Learning Cities and Social Justice: 
Making it Work in Hume Global Learning Village

For two decades now, an emphasis on learning has been seen by many cities as a key means of promoting economic development, particularly in the face of disadvantage, and of assisting with initiatives for social justice. This kind of action has seemed to be particularly helpful as employment patterns have shifted and jobs in the ‘knowledge economy’ have become sought after.

These initiatives have been common in Europe and in Australia. This forum will offer an opportunity to hear about Hume City Council’s serious efforts to engage with these ideas, particularly through the Hume Global Learning Village. The forum will present an overview of the underlying philosophy and strategy of the Village, and some of the particular projects which it has supported. Hume’s story will be set in the context of the wider experience of learning cities in Europe and Australia.

Presenters will include:
Professor Bruce Wilson, Director, European Union Centre at RMIT
Ms Marea Ekladious, Acting Manager Learning Community Department, Hume City Council
Mr Ken Thompson, Principal, Ballarat Mooroop College and Chair, Hume Global Learning Village Committee.
Visiting Professor Chris Duke will begin the discussion.

The City of Melbourne is running Melbourne Knowledge Week from 28 November to 2 December 2011 inclusive. The purpose of Melbourne Knowledge Week is to celebrate and showcase the city’s applied knowledge assets, networks and capabilities.