

MEDIA RELEASE

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Youth HQ: A Beacon of Opportunity and Engagement for Casterton's Young People

Since its inception in October 2023, Youth HQ has quickly become an indispensable resource for the youth of Casterton. Under the passionate leadership of Kane Forbes, Youth HQ has flourished, providing a dynamic and supportive environment where young people can explore their interests, develop new skills, and connect with their community.

Youth HQ offers an exciting range of programs designed to engage and inspire. Among these, the DJ'ing and small motors courses have stood out, attracting interest and participation. These initiatives are just the beginning, with plans for an expanded program that promises even more opportunities for local youth, and other members of the community who are keen to participate.

Kane is eagerly anticipating the upcoming mini cinema program. With donated seats and the data projector ready for installation, get ready for some fantastic shows!

The success of Youth HQ has been buoyed by the overwhelming community support that followed since the SharkPitch event. This support has not only taken the form of financial contributions but also a significant influx of in-kind support and volunteering, showcasing the community's commitment to its young people.

In 2023, Kane presented Youth HQ to a virtual audience at United Way Glenelg's Shark Pitch event, raising nearly \$26,000.

Kane Forbes, speaking about Youth HQ's impact, said, "Seeing the enthusiasm and growth of the young people who come to Youth HQ is incredibly rewarding. We can achieve when we come together to support the potential of our youth."

Youth HQ's achievements highlight the importance of providing young people with safe, engaging, and educational spaces. The continued support from the community and dedicated volunteers ensures that Youth HQ will remain a vital asset to Casterton's youth for years to come.

For more information on Youth HQ and its programs, or to learn how you can support this vibrant initiative, please contact Kane Forbes at 5554 2555 or email Kane.Forbes@cmh.org.au

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