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Dear NCCG friend,

Welcome to this Spring edition of 'catch up', our NCCG e-newsletter.

In this issue we share a wonderful personal story from a recent graduate of the NCCG's Kids Group program, exciting updates on renovations to the care centre and an invitation to join the NCCG's team for a family fun run/walk fundraiser on 17 September.

Please keep sending in your feedback about our 'catch up' newsletters and suggestions for stories you would like to see in future editions.

All the best,
Chris

OUR IMPACT

1599 copies of NCCG bereavement care publications

Publications provided to families, carers and professional care organisations in one year, July 2022 - June 2023



A Client's Story – Maddie Lappin

Maddie received individual counselling and participated in the Kids' Group program for three years, following the death of her father Rod in 2019. Maddie graduated from Kids' Group in late 2022 and now shares her NCCG story.

Grief can often feel unbearable and overwhelming, but when we talk about it and share our stories of loss, the grip of isolation and confusion can start to loosen.

For a child, sharing their stories of loss at a young age can change the trajectory of their grief, and of their life.

When Maddie's father Rod died suddenly of a stroke in 2019, a knowing hand reached across the schoolyard to lead her and her family to the National Centre for Childhood Grief and its Kids' Group program.

[READ THE FULL STORY](#)



New Youth Pavilion on the way!

The NCCG is developing an engaging new garden space specifically for youth clients aged 15-21 years.

As the NCCG proudly cares for a broad range of children aged from 3 years and older, we need to ensure we have care spaces suitable for each age group.

In the next phase of developing the centre in Hornsby we are developing a 'youth pavilion' space in the centre's back garden. In initial consultations some youth clients have told us they'd like an outdoor space that feels like it suits or belongs to them as older children. They also preferred the space to feel secure, a bit private and relaxed, with a modern design where they 'belong'.

Our early plans are to renovate a raised area in the back garden to create a covered pavilion with lounges and themed décor, providing a sense of comfort and privacy, where youth clients can meet their counsellor, participate in therapeutic art activities or simply relax after a counselling session.

We have recently secured a grant from the Coca-Cola Australia Foundation which will part-fund this project. We still need around \$20,000 and donated trade skills to complete the project. We will also be recruiting a Youth Advisory Committee from current and past clients aged 15 years + to help us design the best possible project.

Stay tuned for more updates.

Are you a current or past youth client who would like to join our Youth Advisory Committee?

If yes, please [email Chris at the NCCG](#)

DONATE NOW

Can you donate to help fund the new Youth Pavilion? Every dollar counts.

Please [donate now](#) and mention Youth Pavilion with your donation

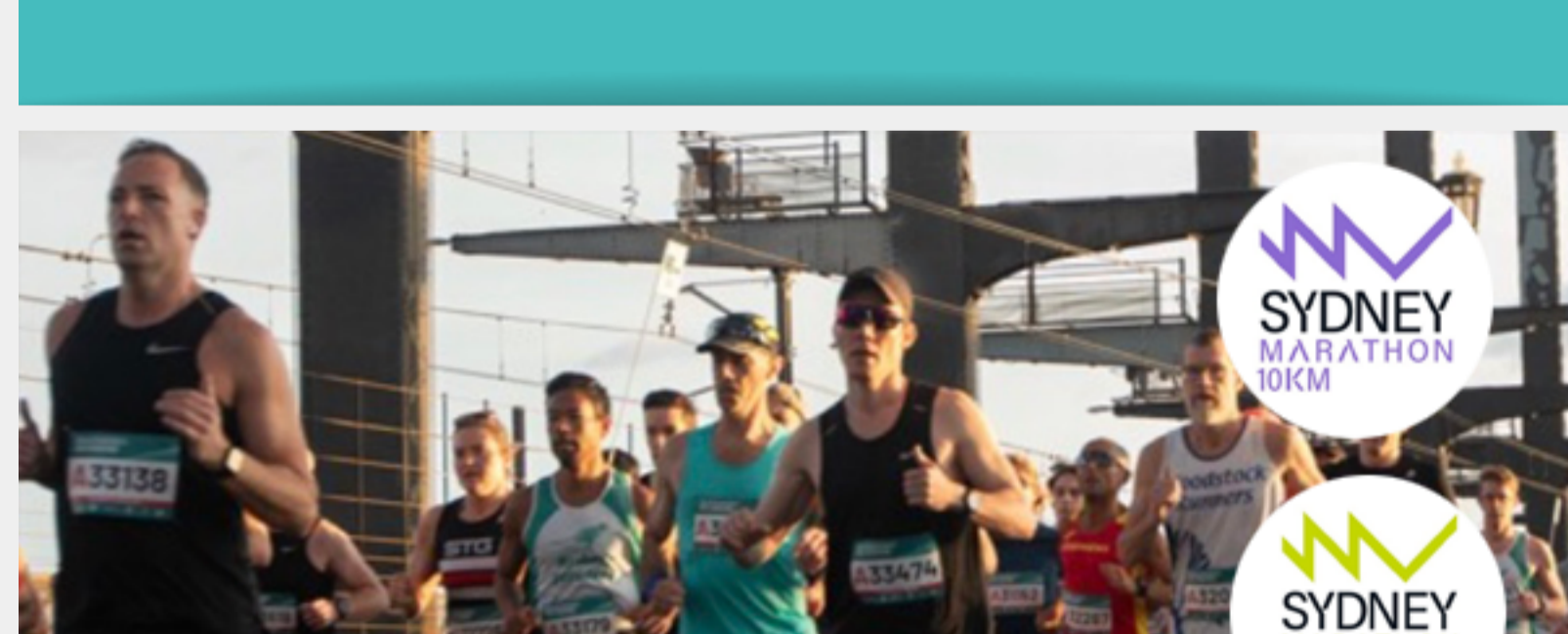
The NCCG Blog Reflections on Father's Day



In this month's blog, NCCG co-founder Dianne McKissock OAM, considers the meaning of fatherhood as we approach Father's Day on Sunday 3 September.

What do we look for and remember in our fathers? What does fatherhood mean to men? And how do we navigate the strong feelings and memories which can be evoked by Father's Day, if our father has died or we missed the opportunity to become a father?

[READ DIANNE'S LATEST BLOG REFLECTIONS ON FATHER'S DAY](#)



NCCG Community Family Fun Run-Walk Fundraiser 17 September 2023

Join the NCCG team for a 3.5km or 10km Sydney Harbour Bridge run or walk – enjoy a great family day out and raise much needed funds for the NCCG.

The 2023 Sydney Marathon (formally the Blackmores Running Festival) events are a fantastic day out. All NCCG team participants receive an official NCCG running t-shirt, tips for getting ready and support on the day.

The NCCG relies on community donations to fund its free bereavement care services for children, so every dollar raised makes a real difference.

What's more – raise \$500 or more as an individual on your NCCG fundraising page and you will be refunded the full cost of your Sydney Marathon event ticket. *Terms and conditions apply.

STEP ONE: EVENT SIGN-UP

[Sign up](#) by 31 August and save \$5 per entry. [Sign up](#) will add you to the NCCG Team.

STEP TWO: CREATE AN EVENT PAGE

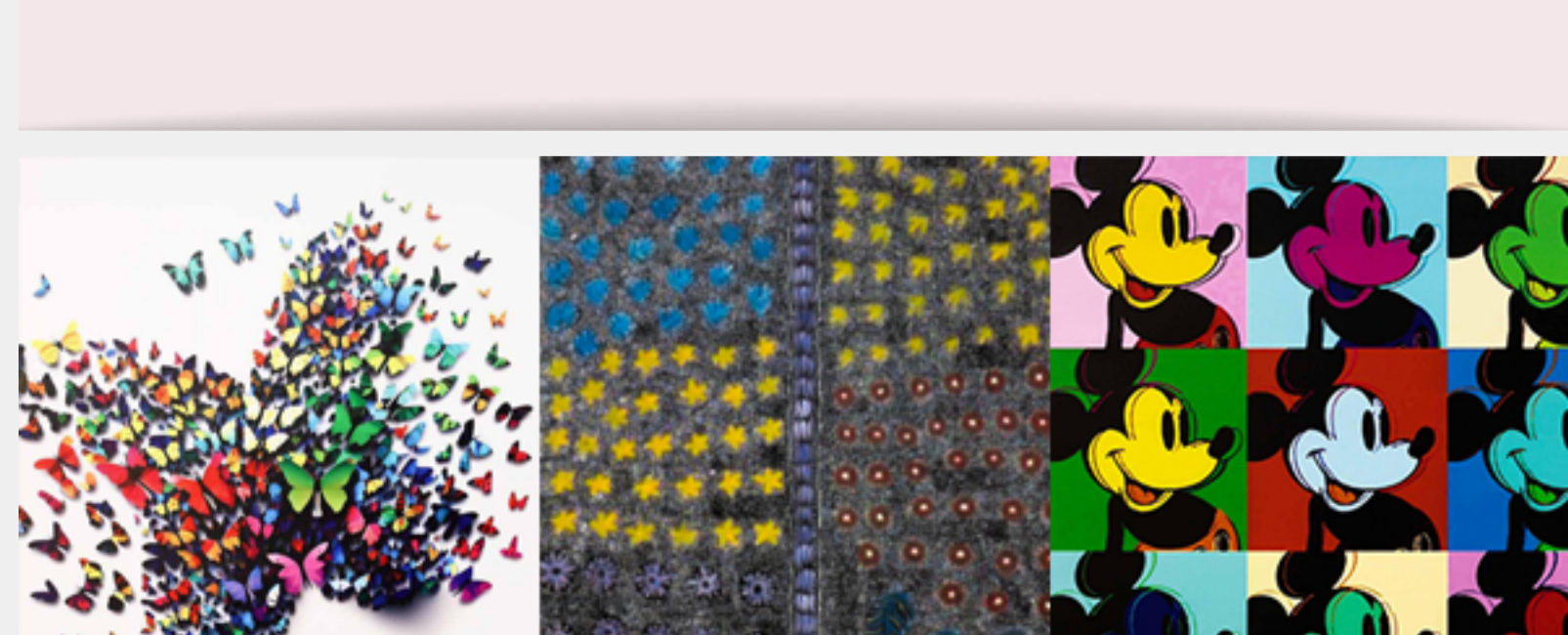


Image credits: Formation III, Yumi Zilkanto; My Mother's Country, Brinna Moss; Mickey Mouse, (after) Andy Warhol

Thank you Ozbid Auctions

The NCCG recently received a generous donation of wonderful art works to hang in our care centre.

Nine diverse art works donated by Ozbid Auctions will brighten our child and adult counselling rooms. Specific works have been chosen to suit rooms for the different age groups and personalities of our clients aged 3-17 years and adults.

A BIG thank you to Giovanna and the Ozbid team for their support, inspired by a friend whose family attends the centre. You can support Ozbid in return and buy art works from their auction site – [ozbid.com.au](#).



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