

MURRIN BRIDGE NEWSLETTER

16th May 2006
Issue 11

Health News

The Doctors are at the Murrin Bridge Clinic on Wednesdays only. Patients are reminded to bring their Medicare card for all visits.

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Anyone wishing to have their BSL taken, your height, weight measured see Sandra at the Health Clinic. Also Blood will be taken on every second Monday.

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Sandra Coe is currently enjoying a months holiday. She will return to work in June.

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The health centre has had a number of windows broken recently. The kids responsible are known to MBAHS and the police have been instructed to pursue those responsible. We urge parents/ carers to instruct their children to play elsewhere.

Steps are being taken to ensure the windows, doors are secured to prevent future damages. The cost to repair any damages takes money away from programs that are available to the community.

We therefore seek greater support from community members in ensuring that the building is looked after for all to use.

Thank you

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Anyone wishing to become a member of Murrin Bridge Aboriginal Health Service is encouraged to apply for membership. To do so see Jacqueline at the Health Clinic for membership form.

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Please find transport booking arrangements attached at rear of newsletter. Please read through to be informed.

The Building Healthy Communities– BHC, program is due to commence in early June. A recent meeting involving Board Members of MBAHS, Area Health, Commonwealth Health Funding that was held at the Murrin Bridge Health Clinic officially endorsed the soon to be commenced program (please find a copy of program attached to newsletter)

The project is not set in concrete and it can be changed to suit the needs of the community if and when changes are necessary.

A steering committee has been formed to oversee the program which involves community members and Area Health representatives. Their task will be to ensure program meets objectives and needs of the community. A full time position for the Building Healthy Communities will be made available. The position will be to ensure the day to day running of the program.

This position is a community identified position and we will call for applications for the position of BHC coordinator in the next few weeks.

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Logo competition:

The logo competition for the MBAHS was decided upon last Tuesday 9th May. Because there was only two entries it was decided to award a prize to both entries. The design entered by Nita and Shirley Clarke was chosen for logo design. The design by Suzanne Dunston will be used for promotional material. A Barbeque will be held at the clinic next Tuesday to present prizes to winning entrants. Community invited to attend.

<h2 style="margin: 0;">CDEP NEWS</h2>

Trees:

The trees lining the main street look good.

Great work CDEP staff.

We ask those tenants that have trees in front to water the trees from time to time. Thank you.

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Centrelink:

There are proposed changes to AB-Study/ CDEP to come into place mid year. Any persons in receipt of both should talk to Pearl at Centrelink office.

Any persons with centrelink issues or concerns please feel free to call into centrelink office and discuss with Pearl.

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Vet Centre:

Bruce Cameron from State NSW Training attended a meeting to discuss the VET Centre with CDEP Board Members on the 3rd of May. Good News.

The VET Centre will proceed in the not to distant future with the building to be built by local apprentices. The facility will have 3 training rooms, admin section and amenities.

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CDEP Outlook:

There is huge changes to the CDEP structure as we know it or as we have been use to. These changes will have an impact on our community like we have never seen before, that is if we stay quiet and do nothing about these changes.

What we need to do as a community and the various aboriginal organizations that represent our people is to be smart and unite our efforts to ensure our future remains bright. Under the DEWR system their main focus is towards full time employment. While that's great if it was possible but many of our people have difficulty in gaining meaningful full time

employment outside CDEP and our aboriginal organizations.

We have been in contact with DEWR, Wagga to organize a meeting with CDEP Participants so that we can put across our concerns. But before we do that it would be beneficial for community organizations and CDEP Participants to meet to discuss options from our point of view.

Those CDEP Participant and or other organizations willing to actively participate in these meetings please inform CDEP staff so that we can arrange a suitable time and place.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF WE DO NOTHING, AND ACCEPT CHANGE???

The answer to this question is simple. Failure from our side to act constructively and positively will validate the proposed changes from DEWR's point of view.

Back in 1986 an old organization "Coonchie Corporation", which was seen as the life line of the community, was folded and with the closure of the organization went the dreams and aspirations of the people of that time. This community endured two years of harsh condition eg no employment, no self esteem. This is a path we don't want to head down again. Ever again.

So lets work together to see how we can secure our future and do it from our perspective. We owe it to those people that made Murrin Bridge a community in the 40's, 50's 60's and 70's. The past. We owe it to ourselves. The present. We owe it to our children. The future.

Murrin Bridge Aboriginal Health Service

The Murrin Bridge Health Clinic will be open for 5 days a week. It will now be open from Monday—Friday.
Also the position of vacant transport driver has been filled by John Marlow. Please note that transport will only be available for those who have made contact with the Aboriginal Community Health Support Worker (Jacqueline Dutton).

Aboriginal community health support worker:

We are looking at improving our transport service and Jacqueline Dutton has been moved into position of aboriginal community health support worker for a temporary period.

Jacqueline will no longer be the transport driver for medical purposes to other towns. She will now be handling all bookings for these matters. Sandra will no longer take bookings, so to make a medical transport booking or if you have any health related issues, ideas or concerns please contact Jacqueline Dutton.

MBAHS negotiating to commence building healthy communities program and in order to do so we are seeking members represented from the various organizations to be a part of a steering committee, these organizations have been contacted in relation to the above.

Happy Birthday to:

Shirley Clarke (39), Marlene Taylor (50th)

A reminder to anyone wishing to notify of a birthday please leave details at the CDEP office.

Thank you

Future MBAHS Meetings:

6th June

4th July

1st August

5th September

Anyone wishing to become a member of the MBAHS are welcome to apply, membership forms can be picked up from Jacqueline at the Health Centre.

Health Transport Bookings:

The transport to patient bookings has been going well to date. We still ask that anyone requiring transport or wishing to make a booking for health related issues please run it by Jacqueline Dutton first.

The MBAHS will review this program at a soon to be held general meeting to look at ways of improving the service. Anyone with suggestions on how the service can be improved can leave their suggestions, comments with Jacqueline, Craig, Abe, Marline, Alice, Dorothy or drivers John and Graham.

in the next couple of weeks we will have the transport bus replaced by a smaller 7 seater. We will also have a backup car for relief drivers as well as admin.

Preschool News:

We would like to welcome to our preschool a new child, her name is Mary. We would also like to welcome back Marley who was away for a while.

Last week the children had fun planting seed in pots for mothers day.

The preschool will be closed tomorrow as the staff will be in Dubbo at a Staff Development Day. The school will be open again on Thursday.

INFORMATION AND HELP

For Aboriginal Girls

Are you expecting a baby or think you might be?

Would you like someone to talk to or to get info on what you need to do to look after yourself and the baby?

If you've just had a baby would you like to have your baby checked?

Would you like info on how not to fall pregnant or get diseases?

Ring Susan Hall on 6898 1200 or just drop in to Community Health, Yelkin Street, on Thursdays or Murrin Bridge Health Centre on Wednesdays.