

Mullum Mullum

Indigenous Gathering Place



May 2011 Newsletter



Website - www.mmigp.org.au



Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place
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Autumn and Winter Activities



We are pleased to announce that MMIGP has returned to Croydon Way after repairs to the building as a result of rain water damage.

The repair work was major and included repair to the slab and structure of the building. In order for any of the work to be undertaken asbestos on the outside of the building needed to be removed and given the disruption of this work, and the need to ensure safety of staff and visitors, together with the Landlords Department of Human Services MMIGP was moved to

Patterson Street to allow continuation of programs. We would like to acknowledge the resilience of staff during this disruptive period who continued to deliver programs to a high standard and the patience of community and service partners.

MMIGP staff have a number of exciting activities planned over the coming months to include a range of fund raising activities as outlined in the newsletter, we look forward to your participation and if you are in a position to volunteer your time and support any of our programs please touch base with MMIGP staff to discuss.

Finally MMIGP wishes to welcome our two new Board of Directors, Wendy Harris and Ronnie Taylor. Wendy is well known for her work across the state in Indigenous employment and Human Resource Management, whilst Ronnie currently a stay at home Dad has a number of years experience in the Commonwealth sector and he and his family have been an active participant within MMIGP's programs for a number of years.

MMIGP Directors and Management.





Youth Network

Young Males Cultural Camp - DVD Presentation (March 2011)

After successful completion of the MMIGP Young Males Cultural Camp, a presentation was held to present the attendees with a copy of camp DVD developed by Chris Cosgriff (Homeleigh Productions) and personalised Boomerang created by Jamie Thomas.



MMIGP Youth Holiday Program – Term 1 (2011)

The youth kicked off the Term 1 Holiday Program with a Movie Day at Patterson Street. All 17 attendees enjoyed the films and BBQ lunch. The second activity was our Dreamtime Drama Workshop where our young people recreated a Indigenous Dreamtime story. The day was great and well attended by 14 young people. Thomas & Jamie also run a workshop about Lateral Violence for the kids explaining positive ways to deal with this issue.

Tuesday 19th April hosted a Traditional Sports Day. 13 attendees enjoyed many traditional games. The final activity of the Holiday program was an Arts & Crafts Day where boys created their own artwork and designs for their own Boomerang and the girls participated in hair braiding and necklace making.



In review, the Holiday program kicked off to a great start for the year and things only look bigger and better going into Term 2.

MMIGP Youth Drop-In Centre - Friday 27th May

Come along and join us for a game of pool, listen to music, have a feed and Yarn up about future programs. The Drop-In Centre will take place every second Friday, 5.30pm to 7.00pm at 47 Patterson Street, Ringwood East.

- *Thomas Harrison*



Fundraising

MMIGP staff have been super busy working on plans to raise funds for programs and the building fund. In May, we hosted the first Market Day which was a great success with plans to form a committee and run these more regularly.

The Mullum Mullum Cultural Dance group has also been very busy performing at many external functions. Whilst this is also an opportunity to raise funds, the dance group has been focused upon providing our young people with an opportunity to connect with culture and share in one another's culture and traditions, along with a strong focus on families and encouraging parents to come along and support the dance group.

MMIGP has a number of Lunch Box cultural sessions planned which will be circulated and located on the MMIGP website soon, targeting external service partners.

Loris McLean and Helene McNamara were the successful winners of the 2 x Mountain Bikes which were raffled at the MMIGP Cultural Open Day & Market. Congratulations to you both.

The success of our fundraising activities relies on the support of community and volunteers, therefore if you have time to support the upcoming planned fundraising activities please give Thomas or Jamie a call on 9725 2166.



Busy Womens 'get active program' - 2 June

MMIGP has introduced a weekly program for women on the go. We have recognised that a large number of women living in the east are busy in full time employment and other activities and unable to attend scheduled women's group meetings that take place over a few hours. Each Thursday from 12.00 -1.30pm, MMIGP will lead an active women's group to include the following;

Week 1 – Meeting at Patterson Street to discuss the program and plan activities (2 June)

Week 2 – Walk around Lilydale lake- bring your lunch and walking shoes

Week 3 – Patterson Street for some inside activities

If you are interested in participating please come along to the first meeting so we can make some forward plans for this program and determine the best activities and times for this group to take place.

R.S.V.P- mmigp@mmigp.com.au



Brothers Day Out

The MMIGP Men's Network will host the first Brothers Day Out event to be held in the eastern region. The events will take place in two dates in June: Sunday 5th June and Sunday 26th June.

For more information, please contact Jamie Thomas on 9725 2166 or

E-mail: Mensworker@mmigp.com.au



Men's Network

Cabbe mela mung'il, Gantanwarr, Wunman njinde.... HELLO, how is everyone adjusting to this cold weather brrrrrr. The men's group has been going from strength to strength over the last couple of months with new participants getting involved. We now have about 20 men coming along at different times with a regular core group of about ten fellas.

Currently we are in the middle of the MMIGP men's pool challenge with the stand out players being Ronnie Taylor and Kevin Dawe closely followed by Uncle Eric and Dave Clare, we will be running this for a few more weeks with a BBQ tea and trophy presentation to finish it off.

Exciting news is that we have secured funding to host two brothers Day out events with the support of Relationships Australia Victoria who gained funding to sponsor this event, stay tuned for more detailed information.

We had a great planning night at our last men's group, with a calendar of events and activities outlining our possible yearly program. Events include dreamtime at the G, another visit to Marngrook footy show and weekend fishing trip to the mountain for trout and freshwater crayfish to name a few.

There has been a keen interest from some of the men to also participate in a MMIGP men's dance group, we will be meeting after the Wednesday nights cultural group.

Please feel free to contact me if you wish to come along or you wish to yarn or offer your ideas about new initiatives.

Wuurruk, Yarrabee, Naarkan, goodbye

Jamie Thomas

Wellbeing Team member

E-mail: Mensworker@mmigp.com.au



Wood Burning @ Men's Group



Men's Pool & Dart Competition





Cultural Group

The MMIGP Cultural Group runs fortnightly on Wednesday evenings, 5.30pm to 6.30pm at 47 Patterson Street, Ringwood East. The Cultural group focuses on cultural learnings and offers the opportunity for community to come together in a shared and relaxed environment to learn about Aboriginal culture.



MMIGP Cultural Group

For more information about the Cultural Group, please contact

Jamie Thomas on 9725 2166 or

E-mail:

Mensworker@mmigp.com.au



MMIGP Cultural Group



Harmony Day

The Mullum Mullum Cultural Dance group presented a great performance at 'Harmony for Everyone' Event held at Croydon Secondary College on Saturday 9th April. The event featured performances from many cultural groups and was a huge success celebrated by all involved. In regards to bookings & upcoming Dance performances, please contact Jamie Thomas on 9725 2166.



Mullum Mullum Cultural Dance Group



Mullum Mullum Cultural Dance Group



Mullum Mullum Cultural Dance Group



Elders Group

Elders visited Diggers Seed Nursery in Dromana on 7th April, where they wandered around the picturesque gardens and took in the views of the bay and surroundings. This was followed by a delicious lunch at the Rosebud RSL.

A guest speaker from VALS attended on May 5 and spoke about wills and estates. The Elders asked plenty of questions and with even more unanswered, another time will need to be made for individual questions to be answered. Upcoming events will include some in house lunches with guest speakers and lunch and entertainment at the Dorset Gardens.

A Cosy Reading Corner will be set up for the Elders. Before each in-house lunch, Aunty Lou Baulch will begin reading Jackson's Track. It is an aspiration of some community members to start a library within our cosy corner. Books on Aboriginal history or books by Aboriginal Authors would be greatly appreciated.



Volunteer Network

The MMIGP Foodbank continues to grow as a very important program for our community. Six New Volunteers have signed up to Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place and are about to commence with many of our exciting programs.



MMIGP Cultural Open Day & Market



Harmony for Everyone Event



MMIGP Cultural Open Day & Market



Foodbank

Food Bank is running excellent due to the fantastic work by the volunteers.

Please remember to bring your green bags and cooler bags.

It is important to take frozen items straight home so they don't thaw out.

Fare share deliveries have been on a Wednesday morning so if you could pick your box up between 12.45pm and 1.45pm that would be great. Please check our information board at 47 Patterson Street for weekly Foodbank updates.

To order a box you must ring MMIGP the MONDAY prior to FOODBANK by 4.00pm.

You must be a member of Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place, living in the EMR with a current Health Care Card.

The primary staff contact for Foodbank is Jamie Thomas.



Burrai Playgroup

All sessions run at 47 Patterson Street, Ringwood East between 10:30am till 1.00pm.

For any further inquiries contact Mullum Mullum, Monday & Tuesday or E-mail mmigp@mmigp.com.au





Good Bye

MMIGP is saying goodbye to a long standing employee, Jenni Swindon. Jenni has been employed by MMIGP since 2007 and has been instrumental in supporting the administration management and programs such as Burrai playtime during her time with us. I am sure the community will join the Board of Directors and management is wishing Jenni and her family well into the future.



Miranda Madgwick is also leaving MMIGP to take up a new role within community. Miranda had supported the delivery of Wellbeing projects over the past 8 months and has been instrumental in setting up the Indigenous Tenants as Risk position. We also wish Miranda and her family well.



Traysy Kay who has been backfilling the CSLO position whilst Emma was on Maternity leave and will be returning to her role with DHS in June. Emma will continue on Maternity leave and this position will be advertised. Many thanks to Traysy for stepping in and supporting MMIGP in backfilling this role.



Congratulations

Congratulations to Aunty Dot Peters who was one of the Victorian Women's Honour Roll Inductees for 2011, along with Professor Muriel Bamblett, CEO of Victorian Aboriginal Childcare Agency.

The Victorian Women's Network Honour Roll, acknowledges and celebrates the achievement of Victorian women from all different walks of life.



Congratulations to Melissa Stevens - on graduating from her Postgraduate Studies in Corporate Management with Deakin University in April 2011 majoring in Human Resource Management and Project Planning.



Congratulations to Loris McLean and Helene McNamara the winners of the 2 x Mountain Bikes which were raffled at the MMIGP Cultural Open Day & Market. Congratulations to you both.



Volunteer Presentations

MMIGP Board of Directors and staff would like to say a big THANK YOU to all our Volunteers, your ongoing support and contributions do not go unrecognised.

Our hard-working MMIGP Volunteers were recognised by receiving a 'Certificate of Appreciation to Australian Volunteers' signed by Prime Minister, Julia Gillard.

To celebrate this achievement on National Volunteer Week 2011, an Afternoon Tea took place on Wednesday 11th May, where the certificates were presented to our Volunteers.



National Volunteer Week 2011: MMIGP Volunteers Afternoon Tea

**MMIGP would also like to thank Volunteers who were unable to attend:
Margaret Sprong, Bill Van Baarle, Geoff Buzaglo, Sandra Clarke, Sandra Bugeja,
David Clare and Uncle David Farrall**



Health Promotion

A number of activities are planned in the coming months to include health promotion guest speakers and other workshops. Please check the website regularly for updates and information will be sent out to community as activities are booked and confirmed.

Health promotion is a theme across all our programs and with the upcoming Brothers Day Out our men have been involved in the planning to identify key health themes important to them. Recently we have introduced a health program for women focused upon being more active and managing the demands of daily life.



Reconciliation Week 2011

Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place



Respect

Understanding

Culture

Sharing Information




Acknowledging & Respecting the land we stand on of the Wurundjeri people past and present.

MMIGP Reconciliation Morning Tea



Come along and join us for our Reconciliation Morning Tea

When - Friday 27th May
Where - 47 Patterson Street
Time - 10am

Please RSVP to this event for Catering Purposes

Ph - (03) 9725 2166
 mmigp@mmigp.com.au
 www.mmigp.org.au

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Cultural Lunch box	
Reconciliation - what does this mean to Aboriginal people	30th May During Rec Week
Yarn and damper by the fire (Yarn with our living books)	1st June During Rec Week
Making your service culturally friendly	6 June 2011 \$15.00 per head
Consultation with the Indigenous community - strategies for implementation	4 July 2011 \$15.00 per head
NAIDOC week - "On the Couch" - learn about the Indigenous community of the EMU, community leaders and aspirations	6 July 2011 \$30 per head (to include light Supper)
Building partnerships with Aboriginal services within the EMU and more broadly.	1 August 2011 \$15.00 per head
Closing the Health Gap - what does this mean to Aboriginal people?	5 September 2011 \$15.00 per head
Yarn and damper by the fire (Yarn with our living books)	3 October 2011 \$30 per head to include light Supper

For more information contact Melissa or Jamie - mmigp@mmigp.com.au or website www.mmigp.org.au minimum 10 participants.

Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place is hosting our annual Reconciliation Morning tea on Friday 27 May 2011, 10.00 at 47 Patterson Street, Ringwood East. We would be delighted if you could join us to celebrate the work we have achieved together over the past 12 months.

Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place is hosting the 1st of many Cultural Lunchbox sessions starting with 'Reconciliation - What does this mean to Aboriginal people' taking place on Monday 30th May.

RSVP's essential for catering purposes on 9725 2166 or mmigp@mmigp.com.au

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NAIDOC Week


Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place is hosting our annual NAIDOC Week Family Day on Sunday 3rd July 2011, 11.00 to 2.30pm.

We would be delighted if you could join us to celebrate the work we have achieved together over the past 12 months.

A reminder will be sent out closer to the date.



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NAIDOC Family Day 2011

Enjoy a fun filled NAIDOC Day



Flag raising

Kids Activities 

BBQ Lunch 

Music Performances 

When - Sunday 3rd July 2011
Where - 47 Patterson Street, Ringwood East
Time - 11.00m to 2.30pm

RSVP - 24th June 2011
Ph: (03) 9725 2166

Big Program of Reconciliation Week Activities Planned for Manningham

Manningham is planning for whole range of cultural and celebratory events for Reconciliation Week 2011. Manningham Council will soon be issuing a brochure of the full list of activities and this will be made available at MMIGP for members to check. However Reconciliation Manningham wishes to draw attention to four special events it is conducting on behalf of the Manningham Council.

First, John Baxter will be conducting a brief historical walk along the riverfront at Warrandyte on Wednesday May 25th starting 10am at the car park next to the Stonehouse Gallery, 103 Yarra street. This will then be followed by a light lunch at the Warrandyte café at 12 noon with a talk by John Baxter about the traditional importance of such riverfront areas. There is an option for a set menu lunch at \$10. For further details and bookings ring John on 9898 7826.

Second, Jim Poulter, whose family first settled in the area in 1840 and established close relationships with the local Wurundjeri people, will be conducting a historical walk and talk. It will involve an easy two kilometer stroll along the Yarra Trail at its junction with the Mullum-Mullum Creek. Through oral history passed down both through his family and Aboriginal sources, Jim has a unique knowledge of Aboriginal and pioneer historical sites and events. Jim has conducted such walks many times in the past and participants always find them engrossing.

The walk will start in the bus parking area at Petty's Orchard, Homestead Rd Templestowe, at 11am on Friday June 3rd and last no more than two hours. Track shoes or comfortable footwear is all that is required. There is no need to book or RSVP, just turn up, but if you have any enquiries feel free to contact Jim on 9842 3598.

Third, a film night will be held at The Pines Learning Centre, Blackburn Rd East Doncaster, on Friday 3rd June at 7.30pm. We will be screening the film 'Our Generation'. All MMIGP members are especially welcome and if you are intending to come just give John Baxter a call on 9898 7826.

Fourth, Reconciliation Manningham with the support of Manningham Council will be holding a 'Literature Launch' at the Manningham Gallery 699 Doncaster Rd on Tuesday 31st May at 4pm. The launch will involve three things, the first being the historical and educational display RecMan has developed. Aunty Doreen Garvey-Wandin has kindly agreed to launch the display. Those of you who attended the recent MMIGP festival day would have had a preview of the display, but it is a work in progress and continues to develop as we get feedback.

The second thing to be launched is a new edition of Jim Poulter's celebrated children's book, 'The Secret of Dreaming'. Jim has an established reputation as an author and publisher of Aboriginal theme children's books to which iconic Elders such as Banjo Clarke have given their names and support. Aunty Walda Blow has kindly agreed to launch this book.

The third thing to be launched is Jim Poulter's brand new book, 'Sharing Heritage in Kulin Country'. The book traces Jim's family history of involvement with the Aboriginal community, establishes the relationship between the tribal football game of Marngrook and Australian football, and for the first time explains the nature of traditional Aboriginal religion. Uncle Reg Blow, who Jim has known and worked with for over 30 years, has kindly agreed to launch the book. Any MMIGP members interested in attending are most welcome to contact Jim on 9842 3598.