

# BLACKMAIL MARCH 2019

## *Manager's Message*

Hello once again, before I start I would like to send out my condolences to the Glass family for the recent loss of a loved one, the loss will forever be felt within the Mountains as he was a sincere gentleman who brought a smile to anyone who he ever came in contact with. While speaking of the loss of a valued and much loved community man, I would like to call on community members to meet here at ACRC or somewhere neutral if that is what the community would like, to discuss how we go forward as community. I would like for us to discuss on how we ACRC or as individual community members can notify other community members of the loss of a community member. For at the moment we here are at a cross road when it comes to letting community know of a loss in the community. I say this as the recent loss here in the Blue Mountains I was asked by the family not to place a notice on Facebook or to call around as the family wanted some time to themselves. On other occasions we have been questioned as to why we (ACRC) or other people placing the name of one that has recently passed when culturally we are not allowed to speak that person's name for a year. So I am asking for community to come together and help me and the rest of the team here at ACRC on how culturally in this contemporary world of the more appropriate ways on communicating the loss of a community member without disrespecting a family's request and without disrespecting or upsetting other community member's. I know this has been a tough and divided subject here in the Blue Mountains and many other Aboriginal communities across Australia.

So please if you have views on how we can move forward as a community and you would like to share these views please feel welcome to come and meet with other community members so we can be better informed of the community views while having respected the families' loss and we have acknowledged the communities wish to be notified of the loss through a respectful way first and foremost for the grieving family and for the community as a whole. I am envisaging that from the meeting we will then be able to send out information to the community in the next blackmail of the proposals and ideas that have come out of the meetings and through valued feedback from the community. We will then install a standard procedure in notifying the community of the loss of a valued community member while once again firstly respecting the family's wishes on how they would like or not like ACRC to notify community members.

## ELDER OF THE MONTH 'UNCLE GUS WENBERG'



Uncle Gus has called the Blue Mountains home for over 12 years. Uncle Gus is a proud man from the Yaegl tribe in Cabbage Tree Island near Grafton NSW. He is a father of 3 daughters, 2 granddaughters, 6 great grandchildren. Retiree from NSW Railways. He is part of the Stolen Generation and was instituted in Kinchela Boys Home when he was a child.

*If you would like to appear or nominate someone for the **Elder of the month** please contact 4782 6569*

If you would like to be a part of this, please contact me directly on the number or email below I have pencilled in a first meeting to just get the conversation started and then the community members in attendance can decide when to meet again. 1st planned meeting will take place Friday the 8th of March at 11.30am

I look forward to hearing community views so we can continually act in the best interest for the community in the coming future.

Wayne 4782 6569 Email [manager@acrc.org.au](mailto:manager@acrc.org.au)

Yours sincerely

Wayne Cornish

Manager ACRC

## NAIDOC COMMITTEES

It is time to start planning this year's NAIDOC events. If you would like to be involved in planning for the NAIDOC Ball please contact Wayne Cornish [manager@acrc.org.au](mailto:manager@acrc.org.au) or 4782 6569

The first NAIDOC committee meeting will be held on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March

**Naidoc Ball meeting 10am**

**Art Exhibition meeting 11.30am**

## HISTORY OF ACRC

We are calling out for Committee members to come together and create a book about the history of the Aboriginal Community Resource Centre. Meeting 15<sup>th</sup> March 11am.

For further details please contact Wayne 4782 6569 or [manager@acrc.org.au](mailto:manager@acrc.org.au)

## MENTORING

We are calling out for Elders to come and provide mentoring for our Staff and Community by participating in our youth and ACYFS/playgroup programs.

For full details Contact Wayne 4782 6569 or [manager@acrc.org.au](mailto:manager@acrc.org.au)

## Blackmail

If you are receiving 'Blackmail' by post, please consider switching to receiving the 'Blackmail' via email. Each year the 'Blackmail' costs ACRC almost \$6500, as each 'Blackmail' post you receive costs around \$3. One dollar for postage, one dollar for printing and a bit more than a dollar for labour, paper, envelopes and labels etc. Over a year that amounts to \$33 per person signed up to the Blackmail through postage.

The postal system is not as fast as it used to be, it can take up to a week from us posting, to you receiving the 'Blackmail'. The email version you will get the information the day it is ready and it is always accessible, so you can't lose it and you can get another copy anytime. So please sign up to the 'Blackmail' email version by sending an email to Jade Pyle at [elders@acrc.org.au](mailto:elders@acrc.org.au). Alternatively, even though we do not charge a Blackmail subscription if you wanted to make a contribution to ACRC to cover the costs it would be greatly appreciated, get in contact with Robert to find out how on 4782 6569.





Blue Mountains Aboriginal  
Culture and Recourse Centre

## Koori Playgroup

**Monday Mornings**

Starting at 11am in Greenwood Early  
Education Centre Katoomba  
Dora Street, Katoomba NSW 2780

Not during school terms

# Water For Wilcannia

Please help us raise water for the community of Wilcannia in far Western NSW. The town water supply has been exhausted & currently the community is on Level 4 Water restrictions and are forced to buy bottle water. Bottle water is expensive to buy local and traveling for water is 250km either direction.

Any donation of water no matter how big or small will go along way in helping the community of Wilcannia.

All donations can be dropped of at the Blue Mountains Aboriginal Resource centre in Katoomba by close of business Thursday the 7<sup>th</sup> March for delivery to Wilcannia will be Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March

For more information please contact  
Katie on 0468 911 194 or  
Wayne (ACRC) on 02) 4782 6569

## Water is Life





## ACYFS Families Camp 2019

11 families participated in the Family Camp at Narrabeen Big 4 Holiday park Narrabeen NSW on 21<sup>st</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> of January 2019. The family's camp is for Aboriginal families with 18 Adults and 33 children attending to experience a positive outcome and offer a much needed break with their families. This is the time for everyone to relax, connect and enjoy the company of other Aboriginal Families with their children. The families enjoyed going to the rock pool, beach, river, water park and café walk for coffee, treasure hunt, trivia night. All the children that attend the treasure hunt had a ball looking for a treasure and the parents loved trivia. All the families sat and had morning tea, lunch and dinner together and at the end of one of the night we played trivia. It was great to see all the children get on together. The best part that I enjoyed was having all the family participating with the activities that we had organised for the camp.



Here are some messages from some families:

1: Went on camp with Jordy for 5 days his Aunty Raylee is one of the camp organisers. Such a brilliant camp for families. The organisation was brilliant. The menu for each day was excellent, no complaints about anything, Raylee and Jade gave everyone first class treatment, such a caring pair of dedicated workers. Thank you girls ACRC, Aboriginal Camp should be proud they have dedicated workers as you.

2: Thank you ACRC and Raylee and Jade for the best camp we've ever had.... We all absolutely loved our time away with our kiddies and the other mums.... We were so sad to come home 😊 thank you for all your efforts to make out time so enjoyable we love you guys xxx

I want to THANK Jade for her support in assisting with the activities and assistance in getting everyone there safely. I would like to thank everyone that turned up and came to the event at the pools without your support in coming and enjoying a day of fun in the sun, the day would not have been the best.

**THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH!! See you next year 2020**



# IN THE SPOTLIGHT

## ALBERT NOLAN

Albert is a 21 year old male from Neilrex NSW. Albert is related to one of our local community members Cathy from Lawson NSW. Albert beat Daniel Carr from Mt. Druitt in 2018 – they went toe to toe in 4 rounds and Albert won the fight in a unanimous decision for his first pro fight. Albert has won 2 NSW State Titles and an Australian Global Title.

On 6<sup>th</sup> April, 2019 Albert will be fighting against Kaleb Kozak in Melbourne who has done 33 fights and is a 2 time Victorian Elite champion and an Australian youth champion.

*This feature will be run monthly highlighting our local community and their families achievements. If you would like to appear in the next newsletter or would like to nominate someone please send through a photo and a blurb to [admin@acrc.org.au](mailto:admin@acrc.org.au)*



### Service Directory/Help Lines

Beyond Blue 1300 224 636

St Vincent De Paul 4782 1068

Domestic Violence Line 1800 656 463

Thrive Services Katoomba 02 4782 1555

Kids Helpline 1800 551 800

The Salvation Army 02 4782 5124



## FIRE UP THURSDAYS

Happens once a month every  
4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month  
4pm to 7pm at ACRC  
14 Oak St, Katoomba  
Food and Drinks provided  
Come for a yarn, All welcome  
For details 4782 6569



*Fire Up Dates:*

*28 March, 25 April, 23 May, 27 June*



# **PAINTING UP COUNTRY**

**Mondays - Room DG10**

**10am-2.30pm**

**At Blue Mountains TAFE at Wentworth Falls**

**This project aims to:**

- **Reaffirm an Aboriginal presence in the Mountains by engaging our local Aboriginal community in creating a welcoming place by working collaboratively to design artworks using local stories of environment, flora and fauna**
- **Provide a positive learning experience that will provide access and further opportunities in education and employment**

**Contact:  
Leanne Tobin  
lmtobin61@hotmail.com  
Or phone 4753 2039**

**ABORIGINAL EDUCATION  
&  
TRAINING UNIT**



(02) 4782 6569  
admin@acrc.org.au  
www.acrc.org.au  
facebook.com/BlueMountainsAboriginalCultureResourceCentre/  
Mon - Thurs 9am-5pm, Friday 9am - 12pm