2018 Calendar



From the Seaford Art Group

I learnt during my recent stay in a psychiatric hospital, due to a suicide attempt, that attending the art classes there kept me sane. I thought "perhaps this SECASA Art Group could keep my mind occupied for at least one day a week..." It turned out that attending the group did more than that. It's given me an outlet, a coping mechanism, a passion and hope.

I struggle in new environments, and with meeting and speaking to new people. It was a comfort to discover that in this group we didn't have to talk about ourselves or our specific problems; we didn't have to explain the reasons behind the art work we created. After a few weeks I felt comfort in knowing I was surrounded by women who have all experienced trauma of some sort; there was no judgement or pressure. Instead there was an unspoken acceptance of one another.

I could experiment with art forms and materials that I had never properly experienced before and it allowed me to express myself in a way that works for me. We were guided in the use of the materials and were then free to create what we wanted and felt we needed.

I took clay and tiles home and enjoyed many Friday and Saturday nights creating. This was a welcome alternative to my usual nights of drinking alcohol to escape my reality. I made things that my husband and children thought looked "really cool". My kids often joined me in art making and as a result we changed the 'theatre room' in our new house to an 'art room'- a place where any of us can go when we want to release energy, 'escape' in a safe way and when we just want to feel good.

The art sessions culminated in our group project, an Alice in Wonderland inspired piece for the garden at Seaford SECASA. We all contributed according to our strengths and willingness to just give things a try. Once it was complete, I think we were all pretty chuffed at how it turned out. I guess it's rather symbolic of our journey in life. We don't always know how everything is going to turn out, but if we work hard, focus, keep trying and don't give up then beautiful things may just happen.

Nat

Participants:

East Bentleigh Seaford Justine Lisa Massey Emily Kellie

Kellie Nirens Michelle Roberts Dassi Herszberg Sarah Brain

Mrs Kafoops Erin Allara Nat

Sarah "Didn't Realise it would make me so calm"

Kerri Dianne Malzard Marion

Nicole Sam Leeanne Sear Barloc

Project Artist: Anne Riggs Counsellors: Mary Mass Liesl Krebs

Chrissie Ryan

Student: Amy Findlay Calendar Design: Kenneth Galvin with Anne Riggs







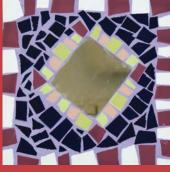


















From the East Bentleigh Art Group

When you enter SECASA in East Bentleigh, you might notice something different. A wall of colour - clay and mosaics to greet you at the entrance. This project was born out of our 12 week art class.

My counsellor suggested I join. I had seen previous SECASA calendars showcasing the magnificent artwork of many other clients, so I nervously jumped at the chance to participate. I was anxious about meeting new people and learning new art techniques, but these fears quickly dissipated and, by the end of the first class, I realised how much I enjoyed being in the group and creating art.

As a task oriented group, I was able to focus on my work while still socialising and getting to know the other members. The co-operation and compassion held in that space helped us bond as a group so we could enjoy and appreciate each other's creations.

I loved to create, and learn clay and mosaic techniques. Both were very satisfying and therapeutic. I was surprised at what I could create, having no experience in either art form.

The idea to create art for the entrance to SECASA was made by the group members. We wanted to make a more welcoming space for new clients who are often facing a great deal of anxiety on their first visit. As we reflected on our first visit there, we felt that a lot of courage is needed; we wanted to create a brighter, more welcoming environment to assist new clients.

We didn't realise that creating this space was greatly appreciated by all clients (both old and new), as well as the staff who work tirelessly in providing services to survivors. It felt wonderful to be able to give back to SECASA, an organisation that for many years has helped so many people.

We all had one thing in common – we were survivors

Allara

The women who created art work for this calendar are brave. They are willing to expose their grief, loss and other experiences in public. At the beginning the exposure is in an art group with a number of other women who share their experience in some way. But by allowing their work to be used for this calendar they are showing it to a much wider audience. It is shown to people they do not know. It takes courage and strength and they deserve praise and acknowledgement for doing this.

Carolyn Worth AM, Manager SECASA





It's not the load that breaks you, it's the way you carry it.

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South Eastern CASA Centre Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence

Term 1 Starts

Count your smiles instead of your tears, your courage instead of your fears.

Anonymous













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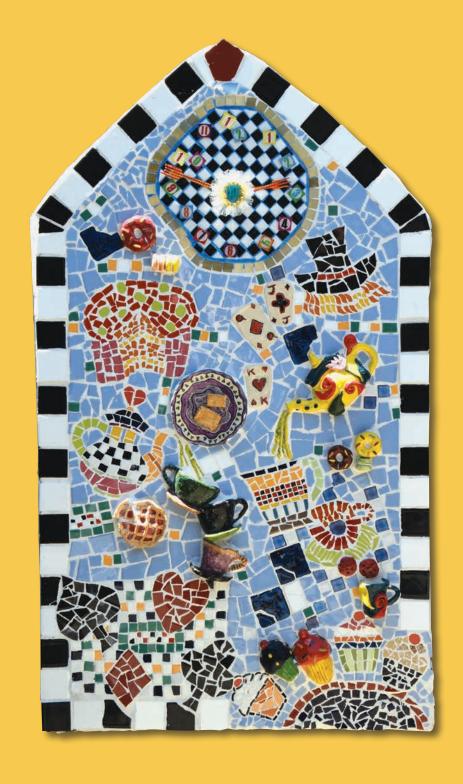
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There is no genius without some touch of madness.





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March | 2018

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			Term 1 Ends	Good Friday	Easter Saturday	South Eastern CASA Centre Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence



An essential part of a happy healthy life is being of service to others.

Sue Pattom Thoele



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If you cannot do great things, do small things in a great way.

J F Clarke



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May | **2018**

Centre Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence

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JULY 2018

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The greater the obstacle, the more glory in overcoming it.

Moliere











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August | 2018

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The greatest pleasure is in doing what people say you cannot do.

Walter Bagehot

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	OCTOBER 2018												
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September | 2018

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				Grand Final Friday		South Eastern CASA Centre Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence



Shine like the whole universe is yours.

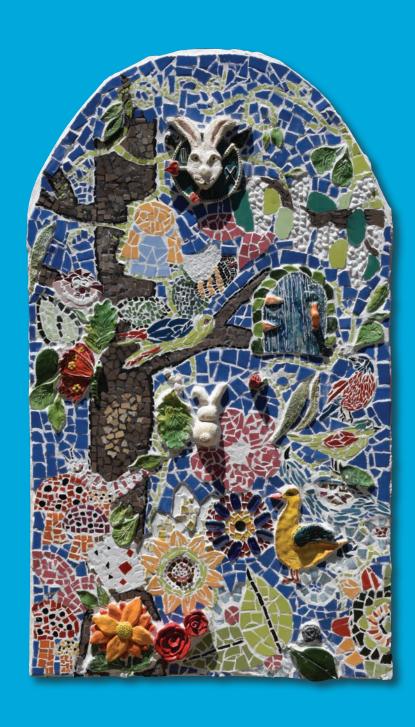
Rumi



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October | 2018

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Discover the magic within each day.

Kirsty Pilkington









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DECEMBER 2018											
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November I 2018

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Things which matter most must never be at the mercy of things that matter least.

Goethe







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		Christmas Day			Boxing Day									South Eastern CASA Centre Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence		

The South Eastern Centre Against Sexual Assault (SECASA) provides services in Victoria, Australia within the Mornington Peninsula, City of Frankston, Bayside, Port Phillip, Stonnington, Glen Eira and Kingston local government areas. In addition we also work in the Cities of Greater Dandenong, Casey and Cardinia growth corridor.

We offer a range of services including counselling for victim/survivors of sexual assault and family violence, child and adult, female and male. The Centre works with non-offending family members, partners, caregivers and support workers. In addition we run a program for young people with sexually abusive behaviours between the ages of 10-17.

We also offer a range of alternate approaches to healing including art groups and support groups.

South Eastern Centre Against Sexual Assault

PO Box 72, East Bentleigh 3165

Administration Line +61 3 9928 8741 Crisis 24 Hour Line +61 3 9594 2289

Sexual Assault Crisis Line 1800 806 292 Toll Free

Facsimile +61 3 9928 8749

Email secasa@monashhealth.org

Web www.secasa.com.au

www.youth.secasa.com.au

www.SARA.org.au

www.rapecrisis.com.au

www.facebook.com/Respect.Protect.Connect

www.facebook.com/SouthEasternCASA

www.secasablog.blogspot.com.au

www.youtube.com/user/SouthEasternCASA

www.twitter.com/SouthEastCASA

