

SUNBURY

Twilight School activities grow

GARDEN PROJECT AMONG MANY NEW INITIATIVES

Barry Kennedy

THE Twilight School in Sunbury will embark on its fourth year of thought-provoking conversations, workshops and collaborations from tomorrow.

Bruno Lettieri, who established the school in an employed role with Salesian College in 2013, said the new program would continue to build a diverse audience interested in acquiring creative skills and hearing the motivations of leading thinkers in person.

Since starting the school, the Seddon resident and former Victoria University lecturer said there were now a broader diversity of initiatives.

These include the informal men's group, the Good Man Project, Learn to Grow gardening and sustainability sessions, Photo Walks and Community Conversations held with Sunbury Community Health.

NEED TO KNOW

The Twilight School usually runs events on Wednesday evenings or the weekend. Starting this Wednesday is a six-week Backyard Produce course at 'The Patch' and a three-week photowalk course. On March 9, there is a conversation with author and Miles Franklin Award winner Sofie Laguna. Details: BLettieri@scr.vic.edu.au / 9744 0085 (Tuesday and Wednesday) or TheTwilightSchool on Facebook.

Mr Lettieri said the broad range of ways people could get involved with the Twilight School was helping build interest.

"We were building some of our conversations up to 120 to 130 people and when we'd do a show of hands about a third were newcomers.

"Then we have Sunbury Community Health having their own stake in the con-

versations and bringing their own expertise, and the Learn to Grow courses getting their own audience.

"Last year the events kept ticking over and it was really heartening to see new faces."

Mr Lettieri said despite often sensitive areas talked about in the conversations, there had never been resistance from Salesian College principal Mark Brockhus and the broader Salesian community.

The support balances his desire to set up community building work and aligns with his teaching philosophies.

Innovations this year are likely to include discussions involving family violence, establishing an ongoing Autism Spectrum Disorder support group, indigenous discussions, a choir project, salsa dancing and taking discussions to sporting clubs and other community groups in Sunbury.



Twilight School founder Bruno Lettieri (front) with Declan McGovern, who has started a Learn to Grow course.

Picture: JAY TOWN