

InHouse our newsletter

a publication for workers & supporters of Pottsville Beach Neighbourhood Centre

February 2012

We acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which this newsletter is produced and pay our respects to Bundjalung Elders past and present.

NB remember to visit the Website:
www.pottsvillebeachnc.org.au



Auntie Kath Lena gives the Welcome To Country



Jacinta and Molly sing Moments



Pottsville Beach Public School Choir sing My Place





A VERY SPECIAL OCCASION

Friday, February 17 was a very special day in the life of PBNC and its workers, as about 200 people gathered to celebrate the momentous occasion of the opening of the new building.

PBNC workers (and the many other groups and individuals involved in the project) had laboured long and hard over the years and months to get to this point.

The building was opened amid great fanfare, with special guests, entertainment and refreshments.

Bundjalung Elder Auntie Kath Lena gave the Welcome to Country, followed by a blessing song from local Bundjalung entertainer and artist Magpie. The artist later gave a talk on his painting "Bush Tucker" which hangs in the upstairs foyer. He was accompanied by Graham Blanco on didjeridoo.

Following this came Pottsville Primary School Choir with three animated, rousing songs and then speeches from Mayor Barry Longland, MPs Geoff Provest and Justine Elliot, and Rhonda James, President of PBNC's Management Committee.

Next on the program were local girls Jacinta and Molly, with their very sweet voices and beautiful guitar.

The visiting dignitaries and centre representatives then cut the purple ribbon, and the crowd moved upstairs to hear Magpie's talk as the sounds of the didjeridoo echoed through the new building.

After touring the upstairs area, people gathered to enjoy a magnificent afternoon tea of cakes, slices and dips and sandwiches created by PBNC volunteers.

The weather was fine, the crowd enthusiastic and supportive and the atmosphere warm and welcoming as the new building settled into its spot next to the existing buildings.

Have you heard...?



* PBNC welcomes new volunteers Graham, Selina and Jane to the team. They will be working in the area of administration.

* Janice (who works in the Opp Shop) joined in a huge family reunion at Condong Bowls Club this month. The event was held to celebrate her sister Lorraine's 60th birthday.

About 150 guests celebrated and caught up on family news as they dined and danced the night away at the club.

* Lily and Tony (who work on the newsletter) enjoyed having their son Andrew back from Korea where he has been working for a year.

Andrew brought his beautiful Korean girlfriend with him and Lily and Tony are now learning Korean and indulging in healthy Korean food.

Andrew and his girlfriend (another Lily!) loved the Tweed Coast and were very impressed with the beautiful neighbourhood centre. Jua!

A uniquely Australian experience

Magpie and Graham, performers featuring at PBNC's building opening ceremony and on this newsletter's cover, can be seen at Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary, where they are part of an Indigenous troupe presenting a uniquely Australian night-time experience called *Yanguwah*.

Yanguwah, meaning "Welcome", comes from the Yugambah language, spoken by the Minyangbal (Currumbin to the Tweed River) and Kombumerri (the Gold Coast area) people.

The experience includes a traditional welcome ceremony, Kup Murri feast, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander songs and dances, and an introduction to Australian animals and their connection to Aboriginal people.

As part of the experience, you will get the chance to feed a friendly mob of kangaroos, hold a koala, crocodile or snake, or watch a Tasmanian Devil rip into his tucker. You'll also be invited to share in a delicious Kup Murri feast, where food is cooked in the ground in the traditional method.

Come along for a great night out, learn about and enjoy Indigenous culture and, by your presence, support Indigenous youth and others who participate in Yanguwah.

To book or find out more, visit the website www.cws.org.au or phone 1300 886 511.

A VOLUNTEER'S STORY

- Connie

Part of the success of the Opp Shop is the way in which clothes are presented. Volunteers sort through contributions of clothing as they arrive and determine those suitable for sale, recycling, rags or the bin.

Those to be sold need to be washed and ironed, and Connie is part of a dedicated team of ironers.

For many people, ironing is not a favourite task; yet Connie happily chooses to do it and has been ironing for PBNC for more than 10 years.

With her competent and relaxed manner, Connie seems to calm crumpled clothes into submission, ready for sale.

From her post at the ironing board, Connie is always ready for a chat and has some very interesting tales to tell of her time in New Guinea, where she and husband Blue ran a cocoa plantation near Rabaul on the island of New Britain.

Connie was married at Aitape near Wewak and was the first white bride to be married there. Her two children were born in New Guinea.

Connie remembers the fabulous fishing and snorkelling for which New Britain is famous.

Unfortunately Rabaul was almost decimated by an earthquake in 1994. But by then Connie and Blue were long gone, having made the difficult choice to sell their beloved plantation when independence came to Papua New Guinea in the seventies.



Above: The beautiful town and harbour of Rabaul, before it was devastated by an earthquake (note the smoking volcano in the background). Rabaul was Connie's closest shopping centre.

Live Life!

**2012 NSW Seniors Week
18th to 25th March, 2012**

Try something new, meet new people and **Live Life!** with a choice of more than 900 free and discounted events taking place this month during Seniors Week.

Delight in art workshops and exhibitions; participate in computer classes, dance classes and walking tours; enjoy music performances, a film festival and talks.

NSW Seniors Week is a major community event celebrating the valuable contribution of older people in NSW.

The event is coordinated by Ageing, Disability and Home Care (ADHC).



Visit the website
www.nswseniorsweek.com.au

Exciting workshops at PBNC

Two exciting workshops were held this month at PBNC's Tech Centre during Seniors Week. Titled *Getting Started In Family History*, the workshops offered seniors the opportunity to research their family history while continuing to build up their computer skills.

Brigitte, the workshop facilitator, was assisted by Drew, Jill and Adam. All four are enthusiastic about the events, and the workshops were fully booked.

"Many seniors find family history fascinating and very important. It can be shared with different generations, helps strengthen family relationships, and is also an important contribution to the community," said Brigitte.

Workshops consisted of about ten participants, and ran from 1pm till 4.30pm on Monday, March 19 and Wednesday, March 21.

If you are interested in learning more about your family history, phone **Drew on (02) 6676 4555** to register your interest in being part of a Family History Club (open to those of any age) which may be started at the centre soon, depending on demand.

Get those fingers tapping on the keyboard or pick up that pen! Let's have some contributions to **InHouse**.

If you have any interesting items or information for PBNC's wonderful, willing workers and supporters, email it to admin@pottsbnc.ngo.org.au or leave it at the office for Julie or Lily.

CENTRELINK AGENCY & PBNC ADMIN

Monday to Friday 8:30am - 1.30pm

DIABETES SUPPORT GROUP

with Ruth Sandbar Room
(first Wed each month) 2 - 4pm

LIGHT AEROBICS

with Vera - Sandbar Room
Tuesday 9.15 - 10.15am
Friday 9.15 - 10.15am

OPP SHOP

Monday 9am - 4pm
Tuesday 9am - 1pm
Wednesday 9am - 1pm
Thursday 9am - 1pm
Friday 9am - 4pm
Saturday 9am - 1pm
Market Sundays 7am - 1pm

POTTSVILLE PLAYGROUP

Sandbar Room
Monday 10am - 12pm
Tuesday 10.30am - 2.30pm
Thursday 10am - 12pm

PBNC TECHNOLOGY CENTRE COMPUTER LESSONS & INTERNET ACCESS

Monday 9am - 1pm
Tuesday 9am - 5pm
Wednesday 9am - 6pm
Thursday 9am - 5pm
Friday 9am - 5pm

RICHMOND TWEED MOBILE LIBRARY

Friday
9.45am - 12noon & 1 - 3pm
Ph 6625 1415

STRETCH YOUR MIND

with Adam
Thursday 12.30 - 2.30pm

TOY LIBRARY (FREE)

Monday to Friday
9:30am - 12:30pm

WORDSFLOW

Rosemary Nissan Wade
Sandbar Room
Friday 12.30 - 3pm

Contact Administration Office for
more details or bookings
(02) 66 76 4555.

Membership due: To remain a financial member of the centre for 2012, visit the Admin office to pay your \$2 membership fee. If applying for membership, ask the staff for an application form.

New members always welcome.

Side by Side is a social support group for children and young people with Aspergers and their parents or carers. The group meets during school terms from 1pm on the first Saturday of each month for combined primary and secondary school age, and the third Saturday each month for teens. Contact Debbie or Terry on 6676 0483 for more details.

what's on at the centre

Monday

Technology Centre
9am-1pm
Pottsville Playgroup
Sandbar Room
10am-12pm
Toy Library
9.30am-12.30pm

Tuesday

Technology Centre
9am-5pm
Light Aerobics
with Vera
Sandbar Room
9.15-10.15am
Pottsville Playgroup
Sandbar Room
10.30am-12.30pm
Toy Library
9.30am-12.30pm

Wednesday

Technology Centre
9am-6pm
Diabetes Support Group with Ruth
(1st Wed each month)
Sandbar Room 2-4pm
Toy Library
9.30am-12.30pm

Thursday

Technology Centre
9am-5pm
Pottsville Playgroup
Sandbar Room
10am-12pm
Stretch Your Mind
12.30-2.30pm
Toy Library
9.30am-12.30pm

Friday

Technology Centre
9am-5pm
Light Aerobics with Vera
Sandbar Room
9.15-10.15am
Toy Library
9.30am-12.30pm
Pottsville Toddler Tunes & Stories
Sandbar Room 10.30am-12pm (during school term)
Richmond Tweed Mobile Library Service
9.45am-12noon & 1- 3pm
(02) 6625 1415
WordsFlow with Rosemary Nissan Wade
Sandbar Room
12.30-3pm

Saturday

Opp Shop 9am-1pm

Sunday

Pottsville Beach Markets, Opp Shop (7am-1pm) & **Community Barbeque**
First and third Sunday each month

Next markets:
April 1st & 15th
May 6th & 20th
June 3rd & 17th

DANCING WITH NIKKI

This is a brand new program for the centre!

Nikki is conducting high energy freestyle dance classes for pre-schoolers to adults.

Come along and have some fun - it only costs \$5 per lesson.

For more information and class times, contact

Nikki van den Arend on 0417 036 609.

