



3 August 2015

## **Tresillian to Farewell a Familiar Face**

Childcare, a resident ghost and friendships are just some of the treasured memories that a long standing employee and familiar face at the Tresillian Arts Centre will take away with her when she leaves on 14 August.

Tresillian Customer Service Officer Jane Petley will officially move on to a new adventure next month after a decade of dedicated service to the centre and the City.

Jane Petley joined the City of Nedlands as Play Centre Supervisor in Tresillian's crèche. As a trained teacher, she took on the role part time during school terms.

Jane helped many children settle into the Play Centre while their caregivers took part in a Tresillian class. She also played an instrumental part in the bi-annual Tresillian Play Centre Garage Sale.

Sometimes she would be asked to 'stand in' for the Customer Service Officer and out of commitment to Tresillian, Jane would temporarily take on the role.

"I had no computer knowledge at all and was mostly self-taught, with lots of professional development in this area later on," said Jane.

In August 2009, with her previous experience under her belt, Jane moved permanently into the Customer Service Officer role.

Jane has acted in the Tresillian Coordinator role on many occasions and has become a well-known face at Tresillian, offering support and great customer service to Tresillian's members, tutors and artists.

Community Development Manager, Marion Granich, recalls: that "Over more than a decade, Jane has nurtured creativity at the Tresillian Arts Centre. She has been an important part of a much-loved centre and will be very missed."

It's not just local children and artists that Jane has come into contact with during her time at the centre. Tresillian's resident ghost has given Jane some amusement over the years.

Jane said: “When I was working in the Play Centre office, with my back to the kitchen, the extremely fragile antique light fitting fell to the floor. It didn’t break and made a 90 degree shift, in mid-air, to avoid hitting a stainless steel bench! I realised it should have hit the bench if it had fallen straight.

“Also, the metal figure on the top of my desk hutch jumped behind the photocopier. Once again I just heard the thud and could not work out what it was, until I discovered the figure behind the photocopier. One of the other Customer Service Officers, Aloma, even saw it jump once.”

But don’t be put off going to Tresillian to do a course there. The long-term residential ghost (if you believe in such things) isn’t destructive.

“She is never malicious. I heard through someone, some years back that it’s a young girl. The only destructive thing ever done was when we put a door on the old kitchen, in the back hallway, to use it for storage. She obviously didn’t like that idea. We came in the next day and it was wrenched off its hinges. We didn’t try to re-attach it.”

Jane’s ability to remember the names of so many of Tresillian’s more than 1000 members is testament to the exceptional customer service she has given to community members.

“It blows people away when I have their information up on the computer before they even say their name. It gives me a giggle inside to see their reaction. It is the friendships that I have developed over the years with tutors, tenants, and members who come back year after year that have made my job rewarding,” she said.

#### **About the City of Nedlands**

The City of Nedlands is situated 7km from Perth and stretches from the banks of the Swan River to the edge of the Indian Ocean. A population of over 21,000 live in the suburbs Nedlands, Dalkeith, Mt Claremont, Swanbourne, Karrakatta, and parts of Floreat and Shenton Park.

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