



**YOU** *Thrive*  
VICTORIA

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2019 Alumni Report

# Year Overview

From the 2019 Alumni Committee

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2019 was a busy year for the Youthrive Alumni Committee, having the goal of running two leadership events and at least five social events. We hosted our inaugural Melbourne Scavenger Hunt, a state-wide road trip, a Fast 5 leadership event and of course the annual Youthrive Ball - all up visiting eight towns across Victoria. Our events attracted a total attendance of 210, representing approximately a quarter of the Alumni network across eight generations of camps.

The outgoing Alumni Committee consists of Rebecca Postlethwaite (President), Chris Dempsey (Secretary), Caitlin Allman (Treasurer), Jessie Newton (General - Leadership), Sam McColl (General - Social), Sophie Fontaine (General) and Maddy Merzvinskis (General).

We would like to thank all members of the Alumni Committee for their hard work and enthusiasm over the past year, as well as everyone who attended any number of our events. The magic of the Youthrive Alumni relies on your engagement, and it has certainly shone through this year. We can't wait to see what the next year will hold.



# Scavenger Hunt

March 9 | Attendees: 21

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The 'Inaugural YouThrive Scavenger Hunt' saw six teams of excited and slightly competitive YouThrive alumni racing around the city of Melbourne taking photos, completing activities and seeing various landmarks and interesting locations. The aim of the event was to introduce various significant areas of Melbourne to those who had recently moved to the city to commence study or work, as well as to connect Alumni who had attended different camps.

We had 21 Alumni members from six different years take part in the scavenger hunt and join us for a delicious dinner in the heart of Chinatown afterwards. The scavenger hunt was a successful and enjoyable event to kick off this year's Alumni social calendar with plenty of laughs and competitive spirit shared.



# MAY We See Your Town

May | Attendees: 42

May saw You thrive alumni joining in on a month-long road trip, visiting several regional towns across the state for delicious meals, and connecting with other alumni along the way. We visited Adelaide, Warragul, Avenel and finished off with an impressive gathering in Melbourne. Our dinner in Adelaide was our first ever interstate alumni event, with 100% of our Adelaide-based alumni in attendance. This event saw alumni getting back to their local areas, as well as exploring parts of the state that they hadn't been before.



# It's Good To See You So JUNE

June 16 | Attendees: 4

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This pop-up dinner event corresponded with the Dream Seeds East Gippsland trip. A small but mighty team of Dream Seeders enjoyed a classic pub meal (it's parma - not parmi) at the Bruthen Inn Hotel, and were even joined by a couple of canine locals!



# I'd JULY-k To See You Again

July 24 | Attendees: 18

Our second dinner collaboration with Dream Seeds, this time on their Goulburn Valley trip. A fantastic turn-out of both Dream Seeds presenters and alumni made their way to Shepparton for a feed at Aangan Indian Restaurant.



# Welcome Back to Semester 2

August 10 | Attendees: 30

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A large group of Alumni members caught up at Thaila Thai in Brunswick East to catch up before we got stuck into our semester 2 studies. We shared some delicious Thai food and it was one of our biggest dinner events thus far!



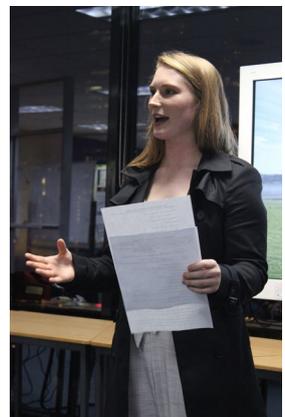
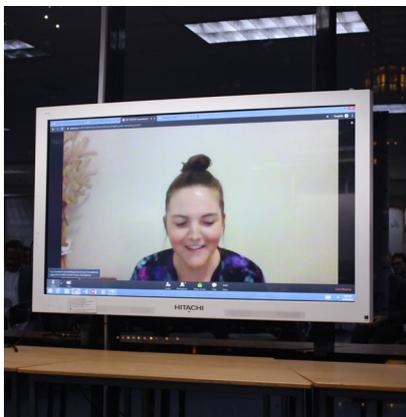
# Fast Five

August 28 | Attendees: 30

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The Fast Five was Youthrive Victoria's first ever Leadership development event. Held at CityCite in Flinders St, overlooking the Yarra River and Southbank, the evening was an opportunity for Alumni to hear from five speakers in different points in their life/career agenda. The speakers were Kitty Robinson, Kieran Sheehan, Cozzie Roberts, Brett Dunlop and Bernie Lloyd.

Each of the speakers shared an aspect of their experience and offer advice for the Alumni about living in accordance with their Dyeem Boorrma. We had over 30 attendees, including a large contingent of alumni as well as Youthrive Victoria staff and board members.



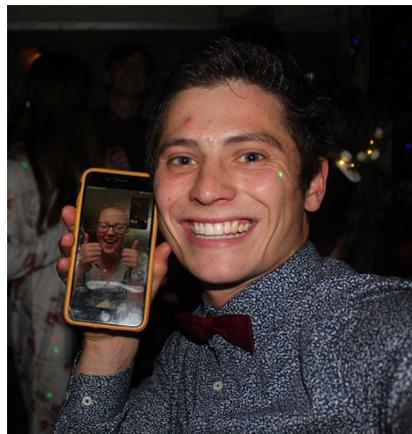
# The Ball

October 5 | Attendees: 62

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This year's Ball was an amazing success! We sold over 60 tickets, which gathered a gross income of over \$1,650! Spring had well and truly sprung with the Creswick Neighbourhood Centre decorated in beautiful native flowers and greenery donated by Creswick locals. We engaged Kitty and Ryan to provide some beautiful live music for the beginning of the night, followed by a DJ set from Rohan which saw the dance floor become a hive of energy and impressive moves. Awards were handed out seeing Annika Miesen and Shon Dunn being crowned Ball Queen and King; Rohan Gerrard was announced as the Alumni member who had attended the most events; and Byron Macumber deservedly took out the hotly anticipated Best Dressed, donning pink from head to toe. There was a great mix of camps in attendance, both new and old - but July 2019, the most recent camp, undoubtedly had the strongest presence. The Ball was an amazing night of reunion, connection and celebration, and has certainly cemented its spot as a night to look forward to in the annual You thrive calendar.





# Local Legends

A monthly spotlight

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Each month we put the spotlight on a member of the Youthrive Alumni that had been nominated as a Local Legend for their contributions to their community, and to Youthrive Victoria. Local Legends shared their story on the Alumni Facebook page about where they are from and how the values we have at Youthrive Victoria are reflected in what they're doing in their own communities. Throughout the year we heard from a diverse range of alumni doing great things in very different fields, overall strengthening our Alumni network and celebrating the successes of our alumni.



# Christmas Card KK

Connecting through Christmas spirit

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The inaugural Christmas Card KK took place in December 2019. People signed up through a Google form and were randomly allocated a person to send a postcard to. It was encouraged that the postcards have a picture of their home town or be a Christmas card with some fun facts about their home town so that we could not only spread the Christmas spirit but also learn about each other's home towns. While most of the cards were sent around Victoria, we also had some for South Australia and New South Wales. 27 people participated and we are looking forward to being updated on photos from people's mailboxes!

# Reflecting on the year

## 2019 Goals

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1. Host five events including the ball. **Achieved**
2. Host two leadership events. **Achieved**
3. Create a census/data collection process. **In Progress**
4. Have a monthly spotlight on a Local Legend. **Achieved**
5. Get someone from July 2013 to come to an event. **Achieved**
6. To foster our relationship with the MSRF board. **Achieved**
7. To encourage more people to nominate for the alumni committee.  
**Focus for next year**
8. Set up an alumni yearly budget. **Achieved**
9. Have consistent agendas and minutes. **Achieved**
10. Create an event summary report after each event. **Achieved**

## Quick stats

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**210** - Total number of attendances at Alumni events

**94** - The number of individual You thrive Alumni members who attended our events

**11** - Number of Alumni events in 2019

**8** - Number of towns visited by the Alumni

**814** - the population in Bruthen, the smallest town we visited

# 2020 Vision

## What's Next

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In 2020 we hope to expand the committee to collaborate and include all sectors of the alumni community. This includes liaising and working with Dream Seeds, Mentoring and the Virtual Rural network while still providing social and leadership events for the alumni. We hope to continue developing leadership opportunities and events for alumni through the continuation of the Leadership portfolio initiated in 2019.

Approximately a quarter of the alumni community attended events this year so it is the hope that the 2020 committee can engage more of the alumni and involve people from the earlier camps. The more development and enjoyment we can offer for the alumni, the more likely the committee can be made up of a diverse range of alumni, allowing for an expansion of ideas and passions for years to come.

The 2020 Alumni Committee:

President: Caitlin Allman

Vice President: Sam McColl

Secretary:

Treasurer:

General Member (Events): Caroline Sutton

General Member (Leadership): Jorgie Thompson

General Member: Julia Clugston

I'm excited to see what the new committee plans and achieves for the year!

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Caitlin Allman

2020 Alumni Committee President

