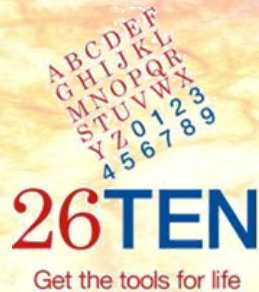


A JOURNAL from NOW to the FUTURE:

Meander Valley 26TEN

This project has been funded through LINC Tasmania's Literacy Skills Development Program.

LINC Tasmania



Take images and words and letters
Add fun, magic, and lots of glue
Create a chapter of a book



March - May 2013

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The “26TEN Journal From Now to the Future” project was funded by the LINC Tasmania’s Literacy Skills Program and engaged six outlying communities in the Meander Valley in a series of workshops involving Art Journaling. This was facilitated by local community artists Tara Ulbrich and Sean Manners.

Over a three month period people came together and talked, cut, pasted and painted. Everyone took risks to create something that would represent life here and now and what else could be imagined. The artists believe that literacy is about more than borrowing books from your library; that it concerns the daily exchange of what matters to each of us.

The project has resulted in some significant community gains as evidenced in the finished journal that will be available for viewing at the Westbury and Deloraine Linc’s.

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The 26TEN Journal From NOW to the FUTURE connected communities to literacy through art with a hands-on experience of 26TEN.

Over sixty people, from six smaller communities in Meander Valley, contributed to the final journal, attending workshops in a variety of settings including church halls, fire sheds, cafes, and community halls

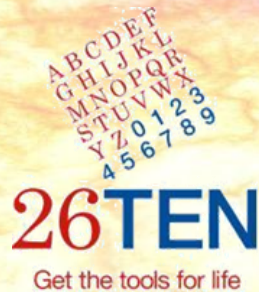
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**Six locations:
Six chapters:
One Journal:**





Workshop Participation

The unique character of each community required the artists to adapt; working on the ground, tailoring the project to meet the community as appropriate.

In Meander (pop 300) artists modified the project to enhance opportunities to participate by using their local connections to provide a display and interactive stall at the Meander School Fair.

In Westbury artists added a session to visit the playgym with an interactive stall and display.

Communities were successfully engaged with the task of creating a community journal. Attendees reported that they enjoyed the activities provided and returned week after week to take it to the next level. Artists are confident that the journal is an authentic reflection of the views of individuals involved. As represented by the numbers who attended, and their feedback, following the successful journal launch.

One woman reported she wanted to travel on to participate in the next communities' involvement, whilst at another locality a participant said that she had "rearranged her life" to make it to each week.

One participant emailed her response after receiving the e-version of the journal "This is just amazing...! what an incredible (sic) job by all....".

B **BALMY BRACKNELL** ...and
Beaut **BEUL** bumps

Balmy Bracknell and beautiful bumps

R **RUStic RuRAL**
ambience and

Rustic rural

A *griculture*
C **ARing HANDS** **CuPpa**
teas **FOR** **CaNceR**

Ambience and agriculture

Caring hands cuppa teas for cancer

K **NICK KNACKS** and
KNOWLEDGE
N **utURED nippers**

Knick knacks and knowledge

Nutured nippers

E **NDLESS** **ELEGANCE**

Endless elegance

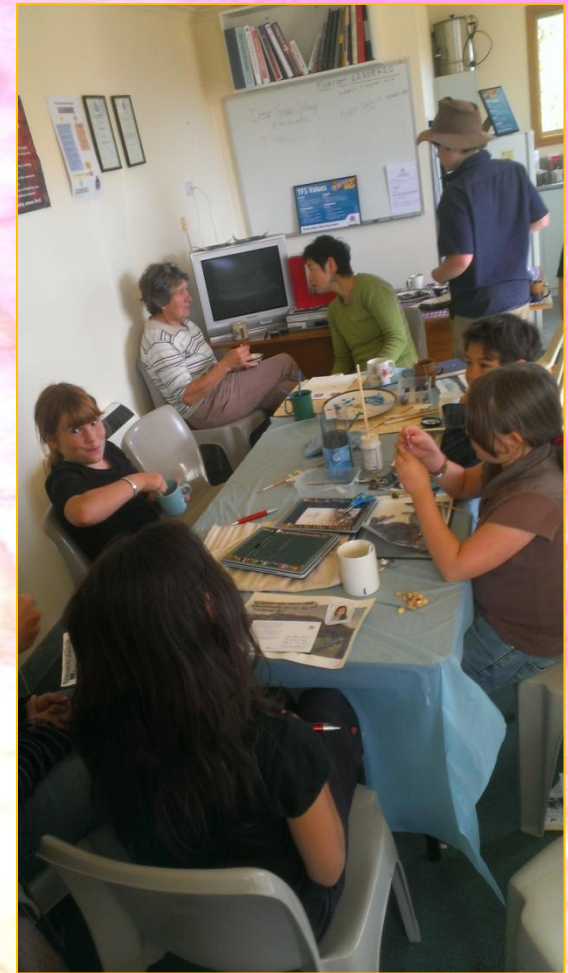
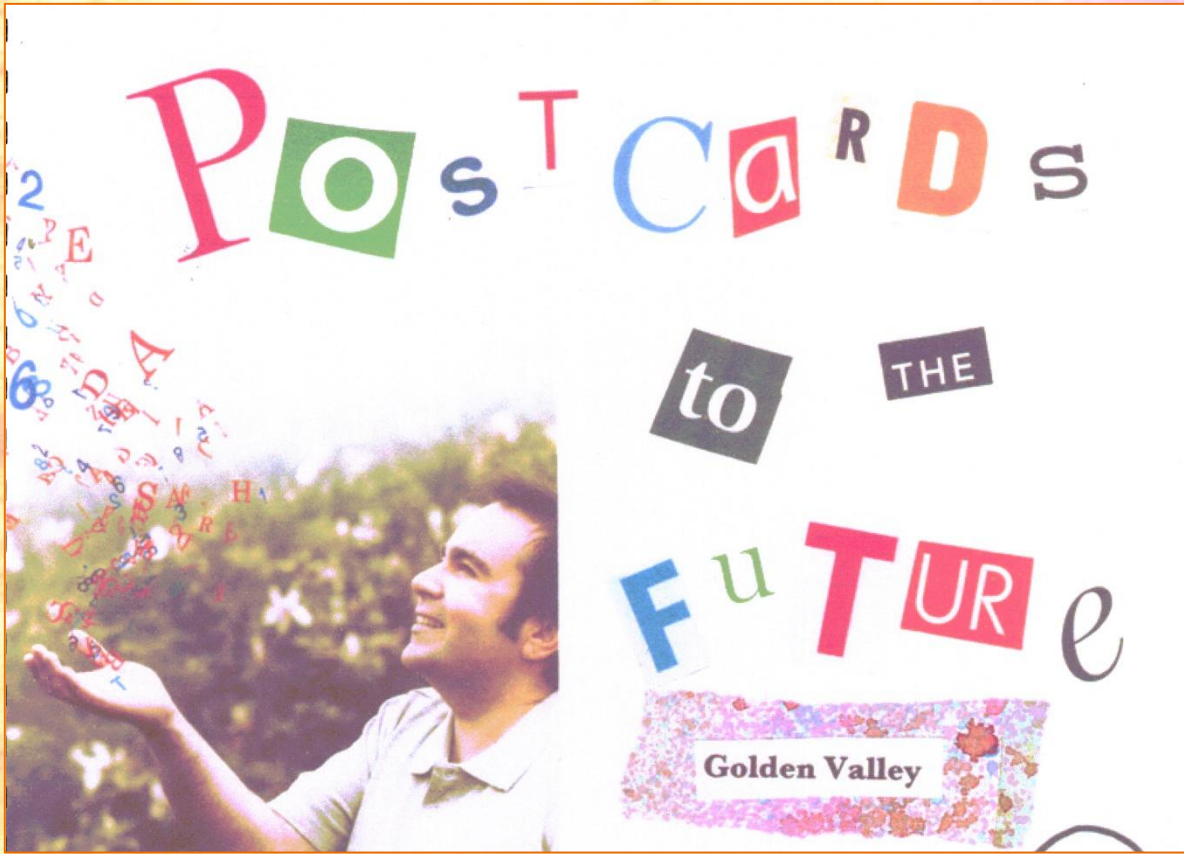
L **OVELY LADIES NAME**

Lovely ladies name our streets

OUR STREETS

Long legged lads in shorts

L **ong LEGGED Lads IN**
SHORTS



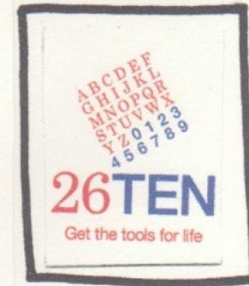
Dear Golden Valley of the Future I hope....

Your beauty and serenity remain untouched, that many people get to see, feel and enjoy your beauty for many generations to come. I hope the weather is fine, the fruit is divine and if it isn't we'll cope. I hope the sun's shining, smiling and 'majesticness' is your nature. I hope I am given a horse. I hope there will be more wild forest and sustainable houses and happy families living here. I hope to see this place as amazing as I see it today, trees still standing tall and proud. I hope more people come to understand and appreciate what it means to be Tasmanian, the pride and the happiness of being a local. Smile people =).

I hope you will be very much the same as you are now, except that there will be no more plantations and no more shooting! I hope you are a bush reserve. I hope you have a swimming pool. I hope you will remember the hard work that went into making you what you are, appreciate the good work and forgive any poor decisions. I hope you still have all your beautiful trees + animals + your wonderful sense of community; may you continue in peace and tranquillity, may fences not separate but preserve.

Hello to the future Valley!

2610 Journal from Now to the Future Contributors



Literacy Outcomes

Every workshop began with a conversation about literacy and the 26TEN initiative and throughout the workshops participants continued the conversation.

Information about LINC programs was made available at each session, with a display of materials/pamphlets and discussions about LINC support.

In one community a participant shared his lifelong struggle with dyslexia. In another town a woman reported how her husband does not read anything unless he really has to. In a different session a woman shared that she still gets her b's and d's mixed up. At Carrick a woman with her grandchild walked in off the street, having seen the 26TEN promotional banner and t-shirt clothes line out front, and asked, "What are the tools of life?"

Different levels of literacy were accommodated in the project design. The journaling process included

- creating a group acrostic poem
- being interviewed or completing a participant questionnaire
- using a word lottery to generate quotations
- making use of images and printed materials to scrapbook words with pictures
- filling in a postcard to the future

Artists were pleased to engage with Anne-Marie's team of volunteers. Artists met formally and informally with the literacy tutors. Two tutors attended workshops at one location during the project.

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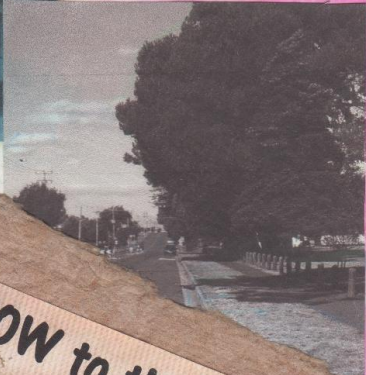
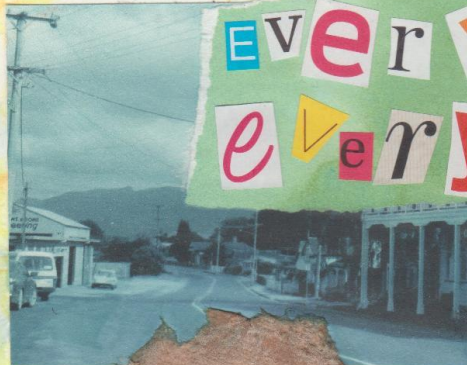
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In Conclusion

This kind of work, in these types of micro-communities, is an ongoing process that requires time to get to know the identity of each place. Key people need to be identified and then time is required to build a relationship of trust. Workers need to be on the ground, active, positive and open. It is only then that you can hope to introduce new ideas. It can be challenging to create curiosity but artists are good at this.

EVERYONE &
EVERYTHING



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LINC Tasmania

"Living the Dream..."

ABUNDANT

BEAUTIFUL

CREATIVE

