

BLUE MOUNTAINS ABORIGINAL CULTURE & RESOURCE CENTRE



BLACK-MAIL

August

2017



Operating hours: Mon to Thurs: 9am-5pm & Friday: 9am-12noon

ACRC PH: 4782 6569, Email: admin@acrc.org.au

Managers Message.

Well hello once again, I trust you all enjoyed this year's NAIDOC activities throughout the month.

We at ACRC have all been real busy throughout this month and of course the months leading up to NAIDOC with all the planning that has to take place, for a more insightful look into this year's NAIDOC awards and the gully day, I have asked Brad Moore to write something up which you will find after my message.

Aboriginal Art Festival

I would like to start off by thanking all the committee from the Aboriginal art festival, as you all done a fantastic job and thank you to all the community members who attended the opening night and the days preceding days until the close of the Art exhibition. This year's art exhibition we exhibited works from 23 Aboriginal artists from the Blue Mountains. It was great to see many regular artists as well as emerging Aboriginal artists from the Blue Mountains community, including four youth from our community, aged between 10 and 14 years of age. The opening night went off with only one hitch when the Wagana girls were about to dance the fire alarm went off; I think someone forgot to tell the kitchen that there were to be no smoking ceremonies in doors. Wagana eventually got their time to shine followed by the Williams family and Kin and the final performance of the Williams family and Wagana coming together to dance and celebrate, which was great to see. On the night we had just over eighty people in attendance, who enjoyed the great food and entertainment. A big congratulations to Katie Williams for first prize in the people's choice award for her artwork; Lady beetle creates girl (the faded background image), followed in second place Shay Tobin and Chris Tobin rounding off in third place. However, I personally don't know how anyone could pick a winner from all the great artworks on display. So once again 'Thank you' to each and every one of you who played a part in this wonderful event for Aboriginal people in the Blue Mountains. Therefore, I would like to thank our major supporters and sponsors, firstly Brad Moore from BMCC for without Brads help and support the NAIDOC events would have been near impossible for me to deal with, so thank you.. I would like to thank (BMCC) Blue Mountains City Council, (WACHS) Wellington Aboriginal Corporation Health Service, Wentworth Community Housing, Prime minister and cabinet; without all your help and support through funding we would not be able to hold these events, so thank you. Last but not least a big thank you for all the committees and support staff behind the scenes, your help is greatly appreciated and much needed for these events to be the success that they were.

New AOD youth program: Young, Strong and Deadly.

I would like to announce that ACRC with a partnership with (WACHS) Wellington Aboriginal Corporation Health Services have secured a new two-year contract through the (PHN) Primary Health Network to deliver a new and exciting program (the Program is called: Young Strong and Deadly) which has been needed here in the Blue Mountains for a long time. This new program is to focus on Aboriginal youth from 15- 22 for both male and female. The program will focus on alcohol and other drugs including ICE, as well as mental health and suicide prevention. The ACRC youth team will be delivering this new program throughout the Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Penrith and Hawksbury district. I would like to thank Darren Ahh-See and Anthony Carter and all other workers from the WACHS team for their help in supporting ACRC to gain this well needed contract. I would also like to thank Darren, Anthony and the WACHS team in advance for their continued support as we work side by side delivering the new youth program throughout the Blue Mountains and surrounding areas. I am also very pleased by the generous support that I have received from community members thus far, I can truly only imagine that all community would be behind ACRC and support us in delivering this much needed service.

We are planning on having a launch date early September for this new and exciting program with the first program to be rolled out in early October starting here in the glorious Blue Mountains. So to WACHS and PHN I say thank you and we look forward to working with both of your organisations through the next couple of years and hopefully this will be one of many new programs that we partner together. Last but not least I would like to congratulate the board and all my staff for all their dedication and hard work in serving the community in other programs that has afforded ACRC the opportunity to deliver another service that will help and support our youth.

Full details of the service will be coming out in September, the program will have cultural aspects such as connecting to country and culture and a focus on helping support friends and family. As well as ongoing follow-up support for participants.

W^o Cornish

NAIDOC Flag Raising and Awards

NAIDOC in the Mountains officially kicked off this year with the annual Flag Raising and NAIDOC Awards on Monday 3 July. This year the flag raising ceremony was held for the first time in the Blue Mountains Cultural Centre followed by the Flag Raising in Carrington Place near the top of Katoomba St. The Flag Raising event was very well attended and thoroughly enjoyed by those that could make it, some people stating that this flag raising ceremony was the best one yet. Many thanks to Jacinta Tobin and Graham King for sharing aspects of language and culture which connected to the 2017 NAIDOC theme, 'Our Languages Matter'. Congratulations to this year's NAIDOC Person of the Year Awards Recipients, Aunty Bev Ward and Chris Tobin, for their ongoing contributions to the Aboriginal Community. Congratulations also to NAIDOC Youth Award recipient, Lucie Wheeler, for her enthusiasm in community participation. The event also seen the launch of 'Dambu-waa ngurra – Painting the Country' Exhibition in the Cultural Centre, showing the work of Aboriginal students who had been involved in a TAFE Outreach course focused on developing and enhancing artistic skills.

Thanks to all of those involved in organising this important event and making the day a success. Due to the popularity of the venue, it is intended for the Flag Raising to happen again at the Cultural Centre in 2018.

NAIDOC in the Gully



The NAIDOC in the Gully event was a great success again, now in its 5th year, the day was enjoyed by all that attended coupled with the clear though cool weather. Some highlights from the event included the great food supplied by the Golden Roast caterers, the reptile display, the kids boomerang painting workshop with and the ever popular face painting. Some key highlights that received great feedback and really added to the overall success of the event was the Traditional Dancers the 'Ngemba Dancers' at the start of the event the music throughout the day provided by the talented Bob Sutor. Every year the word spreads about the event in this significant Aboriginal Place with visitors on the day coming from as far as Sydney's Northern Beaches and South West Sydney. Many thanks again this year to the Gully Traditional Owners for hosting the event and putting their time and energy into making this day better each year. Thanks also to the other event organisers, the BMCC Aboriginal Advisory Council (AAC) and ACRC as well as thanks to all those that participated in roles on the day that made the day great.

We look forward to planning the event for next year and seeing were feedback from the community can continue to build on this important community celebration. Brad Moore BMCC "AAC"



NADOT Ball

Held in the beautiful Scenic world was what I am very humbled to say was our best ball yet. The organising was fabulous thank you to all the committee members, and all who contributed their time to bringing it all together. The MC's for the night, Wayne and Shaun, brought many smiles with their lively stories and commentary for the night. There was amazing donated gifts awarded to the deadliest dancers, best themed and lucky door prizes, but, the best prize was the heartfelt welcome to country by Auntie Dawn, Auntie Leonie and Uncle Colin Locke.

All were so honoured to experience the breathtakingly beautiful dance and story of Katie Williams and the wonderful dancers alongside the amazing dance and didge playing of Peter Williams.

The night was held in soul satisfying sounds, by the very talented and much loved band Bonnedoon, with many getting up to enjoy a dance. The staff at Scenic world were so helpful in every way and added to the great vibe for the night. The 'Snap Happy photo booth' brought lots of laughs, playing dress ups and posing making for awesome pictures. Wonderful Shaun also managed to double as photographer for the evening so there will be many great memories to look back on.

It was great to come together and hear of how ACRC is working with community on some great upcoming programs and supporting our community members in theirs. Everyone got an opportunity to support Aunty Elly Chatfield with a fundraising auction to help send Elly to Montreal for the 'Was Is Always', world Design Summit. For more information on how to support Elly, see the last page of the Black-mail.



Leura childcare looked after our little ones, so graciously we give thanks so that all who attended knew their bubs were in safe hands and having fun of their own.

The place looked amazing with our wonderful bush coming in to decorate the space adding a breath of life for us all. The most amazing sight was of all those who attended and came together to share the night, community together in respect and love, good healing with all. To all the Elders, families and amazing people who came, thank you, everything about the night was wonderful, for it was every one coming together to make it so.

Jade Pyle.

Waratah Woman
Teekee

With Ruby Red Lips
Caressing Her Green Carpet
Struts the Waratah

ACRC Women's Group

25th August at ACRC

Time: 10:30 to 1:30

Transport (\$2) and childcare
available

Free Complementary
Therapies treatment sessions
at Blue Mountains Women's
Health and Resource Centre.

Massage (up to 4 per year) and Acupuncture (up to 8 per year) are provided to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women without charge. Services are delivered by qualified and experienced practitioners. Blue Mountains Women's Health and Resource Centre adheres to a trauma-sensitive service delivery model. Please phone to make an appointment on: 4782 5133 also let them know you found out through ACRC.

Living my way: Getting prepared
Information-share for Aboriginal people with
disability, their families and communities



First Peoples Disability Network Australia is sharing information with Aboriginal people with disability, their families and communities about:

- getting the support you need to have a good life
- how community can support people with disability.

Present on the day - Community Transport, SRAC Ability Linkers, ACRC Aboriginal Cultural Resource Centre

Tuesday 15 August 2017

10:00am - 2:00pm

Old Katoomba Library

81 - 83 Katoomba Street, Katoomba

Lunch & tea provided. Everyone welcome.

Contact for more information

Dianne Brookes 0458 226 800 or enquiries@fpdn.org.au





Cootamundra Wattle

Acacia baileyana

Cootamundra Wattle is fast growing and a prolific producer of seeds. It moves into intact bushland displacing local wattles. Some infestations are scattered. Where it forms dense stands, it shades out local native plants. It also fixes nitrogen in the soil, making it unsuitable for the germination of many native plants.

- A shrub or small tree 4–8 m high. Branchlets have a waxy coating.
- Leaves are ‘feathery’, bipinnate (twice divided), silvery-blue to blue-green in colour and crowded on the stem.
- It has many spike-like clusters of bright yellow, fluffy, fragrant flower heads. It flowers winter to early spring.
- The plant produces many pods that are flattish and mature to brown or black. Seeds are long lived in the soil.

Because the seeds are bird spread, treat plants before they fruit. Bag and remove all pods. Seedlings and small plants are easily hand-pulled. Cut and paint or stem inject young plants. Stem inject large trees.

Photo and information from BMCC

WAS, IS, ALWAYS.

Elly Chatfield has been invited to travel to Montreal to attend the World Design Summit, '10 Days To Change The World' October 16-20, 2017. Elly Contributed to the creation of the international Indigenous Design Charter and will now assist in Launch of the Charter as the International Indigenous Design Ambassador.

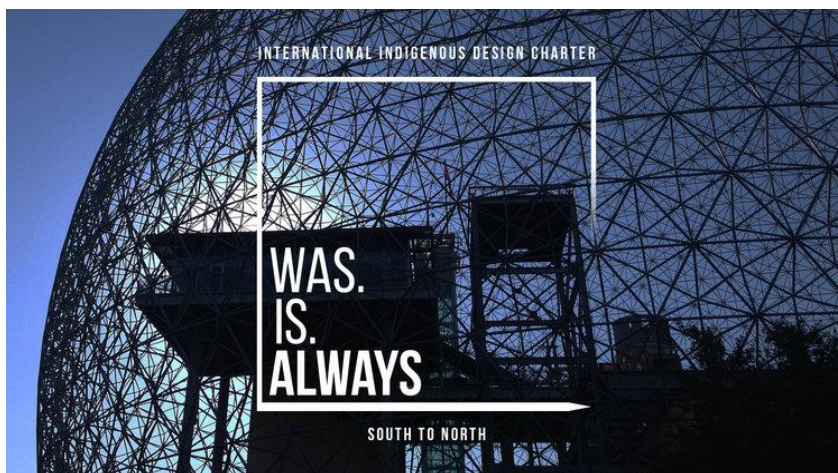
For further details of the world Design summit visit <https://worlddesignsummit.com>

To help sponsor and support Elly, come and join in at the fun of a 50's night (dress up) at the Katoomba Christian Centre to help Elly travel to Canada. This is an Alcohol, drug and smoke free event.

Venue: Katoomba Christian Convention Centre, 119 Cliff Drive, Katoomba.

All Enquiries you can contact Elly Chatfield on 04 7813 8681 or email her on dhulumay@yahoo.com.au.

Tickets are \$30, \$25 Concession, Children under 12 are Free.



Come see Elvis, Wagana, Blak Douglas, DIDJ Chatfield and Rag N Bone. There will also be an Art Auction, Games and Prizes.

Or you can make a donation directly to Elly.