



# BRAT NEWSLETTER

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**Drop in and see us**  
**180—182 Widford St**  
**BROADMEADOWS**  
**3047**  
**BRAT**  
**(03) 9302 2131**  
**Monday-Thursday**  
**10am - 1pm**  
**Dallas**  
**Neighbourhood**  
**House**  
**Office hours**  
**Monday-Friday**  
**8 am—4.00 pm**  
**Ph:(03) 9302 2131**

Dear Residents

2019 was a very busy and rewarding year for members of Broadmeadows Resident Advisory Team (BRAT).

Members together with residents attended forums and participated in a range of other community activities organised by BRAT and Dallas Neighbourhood House.

Those attending these events found them to be informative, provided a wealth of material about what’s occurring in the City of Hume, and details of what services are available to residents.

**DECISION ON FLIGHT PATH**

All residents living in the vicinity of Camp Road Broadmeadows would be pleased to learn that Melbourne Airport will not be proceeding with plans to build the third East-West runway and have advised that they support the construction of a North South runway.

While this decision protects residents in Broadmeadows from aircraft noise, air pollution and other problems associated with areas around airport, BRAT will continue to monitor how this decision will impact on people living in other areas of Hume.

**HOUSING SHORTAGE**

Homelessness is a matter of major concern in our society. Recently the Victorian Public Tenants Association reported that next year Victoria’s Social Housing

waiting list will grow to cover 100,000 Victorians.

Currently, there are over 50,000 applicants on the Victorian Housing Register.

Each month more than 500 additional applications are added to the waiting list.

BRAT believes that the entitlement to housing is a basic human right and should be available to every person.

It is vital matter that requires further discussion, debate and action in our community.

**CALL FOR NEW VOLUNTEERS**

If you or any of your friends are interested in becoming a volunteer to assist with any activities of BRAT please don’t hesitate to make contact with us.

In particular assistance is required with the food parcels. These are essential activities as they meet very necessary food requirements for residents, asylum seekers and refugees in our area. Direct contact can be made with BRAT by ringing 9302 2131.

**CHRISTMAS GREETINGS**

On behalf of BRAT I would like to thank all residents for their help and assistance during 2019, and hope that you have an enjoyable and relaxing festive summer.

Yours Sincerely  
 John Rutherford  
 PRESIDENT

## Who we are & what we do?

We are a group of volunteers supervised by DNH, who help residents with issues primarily relating to housing and any other issues of concern.

We hold two to three events annually and all to do with issues or concerns in and around the Broadmeadows area. Our first forum for the year was our Harmony Day event and our second event was a Kid's Winter Fun Day. We support and promote activities and training to the local community on behalf of them and other organisations.

Some of our main inquiries this half of the year were:

- Food Parcels
- Help with filling out forms for Centrelink, passports, citizenship and many more
- Many referrals to the VPTA (Victorian Public Tenants Association) who have helped many local residents with housing issues that they were not able to solve on their own but with the help of Michael and his fantastic team, we have a lot happier public housing tenants in our community.
- A few resumes and people needing help finding and applying for work online

## FOOD PARCELS



Every Thursday we had a food parcel day. We have continued giving food parcels until the end of the year. With this program our aim has found the real place. Families who are in need were supported with the great job. For this year we have distributed over 2,800 parcels.

Fresh fruits, vegetables and other food items like bread, milk, eggs, frozen meat/chicken/fish, ice-cream come from Food Bank and leftovers from Second Bite are organised by the staff members, volunteers to support families in the community.

Everyone is welcome to attend the food parcel day. We would love to see the community to come together at Dallas Neighbourhood House.



# BIG W – GOOD360

Thanks to Good360 our partnership engaged us with BigW and we got a whole lot of clothes to give to the ones who are in need in the community. Besides giving food with the food parcels we have included brand new clothes to the parcels before the year ends.



# SECOND BITE



Second Bite gives good food a second life. They work with a range of food suppliers to rescue surplus fresh food from across the network, and redistribute it to local charities and non-profits around Australia.

Every Tuesday one of our staff goes and collects some fruit, vegetables, bread, nutrient goods from Second Bite for our Multicultural Lunch Program and Food Parcel Program on Thursday's. we use some of these for our delicious multicultural lunch for the Community on Wednesday. And we include the leftovers in the parcels on Thursdays.



# STUDENT CELEBRATION DAY

On the 11<sup>th</sup> of December we had the last event of this year the "Student Celebration Day". We started with Suzelle's welcome and powerpoint presentation. After we had the exiting part with the awards. Our teachers have nominated students from the classes who had demonstrated an outstanding level of improvement throughout their program and demonstrated a commitment to continuing their learning journey and be a role model for other people. We had two outstanding awards to give to students from five nominees. Azita Pazhang, Nevin Cigdem, Tom Lochhead, Katia Yazbek, Charlie Lannaghan were are five nominees who got their certificates. We had two winners .Congratulations to Azita Pazhang and Tom Lochhead for winning our Outstanding Student Award which came with a \$50 voucher.



Over  
**2,800**  
Food Parcels



We had two speakers who shared their journey with us. One was Nevin who was a student in our cooking class and from 2020 she will be our cooking teacher in Greenvale Primary School. Our second speaker was Shamsa who was a student in our cooking class also. Our cooking teacher Julia has encouraged her to study further and after she has studied in tafe. When she finished her study she started her own small business with baking and now she is working in Woolworths Baking Department in a fulltime job. Also we had an awesome raffle which the prizes were donated from BigW and Goods360.

**"We could not run these programs without our dedicated staff, volunteers and students"**

At the end we had a light lunch with sandwiches cakes and fruit with some juice. It was a great day with our students and we look forward to next year.



# Meet our Volunteers & Student Placements

## Welcome Luis Gutierrez



**What's your role in the Hub?**

Initially did my student placement and now I'm volunteering at Dallas Neighbourhood House.

**How long have you been a student at the Hub?**

Six weeks, from early September to mid October.

**What other roles have you done in your Community?**

This was my first role volunteering. It has opened my eyes to the incredible work Neighbourhood Houses, Community Organisations, and the people within them, do for our local community.

**What's your favourite thing about your role?**

Being able to help people and making social connections in the process. Working alongside passionate, generous, and very kind people.



**"Working with People."**



## Welcome Yuko Otoshi



**What's your role in the Hub?**

Working in BRAT to assist participants to fill the forms regards to their required applications and prepare other classes.

**How long have you been a student at the Hub?**

200 hours requirements which was about 10 weeks

**What other roles have you done in your Community?**

Home care assist, cooking, English class and pick up rubbishes from streets

**What 's your favourite thing about your role?**

I enjoyed working with other students and volunteers as a team especially on Thursday and deal with complex situations.

Also it was good learning opportunity to assist applications such as Centerlink, NDIS and electricity bill discount grants.

**What 's your favourite thing about the hub?**

People who were working with me. Because all of people including students and volunteers were very generous, friendly and beautiful hearted, that made every tasks I did turn to be my favourite.

Thank you very much for having me



**"I love to work with diverse people.....needy people in the community"**



Thank you to all for your continued support.  
 We really appreciate your time volunteered.  
 Broadmeadows Residential Advisory Team (BRAT)  
 Dallas Neighbourhood House



**Broadmeadows  
Resident Advisory  
Team**

**180-182 Widford St  
BROADMEADOWS  
3047**

PH: 03 9302 2131

brat.residents@gmail.com

## BRAT Assistance Appointment Service

If you have an issue let us try to help. Broadmeadows Residential Advisory Team is a group of Volunteers who can offer help with;

- Assistance finding & contacting support services in our local community
- Assistance completing forms
- Free Computer Access (Bookings required)
- Just ask as a question and we will do our best to help

Date & Time: **Monday - Thursday 10:00am—1:00pm**

Free to community members

To make a booking please contact BRAT (03) 9302 2131

## Important Dates

September	12	R U Ok? Day
	27	Public Holiday - Grand Final Eve
October	14	Dallas Neighbourhood House Annual General Meeting
November	5	Public Holiday - Melbourne Cup
	21	NHVic AGM
December	6	DNH Term 4 ends
	23	DNH Closes for Holidays
	25	Christmas Day
	26	Boxing Day

## BRAT Open Community Meetings 2019

05th February	13th August	<b>1st Tuesdays of the Month unless notified by email 10.00am – 11.00am</b>
05th March	17th September	
02nd April	8th October	
07th May	12th November	
11th June	17th December	

## BRAT Office Hours

**Monday – Thursday**

**10:00am-1:00pm**

You can also find us on Facebook

BRAT Broadmeadows Residents Advisory Team,  
Community Organisation