

**Special Report on Connect Victoria Park Village Hub Response to Covid-19 at
7 May 2020**

<p>Output Report</p>	<p>Organisation Name: Connect Victoria Park COVID19 Report: 23 March – 7 May 2020 Reporting Officer: Luke Garswood</p>
<p>Partnerships</p>	<p>March – Victoria Park Community Centre, Befriend Inc, Active Mental Health and Town of Victoria Park Digital Hub –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) production of step-by-step guide on how to use Zoom for online video-conferencing after physical distance restrictions were put in place due to Covid-19 2) planning and running Skillshare Zoom with Friends online tutorial to keep Vic Park community members connected during self-isolation
<p>Activities/ outputs</p>	<p><i>What did you deliver? For example how many classes or sessions, how many people attended. It's ok to state if you used the time to plan activities, as the operating subsidy is intended to support the <u>operating capacity</u> of your organization.</i></p> <p>The Village Hub closed its doors to the public on Wednesday 18 March 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic.</p> <p>We reopened on Monday 23 March with a reduced outdoor programme for 1 week in Memorial Gardens. We offered 5 sessions of different exercise programmes limited to 10 people (the maximum allowed in any one session) and observing strict social distancing rules. These sessions ceased on Friday 27 March due to increased social distancing restrictions.</p> <p>On Thursday 26 March we joined with Victoria Park Community Centre, Befriend Inc, Active Mental Health and Town of Victoria Park Digital Hub to present the first of our Zoom with Friends sessions in anticipation of moving our programme online. Through the Zoom with Friends sessions and one on one support for members of the Victoria Park community we have successfully connected 128 people to ZOOM.</p> <p>On Monday 30 March we transitioned our programme to an online format using ZOOM. In addition to transitioning our usual programme and adding a second fitness class, we have developed some new initiatives to respond to the need for greater social connection. These include our daily ChatZOOM</p>

sessions held during April and twice weekly during May, and our new Movie Club, and are identified below with an asterix '*'.

Podiatry was held on Tuesday 31 March at The Homestead for the last time before concerns regarding social distancing and Covid-19 led us to postpone this service for the time being.

Total attendance in classes, podiatry, and other activities **23 March – 7 May 2020 = 675**

Of these 507 attendances are by Village Hub Members and 168 attendances were by other members of our community.

Our existing Neighbour-to-Neighbour volunteering programme also continues to operate but has required adjustment to avoid physical contact between vulnerable people. The offer to assist with regular telephone contact for isolated people and to arrange no-contact support from our volunteers has been promoted widely to the broader Victoria Park community since Covid-19 restrictions.

A Phone Tree has been implemented from 7 April to ensure that community members that are known to us are contacted on a weekly basis. Phone Tree Volunteers are allocated approximately 5 members to contact for a friendly chat and welfare check each week. As volunteers become aware of any issues of concern or requests for assistance they report back to our staff for problem solving, including the possibility of matching with our screened Neighbour-to-Neighbour volunteers to meet these requests.

To date 227 community members have been contacted as part of the Phone Tree and 26 have taken on the role of volunteer. 147 people are now receiving weekly phone calls from one of our volunteers and 51 people have opted not to receive ongoing calls as they have a strong support network in place through family and friends. 5 additional people from the broader community have volunteered to make calls as part of the Phone Tree. Volunteer hours and numbers of contacts are being collected and will collated at a later date but a conservative estimate is that 441 calls have been made to date.

Additional assistance has been arranged for 5 people with shopping and delivery of groceries (2), collection and delivery of medication, referral to meals on wheels and arranging a daily welfare check.

Breakdown of the following activities by Town of Victoria Park Outcome statements are as follows

Physical and health related activities at the Village Hub align with the Town's Strategic Community Plan Objective S1 – A Health Community.

Activity	23 March to 7 May 2020
Social Cycling	2
Ballroom Fit	78
Line Dancing	40
Chair Yoga	85
Tai Chi	64
Active for Life	124
Gentle Pilates	93
Podiatry	13
Meditation	3
Nutrition Interactive*	31
Total	533

Life-long learning activities at the Village Hub align with the Town's Strategic Community Plan Objectives S2 – An informed and knowledgeable Community and S4 – A place where all people have and appreciation and awareness of arts.

Activity	23 March to 7 May 2020
Movie Club*	19
Zoom with Friends*	59
Drawing and WaterColour Email session	10
Total	88

Social and community events and volunteering at the Village Hub align with the Town's Strategic Community Plan Objective S3– An empowered community with a sense of pride.

Activity	23 March to 7 May 2020
ChatZoom*	54
Neighbour-to-Neighbour Phone Tree calls* and other assistance	446 (conservative estimate to be confirmed)
Total	500

<p>Outcomes</p>	<p>Culture Counts Data Collection – The collection of data was scheduled for the last two weeks in March 2020. Due to COVID-19 restrictions on public gatherings classes, groups and events were postponed and therefore data was not able to be collected for this quarter.</p>
<p>Is there anything we can help you with?</p>	<p>Include us as partners in the planning and development of activities and events for the over 55 community.</p> <p>Assist with promotion of Village Hub promotion to the over 55 demographic in the ToVP.</p>