 3D theatre (where you could see a different angle of the movie from the different spots you were standing) and best of all, the mummies! Before the mummy lady came to greet us we had lunch at the café. Where, may I mention, there was another long queue. But it was all good, because I bought food from home and therefore didn't have to line up... hoorah! As mentioned above, the mummy lady came to take us to the mummy exhibition. Now I'm not a person who's interested in any sort of history, but this exhibition somehow changed my opinion of that. They had over 200 objects, such as mummified human and animal remains, coffins, statues, ancient papyrus, bowls, vases, jugs, tools, statues and jewellery. Throughout the exhibition, it showed

a story of a young woman who lived in Thebes (Ancient Egypt), which was not only moving, but also interesting, especially regarding the amount of information they had of this woman when she lived back in 2550-2700!

All in all, the museum social was an interesting experience, and despite the long queues, I felt was a great day, and I walked out of the museum with much newly found knowledge, especially in regards to how mummies and people lived in Ancient Egypt.

Written by Kimmy



Centre for
ADOLESCENT
HEALTH



ChIPS
chronic illness peer support