



**Newly elected president**

**Kevin Johnson** demonstrates 'a fierce passion to make sure what we do makes a difference to disadvantaged young people in Frankston and the Mornington Peninsula'. The wheel has turned full-circle, with Kevin and his brother Brian both growing up at Menzies Home for Boys at Olivers Hill, Frankston. Kevin, a Menzies committee member since 2010, is the first Menzies Homes 'graduate' to head the organisation in the President role.

**New President**

**Menzies Funded Projects**

**Allied Health Project with Coalition of Frankston North Schools**

As the first project of its kind to be operating in a school, this project has been an outstanding success. The health, well-being and improved learning outcomes have been immediately evident and well-received by participating students, families and schools. The project proactively identifies children at an early stage in their lives who can be observed in a facilitating environment and helped at a number of levels and in circumstances where we have experts available who can deliver assistance and early-intervention where required.

**CREATE your Future Program**

With Menzies support, CREATE deliver important programs to young people transitioning from out of home care in the Frankston and Mornington Peninsula. On-going workshops and an intensive 3-day 'CREATE your Future' camp prepare the 14-18 year olds for the next stage of their lives with very positive outcomes. Local community volunteers are also being trained to assist in future CREATE workshops and camps.

**Youth Mini Bus Project**

You may have seen the Menzies mini bus whizzing around the Mornington Peninsula. It is great to see the bus in active use and respected as a valued resource to the Victoria Police Youth Resource Officers (Frankston Proactive Unit) and partner agencies to assist youth at risk in the local community. Local youths now recognise the positive benefits the Menzies bus provides. Example feedback includes; 'we don't run away from the Menzies bus because we know they are there to help'.

**Menzies Caring for Kids Charity House**

A joint project between Menzies, Buy Property Direct and Mainline Developments, the Menzies Caring for Kids Charity House went to auction on Saturday 27 February. Four bidders competed for the newly constructed four bedroom Langwarrin home as 140 people watched on.

The house sold for \$600,000, well above the reserve price. These funds enable Menzies to add more schools to the Frankston North Allied Health Project as well as expand the program to Rosebud and Hastings. Menzies support will then encompass a total of 12 - 15 schools across Frankston and the Mornington Peninsula.

We thank Buy Property Direct, Mainline Developments and all other business for their tremendous generosity to Menzies and this project.



**Mentoring Project**

Menzies understands the benefits a mentoring program could provide to disadvantaged young people. Connections with a positive adult role model providing support and guidance offers opportunities to grow self-confidence and life skills. Menzies Committee of Management is currently considering support to a mentoring project for the Frankston and Mornington Peninsula area.

**Sages Cottage Farm**

Wallara are now the custodian of the Sages Cottage Farm in Baxter. Wallara support people with disabilities and use the property to provide work experience opportunities to adults with different abilities, assisting with the maintenance of the gardens and looking after the many animals in beautiful surroundings. For more information visit [www.wallara.com.au](http://www.wallara.com.au)

**New Committee**

We would like to welcome two new members to the Menzies Committee of Management.

- Jacinta Larkins
- James Malone

