



**UPDATE ISSUE NO. 8**

**August 2003**

Dear *Friends of the GCYC*  
Welcome to the eighth issue of  
GCYC Update for 2003.

**INTRODUCTORY NOTES: providing a précis of the GCYC.**

The Gold Coast Youth Commitment Inc: *“a community commitment to youth”*

**Why is it necessary to have a Youth Commitment?**

The Dusseldorp Skills Forum (DSF) identified that “Australia is one of the few OECD countries where school retention declined during the 1990’s. Currently, there are more than 190,000 teenagers who are neither in full time work or full time education. This is occurring at a time when *education and training is becoming a lifelong, on going process* and when, in terms of employment, value is being placed on the development of personal and intellectual skills.

DSF recognised something had to be done and established the *National Youth Commitment*, a strategy designed to assist early school leavers to either:

- return to school or its equivalent in order to complete Year 12, or
- obtain an education and training qualification that is an equivalent level such as TAFE certificate or an apprenticeship or traineeship, or
- obtain a full time job that is linked to education and training.

The Queensland State Government has acknowledged that some 10,000 young people have *“fallen between the cracks.”* They are neither in education, training or work. The Government’s current White Paper “Education and Training Reforms for the Future” (ETRF) initiatives seek to redress this situation, and the GCYC is committed to playing a significant role in implementing the reform agenda.

**IF YOU WANT TO BE INVOLVED IN THESE ACTIVITIES, CONTACT US TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE GOLD COAST YOUTH COMMITMENT Inc. SEE BELOW FOR DETAILS.**

**ACTIVITIES: designed to keep you abreast of current GCYC activities.**

- The first Annual General Meeting of the Gold Coast Youth Commitment Inc. held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2003 was attended by 26 Members of the Association. In addition to the presentation of the Chair’s Report and audited financial statements, a new Management Committee was elected (see attached). Congratulations to all new and returned Committee Members. If you were unable to attend the AGM but would like a copy of the Annual report, please contact Kris Zarins.
- The GCYC Youth Forum was held on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> August 2003 at Legends Hotel. 61 young people and a dozen mentors discussed issues around the theme of *Learning – Earning – Living* and presented their ideas and recommendations to invited guests. The Forum attracted Radio media coverage on the day from all the local stations broadcasting interviews promoting the Forum. Channel 9

covered the Forum on its local 5.30 pm NEWS. 29 of the young people indicated they wished to continue supporting the theme and issues of the Forum and a meeting to establish a permanent Youth Reference Group for the GCYC is planned for September. The Reference group will be preparing a Report on the Forum proceedings and recommendations for further consideration, discussion and implementation.

- ETRF update. The Wesley Mission / SCISCO / GCYC and the Wesley Mission / BAYS / GCYC tenders submitted to the Department of Families for the provision of Youth Support Coordinators (YSC) were both successful and an advertisement for a YSC to work through SCISCO is attached. In addition the District Youth Achievement Plan (DYAP) Management Committee for the Helensvale – Upper Coomera – Southport cluster area has, through wide community consultation, developed a DYAP and a set of priorities / key actions for funding consideration. If you wish to obtain a copy of the DYAP contact Shari Callum 5583 6222 or fax 5531 4055. For details of the Reform White Paper and a guide to the associated legislation, go to [www.education.qld.gov.au/etrf/legis.html](http://www.education.qld.gov.au/etrf/legis.html).
- The ICYS projects are now all but completed. An independent evaluation of the Pilots was commissioned by the GCYC and was presented at a breakfast function to participating stakeholders. A final report is now being prepared by the GCYC for the Department of Family and Community Services (DF&CS). If you wish to obtain a copy of the final approved and DF&CS accepted Report, please contact Kris Zarins

NOTICE BOARD: Designed to inform you of education & training, networking and service development opportunities and activities. To include a contribution in the next Newsletter, please forward it by Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2003 to [admin@gcyc.org.au](mailto:admin@gcyc.org.au).

- The Youth Enterprise Trust has places available on its Female programs for eligible young people 16 to 24. The program is scheduled for Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September to Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September. Contact Glenda 5543 6899, [enquiries@yet.net.au](mailto:enquiries@yet.net.au), [www.yet.net.au](http://www.yet.net.au)
- Early Diary Claimer. Dusseldorp Skills Forum and The Smith Family are hosting the NRGize Workshop to Kickstart & Strengthen Your Mentoring Program in Brisbane from 4 – 6 February 2004. Early bird registration by 17 October 2003. See [www.dsf.org.au/mentortraining](http://www.dsf.org.au/mentortraining) for forms or call Chris (20) 9571 8347 [chris@dsf.org.au](mailto:chris@dsf.org.au).
- SEQ 2021 will be conducting a Youth Forum on Wednesday 17 September 2003 at the Robina Community Centre and Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September at the Logan Entertainment Centre. There will be two sessions at both venues. 1 – 4pm and 6 – 8.30 pm. To register and / or obtain more information contact SEQ 2021 on 1800 021 818, [seq2021@dlgp.qld.gov.au](mailto:seq2021@dlgp.qld.gov.au). Some copies of the publication SEQ 2021 A Sustainable Future – South East Queensland's Regional Planning Challenge: Options for the Future are available from the GCYC office, contact Kris Zarins.
- Wesley Mission Brisbane is coordinating *The Snakes and Ladders of Youth Welfare* forum to discuss how we can provide better services to youth in our communities. To be held at the Robina – Surfers paradise Uniting Church Auditorium from 10.45 – 3.00, Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2003 Contact Julia Godfrey (07) 3031 3022, 0414 116 773, [j.godfrey@wmb.org.au](mailto:j.godfrey@wmb.org.au) for more details.
- Gecko Community Arts Project are participating with a float in the Palm Beach Springfest Parade, Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September. Cheer them as they pass by – be there!
- **Beenleigh Regional Youth Service Network.** Next meeting 18<sup>th</sup> September 2003 at 11 – 12.30 at the Eagleby Youth Space.

- **The next GCYC Community Reference Group meeting will be at the GCYC office Suite 25, 39 Lawrence drive Nerang at 2.30 pm on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2003. RSVP and apologies to Kris Zarins 5596 5984, [admin@gcyc.org.au](mailto:admin@gcyc.org.au)**

**IDEAS BOARD: to encourage involvement in developing local initiatives.**

- The ETRF (Education and Training Reforms for the Future) program is underway and a District Youth Achievement Plan (DYAP) Management Committee and Working Party has been established. Contact Shari Callum at Education Queensland Gold Coast North District office on 5583 6222, fax 5531 4055, for more details. For details of the Reforms and a guide to the legislation, see [www.education.qld.gov.au/etrf/legis.html](http://www.education.qld.gov.au/etrf/legis.html).
- Youth Transport in Australia Email group. Set up following the Forum on Transport and Young People in Rural and Regional Australia (Dusseldorp Skills Forum Terrigal NSW February 2003) by Melissa Armstrong. To join the group simply send email to [youth\\_transport@yahoo.com](mailto:youth_transport@yahoo.com). You can also visit [www.dsf.org.au/transport](http://www.dsf.org.au/transport).
- National Youth Week Grants. National Youth Week will be held 27 March – 4 April 2004. Grants are available for local (\$1500) and regional (\$3000) activities which give young people aged 12 – 25 the opportunity to be involved in all stages of planning and running a National Youth Week event.
- Design the next National Youth Week Logo and slogan and gain Australian wide recognition of your talent(s). Entries close 15<sup>th</sup> September so be quick. See [youthweek@fac.gov.au](mailto:youthweek@fac.gov.au) for more information.
- Applications for the National Youth Roundtable 2004 are now open, but close 1<sup>st</sup> October 2003. Full details at [www.thesource.gov.au/youth\\_roundtable](http://www.thesource.gov.au/youth_roundtable)
- Career Employment Australia are building the Digital Community Database. If you are providing any sort of service to the community, fill in the form and get listed. Go to [www.digitalcea.com/database](http://www.digitalcea.com/database) to complete your details or contact Sandra Nicholson 5532 7000.
- The Youth Advocacy Centre has a useful website with information about legal issues and young people. See [www.yac.net.au](http://www.yac.net.au).

**CONTACT DETAILS:**

**For further information, or to contribute to the newsletter, contact:  
Kris Zarins, Manager, GCYC  
PH: 5596 5984, FAX 5596 6199, Email [kris@gcyc.org.au](mailto:kris@gcyc.org.au)**



**MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2003 / 04**

<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>MEMBER</b>	<b>ORGANISATION</b>
CHAIRPERSON	Fran Jones	Keebra Park SHS
SECRETARY	Anne Norton-Knight	GC Region & Area Consultative Committee
TREASURER	Denis Byrne	Eagleby Learning Centre
SCHOOLS / LEARNING	Fran Jones	Keebra Park SHS
SCHOOLS / LEARNING	Denis Byrne	Eagleby Learning Centre
SCHOOLS / LEARNING	TBA	
TRAINING ORGANISATION	John Slater	TAFE
BUSINESS / EMPLOYER	Denis Chant	GC Airport
BUSINESS / EMPLOYER	Lionel Barton	Innovation Showcase P/L
BUSINESS / EMPLOYER	Peter Watkins	Institute of Business Leaders
YOUTH	TBA	
EMPLOYMENT SERVICE	Helen Eager	Mission Employment
CENTRELINK	Michelle Lees	Centrelink Southport
LOCAL GOVERNMENT	TBA	
GOVERNMENT AGENCIES	Anne Norton-Knight	GCRACC
YOUTH TRANSITION	Andrea Meredith	SCISCO
COMMUNITY ORGANISATION	Stephen Owen	YARA
INDIVIDUAL	Paul Stevens	

Vacancies still exist for a representative from the Private School Sector, a Young Person and the Gold Coast City Council.

### **Youth Support Coordinators – 3 Positions**

Wesley Mission Brisbane, in partnership with SCISCO Career Pathways, Gold Coast Youth Commitment and Beenleigh Area Youth Service, have received triennial funding from QLD Department of Families for 3 YSCs (2 Gold Coast North and 1 Beenleigh/Eagleby areas). Successful applicants will support students in schools to remain connected with learning or training and access additional support to help prevent involvement in statutory or intensive service systems. Human service tertiary qualification required. **The selection criteria to be addressed** and position description are available from Robyn Hughes on (07) 3359 8117 or email: R.Hughes@wmb.org.au  
**Conditions of employment:** SACS Award – Level 5.1 (Wesley offer attractive salary packaging options)

Applications close: 15 September, 2003