



Wandiyali Newsletter



Tuesday 27
March 2018

ISSUE #005

Welcome to 2018!!

March already! 2018 is already in full swing and shaping up to be a good one here at Wandiyali.

We kicked off the year with the Wandiyali Indigenous Classic. A Surfest event that see's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander surfers from around Australia compete in divisions of Juniors, Women's, Longboards and Opens.

We have more on this event in the "What's Been Happening" section.

All of our services are in full operational swing and this month we share more information with you on our Out of Home Care Children's Service department.

As our organisation grows, expansion is inevitable. We now have four bases for our services:

**Wandiyali Head Office – 3/37
Griffiths Road Lambton**

- Administration and Corporate Services
- ACRASS
- GHSH
- Out of Home Care Children's Services
- MST-CAN

**Wandiyali Brighter Futures – Level 2
1a Oakland Street Glendale**

**Wandiyali Child Care Centre – Level
1, 1a Oakland Street Glendale**

**Nyugumba and Birriwal - 29
Shearman Ave Raymond Terrace**

For more information on our services, visit our Website
www.wandiyali.com.au

We are now connected on Facebook and Instagram so make sure you follow us there to stay up to date with news, events and activities within the community



wandiyali_newcastle



Wandiyali

What's been happening?

Wandiyali Indigenous Classic, Saturday 17 – Sunday 18 February Merewether Beach

The Wandiyali Indigenous Classic was held on Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 February this year.

This is the first time that the event has been held over the course of a weekend. Because of this we wanted to extend the event, including more of the community in activities.

The event kicked off on Saturday morning with a Welcoming Ceremony. This was an amazing way to commence what was going to be a great weekend. Uncle Bill Smith performed a Smoking Ceremony, followed by Acknowledgement to Country by Uncle Kevin McKenny. Jacqui Allen performed the National Anthem in Language and there were outstanding performances by two dance groups – Jesmond Callaghan College and Wakalda Dance Group. The Street Warriors wrapped up the ceremony with a great performance that got the crowd and competitors amped up for the day.

Massive swells pounded Merewether Beach which seen the Juniors and Womens heats moved to Nobby's Beach while the Longboard and Opens heats kicked on at Merewether.

Unfortunately, due to the large swell and dangerous conditions the Wandiyali Indigenous Youth Surfing Clinic was unable to go ahead on this weekend, but the kids were able to participate in some beach games and join in the fun of the Gathering,

followed by a swim down at Merewether Baths. At the end of the day participants were each presented with a surfboard, which they are able to keep and continue to build on their skills. The lessons were postponed until 10th and 11th March.

Up at Jefferson Park we held the inaugural Wandiyali Gathering, a showcase of market stalls, workshops, music entertainers, games and activities. It was a great event and we cannot wait to expand on this more next year!

It was great to see so many community members come along to the Wandiyali Classic this year. With so much to do, it was a great event for the whole family!!

On Sunday conditions really turned it on for the finals, with swell reaching up to 10-12 foot! There were many broken boards on the day and it certainly made for an interesting comp.

The finals for each division saw the following results:

Juniors:

1. Finn Hill (Avoca Beach, NSW) (11.6)
2. Rohnin Henry-Micale (Bellambi, NSW) (8.2)
3. Taj Simon (Port Kembla, NSW) (7.8)
4. Jed McDonagh (Forster, NSW) (5.1)

Women's:

1. Jasmine McCorquodale (Bateau Bay, NSW)
2. Charlie Law (One Mile, NSW)
3. Jalaan Slab (Fingal Head, NSW)
4. Kyra Simon (Forster, NSW)

Longboards:

1. Tom Avery (Kingscliff, NSW) (13.8)
2. Jamie Archibald (Port Macquarie) (7.9)

3. Bijang Slabb (Fingal Head, NSW) (3.8)
4. Robert Page (Kempsey, NSW) (3.6)

Opens:

1. Joe Haddon (Forster, NSW) (17.4)
2. Noah Munro (NoraVille, NSW) (12.7)
3. Zac Condon (Lennox Head, NSW) (9.8)
4. Russell Molony (North Shelly, NSW) (o)

Russ Molony, who was also surfing at Newcastle beach today for North Shelly Boardriders in the nudie Australian Boardriders Battle, arrived late for the final because of team duties. By doing so, Molony sacrificed the opportunity to win his 12th Wandiyali ATSI Classic.

Former pro surfer and 1988 Pipeline Master's champion Robbie Page reminded the crowd at the presentation that Russell Molony gave up the opportunity for individual reward in the Indigenous Classic by surfing for his team mates in the ABB.

"Let's not forget what Russ Molony did today where he made a choice to surf for his club. That's worth acknowledging and a round of applause," Page said to an appreciative crowd.

A huge congratulations goes to Joe Haddon who took out his 4th win at the Indigenous Classic (previous wins in 2012, 2005 and 2004) and secured a wildcard entry into the Burton Automotive Pro.

Of the event, Haddon says *"Wandiyali put everything into this event, they make it such an unreal event for all of us – it's got to be the best Indigenous comp we have".*



Division finalists – Tom Avery; Finn Hill; Jasmine McCorquodale; Joe Haddon



Joe Haddon, 2018 Wandiyali Indigenous Classic Opens Champion with the Russ Molony Perpetual Trophy

Follow us on Facebook for full gallery of photos

Wandiyali Youth Surfing Clinic, Saturday 10 – Sunday 11 March Stockton Beach

The Wandiyali Youth Surfing Clinic is an initiative to introduce our local kids to the beach and sport of surfing.

Initially to be held alongside the Wandiyali Indigenous Classic, the event was postponed due to rough surf conditions.

34 children and young people were registered for the event, after advertising was made on our social media sites.

The surfing instruction took place at Stockton Beach over two days.

Newcastle Surfest Surf School hosted the lessons for our kids. Each session started out with some basic beach safety, followed by on-shore surfing instruction before the kids hit the water with the surfboards that they were presented with at the Wandiyali Indigenous Classic weeks before.

The smiles on the kids faces when they caught their first wave was awesome!! Whether they stood up or not, they just loved riding that wave!!

Feedback from parents and participants was excellent and we hope that this is an activity that we can continue to run in the future.



Follow us on Facebook for full gallery of photos

‘Thank you’ to our Sponsors

Wandiyali is extremely grateful to our sponsors who helped make this year’s Wandiyali Indigenous Classic the amazing event that it was!

Without their support we would not have been able to offer activities that brought in the community, such as the Youth Surfing Clinic or the Cultural Gathering.

‘Thank you’ to our amazing sponsors for all of your support and in making this event such a success for the whole community.



We would like to acknowledge that funding for the Wandiyali Cultural Gathering was provided by the NSW Government.

Service in Focus

Out of Home Care Children's Services – Carer Support Unit



Wandiyali's Carer Support Unit (CSU) sits within the Out of Home Care (OOHC) Children's Services Department.

The Carer Support Unit works to recruit, assess, train, review and support the OOHC carers that work with Wandiyali.

Being a foster carer is hard and finding the right people to care for our kids can be even harder.

There is an extensive assessment process that people must undertake before they can be approved as carers.

Some of the requirements that must be met before being approved as a carer are:

- Cleared Working With Children Check
- National Policy Check
- Community Services Check
- Health check
- Reference check
- Carer Suitability and Capability assessment, as

well as suitability of household members

- Authorised training

And this is just the beginning of the assessment process.

But the experience can be extremely rewarding for carers.

"This is something we were meant to be (carers). It's a passion. Aboriginal children need to stay in an Aboriginal community. They need to know where they come from, who they are, and their culture. It's the best place for them to be, with an Aboriginal carer"

Jenny Watters, long-term carer with Wandiyali for Fostering NSW
(<http://www.fosteringnsw.com.au/carers-stories/foster-carers>)

"It is the most rewarding thing, being a carer. To give a child something they would not have otherwise is very special" Lauren Chambers, Wandiyali Carer.

Wandiyali carers are supported in many ways with training, advice and guidance. Throughout the year we host and participate in events aimed at carers.

Each year, to align with Foster Care Week, we participate in an interagency Carers Picnic. All of the OOHC Agencies in the Newcastle Region unite to host an event for carers and kids. It is always a great day filled with games, entertainment, food, drinks, giveaways and activities.

In addition to this Wandiyali hosts an annual Carers Appreciation Dinner. This is a night off for carers to enjoy good food and entertainment. It is also a great chance for carers to get together, meet and connect with other carers.

If you have ever thought about being a carer, or would simply like more information, then please contact our Carer Support Unit today on 4957 5900 or csu@wandiyali.com.au

Do you think our kids should stay connected to culture?

Do you have room in your home and your life for a child or young person?

Have you ever thought about being a foster carer?

If you answered "Yes" to any of these questions, Wandiyali Carer Support Unit want to hear from you!



Types of Care

- Respite Care – care provided for regular, short stays
- Emergency Care – care for a child for a short period while decisions are made about long-term care options
- Interim/Restoration Care – unspecified in time while working with families towards restoration
- Long-term Care – for children who cannot live with their families and need a family to grow up in until circumstances change or they turn 18
- Guardianship

Kids Space!!

SUPER EASY EMOJI EASTER EGGS



What you will need:

- Yellow, light blue, and white acrylic paint (optional: red)
- Small paint brushes
- Black Paint Pen (other colors as needed) – we used red too!
- A Dozen Hard-boiled Eggs

What to do:

- Cook the eggs. Allow them to cool and dry
- Paint all of them yellow to start and allow to dry overnight
- For the details on the eggs, use black and red paint pens to add your designs. This is where you (and the kids) can get really creative and choose some of your favorite emojis to recreate!
- After the black parts dried, add blue and white paint to some of them so that the contrast was bold and bright. ***White acrylic paint appears much brighter than using a paint pen

Rice Bubble Easter Egg Treats



What you will need:

- Box of Rice Bubbles
- Bag of miniature marshmallows
- Butter
- M&M's (or other small treats)
- Plastic easter eggs or easter themed shapers

What to do:

- Melt 3 tbs butter in a frypan and mix with 4 cups mini marshmallows Stir until melted
- Remove from heat and add 6 cups Rice Bubbles Stir until the mixture is combined
- Use the easter egg shapers and fill with the mixture. Add an indentation in the egg for M&M's



- Create another egg to close the egg and hide the sweet surprise!
- Enjoy!!



Wandiyali Child Care Centre

Autumn 2018 Newsletter

We have all enjoyed a lovely start to 2018! We have welcomed some **new friends** this year and everyone is settling in well. We are enjoying getting to know the children's routines, interests and strengths. Educators have begun working towards goals for your children through individualised programs and small group programs. If families have any information, questions or concerns please do not hesitate in speaking to an Educator and writing in the communication diary or using our suggestion box which is located at the sign in desk on the front verandah. Also, please check out our **daily program**. This will give you information about what experiences the children have been involved in each day and any areas of interest that the Educators are working on with the children. We would love families to have input into our program if you wish to do so.

Your **child's portfolio** is located above the lockers. You are welcome to look in this as the year progresses. These will be available for you to take home at the end of the year, until then they must stay at the centre. If you would like, you can bring in a USB now that will be attached to your child's portfolio with their photos on it. Please ensure this USB has your child's name on it.

We feel connected. We have had wonderful visits from last year's Preschoolers in their new school uniforms and photos to share with all of us.

Our Centre, we belong. We have made a few more changes to our room, purchased some new furniture and looking at different areas to display our program. The Educators make these changes after reflecting on how the environment is impacting on children's learning and behaviour and providing opportunities for small/large group experiences as well as time for children to spend time on their own. We look forward to our new outdoor resources coming soon!

The **daily centre fee** is \$80. Each family's fee will be different depending on their CCB Percentage and CCR. Families must ensure they stay one week in advance at all times. If you would like to know your weekly payable amount but are unsure on where to find this on your bill, please see Angela or Jodi. The best way to stay on top of your fees is to set up direct deposit however, EFTPOS is also available. We currently have vacancies. If families could share our Facebook post about these vacancies or recommend our service if you know of anyone looking for care it would be greatly appreciated.

Key Dates and Announcements

MARGO THE DENTAL NURSE:

MARGO THE DENTAL NURSE WILL BE VISITING US AT THE CENTRE ON THE **14TH MARCH**.

ST PATRICK'S DAY: WE WILL BE CELEBRATING ST PATRICK'S DAY WITH FUN EXPERIENCES ACROSS THE WEEK OF THE **12TH-16TH MARCH**. IF YOUR CHILD WOULD LIKE TO COME TO THE CENTRE DRESSED IN GREEN THAT WOULD BE GREAT!

EASTER: WE ARE RUNNING A CHOCOLATE FUNDRAISER THIS YEAR TO SELL TO FAMILY AND FRIENDS. ALL MONEY RAISED WILL DIRECTLY GO IN TO PURCHASING NEW RESOURCES OR EXPERIENCES FOR THE CHILDREN. OUR EASTER HAT PARADE IS ON

WEDNESDAY 28TH MARCH FROM 9:30 TO 11:00AM.

THE EASTER BUNNY WILL BE MAKING AN APPEARANCE AND WE WILL BE HAVING AN EASTER EGG HUNT AS WELL. WE ASK FAMILIES TO BRING ALONG A PLATE OF NIBBLES TO SHARE AND IT IS BYO DRINKS. WE LOOK FORWARD TO CELEBRATING WITH YOU ALL ON THIS SPECIAL DAY!

WEDNESDAY 9TH MAY Mother's Day

WE WILL BE HOLDING A MORNING TEA.

Meet the 'Wandi Crew'

In this issue we introduce you to our Carer Support Unit Coordinator, Stephanie Smith. Steph co-ordinates the Carer Support Unit (CSU). Wandiyali's CSU is responsible for supporting, recruiting, assessing, re-assessing and training our carers.



Name: *Stephanie Smith (Steph)*

How long have you been a part of the 'Wandi crew'? *Almost 5 years*

What is your job here at Wandiyali?
Carer Support Unit Coordinator

What do you love most about your job?
Meeting people, the children and knowing I'm doing something worthwhile

3 words to describe Wandiyali?
Family, friends, community

What cartoon character would you choose to describe yourself and why?
Workmates describe me as Rapunzel (because of her long hair!)



Community Info

In this section we will share information from around the Newcastle, Lake Macquarie, Hunter Valley and Port Stephens communities.

If you have anything that you would like to have featured in this section of our newsletter, please forward it to shannon@wandiyali.com.au.

Weaving group
for Aboriginal Women

Nikinpa Aboriginal Child & Family Centre
9:30 — 11:30
Wednesdays - beginning 28th March

Come and have a Yarn, learn a traditional skill, hang out with a Sista.
RSVP would be great for catering
49792400
Facilitated by

