

# The Clubhouse

WHERE TECHNOLOGY MEETS IMAGINATION

JULY 2017

## YWCA Clubhouse Newsletter

A high-tech digital studio where Tuggeranong youth collaborate with industry mentors to design, create, and pursue their passions.

### CLUBHOUSE SNAPSHOT

Term 2 of 2017 has seen some awesome projects being created by 10 - 18 year olds in the Tuggeranong region. We've had videos filmed and edited, 3D designs modelled and printed, Minecraft machines invented, artworks created, and much more! The Clubhouse has averaged a daily attendance rate of 11.5 young people throughout 2017, with 36 per cent of attendees being young women and girls (we had 47 per cent female attendance in June!). High school and college students comprise 31 per cent of our members, with the remaining 69 per cent of members attending primary school.

Video projects have been very popular this semester at the Clubhouse, with members utilising the iMac, donated by Newcastle last year, to edit videos filmed on GoPros and Sony Cameras. The 27" iMac, which is at the heart of the Clubhouse, is one of our most used and treasured pieces of technology available to our members. It has been used to create timelapse videos, first filmed with the GoPro, green screen chroma key videos, Photoshopped artwork, Clubhouse promotional videos, as well as being the go-to computer to showcase members work to inspire other members. We'd love to thank Newcastle for the amazing donation, and acknowledge the huge positive impact it has on the Clubhouse every day.

We ran the YWCA Canberra Clubhouse June School Holiday Program for the last two weeks which was lots and lots of fun!

Our next event coming up is the Mentor Introduction Day on Saturday 29 July, where anyone who has skills in science, technology, engineering, arts, or maths (STEAM) fields, and wants to share those skills with the next generation of entrepreneurs, scientists, engineers, artists, and more, can experience what an afternoon at the Clubhouse is like. This gives potential mentors the opportunity to really understand what the Clubhouse is all about, and how they can give back to their community through the Clubhouse Mentoring program.

You can read more about that further in the newsletter!

You'll find me at the Clubhouse every day through term 3, but you'll also see members of our Youth Engagement Team there each afternoon.

Tim will be in on a Monday and will be focusing on illustration both with pens and pencils and digitally this term. Aoife will be there on a Tuesday for every high school day. On Wednesdays and Fridays Ciara will be in, and will be doing lots of animation, art and movie poster themed projects this term. Annie-Lea will be in on Thursdays, and will be recording lots of music so come along and be a part of all the amazing things happening this term!

The first half of 2017 has been the most productive, exciting, and engaging semester at the Clubhouse so far, and we can't wait to see what amazing projects and ideas our members come up with next!



**LACH HOWARTH**  
**CLUBHOUSE**  
**COORDINATOR**

# END OF FINANCIAL YEAR APPEAL OUTCOME: WE DID IT!

With your help, we smashed our fundraising goal with a whopping grand total of \$10,448.95 raised in both cash and in-kind donations.

Your incredible generosity means that we are able to purchase all of the items that were on the 2017 wish list.

This not only means a lot to us, but also to the young people who use the Clubhouse every day because the Clubhouse model relies on corporate and philanthropic funding to maintain the space, provide technology and other supplies, and to support the operational requirements of the program.

We've worked hard to build a network of partners combining industry, government and philanthropic organisations, and together we've created a vibrant, inclusive space that continues to grow beyond our imagination.

The success of this project relies entirely your generosity and once again you came through.

**Thank you!**

**We would like to thank:**

- Microsoft for their donation of an Adobe Creative Cloud license
- Adobe for their donation of an Adobe Creative Cloud license
- Greg Boorer, Chief Executive Officer, CDC Data Centres
- Hala Batainah, Federal Director, Branch Manager, Microsoft Australia
- Tony Henshaw
- Melanie Kontze, Co-Founder and Principal, Silverstone Edge
- Dr Therese Flapper, Associate Principal, Infrastructure Leader, Australasia Water Skills Leader FIEAust GAICD, ARUP

- Ingrid McCarthy, CBRIN
- Jo Bothroyd
- Elizabeth Kentwell
- Betty Ferguson
- Questacon Volunteers Association

The Clubhouse team would particularly like to acknowledge [Hala Batainah, one of our amazing Clubhouse Ambassadors](#) for her unwavering commitment to bridging the digital divide for the young people of Tuggeranong.

As you already know, YWCA Canberra's Clubhouse is a free, out-of-school learning space that connects young people in Tuggeranong with access to the latest in technology, and the mentoring and support needed to grow their skills in science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics (STEAM).

But what you might not know is that making a financial donation isn't the only way you can help out. If you have skills in design, science, engineering, arts, music, coding, or any skills that fit within STEAM, you can pass them on to the next generation, through mentoring at the Clubhouse. Mentoring at the Clubhouse involves volunteering your time one afternoon a week to share your skills, experiences and enthusiasm with the next generation of scientists, tech buffs, engineers, artists, and mathematicians through an open access creative design studio, which you have already helped to create.

If this is something that interests you, please contact Lach Howarth, YWCA Canberra Clubhouse Coordinator at [Lachlan.Howarth@ywca-canberra.org.au](mailto:Lachlan.Howarth@ywca-canberra.org.au).



Through the generosity of our supporters, the Clubhouse continues to go from strength to strength.

Thank you again to thank all of our partners, supporters, donors and members for their contributions this year. We can't wait to see what next year brings for the Clubhouse!

## NEWCAST STUDIOS AND MAC COMPUTERS

In the centre of the room, at the heart of the Clubhouse, you'll find a 27" iMac computer that was generously donated by local video production company, Newcastle Studios late last year.

The donation of the 27" iMac has greatly improved our ability to offer high end video workshops at the Clubhouse, and provided a great opportunity to introduce Clubhouse members to editing software such as Adobe AfterEffects and Premiere Pro. These workshops have led to some fantastic green screen videos, including one in which Clubhouse member Emily disappears in a puff of smoke!



The iMac has also been at the core of many other remarkable projects designed and created by members, such as the [Lego Pirates short film](#) and many other clever uses of the time lapse video creation technique. You can watch a great 'behind the scenes' video of the production of the Lego Pirates short film [here](#).

In addition to the great video work that members have created using the iMac, they have also learned to use Adobe Photoshop. Members have been practicing how to do photo touch-ups, stitch multiple images together, and have even created some incredibly imaginative new images from scratch. This surreal tree was created by Clubhouse member, Angus, and is great example of this work.

Newcast Studios also donated a second iMac that needs some refurbishment, so if you have an interest in soldering, come on down to the Clubhouse and we can get it up and running.

We'd love to extend a massive thank you to Newcastle Studios for their generous donations and we look forward to continuing to share the amazing work that the Clubhouse members are producing.

*"Members have been practicing how to do photo touch-ups, stitch multiple images together, and have even created some incredibly imaginative new images from scratch. This surreal tree was created by Clubhouse member, Angus, and is great example of this work."*



# YWCA CLUBHOUSE AND THE SOLVE-A-THON CHALLENGE

On 7 July, YWCA Canberra's Director of Communication, Advocacy and Fundraising, Joanna Le, had the opportunity to participate in an Atlassian Foundation Solve-A-Thon workshop in Sydney. Below, Jo tells us what it's all about.

For those of you who aren't familiar with Atlassian, they are one of Australia's leading software development companies, specialising in tools to help all kinds of teams to unleash their full potential.

Atlassian has partnered with the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's innovationXchange program, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's (MIT) Solve initiative, to fund innovative solutions to big global challenges.

This year's challenge is to propose a solution that answers the question, "How can disadvantaged youth learn the skills they need to prepare them for the workforce of the future and thrive in the 21st century?"

At YWCA Canberra, we believe the global Clubhouse Network has demonstrated significant impact in enabling disadvantaged young people from low socio-economic backgrounds to access skills, opportunities, and professional mentoring in science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics (STEAM).

So, we put forward a proposal to work with the Flagship Clubhouse in Boston, and the global YWCA network to scale this amazing program, particularly in the Asia-Pacific region, with a focus on engaging young women and girls.

When we received the call to participate in the Atlassian pre-solver workshop, to further develop and refine our solution, we were thrilled. We joined representatives from civil society, philanthropy, government and

business to work collaboratively to share and learn from one another, and identify strategic partnerships for our work.



The Hon Julie Bishop was in attendance, and set the scene for what the Solve-A-Thon Challenge was all about.

"It's estimated that about half of the jobs that exist today won't exist in coming decades. It's also been estimated that 65 per cent of the world's school children today will be in jobs or in industries or sectors that do not currently exist.

"Exacerbate that challenge for young people in developing countries in our region. What are their jobs going to look like? What are the skills that they will have to have? What qualifications? What background? What training? That's what we are seeking to solve with this Solve-a-Thon," Ms Bishop said.

Atlassian Head of Foundation, Mark Reading noted that the company has a goal of educating ten million disadvantaged youth within the next ten years, through technological solutions.

"Anybody who's got a great scalable technology based approach to help disadvantaged youth can apply through [solve.mit.edu](https://solve.mit.edu), and the applications close 1 August," he said.

Our local Clubhouse team, alongside the Flagship Clubhouse in Boston, and World YWCA in Geneva are now working to submit our final solution of scaling the Clubhouse model. We look forward to keeping you informed of our progress.

## MENTOR INTRODUCTION DAY (29 JULY)

Later this month we are going to run a Mentor Introduction Day, where potential volunteer mentors can come and see the space, have access to the technology, and get to experience the Clubhouse first hand.

We are going to showcase some exciting projects and programs that the young people that have been working on including:

- Green Screen projects
- Music - Garage Band
- Short films
- Paper crafts
- Photography
- Art

**We will be opening the Clubhouse from 10:00am - 2:00pm on Saturday 29 July, as an open drop in for anyone interested in finding out about mentoring.**

We are looking for committed people with a love for giving back to the community and or experience in the STEAM fields, to join our [mentor community](#).

Mentors join a unique community of young people and adults who create, invent, and explore together using the latest in computer technology. Mentors at the Clubhouse vary in age, background, interests and skills. Current and past Mentors around the world include students, artists, educators, graphic designers, software developers, architects, previous Clubhouse members and community members.

To find out more about the session, and to ask any questions please contact Lach Howarth, at [Lachlan.howarth@ywca-canberra.org.au](mailto:Lachlan.howarth@ywca-canberra.org.au).

## JULY SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM WRAP UP

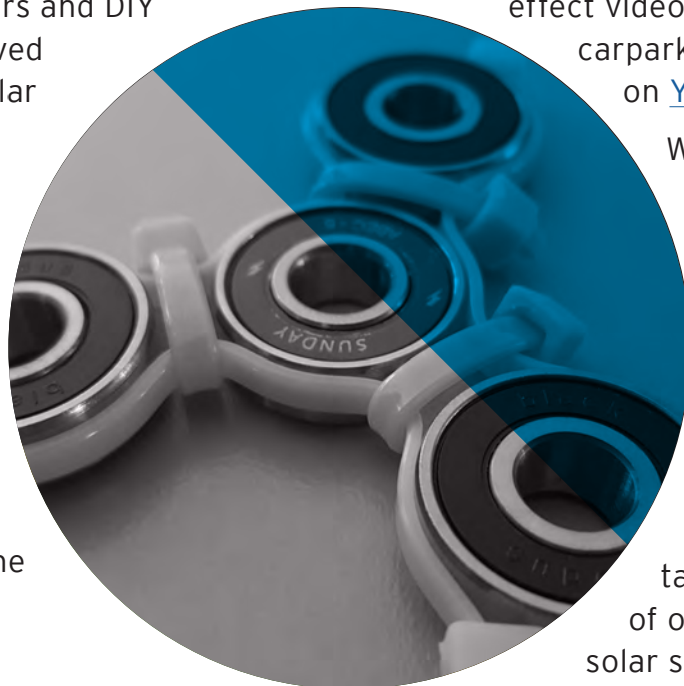
This school holidays at the Clubhouse has seen our members participate in lots of collaborative projects, activities and excursions. In the first week, we created balloon powered Lego cars and DIY fidget spinners. This proved to be one our most popular school holiday activities ever, with all 16 of our skateboard bearings being snapped up by members keen to create their own customised fidget spinners. Using various coloured bearings and cable ties meant that members could create one of a kind objects that no one else will have.

The second week was quieter for the Clubhouse, with lots of members going away or staying inside to avoid the cold. This meant with smaller numbers in the Clubhouse we could focus on some projects using our

new Adobe Creative Cloud software. Ciara, YWCA Canberra's Senior Youth Engagement Officer, worked with one of our longest attending members to create a green screen effect video of a dinosaur in the carpark which you can watch on [YouTube](#).

We also had an excursion out to the Canberra Deep Space Communication Complex where we saw models of rockets, mars rovers, planets, the deep space communication satellites, a lunar rock, and learnt how probes take and send photographs of other planets in our solar system.

Overall, we had a fantastic school holiday program with members really enjoying the activities and we can't wait to have as much fun next school holidays.



## BIG DAY IN VISIT

We were lucky enough to be able to take three of our high school age members to the BiG Day In on Thursday 25 May. The BiG Day In is an ICT careers conference which has been designed by students for students.

The event provides a great opportunity for high school and university students who are interested in pursuing a careers in technology to find out more about what it's all about. The day featured a wide range of speakers who spoke about their careers, explaining how they got to where they are, and why they do what they do.

Speakers included representatives from Microsoft, Tata Consultancy Services, Infosys, DXC Technology, WiseTech Global, the Australian Government (including their cyber security division), Birdsnest and IBM.

One speaker that stood out for our members was Kevin Landale from Infosys, who describes himself as a geek, photographer, gamer, car nut, traveller, ICT professional, entrepreneur mentor and coach, agile practitioner, technology strategist, and procrastinator. Kevin currently works at Infosys as a Senior Consultant and is an active member of the Australian Computer Society's Canberra

branch. Kevin gave a very down to earth presentation on things he wishes he had known when he was first starting out in his career. With valuable lessons about job satisfaction, how to best position yourself to succeed and more, Kevin was a great role model for Clubhouse members to hear from.

Another great part of the BiG Day In, was the interactive exhibition. During breaks, participants were given the opportunity to try out some cool technology and chat with the speakers. The most popular stall was a helicopter simulator, where young people took turns to control the helicopter and test it out.

Overall the BiG Day In was a fantastic event that sparked some possible career ideas for some of members. One member, Emily, mentioned a particular interest in becoming an Engineer after listening to Chris McRoberts and Conor Tierney from DXC Technology talk about the work that they do. We'd love to extend a massive thank you to the Australian Computer Society for enabling us to come along and participate!

## SPOTLIGHT ON A CLUBHOUSE MEMBER

Emily, aged 14, St Mary McKillop College Canberra. Emily has been a member since 2015 and we caught up with her to have a chat about the Clubhouse.

### **Why do you come to the Clubhouse?**

I come to the Clubhouse to hang out, learn things, get to make cool crafts, and get to use my photography skills.

### **What makes you proud to be a Clubhouse member?**

All the cool stuff I can use like the 3D printer, Xbox, the Macs and the Cameras.

### **What's your favourite thing to do at the Clubhouse?**

Make paper flowers.

### **What's the best thing you've created so far?**

The best thing I've created is the flower I made for Annie-Lea.

## MEET A TEAM MEMBER, TIM CLEMENT

### Tell us about your role at YWCA Canberra.

I'm a Youth Worker with YWCA Canberra. My role involves a mix of case work, outreach, and running a multitude of programs in schools of the Tuggeranong region. I also work in the Lanyon Youth Centre drop in and at the Clubhouse in the afternoons.

### What is your favourite thing about the YWCA Canberra Clubhouse?

Talking and drawing with the kids, filming mini movies on the GoPro, and editing them.



### When you're not at work, what's your relaxation activity of choice?

Surfing, skating, snowboarding, mountain biking, drawing, music and baking treats.

### What's an achievement that you're proud of?

Producing the 360 Initiative clothing line with LGBTQIA+ young people.

### What makes you proud to work at YWCA Canberra?

The opportunity for flexibility, combining my own ideas and passions into programs, case work, and outreach with the goal of enriching, providing and making a difference in people's lives.

## THE PEOPLE BEHIND THE IMPACT: PARTNER PROFILE SNOW FOUNDATION

The Snow Foundation have been a significant supporter of the Clubhouse since inception. In 2014, The Snow Foundation provided a \$20,000 grant to the Clubhouse to support the operational aspects of the project. They have built on this initial support with a further \$30,000 over 2016-18, to support the role of the Clubhouse Coordinator, which is crucial to the success of the program.

Georgina Bryon, CEO The Snow Foundation said, "The YWCA Clubhouse is a perfect fit for The Snow Foundation as one of our key focus areas is to fund education and life skills programs for children and adults.

### WHAT OUR PARTNERS DO

The sustainability and success of the YWCA Canberra Clubhouse is determined by the support of corporate and philanthropic partnerships. These partnerships may comprise software and hardware contributions, professional mentoring for clubhouse members, and financial contributions to cover operating costs.

This program encompasses all that is good about the Canberra community - volunteers, government, corporate and philanthropic groups working together to provide students with the skills to explore and experience the ever-changing digital world. It allows young people to become engaged, confident and creative in a safe and supportive environment."



We are proud that our partners span the government, private and community sectors - together we are making an incredible impact on young people's lives!

To find out how your organisation can get involved as a partner, please contact Joanna Le, Director of Communication, Advocacy and Fundraising at [Joanna.Le@ywca-canberra.org.au](mailto:Joanna.Le@ywca-canberra.org.au)



## *YWCA CANBERRA CLUBHOUSE RECEIVES PROJECT SUPPORT GRANT*

This week the Clubhouse team were delighted to receive a Hands Across Canberra Project Support Grant earlier this week.

Hands Across Canberra is a local philanthropic foundation which was established in 2010, and has since supported dozens of Canberra organisations in range of ways. We are very grateful for their assistance in sustaining the Clubhouse and expanding its service delivery to make a valuable difference in the prospects of more young people in Tuggeranong.

This grant will significantly contribute the future operations of the Clubhouse and service delivery to its members. Funds will also go towards providing professional development training opportunities to our Clubhouse Coordinator, in order to be able to assist Clubhouse members as they learn to use new technologies, and incorporate them into future projects.

## *WORK WITH US!*

To find out how you or your business can contribute to the YWCA Clubhouse, contact Joanna Le, Director of Communication, Advocacy and Fundraising, via [joanna.le@ywca-canberra.org.au](mailto:joanna.le@ywca-canberra.org.au) or 02 6175 9900

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