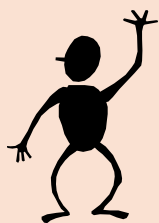


BLUE MOUNTAINS ABORIGINAL CULTURE & RESOURCE CENTRE



BLACK-MAIL

April

2017



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

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

Managers Message.

Well hasn't it been wet, I have started to pack a snorkel in my car just in case I have to start swimming to work. Well I can tell you that it has been very busy here at the ACRC office with all the changes coming into the community sector. Like many other service managers I have been flat out trying to keep up with the changes let alone run an organisation. With these current changes I will be registering ACRC as a NDIS provider so that we can service community members on the NDIS

program. As mentioned in previous Blackmails Transport for NSW requires ACRC to raise 15% of funds to go towards the funding of the Transport program, meaning that all clients will soon be asked for a contribution for the transport service. I would like to reiterate though that no client will be refused service in an emergency when they cannot or don't have the money to contribute. Unfortunately on top of transport for NSW wishing for ACRC to raise 15% of funds, we are also required to do the same for our Elders support program, both of these requirements are in our contractual agreements and for ACRC to continue to deliver these services. We will have to implement a clear price structure by the end of this financial year, meaning by the 1st of July this year ACRC will have a pricing structure in place to run in accordance with the NDIS requirements and the both the Transport and CHSP contracts. Once again no client will be refused service for urgent or emergency transport, we are here to help our community when they need it most.

I thank you for your understanding and I trust you all appreciate that we need to introduce these new changes so that ACRC can continue to service the Blue Mountains Aboriginal community for many years to come. I also wish you a happy and safe Easter.

Wayne Cornish

Fresh food program

Winmalee Neighbourhood Centre
With the support of SecondBite can provide
Fresh Vegetables, Bread and Fruit.
PH: 4754 4050

Also ACRC has some food available on
Monday between 10 and 11. Let us know if
you need a notification for when the food
arrives.

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 or the NAIDOC Art Exhibition please contact Wayne Cornish
manager@acrc.org.au
or 4782 6569

First Art Committee Meeting is 27th April 9:30AM at ACRC

We are also calling out for two community members to join the NAIDOC Awards Committee.

Far beyond blue
Sue Wildman

*Far beyond blue.. Far, far beyond the hue
Of eucalypt dappled leaves tipping red in the sunlight.
Far beyond the yellow cheeked black cockatoo poised
in acrobatic readiness on a topmost branch.
Beyond this, gliding over misted mountain turrets
and the cool caress of alpine breath
I see a pocket of colour in the sea of greens
encircled by sapling gums, a waratah has burst into
flame.
And it burns in full glory – ripe red bush anemone
waxy petal cupped.
A rival struts beneath its beauty, a golden crest
crowning gleaming white feathers. He lifts into the air
lands on a timorous branch of yellow pollen wool.
Warm sunlight saps the scene and I rise even higher
Far beyond the blue. Far, far beyond blues.*

Healthy 4 Life

Wellington AMS have secured the new tenure for the H4L program here in the Blue Mountains. It is with great sadness that all the H4L workers will be stood down from the 31st of March. The Aboriginal health coalition have been working hard on trying to secure these positions for a smoother transition, but we have been unsuccessful in this request. The Aboriginal health coalition have been informed that there will be some new staff servicing the current H4L clients here in the Blue Mountains from the 3rd of April; what that looks like I am unsure at this present stage. Darren Ah-See the CEO from the Wellington AMS will be addressing the Local Aboriginal health coalition on the 4th of April, so until such time my-self & ACRC have no more information for any community members except that we have been reassured the current clients will still receive help and service from Darren and his team.

Art Expo
NAIDOC 2017.

Time to get creative.

If you would like to submit to this year's NAIDOC Art Expo you can register your interest with ACRC. When we have the submission forms ready we will send them on to you.

02 4782 6569 admin@acrc.org.au



Elders Support

As you all know our lovely Elders Support Worker has been away for health reasons. I'm happy to inform you that Annette's surgery was a success and she is on the mend to good health. We have set a new date for La Perouse, so give us a call if your interested in coming. Sadly we are also aware of the changes that are happening with Healthy For Life. Please give us a call at ACRC if you need to have a chat and help with upcoming medical appointments. Let us know if you can make it to any of the outings or morning teas or lunches.

Expressions of interest – need 8 minimum to run the course

Learner driver program

- The course is flexible in its delivery generally 6 short days.
- If learners attend and complete the course they will be able to re-sit the learner test if they fail for free – over a 3 month period.
- Limited to Aboriginal people or non-Aboriginal with disabilities.

Remote area first aid

- This course is for people who may be required to prepare for and provide a first aid response in locations beyond the reach of timely medical assistance.
- You will learn how to respond in a remote emergency situation, apply appropriate first aid procedures, manage the incident and evaluate your own performance.

Chainsaw course

- Learn to operate and maintain a chainsaw.

Contact ACRC to register your interest. 02 4782 6569

These TAFE courses are free & can help reduce existing fines for people receiving Centrelink benefits.

Elders Olympics 2017

Our Elders are about to head off to Lake Macquarie for the Elders Olympics at Spear Point Complex on Bahtabah & Biraban Local Aboriginal Land Councils. We are hoping for good weather to support our teams playing footy in the hole, quoits, relay races, egg and spoon races, plus much more. They travel out on the 18th of April and return on the 21st of April. Let's wish them all the best as they go out there to give it their best.



Photo from last year's Olympics



WARATAH WARRIORS

This banner is to be used in the Elders Olympics in April.

The banner depicts totemic animals belonging to the Traditional Gundungurra and Darug people of the Blue Mountains. The Ringtail possum sits on a waratah keeping look out.

The Yellow Tail Black cockatoos fly over the Seven Sisters Dreaming, locally known as the Three Sisters. They represent the Ancestors, flying over country empowering our Waratah Warriors.

In the sky the clans are shown joined together and our spirits are linked, uniting us and strengthening our belonging to country.

Volunteer for ACRC

We are always in need of volunteers to help support our community. If you would like to become a volunteer driver, support our playgroup or elder events; please contact us.

ACRC Women's Group

21st April at ACRC

Time: 9:30am to 11:30am

Transport and childcare available

Yellomundee Firesticks Needs You!

Yellomundee firesticks are calling out for participants to take part in the next firesticks cultural burning program at Shaw's Creek Yarramundi.

Come and learn about culture and participate in a tradition that has taken place for thousands of years, or perhaps share what you already know.

Take part in what is called firesticks (a cool burn), the traditional way of burning and promoting growth. All are welcome.

Please get in contact if you would like to be a part of this process and for catering purposes.

Paul Glass: 4720 6202, 0400 938 545.
paul.glass@environment.nsw.gov.au

Yarning Circle

For Aboriginal workers to get together to network and talk over problems.

Last Monday of every month.
12:30 Blaxland Neighbourhood Centre.

Call Auntie Bev Eaton,
Ph: 04 1478 4290

Recognise Youth Workshop

'Recognise Youth' will run workshops on April 5 and 6 to learn more about recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders in the Constitution and for participants to become Youth Reps in the 'Recognise campaign'.

If you are interested go to:

www.recognise.org.au/blogs/nswactyouth

or email:

youth@recognise.org.au



Fire Stick Farming course

If you would like to become a recognised fire sticks farmer you can sign up for a two day course down at Penrith. Age 18+

One day will be at the Fire Museum where you learn about fire safety and protocols. The second day will be out in the field learning about firesticks.

If interested contact Wayne 4782 6569



Blackberry - Noxious Weed

Rubus Fruticosus spp. Agg.

Although Blackberry is great for jam it is an invasive species in the mountains. It forms huge impenetrable thickets with long arching thorny canes and displaces native flora. Leaves are hairy, prickly and divided into 3 or 5 serrated leaflets that are dark green on top and pale underneath.

Blackberry fruits are currently ripening, they typically ripen in late summer and autumn.

Blackberry is highly invasive and its canes root down to produce new plants. Wear protective clothing when treating, to protect you from the thorns.

Cut back the canes and cut through the 'root ball' and paint with herbicide.



Photos: Survival.org.au



Blue Mountains Computers offers all our customers the best possible solution to almost all your computer needs. We have very competitive prices and we can also come to you.

Mention this ad and receive 10% off your labour fees.

Ph: 4781 7111

CAN YOU EVACUATE?

Although the fire season is winding down we did experience weather this year that could have had catastrophic implications.

Can you evacuate if a major fire was to occur?

If you cannot let us know. In the event of an emergency we can provide the contact details of those vulnerable to emergency services to assist. But we need your permission to provide your details to other organisations like the fire brigades and emergency response teams.

Seeking Drivers

ACRC is seeking drivers, either paid or voluntary, in order to ensure we have the capacity to provide our Transport program. Must be fully licenced.

Send your resume to manager@acrc.org.au or contact Wayne 4782 6569