

LETTER BOX

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OUR MISSION

SAFETY HOUSE
– Working For Safer Communities For All

OUR VISION

People working together to assist in creating a feeling of safety within our communities.

Redlands Regional AGM

Guest chairs Redlands AGM!

AT our Redlands Regional AGM, we invited a local councillor, Kathy Reimers, to chair. She did a wonderful job.

Our meetings have been held for many years at the local Ten Pin Bowling Alley, Club Capalaba, which is generously made available to us, free of charge. The Bowling Alley is located centrally within the Region so it is convenient for the delegates from our nine local committees.



Councillor does the honours: Councillor Kathy Reimers (left) and our President Nicole Hoskin.

It's THAT time of year

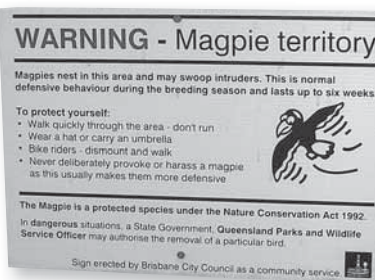
Springtime is swooping bird season

MANY of our parks, reserves and bike tracks may become danger zones during spring as native birds swoop as a way of protecting their nests, eggs and young from unsuspecting passers-by. In most cases swooping is a form of intimidation. Only sometimes will the birds actually attack.

Understanding why native birds swoop and how to avoid their swooping may make breeding season less stressful for bike riders.

Ways to avoid swooping that may work:

- Avoid the swoop area. Try walking or riding in a different direction.
- It's wiser to dismount and walk your bike past a swoop area.



- Put up warning signs for others who may not be aware that there are swooping birds in the area.
- Travel in a group. Most birds only swoop on individuals.
- Be confident and face a swooping bird; usually they only attack people facing away from them.
- Do not panic and run. It will only encourage a swooping bird to continue its attack.

– continued on page 2

Bean there, done that, at Birkdale

Sweet Success at Fete!

SATURDAY 31st July was a lovely day to hold Birkdale South State School's fete. Our local committee was allocated a site for a display in the new school hall and we set up the display board borrowed from the Redlands Regional committee. We had free colouring and activity sheets and some free show bags with IMA promotional items to give away. They proved very popular! General information leaflets were available and several people enquired about becoming a Safety House.



Bean Counter: Milly in charge of the jellybean jar.

The big draw card was the chance to win a large jar of jelly beans for being the one with the closest guess to the number of beans in the jar. The eventual winner, Milly Purton from Year 1, was thrilled to win the prize. She later remarked that 'she would get her brother to do some chores for her if he wanted some of her jelly beans'.

Caroline Bastow and her son Caleb manned the stand most of the day with help from Sandy Kiss, so thanks everyone for your assistance. It was well worthwhile having a presence at the school event.

Admirable AGM Speaker

AGM Guest Speaker:
We invited Councillor Craig Ogilvie to chair our AGM this year and he completed the task admirably. Pictured are the Thornlands Safety House committee: (L to R back) Robyn Tennant, Lynne Day, Jeanette Markley; (L to R front) Mandi Kennedy & Meg Dunn.



Staying Safe at Major Events

Large public events are a fact of life for many Queenslanders, and they require their own kind of safety awareness...



EVERY day Australians attend public events organised by individuals, businesses or community organisations. Major public events can include music festivals, markets, sporting events, street parades, dance parties, rallies, concerts and other community celebrations. Here are some tips to bear in mind...

Be alert

At an event use your actions to make it clear that you are alert, confident and not alone.

Be prepared

Plan ahead. Tell someone where you are going and what time you will return so they will know if something unexpected has happened. At the event, find out where first aid, security or police assistance is located.

Park somewhere safe

If you are driving, make sure you know where you can park. Car parks that are supervised or patrolled by security are the best option, in particular if you have to return to your car late at night. Avoid parking in isolated or unlit locations, and try to arrange to walk back to your car with a friend.

Arranging a car pool with a designated driver is a good, safe option and will save you time and money.

Plan your trip

If you are catching public transport find out when the last train, bus or tram leaves so you are not stranded without a ride. Keep a copy of the timetable so you can arrive at the station close to the departure time. Travel in a group, do not isolate yourself and be aware of safety precautions at the station.

If you are catching a taxi, sit in the back and travel with friends. Make it clear where you want to go and the way you would like to get there. If you think you are not going in the right direction and you do not feel safe, insist on being taken somewhere safe or well-populated and finish the trip.

Stay in control

Give yourself enough time to get in and out of where you want to be so you do not have to rush or push through the crowd.

Drink plenty of water and make sure you have enough food so you feel alert and well.

Always buy your own drink and do not let the drink out of your sight, preventing drink spiking.

Only use alcohol in moderation and stay with someone you trust if you start to feel ill or threatened.

Keep your valuables out of reach

Never leave your valuables unattended or unsecured. This includes leaving car keys hidden on the car or your bag concealed somewhere at the event site. Do not make yourself an easy target by leaving valuable items in a parked car.

Look out for lockers, a cloak room or other secure places to leave your bags at an event. If you have to temporarily leave your belongings, group them together and get someone to stand guard.

Stay with your group

Offenders target people who appear vulnerable. It is safer to attend a large

event with a group of family or friends. This means you can watch out for each other in large crowds and you will actually be, and appear less vulnerable. If you are travelling alone to the event, make sure you have a designated time and place to meet up with your group and a way of contacting each other if something goes wrong.

Courtesy of www.police.vic.gov.au.

Very Very Punny!

- *The fattest knight at King Arthur's round table was Sir Cumference. He acquired his size from too much pi.*
- *No matter how much you push the envelope, it'll still be stationery...*
- *A dog gave birth to puppies near the road and was charged with littering...*
- *Two silk worms had a race. They ended up in a tie.*
- *Two hats were hanging on a hat rack in the hallway. One hat said to the other: 'You stay here; I'll go on a head.'*
- *When cannibals ate a missionary, they got a taste of religion...*
- *If you jumped off the bridge in Paris, you'd be in Seine.*

— continued from page 1

- Wear a hat in an area where there are swooping birds.
- Magpies appear to be dissuaded from swooping when they are being watched, so try wearing a hat with 'eyes' painted on the back of it. Sunglasses worn backwards have a similar effect.
- Holding a stick or umbrella over your head will often cause the bird to keep its distance.



WAYS that do not tend to work:

- Do not harass, interfere or throw stones at birds as this only makes them more aggressive and defensive.
- Do not destroy nests as the birds may re-nest and the breeding season extended.
- Do not feed or befriend swooping birds.

Thanks to: www.dse.vic.gov.au

The Character of Leadership

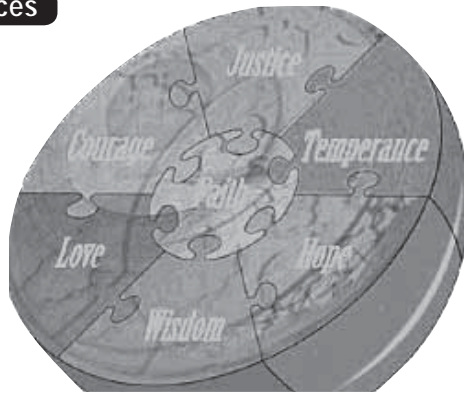
Becoming a great leader is hard work. Being a leader is a tremendous responsibility...

WOULDNT it be nice if becoming an effective leader were easy! Wouldn't it be fun if all the ideas and techniques you read about or experience in workshops were simple to use—however, the real world is something else. Becoming a great leader is hard work. Being a leader is a tremendous responsibility. The challenges are many, the demands steep, but the rewards are magnificent.

The Leadership Development (LD) industry has softened the reality of leadership, boiling it down to formulas, tips, and tricks—but Leadership Development is a lifelong pursuit in which time and experience matter greatly. Like any long-term process, it is fraught with pain and exhilaration. To complicate the process, the development of leadership ability does not even begin with leadership—the ability to lead is built on character.

Every leader leads from character, and the shaping of a leader's character is paramount for any organization looking to distinguish itself. In 1987, I joined a failing company that was part of a crippled industry: I worked as a commercial lending officer for a savings and loan firm. I was young, and I was fortunate that this move was not the end of my banking career.

Nonetheless, motivated to be part of the industry's newly-expanded powers in commercial lending, I joined the staff of a savings and loan. Little did I know that the recently granted lending powers were a final attempt on the part of regulators to save an industry that was terminally ill. The S&L industry had been in trouble for years, and the demise of that sector ultimately cost the US taxpayers \$200 billion in 557 institutional failures. The major causes of the collapse were: changing market conditions, over-investment in single-family residential mortgages, expanded regulatory authority, and weak regulatory oversight.



The Leadership Circle: The component parts are Justice, Courage, Love, Wisdom, Temperance, Hope — and ultimately Faith.

Of those four major causes, only the first is economic—the other three relate to leadership. The concentration of investment in mortgages, the expansion of powers to weak institutions, and continued poor regulatory oversight were all leadership decisions. We see many similar decisions in our current financial-sector crisis. The leadership decisions made as part of the current financial crises have not been a matter of leadership ability, but a matter of character.

Leaders did not show the strength to stand against the thread of greed woven throughout capitalistic systems. Neither did they learn from past mistakes. Beyond this illustration, the daily headlines overflow with examples of leaders whose character shortcomings crippled their ability to lead effectively. Based on those examples, it would be easy to approach character-based LD from a position of fear, with an eye towards mitigating the risk that leaders with poor character represent.

We see this approach in the endless codes of conduct produced to keep people from doing the wrong things.

The brutal reality is this: Policies, processes and regulations will not curb the behaviour of leaders whose character is deficient. The risk-mitigation approach to character and LD is appealing because it is easier to see character clearly when it is fractured, rather than when it is whole.

The more powerful (and difficult) approach is not to focus on the endless tales of failure, but to choose a character model to serve as the basis for your LD efforts.

This positive approach permeates my thinking. I advocate for a model upon which leaders can build their leadership

and do so with the confidence of two millennia of history. The Character of Leadership model has two basic propositions. First, leadership is inside out; your character gives rise to your leadership. Since character fuels leadership, the exploration of character is of paramount concern to every organization serious about LD. Second, context is everything.

Every leadership setting is different, and the leader's behaviour must adjust to fit the group and situation that the leader is responsible for. I didn't create the Character of Leadership model; I discovered it. The model has its origins among the Greeks who noted that character is comprised of four cardinal virtues (elements): Courage, Temperance, Justice and Wisdom.

First Century leaders added Hope, Love and Faith. Faith is the central element in the Character model. Faith, the unique ability of human beings to unwaveringly believe in something they can't rationally prove, is at the core of a leader's character.

I am not speaking of religion or spirituality. Each of us has a belief system that gives rise to how the rest of the elements of character demonstrate themselves in us. What I believe will reveal itself in the way I demonstrate Justice, Temperance, Hope, Wisdom, Love, and Courage. The rest of the elements link together like puzzle pieces.

Human character is the whole of the seven elements working together. I describe each element in leadership terms: **FAITH** is leading from a clear set of positive core values that are demonstrated through actions. **JUSTICE** is leading by doing what is right, even when it is difficult and costly, leading selflessly and fostering personal and team accountability. **TEMPERANCE** is leading with personal humility, passion, and self-control. **HOPE** is leading by sincerely and convincingly articulating a bright future, especially when the immediate circumstances look bleak. **WISDOM** is leading by effectively applying accumulated knowledge and experience to current situations. **LOVE** is leading by demonstrating a genuine concern, care, and compassion for people. **COURAGE** is leading by boldly seizing opportunities and dealing with challenges.

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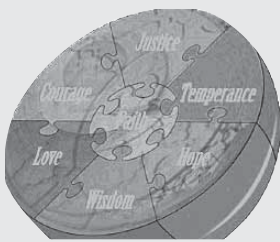


Finding the truth in the humour

20 reasons why I'm thankful to my mother

1. My mother taught me TO APPRECIATE A JOB WELL DONE.
"If you're going to scuffle and make a mess, do it outside. I just finished cleaning..."
2. My mother taught me RELIGION.
"You better pray that will come out of the carpet..."
3. My mother taught me LOGIC.
"Because I said so, that's why..."
4. My mother taught me FORESIGHT.
"Make sure you wear clean underwear, in case you're in an accident..."
5. My mother taught me about the science of OSMOSIS.
"Shut your mouth and eat your supper..."
6. My mother taught me about CONTORTIONISM.
"Will you look at that dirt on the back of your neck!"
7. My mother taught me about STAMINA.
"You'll sit there until all that spinach is gone..."
8. My mother taught me about WEATHER.
"This room of yours looks as if a tornado went through it..."
9. My mother taught me about HYPOCRISY.
"If I told you once, I've told you a million times. Don't exaggerate!"
10. My mother taught me about BEHAVIOUR MODIFICATION.
"Stop acting like your father!"
11. My mother taught me about ENVY.
"There are millions of less fortunate children in this world who don't have wonderful parents like you do..."
12. My mother taught me about ANTICIPATION.
"Just wait until we get home..."
13. My mother taught me MEDICAL SCIENCE.
"If you don't stop crossing your eyes, they are going to freeze that way..."
14. My mother taught me ESP.
"Put your sweater on; don't you think I know when you are cold?"
15. My mother taught me HUMOUR.
"When that lawn mower cuts off your toes, don't come running to me..."
16. My mother taught me HOW TO BECOME AN ADULT.
"If you don't eat your vegetables, you'll never grow up..."
17. My mother taught me GENETICS.
"You're just like your father..."
18. My mother taught me about my ROOTS.
"Shut that door behind you. Do you think that you were born in a barn?"
19. My mother taught me WISDOM.
"When you get to be my age, you'll understand..."
20. **My favourite:** My mother taught me about JUSTICE.
"One day you'll have kids, and I hope they turn out just like you..."

— continued from page 3



Beyond these descriptions, the Character of Leadership model contains 36 behaviours that serve as a beginning for a character-based leadership program. This model might serve as the start of your character-based leadership journey. Your LD program needs a strong character component.

This model provides a beacon from which you can navigate, because the challenges we face today are not economic, environmental, social, or legal—they are challenges of character and leadership.

— Phil Eastman II is the author of *The Character of Leadership*.

Presidential Profile

The man in the driving seat

K EITH Madden, our State President for 2010-11, was in the regular Army during 1965-71, which included 12 months' service in Vietnam, 1969-70.

Upon discharge, he moved to New Zealand and during 1973-76 was employed as the South Island Sales Manager for NZ Medi-Care Association (Medical Benefits).

Following this, Keith accepted the position of Sales and Factory Manager for Namco Furniture in the South Island during 1976-80. On his return to Australia (Brisbane), he trained

then worked as a nurse in Dementia Care until 1995, when illness forced him to retire.

Keith has also worked for around 12 years in a voluntary position as claims advocate for several ex-Service organisations (Branch President, State Vice President & Editor for the ISA Association, and Branch Vice President for the TPI Association). He was also president of the management committee for Pendicup Community Centre (Pine Rivers Council) at Warner for 14 years.



Experience: Our current state president, Keith Madden, draws a broad range of community organization experiences.

Keith was a Bray Park Safety House committee member for 6 years, president for 5 years and secretary for 14 months, before it disbanded due to lack of members. For several years, he was also Pine Rivers Regional Safety House Committee President.



Yet More Tips From Dr Judy Esmond

The delicate art of finding the right sort of volunteer

Features vs Benefits

COULD you take these features below and find a benefit?

What would be a benefit with the following features of...

1. A shop open 24 hours a day
2. A toy with batteries included
3. A personalized fitness program

Have A Guess: What Do You Think?

1. The benefit of being able to shop anytime
2. The benefit of playing with the toy instantly
3. The benefit of a fitness program designed just for you

Here's The Challenge For You:

Look at your recruitment material. Can you take the features and add benefits to all of them?

More Powerful, Deeper Emotional Benefits

In fact, there are even more powerful benefits and they focus on emotional triggers. Here's an example for each of the features above...

1. When my child wakes up in pain at midnight, I can get basic pain relieving medication for them.
2. When my child opens their Christmas present, I'll see their smiling face as the toy works instantly.
3. I'll get fit working at my own pace and without being embarrassed trying to keep up with others.

Changing to Emotional Triggers

Can you see how even more powerful these emotional benefits are? Here's the question for you to think about... What are the deep emotional triggers found in your volunteer recruitment material?

Emotional triggers are extremely powerful. In completing the largest study undertaken on volunteer motivation, we found that the number one motivation given for volunteering was... "to help others".

Simply putting "you'll be helping others" on your recruitment material really is not

using the powerful emotions behind this motivation.

Showing Some Real Emotion

How do you take this motivation of "helping others" and add some benefits and emotional triggers?

To get you thinking, let me ask another question. When your volunteers are "helping others", what really are some of the deep emotional benefits they receive?

The Best Suggestion I can give you...

Wait! Instead of your trying to answer this question, here is my very best suggestion for you... Ask your volunteers. Don't assume their answers. Ask them. You might change the question slightly to: When you are "helping others", how does it really make you feel inside? (or something similar).

A Real Challenge For You...

Here is a challenge for you! Over the coming weeks, ask all or a sample of your volunteers that question and record their answers.

Your Most Powerful Recruitment Material...

What do you do with their answers? Their answers are emotional triggers and extremely powerful testimonials. You need to put some of these answers in as direct quotes in your volunteer recruitment material (with their permission). Potential volunteers will absolutely read these quotes.

Add Real Names and Volunteer Roles...

Make sure to add the full name of each volunteer (with permission) and their volunteer role. For example: "Jane Jones who volunteers helping to ... (fill in the role)," rather than just, "Jane, A Volunteer". It makes it more powerful and believable and starts to educate potential volunteers on some of the roles they could undertake.

Recruitment, Publicity & Image

MOST people mix with others of a like mind. Do you only discuss volunteers and recruitment with others who are also looking for volunteers? How about mixing

with people who can give you ideas for recruiting in ways you may not have thought of before?

It makes sense to seek out people in marketing, advertising, sales and media, as their livelihoods depend on attracting people to their businesses.

Image is Everything in Publicity

In public relations and generating publicity, image is everything! How your organization or group is perceived is critical to your volunteer recruitment success. Make sure that the perception is a positive one. People may be interested in volunteering for months before they are in a position to join up. If they keep on hearing good things about you, when they're ready, willing and able to volunteer, they'll select you.

Generating Publicity in Your Volunteer Recruitment

Don't be backward in coming forward! Nominate your organization and volunteers for any relevant awards.

Don't confine yourself to just volunteer based awards. Think outside of the box. Many groups are too modest about the value of what they do.

Realize that awards are also a publicity opportunity that can assist in your recruitment efforts. It is great publicity about your volunteering program.

In the proportion that one loses oneself in a great cause, then in the same degree does one receive the highest happiness out of one's work. (Booker T. Washington)

Worth Pondering

- *Profanity is the common crutch of the conversational cripple...*
- *Most people would rather be certain they're miserable than risk being happy...*

Parentline 1300 30 1300

PARENTLINE is a confidential phone counselling service aimed at providing professional counselling and support for parents and all who have the care of children. • This service is available 8am-10pm, seven days a week, to parents in Queensland and the Northern Territory—for the cost of a local call.

The Oz Principle — Getting Results through Individual and Organizational Accountability

THE analogy of "The Wizard of Oz" is brilliantly used in the book, *The Oz Principle*, to discuss a business philosophy aimed in propelling individuals and organizations to overcome unfavourable circumstances and achieve desired results. This philosophy can be encompassed in one word: **ACCOUNTABILITY**.

The eponymous principle builds upon the ethos of personal and organizational accountability. It explores the root cause of an organization's impediments to exceptional performance and productivity, and provides great insight on how to re-establish a business from the bottom up, emphasizing on the thin line that separates success from failure.

The *Above The Line, Below The Line* methodology is the driving force behind the Oz Principle.

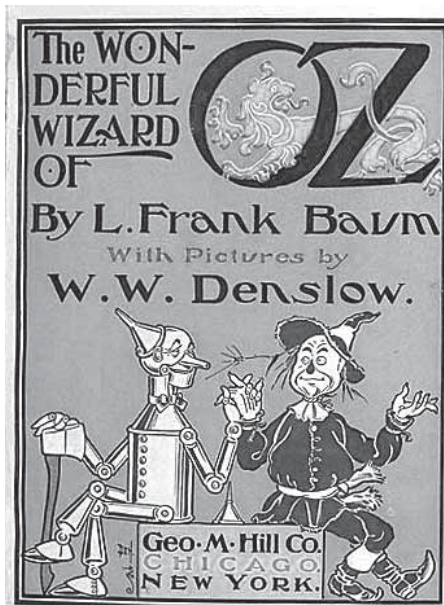
The Oz Principle uses examples from L. Frank Baum's novel to portray the journey down the yellow brick road as one of self-discovery wherein the characters learn that only they themselves possess the power to fully realize or change their lives.

The authors extend the metaphor of Dorothy, the tin man, the scarecrow, and the lion by describing the heart, courage, and wisdom needed to acknowledge, accept, and deal with circumstances and events as they are. The result is a willingness to accept responsibility, which leads to individual and organizational accountability.

The Oz Principle depicts Dorothy, the tin man, the scarecrow and the lion as examples throughout the book.

**Kids Help Line
1800 551 800**

KIDS HELP LINE is Australia's only free, confidential and anonymous, 24-hour telephone and online counselling service specifically for young people aged between 5 and 18.



Novel Analogy: Just as Dorothy was on a journey of enlightenment along the Yellow Brick Road, so certain individuals and organizations seek out 'the wizard' to solve their problems in the workplace.

Just like Dorothy's search for the Wizard of Oz in order to gain enlightenment, individuals and organizations also seek out 'the wizard' who will save them from the maladies that afflict their workplace.

When an organization suffers from poor performance, individuals begin finger-pointing instead of doing something to alleviate the situation.

Victimization grinds down productivity, competitiveness, confidence, and trust, which, if left unattended, will create a downward spiral for the organization.

A thin line separates failure and success, greatness and mediocrity...

— By Roger Connors, Tom Smith, and Craig Hickman, Penguin Group, 2004.

Points to Ponder

- A wise man will make more opportunities than he finds...
- While procrastination certainly gives you something to look forward to, it is worth remembering that it is also defined as "A hardening of the oughteries"!...



SAFETY AUDITS

Making YOUR Community Safer

A Safety Audit is a community initiative which aims to minimise opportunities for crime, particularly violent crime, in public places. Local residents inspect their neighbourhood to determine what action can be taken to make their community safer – e.g. improved public lighting or the trimming of overgrown foliage. An Audit Kit explains the process.

For further information, please contact your local District Crime Prevention Coordinator, or the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Branch

GPO Box 1440,
Brisbane Qld 4001
Phone: (07) 3234 2111



Redlands Regional Committee



REDLANDS REGIONAL COMMITTEE enjoy their traditional Meet-for-Breakfast to celebrate a great year. Pictured (L-R) are Robyn Tennant (Thornlands), Sharon Fleetwood (Wellington Pt), Nicole Hoskin (Birkdale South), Jeanette Markley (Thornlands), Glenys Hayes (Redlands College) and seated Rob Schuh (Hilliard).

Learning to Learn on the Run

Engagement of employees & volunteers is a critical factor to producing great bottom line results...

ONE way to engage volunteers and employees is to find their "Hot Buttons", the individual motivating factors that drive them and then manage them in line with these factors.

Managing them towards their goals and dreams, whilst taking into account their hot buttons, builds respect and trust.

Another approach is to have an 'Expectations Meeting' where the team comes up with operating standards and rewards and consequences. Setting expectations is an amazing thing. You find that you generally achieve the expectations which you set.

The Pygmalion Effect

This is replicated in classrooms. In a 1960s study, which has been replicated many times since, researchers gave an IQ test to school students at the beginning of the year.

They then randomly selected 25 of these students and told the teachers that these students were extraordinarily gifted and were expected to excel.

When the students were retested six months later, those who were labelled as intelligent showed a dramatic increase in their performance, compared with their peers – even though many of them they weren't very bright to begin with.

This shows the influence that expectations have upon performance. Whenever you form an expectation of an employee/volunteer, you begin to act differently without realising it.

This altered behaviour signifies to your employee/volunteer your expectation, and when repeated consistently, the employee/volunteer's behaviour eventually meets that expectation. There are five areas to focus on.

Intention: This is what's outlined above. Be careful that you don't let your biases cloud your judgement. Have high expectations of everyone or, at the very least, do so initially.

Involvement: Include your employees/volunteers in a consultative discussion prior to setting your expectations, in order to secure their buy-in early and to give you beneficial feedback before it's too late.

Clarity: Once the expectations have been set, they need to be specifically articulated. The clearer they are in your employees'/volunteers' minds, the higher then are the chances they'll be met.

Language: The words you use when setting expectations have more power than you imagine. There's a big difference between "I want you to" and "I believe you can".

Linking: For your expectations to be embraced and owned by your employees/



volunteers, find some way to connect these expectations to your employees'/volunteers' ambitions, key drivers, and values.

It all comes down to this: what you expect is really what you get... This type of focus will create engaged employees/volunteers.

By Ken Wright Engage4Results Pty Ltd

Calendar for Committees

OCTOBER 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	Newsletter	Plan Ahead	Note Down Good Ideas	Tell Someone about SH	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

NOVEMBER 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Monitoring Due	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	Newsletter	Note Down Good Ideas	Plan Ahead	Tell Someone about SH

Yellow greetings marked IMA's birthday celebration



IMA @ Wynnum North: No opportunity is lost to promulgate the 'safety message'.

STUDENTS entering Wynnum North State School on 6 May were welcomed by fellow students sporting yellow ribbons, stamps and stickers.

The Wynnum North Safety House Committee celebrated IMA's birthday, adorning the students with yellow ribbons on arms wrists and hair. Some of the students helped with IMA arm and hand stamping,

and distributed Safety House stickers and balloons.

While the students enjoyed this celebration, Safety House awareness was highlighted. It is essential that the importance of the Safety House program is actively promoted whenever the opportunity arises to maximize support of this vital safety strategy, which works with others towards safety in the community.

Something that will make you Smile...

View from the Good ol' days (1955)

- 'I'll tell you one thing, if things keep going the way they are, it's going to be impossible to buy a week's groceries for \$10.'
- 'Have you seen the new cars coming out next year? It won't be long before \$1,000 will only buy a used one.'
- 'If cigarettes keep going up in price, I'm going to quit. 20 cents a pack is ridiculous.'
- 'Did you hear the post office is thinking about charging 7 cents just to mail a letter?'
- 'If they raise the minimum wage to \$1, nobody will be able to hire outside help at the store.'
- 'When I first started driving, who would have thought petrol would someday cost 25 cents a gallon. Guess we'd be better off leaving the car in the garage.'
- 'I read the other day where some scientist thinks it's possible to put a man on the moon by the end of the century. They even have some fellows they call astronauts preparing for it...'
- 'Did you see where some player just signed a contract for \$50,000 a year just to play football? It wouldn't surprise me if someday they'll be making more than the President.'
- 'I never thought I'd see the day all our kitchen appliances would be electric. They are even making electric typewriters now...'
- 'It's too bad things are so tough nowadays. I see where a few married women are having to work to make ends meet...'
- 'It won't be long before young couples are going to have to hire someone to watch their kids so they can both work...'
- 'I'm afraid the Volkswagen car is going to open the door to a whole lot of foreign business.'
- 'Thank goodness I won't live to see the day when the Government takes half our income in taxes. I sometimes wonder if we are electing the best people to Government.'

Balloons with a difference

Modelled balloons provided a memorable novelty for Thornlands' students



EVERY year, the Thornlands Safety House committee members eagerly plan their Education Day. Again this year we had our School-based Police Officer, Constable Nathan Vaughan, come along and speak to each year level.

This year we didn't have a yellow free dress day with a donation to the Safety House program, but instead fundraised through modelled balloons. While the students were encouraged to pre-order and pre-pay for the balloons, the highest order of balloons was on the actual Education Day.

We produced more than 233 balloons (either poodle, sword or flower) and it was hard-going! One Prep class had almost everyone in the class ordering a balloon. There were only two orders from Year 7, eight from Year 6, and eight from Year 5. Obviously it was more appealing to the younger grades, however everyone thoroughly enjoyed having a yellow modelled balloon.

We had free face painting at lunchtime again with student leaders helping to paint the faces of hundreds of students.

• Pictured above with their yellow balloons are Year 7 students and Constable Nathan Vaughan.

LETTER BOX

is very grateful to be supported by Crime Prevention – A Community Responsibility



Yellow Balloons Everywhere...

A GAIN this year, Yellow Balloons flew on the letterboxes of Safety Houses throughout the Redlands on Thursday 9 September to raise community awareness of the Safety House program.

A Safety House Association of Qld Inc Policy decision in 1988 declared the Thursday of Child Protection Week as Yellow Balloon Day. National Child Protection Week which runs from Father's Day was 5-11 September this year.

In the Redlands, our local committees distributed yellow balloons to their Safety Householders. There are over 270 Safety Houses & Businesses in the Redlands. Yellow Balloons also flew on the Safety House school signs. Many Safety House committees also completed their Education Days during this week.

The wider community was informed about Yellow Balloon Day through an article that was submitted to the local paper. Regional committee members also organised a display in the Capalaba Library during the week.

It was a wonderful opportunity to promote the Safety House program in our area and we are sure many children looked out for the yellow balloons.



Helping Ima: (L-R) – Brianna, Nadia, Caleb, Angus & Liam.



Capalaba Kindy & St Luke's Day Care Centre Education Visits

O VER the years, the Redlands Regional Committee members have been invited to talk to Day Care Centres and Kindies in the area. We talk to the kids about the Safety House program and how it is everyone's right to feel safe all the time.



Pictured at Capalaba Kindy (photo on left) are L to R: Micaela Diaz, Taylor, Preston and Bev Diaz, while at St Luke's Long Day Care Centre (photo top right) are L to R: Robyn Tennant & Julie McNally.



When IMA comes out to visit, the kids are very excited but wait patiently to hug IMA and get a stamp.

Delegates from Thornlands, Capalaba and Birkdale South assisted with the educational talks over two days.

Community day at Victoria Point inspired a great co-operative effort

T HE Community Safety Officer at the Redland City Council organized the inaugural Community Safety Day at the Victoria Point Community Hall.

The event featured displays and talks by dozens of local community safety groups. The weather on the day was perfect and everyone who attended the gathering found it very informative and beneficial. There was food and FREE entertainment for the children. The day was officially opened by the mayor.

Such an opportunity was not to be missed, so the Redlands Regional Safety House committee set up a display and had delegates from Victoria Point, Capalaba Community, Birkdale South, Thornlands and Birkdale committee come along and help man it during the day. IMA also came along twice to mingle with the visitors.

Capalaba Community Safety House committee donated money which paid for gift cards for our competition, which proved popular. Birkdale Safety House committee donated chocolates that were wrapped and had an IMA stamp on each.

The Regional committee purchased sample bags, pens, stickers and posters which were handed out during the day. The sample bags and posters were very popular.



Local teenagers were delighted with the novelty of being photographed with IMA.

Happy Halloween!

Education puts Safety uppermost...

SAFETY House mascot IMA visited Birkdale State School in July to help local committee members present an education and awareness program to students from Prep to Year Seven. Students were instructed on the importance of the Safety House program, keeping themselves safe and the role of the red and yellow Alert flags.

This education awareness program coincided with several serious incidents which have occurred within the Birkdale zone. Local police have been working closely with Birkdale State School staff and Safety House committee members to ensure the safety of our students.

Increased local public awareness will certainly help deter any inappropriate behaviour. The public is encouraged to be aware of anyone acting suspiciously in their area and other situations that make us feel unsafe.

It's also important that parents continue to supervise and be vigilant whilst their children are playing in public places and report any suspicious activity immediately to police.

Prompt action in notifying the school and local police may bring enormous safety benefits.



Remember
If you're out
Trick or Treating
make sure you
go with a friend
or an adult.



TREVOR



Enjoying Trevor? – You can catch up with more of his antics at www.trevor.com.au