



BLACKMAIL

DECEMBER 2018

Manager's Message

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Hello beautiful people, yes it is that time again to sign off for the year and deliver my last words for 2018. Before I go any further I would like to congratulate and welcome onto the board for 2019. Brian Bell, Ellen Begg, Robert Harvey and Coralie Richmond. I would also like to congratulate Ian Frape for being reinstated on the board once again. I look forward to working with all of you in the coming year.



As many of you would know this year has been a very tough year here in the Blue Mountains for many community members having to deal with the loss and grief throughout the year of many loved ones and close friends. My deepest condolences go out to each and every one of you. I know Christmas is recognised as a happy time, when family and friends get together, but it is also a time when we feel that their presence is no longer with us. I know personally, through habit, we are always looking for our loved ones or close friends to arrive or to sit down at the table to eat. When it dawns on us that close ones won't ever physically arrive again at the table - that Christmas while a time for joy, can also heighten people's grief.

So, please take care of your loved ones this festive season, take care of yourself and each other. If you are alone or feel that you might be alone at this time of year, start asking around, ask what other people's plans are for Christmas, perhaps they might be alone too and you can share Christmas with them. I say this as none of us are unique. Many of us would have heard similar stories, or shared similar paths throughout our lives. So I ask once

again, ask around and look what is out there for you. There is always someone who would be willing to have you and share Christmas with you. You are all worthy of time and generosity.

Next year I will be looking forward to putting together committees for our cultural areas here at ACRC. I am also looking for people willing to come forward and provide input to a “sacred” area for our service men and women, which will be in the garden area where the old Catholic monument has stood for many years. I am inviting all community members to come here to ACRC. You are all welcome. Come and see all the changes here at ACRC, made to provide a cultural safe place for you. Come and sit with our workers and reconnect with ACRC, as this is our work place, but it is your community centre.

I would like to thank all the staff here at ACRC for all their hard work and dedication throughout the year. I would also like to thank the board and all community members who help and support ACRC and the community.

Wayne’s contacts: phone 0247 826 569, email manager@acrc.org.au

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year



Yours sincerely,

Wayne Cornish

Manager ACRC



Please check the additional fliers for more information about ACRC Christmas events.

- *Playgroup Xmas – 10th*
- *Community Xmas – 15th*
- *Elders Xmas – 18th*

**BLUE MOUNTAINS ABORIGINAL CULTURE AND RESOURCE CENTRE - DIRECTOR'S
REPORT FOR BLACKMAIL - NOVEMBER 2018.**

The Annual General Meeting of the Blue Mountains Aboriginal Culture and Resource Centre was held at Mid Mountains Community Centre on Saturday the 24th November 2018.

The meeting was chaired by Uncle Colin Locke and featured a series of visual presentations by the Manager and staff on the work of the Centre through Elders support activities, Koori Playgroup, Community transport and the Young Strong and Deadly Program.

Highlighted were the renovations and improvements to the Centre at Oak Street, Katoomba with new kitchen, carpeted meeting area, gardens and lawn area with fire pit and dance circle. Members were reminded that they were most welcome to use and visit the Centre.

The Directors reported on their aim to build stronger families and community through the six themes adopted in the 2018 Planning session:

- having culturally safe places and spaces
- keeping families strong
- building collective capacity
- 'skilling up' for jobs
- creating financial independence
- doing things 'right way' honouring culture, Elders, tradition and healing.

Four new Directors were welcomed onto the Board as a result of elections, Brian Bell, Coralie Richmond, Ellen Begg and Robert Harvey. The new directors join our current Directors Ian Frape, Teekee Marloo and Charmaine Tully on the Board.

The ACRC Board acknowledged the work of the Manager and staff in delivering ACRC programs to our community.

It is also important to pay tribute to those who founded the Blue Mountains Aboriginal Culture and Resource Centre and the many people who have worked and continue to work faithfully throughout the years to develop the Centre and the programs it now operates.

Blue Mountains ACRC Directors

Register of Members

The ACRC Board has recently updated the corporation's membership list. If you did not receive a copy of the notice for our recent AGM it is likely that you are not on the membership list.

If you suspect you are not on the membership list please contact ACRC who can verify your status.

New membership forms are available from ACRC. Once the membership form is submitted, the ACRC Directors will consider the application and make a determination. You will then receive a letter advising you of the outcome. Please let ACRC staff know if you would like to be contacted by a member of the Board.

Charmaine Tully (Director)

on behalf of the Blue Mountains ACRC Board

Merry Christmas &
Happy Seasons Celebrations

To all the Elders who have shared this year we wish you happiness and wellbeing for every moment through this coming season and into the new year.

It has been my great pleasure to share in 2018 with you all and I look forward to sharing many more wonderful times with you in 2019. Firstly though let's enjoy what we have left of this wonderful year.

Check out the December Elders Calender of Events.

Happy Birthday to all who share their birthdays in December and January we hope you all surrounded by joy wellbeing and love.

kindest regards

Elders Support Coordinator

Jade 47826569 or 0439595181

ANNUAL ELDERS OLYMPICS CALL OUT

ANNUAL ELDERS OLYMPICS AT PORT MAQUARIE 2019



LIMITED CAPACITY



DATES 10TH, 11TH AND 12TH OF APRIL 2019



PLEASE CALL JADE ON 47826569 TO

REGISTER





YOUNG, STRONG AND DEADLY

The Young, Strong and Deadly (YSD) youth program continues to grow and improve. Participants are successfully building connections, increasing support networks and gaining pathways to culturally sensitive services & employment.

All participants of the Young Strong & Deadly film are invited to attend an end of year BBQ and viewing of the final edit. Participants will be contacted of the exact date & time

Up coming YSD programs for 2019:

Katoomba High School— 21 & 22 February

Windsor High School— 8 & 15 March

Cobham Juvenile Justice Correctional Facility—Every second Monday until April

For more information or to register please contact

Matthew Tempest at assist@acrc.org.au or 0498 030 535

Art work by Lithgow Deadly Thinking participants, March 2018

Transport - Holiday period shutdown.

Transport services will cease services during the ACRC shutdown period from the 19th December until the 14th of January. ACRC apologises for the inconvenience. Please note that Great community transport will be providing services up until the 24th and they return on the second of January. Great community transport can be contacted on 4722 3083 and they will need 2-3 days' notice for bookings and to sign up new clients.



ACRC HOLIDAY HOURS

ACRC last day of operations will be Wednesday 19th of December. ACRC will be closed over the Christmas and New Year period. Limited staff will return January 7th, 2019, while all will be back at ACRC on the 15th of January.

ACRC management wish all community a safe and enjoyable holiday season and we look forward to returning in the new year.

Wishing all a very Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

THANKYOU

It is with great appreciation and sadness that we farewell our wonderful assistant manager Mick Beltran. Mick has made such genuine and valuable contributions to ACRC, in so many ways.

As an assistant manager to Wayne and the staff at ACRC, he provided strong supports in management and guidance and sourced strong funding while implementing great community applications. As a community member he shared insight, integrity and was a solid friendly knowledgeable and resourceful member of our community. As a staff member he was always there to support, assist and guide through team and individual tasks, with a fair and productive awareness. As a friend he became a part of the family and we are all very thankful to have met you Mick.

Thank you for sharing your skills, laughs, wisdom and fire. We wish you and your partner the very best in your new adventures and look forward when you pop into ACRC for a yarn.

Sincere regards

Management and Staff at ACRC



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- *Community Xmas - 15th*
- *Elders Xmas - 18th*



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