

PLATYPUS TRACKS

WINTER EDITION 2023



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We wish to acknowledge the traditional owners of the land of Ballarat, The Wadawurrung people.

We acknowledge their Elders, Past, Present and emerging and also acknowledge those people from other nations who after being part of the Stolen Generations, chose to make Ballarat their home.

FROM OUR CHAIRPERSON—LARRY KANOA

Hello Everyone,

I would like to start by acknowledging the traditional custodians of the land on which we gather, live, work and play. I would also like to pay my respects to elder's past, present and emerging.

ELDERS INDEPENDENT LIVING VILLAGE

Work has begun on the Elders Independent Living Village with an expectant completion date of April/May 2024. We look forward to seeing the progress as it takes shape.



MODEL RULES

A sub-committee has been established for the Model Rules with the committee meeting the first Monday of each month. I thank those who have put their hands up to be apart of this committee.

BOARD NEWS

All Board members have been attending Governance training. I thank all Board members for taking time out of their busy schedules to attend.

NAIDOC WEEK

NAIDOC week is fast approaching with staff and community busily getting ready for a great week. I look forward to seeing many of you around at events through the week. NAIDOC week is from 2nd-9th July 2023.

Regards,

Larry Kanoa
Chairperson



FROM OUR CEO—KAREN HEAP

Hi everyone,

Winter is here, our winter sports are in full flow and hopefully you are all rugging up and enjoying cold weather activities.

KEEPING OUR COMMUNITY SAFE

I want to remind everyone to please ensure you are up to date with your Covid and flu vaccinations. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, Elders, babies, people with health issues are all extra vulnerable—the best way to keep our community safe is for all of us to have our vaccinations. BADAC medical clinic offers free flu and Covid vaccinations, please ring the clinic to make an appointment or for more information.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OPENINGS IN 2023

This 31 March, Minister Harriet Shing formally turned the first sod to commence construction on our Elders Independent Living Village, a project I know is dear to the hearts of many of us.



On 17 April we had the Big Cheque presentation from Central Highlands Water to benefit our youth, to enable them to enjoy fantastic ‘on Country’ activities which our families and out-of-home carers generally can’t afford. Activities might include ‘swim with dolphins’ and ‘wildlife wonders’ with the Otways Conservation Ecology Centre.



Photo credit: Andrew Wilson

On Friday 28 April, we had the formal opening of Perridak Arts on Mair St, Ballarat. Congratulations to our many Aboriginal artists who are exhibiting their stunning artworks. Huge thanks to everyone—both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal—who are supporting our Aboriginal artists by buying craft items and art. Visitors are very welcome to just browse, if you don’t have capacity to buy; the gallery is a rich, welcoming, warm and colourful cultural space.



Above: Juliana Addison MP, Martha Haylett MP & Michaela Settle MP at the opening of Perridak Arts.

My thanks to all the BADAC staff and community who have contributed to the above projects.

ADVOCACY

Currently I am Chairperson of the Victorian Aboriginal Children and Young People’s Alliance (VACYPA). Earlier this year we met with the Victorian Premier and outlined our most urgent concerns. He invited us to put a submission together which details Aboriginal-led solutions, which members of the Alliance have done. I will keep you posted as things progress.

The Aboriginal community, via the Alliance, continues to lead the way for Aboriginal Children in Out of Home Care. We know that community control is vital to improve the lives of Aboriginal children and families.

VOICE TO PARLIAMENT

I want to encourage everybody to enrol to vote, if you are not already enrolled. If you are already enrolled to vote in elections, you do not need to enrol again for the referendum.

You must be enrolled to vote in order to have your say in the referendum.

This is Aboriginal people's first opportunity to be recognised in the constitution. Being recognised in the constitution and having that Voice to Parliament is going to be really important to progress Aboriginal health and towards true self-determination.

The Voice to Parliament proposal arose from **The Uluru Statement from the Heart:**

"The Uluru Statement from the Heart is an invitation to the Australian people. We ask Australians to accept our invitation to walk with us in a movement of the Australian people for a better future. We call for the establishment of a First Nations Voice enshrined in the Constitution and a Makarrata Commission to supervise a process of agreement-making and truth-telling about our history."

You can find out more information here :

<https://ulurustatement.org/>

Please don't let all the misinformation and attempts to party-politicise confuse and mislead you. There is a lot out there and it can be difficult to sort out fact from vested interests fiction. BADAC will run information workshops so that our community feels that we have the information we need.

You can find more information about The Voice here:

<https://www.reconciliation.org.au/reconciliation/support-a-voice-to-parliament/>

<https://yes23.com.au/> - Join the campaign to stay informed

<https://voice.niaa.gov.au/resources/consultation-sessions> -

Read some feedback from communities all across the country

<https://www.aec.gov.au/referendums/>

FAREWELL & CONGRATULATIONS TO JON KANOA

In case you missed it in the March newsletter, BADAC's Chief Operations Officer, Jon Kanoa, has been head-hunted into a leadership role in Aboriginal Health (Victoria).

This is great news for regional and rural Aboriginal people, as Jon will ensure that Aboriginal people living in regional and rural areas have their voices represented.

Thanks to Jon for his four years of outstanding service as my deputy in the COO role.

MEDIA

BADAC continues to feature in local newspaper, radio and TV, to tell Aboriginal stories and portray Aboriginal people in strong and positive ways.

AND FINALLY

BADAC continues to grow and thrive. By the end of the financial year, we will have 200 dedicated staff and offer 64 culturally safe programs, services and events for our Aboriginal community.

We are always planning for the future and creating growth so that we have more of the programs and services needed by our community. I look forward to seeing you all at various events in the coming months, especially NAIDOC week.

Kind regards,

Karen Heap



MEDICAL CENTRE

INDIGENOUS HEALTH OUTCOMES CONFERENCE



In February 2023, Paul Kochskamper (Practice-Manager), and Anthony Harrison (Registered Nurse / ITC Co-ordinator) presented 'Improving and increasing access to services through cultural safety' at the Indigenous Health Outcomes Conference in Sydney.

The conference aimed to provide a platform for Elders, leaders, and respected voices in the community to discuss how we can enhance the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People.

The key takeaways for Improving and increasing access to services through cultural safety are -

1. Improvements in cultural safety and self-determination can lead to better access and quality of health care.
2. Cultural safety / responsiveness is everyone's responsibility.
3. Advocate for mob and work towards better health outcomes.

Paul & Anthony had a great time meeting others in similar fields, and are thankful to BADAC for allowing them the opportunity to attend this event.

FLU VACCINE

Flu vaccines are available at BADAC Medical and is available for those aged 6 months and older. Please ring and make an appointment to get yours!

The benefits of the flu vaccination are:

- It is a safe and effective way to protect you from serious disease caused by influenza.
- Immunisation saves lives. It protects you, your family and your community.
- Flu vaccination can reduce the risk of flu-associated hospitalisation.
- Immunisation helps protect future generations by eradicating diseases.
- Flu vaccination during pregnancy helps protect pregnant people from flu during and after pregnancy and helps protect their infants from flu in their first few months of life.
- Flu vaccine can be lifesaving in children.

** The above information is from the Better Health Channel & Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care websites.



PERRIDAK ARTS

PERRIDAK ARTS – 100% FIRST NATIONS ART



On 28th May, BADAC's First Nation's Art Gallery "Perridak Arts" was officially opened.

The Gallery was made possible by a \$200,000 grant from the State Government, who agreed with BADAC's vision of creating a space for Local Ballarat mob to have their own art gallery. This is a perfect way for our mob to share their amazing artwork, share their stories and culture, and gain reward for their skills.

After been opened for almost 1 month, Perridak Arts has received positive news stories and feedback from visitors, Ballarat businesses and of course our Community.

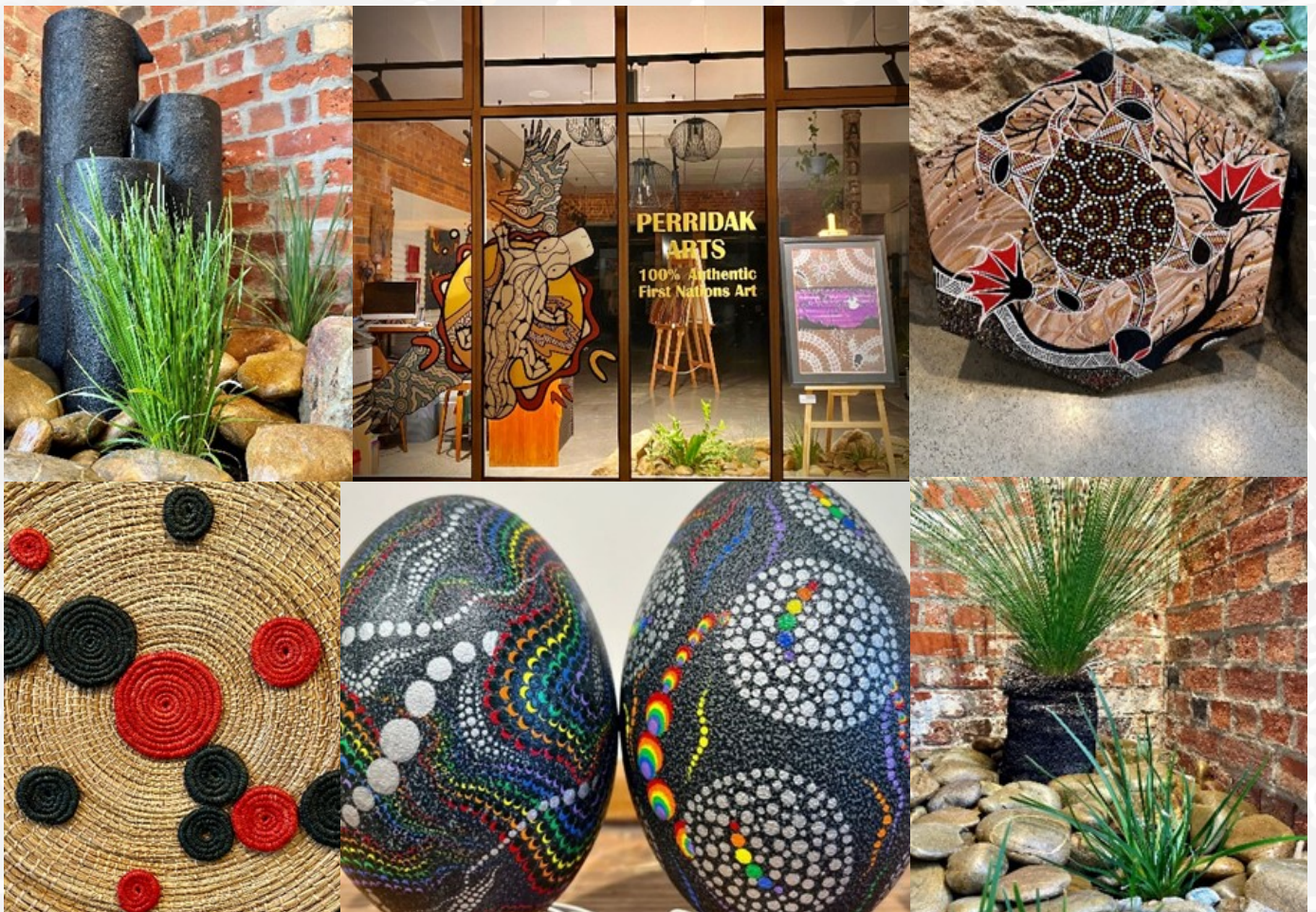
The Gallery has now been approved to be a member of the Indigenous Art Code, which is a National body who promote sales of First Nation's art, and ensures stories, knowledge and reward is ethically sound.

If you haven't already, please feel free to drop by at 214 Mair Street between 10 am to 4 pm Tuesday to Saturday and check out the art gallery.

We welcome everyone to come and check out this amazing space which is a non-for-profit venture to support our Community artists and BADAC Programs.

Gift Vouchers and Layby are also now available.

You can visit the website at www.perridakarts.com.au and you can also find us on Facebook and Instagram.



AFTER SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP



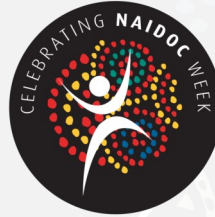
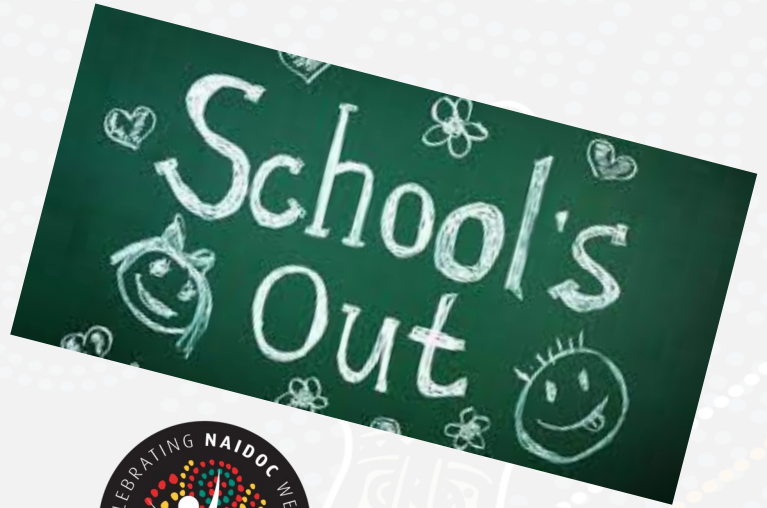
Youth Group is held each Monday
4pm-6pm at 403 Main Rd, Ballarat.
If you have children that you think
would like to join in on all the fun and
make some new friends, please bring
them along.
WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE YOU!

JUNE/JULY SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Please keep an eye out on our social media pages—BADAC Youth and Ballarat & District Aboriginal Co-operative, for updates regarding the June/July school holidays.

There will be a small program running in the first week, but due to NAIDOC and a lot of community events happening, there won't be anything in the second week of the holidays.

Further details regarding what's happening for NAIDOC can be found in this issue of Platypus Tracks.



FOR OUR ELDERS

2-9 JULY 2023

BAARLINJAAN DANCE GROUP



Baarlinjaan Dance Group

Open to all ages.

Dance practice: Tuesdays, 4:00pm to 6:00pm

Location: 403-405 Main Rd, Golden Point.

Contact: Aaron Clarke – BADAC Youth Team Leader & Baarlinjaan Dance Group Coordinator, 0400 342 363

PERRIDAK BURRON EARLY LEARNING

Arts & crafts, exploring nature, reading, learning more about culture, dentist check-ups, celebrating special occasions - Perridak Burron staff and children have been very busy over the last few months.



Mother's Day afternoon Tea

To celebrate Mother's Day we had a afternoon tea on the 12th May, whilst this is a celebration prompted by Mother's Day, we know that some children are lucky enough to have exceptional people in their lives, loving them just as strongly as a mother would.

Our Mother's, grandparents or special people received gifts that their children made for them at Perridak and where able to show them what their favourite things are to do.

Our rooms had activities set up to enjoy together, some where lucky enough to get their nails painted too.



Morning Tea for Culture

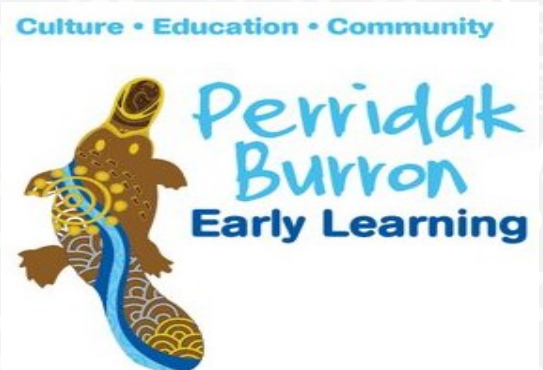
Perridak Burron held their 2nd Morning tea for culture on the 2nd May 2023.

We raised funds for the Victorian Aboriginal childcare agency (VACCA). VACCA is a state-wide Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation (ACCO) servicing children, young people, families, and community members.

VACCA have protected and promoted the rights of Aboriginal children and families for over 40 years.

Our Burron baked morning tea for our families, they poured, mixed, and measured all the ingredients for our delicious morning tea. Our families where able to collect their morning tea upon drop off and pick up and make a donation in return.

We raised \$ 155 for VACCA, we have an amazing community around us. Thank you for your support!



YIRRAM BURRON EARLY LEARNING



Yirram Burron
EARLY LEARNING

Children and staff at Yirram have been very busy over the past few months. Some of their upcoming events include:

- VACCA morning tea at 10.30am Tuesday the 30th of May (reconciliation week) – gold coin donation
- Wear it Yellow for children's ground. The Yirram community will wear yellow clothing/items for reconciliation on the Wednesday 31st of May – gold coin donation.

NAIDOC is fast approaching and set up is on the way. We are seeking input from Elders and community members for our kangaroo skin display. We can meet in person, email or talk over the phone with people who wish to be a part of this project. Please see staff at Yirram when you come in, contact us on 5335 6231, or email admin@yirramburronel.net.au

Our Murrong room enjoyed a wonderful Mother's/special persons day making gifts. The children made yoyo biscuits with lemon myrtle, a cup was decorated with paint and a few other personalised art gifts made by the children. All was enjoyed and loved by those who received the gifts.

For Reconciliation week 2023, Sea of Hearts was formed. We had families/community members contribute their reflection of what reconciliation means to them and design their own heart.

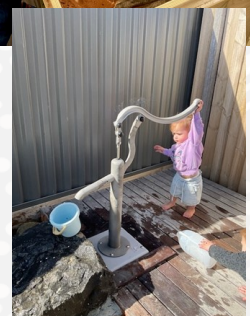
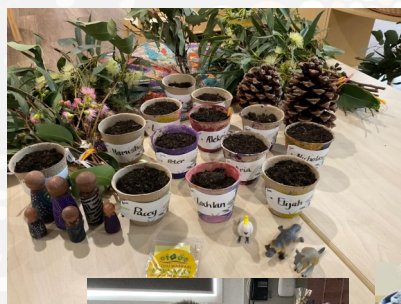
Children have been making the most outdoors with the sunnier weather. Our water play has been most popular. The children like pumping the water with little help and have been interested in the changing of leaf colours throughout Autumn.

The Garrang room planted a murrong flower in a pot for their mother's/special person's gift which was enjoyed by all..

We also had KPSA worker Ash visit us and looked at ochre, where it comes from, what we use it for and then painted some faces and did a dance.

Nature play experience is always a hit. The children explored the textures of the dirt and bark, making tracks in the sand while bringing to life the Nunga dolls.

We all look forward to another few jam packed months and can't wait to celebrate NAIDOC week with everyone.



PLAYGROUP

Bengadak Babab

— meaning celebrating our children

Danielle—Playgroup Facilitator



We've had a really busy first term at Playgroup!

We worked on our painting for the Ballarat Begonia Festival and have also been working on our Possum Skin Cloak Project with Aunty Marjorie Pickford, with Playgroup families making a design for the skins and they will be sewn together in term 2 to create the cloak.

We explored some sensory activities with coloured pasta threading, nature stain glassed windows, jewellery making, and we also had a visit from our KPSA Ashleigh to show us her culture kit and explained what each item was, including Boomerangs, Possum & Kangaroo Skins, Coolamons, Emu Eggs, etc.

We celebrated the last day of Term & Easter by creating baskets with the children and having an Easter Egg hunt!

We've also had a great start to Term 2 and enjoyed some great mornings together.



Bengadak Playgroup – Facilitated at the Yirram Burron location

Please contact Danielle Creelman at dcreelman@badac.net.au to register your interest for playgroup sessions in 2023, or alternatively call 03 5335 6231.

Playgroup operates; 10.30 – 12.30 on Mondays & Fridays. Closed during school holidays.

BADAC KITCHEN

Our commercial kitchen is finally complete and has received the tick of approval from Ballarat City Council.

Thank you to the Maintenance team for all their hard work in getting to this stage.

For any catering & conferences you have coming up, please ensure to contact BADAC and see what we can do for you. We can do external catering, or you may like to host your whole event right here in one of our many Function or Board rooms. Enquiries can be made through reception@badac.net.au



BADAC OP-SHOP

Our op-shop has received a small make-over recently with also a new Facebook page to follow:

<https://www.facebook.com/BADAC.OpShop/>

The BADAC Op-Shop is operated by our wonderful community members who graciously volunteer their time. We are open every Wednesday and Friday from 10am-2pm but we are closed on public holidays.

Almost everything is \$2 each! So come in and grab yourself a bargain!

Additional opening hours and weekly specials will be posted on our BADAC Op-shop Facebook page.

If you would like to visit the op-shop outside of the current operating hours, please contact reception and ask to speak to Stacey.



BADAC Op-Shop
Most items \$2 each!
More stock arriving daily!

BADAC Op-Shop
88 likes • 100 followers

NEW PROGRAM AT BADAC

!! TRIGGER WARNING!! THE BELOW INFORMATION TALKS ABOUT SUICIDE PREVENTION

Culture Care Connect is a new program to the Social and Emotional Wellbeing service here at BADAC. The program is an aftercare service co designed by our Network coordinator April Burgoyne who has worked with community here at BADAC for over 12 years, and Korriene Lennecke who was the successful applicant to become the aftercare worker and has supported community in the SEWB department for four years.

April and SEWB manager Peter traveled to Sydney in March to an Onboarding Coordinator conference to help develop the program.



Korriene and Peter will be travelling to Canberra late June to ensure the aftercare model is being delivered to community in a culturally safe manner.

April has completed both the Aftercare model and the Network suicide prevention plan. Both April & Korriene have been very busy attending training in suicide prevention including Safe Talk and Assist training, and also attending a board meeting. The Culture care connect team intend on providing training to staff and community in the near future.

The Culture care connect team recently attended an Indigenous Suicide Prevention forum in Brisbane to help with networking and gain connections.



April & Koz at the Indigenous suicide prevention forum



April and Koz at smoking ceremony and welcome to country

Culture care connect will be having a stall at NAIDOC so please come have a yarn and learn about our exciting and new program. If you would like to get in touch with April or Koz, you can email them at aharris@badac.net.au or klennecke@badac.net.au

MAINTENANCE TEAM

AIDEN BROUGHTON—APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR!

We are very excited and incredibly proud to announce that BADAC's very own, Aiden Broughton has been awarded the 2023 Master Builders, Ballarat Regional Apprentice of the Year! It is a testament to his dedication and hard work throughout his apprenticeship and ongoing into his current role in the BADAC Maintenance Team. This is a fantastic achievement, certainly worthy of recognition and celebration! Congratulations from everyone here at BADAC Aiden and well done!

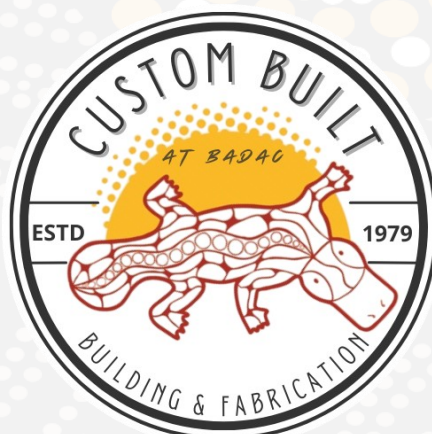


In other maintenance news, the whole team has been working their boots off completing projects and diving into exciting new ones. With the Tree Room's commercial kitchen and the Perridak Art Gallery completed, the team are now working on upgrading the kitchen and lunchroom space in our Mair St building, residential property improvements and an exciting new endeavor, **Custom Built at BADAC**.

Utilising the skills, experience, and excellent workmanship of the Maintenance Team, we have begun fabrication and construction projects under the new Custom Built at BADAC banner.

So far, the team has produced custom furniture, three ute trays, and are now working on portable buildings which will have a wide range of applications. As always, there are plenty of exciting projects underway and a lot more to come.

If you have a project you would like the Custom Built a BADAC team to look at, you can get in touch with Administration Officer Shanara Rowland on 0448 854 731 or custombuilt@badac.net.au



NAIDOC 2023

BADAC NAIDOC



WEEK



2nd-9th July 2023



Monday 3rd July

10am - Flag raising, Baarlinjaan dancers, smoking ceremony & acknowledgement of country at BADAC

10:30am - Walk to Ballarat cemetery to pay respect to Mullawallah and smoking ceremony (limited transport available)

12:30pm - Lunch at BADAC in Tree room

Wednesday 5th July

Community Day - Ballarat Showgrounds, 10am-2pm

Stalls, food, jumping castle, Indigenous Hip Hop, face painting, games, competitions, petting zoo, awards and so much more!!!

Bring your family & friends and join us for a great day out.

Friday 7th July

Elders NAIDOC Lunch - Mercure Ballarat, 12pm-4pm

For Our Elders

NAIDOC 2023

YOU'RE INVITED TO

JNR NAIDOC BALL

CELEBRATION

DRESS YOUR BEST

.TEA PROVIDED
.AWARD CEREMONY
.DISCO

FREE EVENT

RSVP BY 23RD OF
JUNE.

Facebook event will be
made on BADAC
Youth.

Any questions please
message us via BADAC
Youth page.

FRIDAY
JUNE
30TH

115 BEVERIN STREET
5:00PM - 8:00PM

NAIDOC 2023

NAIDOC Yidaki Comp 2023

"For Our Elders"

**Adult and Youth competitions to be held at BADAC
Community day**



Get tips at Brothers Group, Baarlinlaan Dance Group rehearsal and Youth Group from experienced Yidaki players of the community.

For further information contact

Azlan from BADAC: 5331 5344



Ballarat and District
Aboriginal
Co-operative Ltd

BADAC FAMILY CAMP

On the 17th – 19th of March we ran a BADAC Family camp on Dja Dja Wurrung Country at Creswick Log Cabin Lodge. Over the three days we seen over 90 community members come through the camp—the biggest camp we have ever held!

We couldn't be more thankful to Central Highlands water on the generous donation to our youth programs, it was awesome for the kids to be a part of the celebration and being able to meet the staff from Central Highlands water.



We made contact with BADAC teams who work alongside kids in care so it could be a natural meeting between kids who were already engaged with the youth programs.

It was great to watch friendships being made in the short amount of time on camp.

The kids were able to be gently pushed out of their comfort zone by flying in the air on the giant swing, or hoisted up by their friends on the Possum glider.

We ran cultural activities over the three days including community members. Uncle Paul took the carers on bush walks, Uncle Al telling all of us dream time stories, Zane and Darren teaching the kids boomerang throwing & the dance group teaching other kids the dances and having them join in around the fire.

It was an amazing experience to watch kids be able to learn their culture all together and share their knowledge. We can't wait for the next one!



STAFF PROFILE



Name: Ash Egan

Current Position: Manager Family Violence Programs

Time at BADAC: Started in 2008—15 years

What other roles have you held in your time at BADAC?

Innovations Worker, No Quick Fix Facilitator, Employment & Training Co-ordinator, Therapeutic Practitioner, and have been the Manager of Family Violence Programs for the last 6 years.

How has BADAC as a whole (buildings/community/staff) changed since you've been here?

We now have approximately 160 more staff than when I started and old building been extended twice. In addition to that we now have several other offices in addition to our main office at Armstrong street as well as having significantly increased the services provided to community including child care centres.

What do you love most about working at BADAC?

I love the fact that we now have almost 200 staff but it still feels like a much smaller organisation.

Are there any work/life goals you've been able to achieve whilst working at BADAC?

Earlier in my time at BADAC I was lucky enough to have completed a Graduate Certificate in Family Therapy and am currently completing a Diploma of Business.

Last year I received two Turkish Delights courtesy of Karen Heap due to St Kilda losing to Geelong....haha

What hobbies do you have?

I love playing and listening to music, love spending time with family, and I love watching the best football team in the land—the mighty Geelong Cats!

Any other words of wisdom or stories you would like to share?

Not many people would know that I played the music at Shu & Casey Brown's wedding (Cultural Therapeutic & Support Manager & Early Years General Manager)

WELCOME TO NEW BADAC STAFF



Christine Schiltz

Finance Officer

Melissa Swire

Support Worker
Koorie Family Services



Shanara Rowland

Administration Officer
Maintenance Team



Shawn Ilsley

Lead Practitioner
Gobata Burron

Monique Lawson

Administration & Program Support Officer
Gobata Burron



AWARDS & RECOGNITION



Lenny received the Merit award at her school

Ky received the St Martins Student of the week award for being supportive of her peers at school. Well done Ky!



Anthony Lovett Jnr recently represented Victoria in the 14's & under Indigenous Basketball team at a tournament in Qld. Anthony and his team went on to win GOLD!! Congratulations Anthony!



Congratulations to Taj & Ethan for coming second in Cross Country.



Charlotte recently received the school award for the BREAZE writing competition about World Environment Day. Well done!



Izaiya competed in his first grappling competition in Melbourne and came 4th. Congratulations!



Taj recently got graded in Karate and went up a grade adding a black stripe to his orange belt. Well done Taj!



Levi was awarded the first ever Koorie Leadership badge at his school. He has attended staff meetings and talks with his school Principal to incorporate Indigenous signs and wording around the school.

Olivia received the Excellence Award at school for consistently aiming high in her learning and setting a good example.



Taven received an award at school for his excellent comprehension. Well done , keep up the good work!



Olivia & Murron designed signs in language to be placed around their school at Ballarat Grammar.



GOOD NEWS STORIES

Our very own Yirram Burron Kinder and Early Learning centre was the winner of the Early Childhood/Kindergarten category in the CHW art display at the 2023 Ballarat Begonia Festival.

For the theme 'Water and Native Animal', students participated and painted the Sugar Glider over water.

Congratulations to all involved!



Back in February, it was announced that BADAC would be this years recipient of Central Highlands Water Bottle Partnership. Through sales at the Begonia Festival and in the lead up to the event, \$14,795 was raised and presented to the Children & Youth services team.

These funds will go towards camps and activities for community to continue to enjoy and experience.

Vital boost 'changes lives'

Helping juniors to connect to Country

BY MELANIE WHELAN

MORE opportunities to be on Country and immersed in culture with other young Aboriginal peers can "change lives", Ballarat and District Aboriginal Cooperative's chief executive says.

A two-night camp in Creswick this week, catering to about 80 Indigenous children and teenagers from the Ballarat region, was made possible with fundraising and grants.

BADAC chief executive Karen Heap said too often Indigenous youth funding was focused on justice and crime prevention rather than on positive ways for young people to build connections with each other and culture.

"This statement comes as Central Highlands Water made a large donation to BADAC youth activities, gifting almost \$15,000 raised from a sale of reusable glass bottles."

"Too much funding for Indigenous people is for youth justice - and that is important - but we need to make sure we have positive experiences, too."

More than half of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples living in the Ballarat region are aged 24-and-under, according to Australian Bureau of Statistics census data.

BADAC has a strategic focus on building culturally appropriate services for Indigenous children and to promote opportunities to help them grow up proud and healthy.

Ms Heap said the experience at Creswick's Log Cabin Camp offered a sense of freedom on land and was culturally relevant.

Boys had been collecting wood to craft into items such as clap sticks for an evening dance and to celebrate music. Girls had been set to practice some weaving for belts.

BADAC camp-goer Kyenna told *The Courier* they were most looking forward to learning and practising dancing in the evening.

Evis said it meant a lot to be together having fun.

"Camp allows us to have cultural activities," she said, "It's good to be on Country and just being together."

The CHW donation will support Aboriginal children and young people to experience activities on Country they might otherwise have little access to, such as swimming with the dolphins at Queenscliff and visiting wildlife wonders at Conservation Ecology Centre near Apollo Bay.

Ms Heap said the water bottles had a nice tie-in to caring for Country by helping to reduce waste.

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Ballarat and District Aboriginal Cooperative leader Shu Brown and children take part in a smoking ceremony at Log Cabin Camp in Creswick. Picture by Lachlan Bence



GOOD NEWS STORIES

Cultural & Therapeutic Support programs manager, Shu Brown, recently joined the Central Highlands Water (CHW) Board as Independent Aboriginal Delegate.

The following is from CHW:

'Mr Brown's input will enhance the Reconciliation work of CHW across the region, by strengthening our understanding of First Nations peoples' strong spiritual connection to water in Aboriginal culture and identity, and the longstanding commitment to care for and protect water resources.'

'With a strong passion for land, water, fire management, and cultural and heritage awareness, Mr Brown will add further richness, advice and support to discussions about how CHW can achieve our environmental and community strategic aspirations, as they relate to the important connection and care for healthy land and waterways.'

Congratulations Shu, a great achievement!



BECOME A MEMBER TODAY

Membership of BADAC is open to all members of the Ballarat and District Aboriginal Community.

To be a member, you must have lived in the Ballarat Region for 12 months and you must be Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander.

People who are married or De facto partners of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islanders are also able to become members providing their partners are eligible for membership

Membership is a great way to connect with BADAC's services and your community.

Applications are sent to the Board who make all decisions about approving new members.

Benefits of BADAC Membership:

- Have a voice on BADAC's future (Nominate for the Board)
- Priority access to BADAC Housing opportunities
- Regular Newsletters and Annual Report
- Additional supports when needed including Food Hampers and household goods
- Part of making a difference for the Ballarat Aboriginal Community
- Special mail outs for events and community information

BADAC member's enjoy some great benefits and it only costs \$.10c to apply .

SPEAK TO RECEPTION STAFF ABOUT A MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM!

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Stronger

Brother



Stronger

Sister



Ballarat and District
Aboriginal
Co-operative Ltd



**Recovery
Healing
Support
Connect with Respect**

11.30am - 2pm Fridays

Lunch Provided

403 Main Rd

Contact Jo-Anne Morrow—0447 078 099

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

You're invited to join Badac's

WOMEN'S GROUP

Women's Group is for all our women connected to community. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and mothers/carers of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.

Tuesday's - 11:00 - 1:00
Lunch Provided

403 Main
Road, Golden
Point

Follow
Women's
Gatherings on
facebook for
more
information.



COMMUNITY INFORMATION

SAVE THE DATE



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students from Year 9 to 12 are invited to come and connect at Federation University to hear from young, Deadly, inspirational role models who have achieved success in their chosen fields. The day offers opportunities for students to gain knowledge about post-school careers and awareness of education pathways they can engage in.

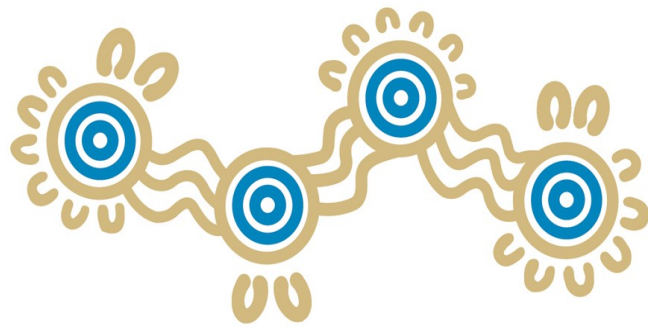
In partnership with Community, Fed Uni and the many stall holders who will be attending, we seek to empower and build self-determination, promoting the rights, needs and aspirations of future generations.

PROUD * STRONG * SELF DETERMINED



COMMUNITY INFORMATION

The Ballarat and District Aboriginal Co-operative is excited to announce the opening of 'Yaluk Burron Early Learning' on Stead St, Ballan. Yaluk Burron will open for operation early 2024, offering Long Day Care and Government funded Kindergarten Program. For enquiries regarding child enrolments or career opportunities, please email or register your interest online.



YALUK BURRON

EARLY LEARNING

OPENING EARLY 2024

yalukburroneel.net.au

admin@yalukburroneel.com.au

COMMUNITY SERVICES



Need help with a legal issue

We can help you with free and confidential information about the law.

Drop in for a yarn with our Aboriginal Community Engagement Officer at Victoria Legal Aid Ballarat.

Alternatively you can call to speak with us.

stacy Kanoa

Aboriginal Community Engagement Officer

0487 338 177

Victoria Legal Aid, Ballarat

5329 6222

Address: 106 Market St, Ballarat Central

Time: 1pm – 4pm

When: Fridays, every fortnight

 **Victoria Legal Aid**

www.legalaid.vic.gov.au



COMMUNITY SERVICES

LOCAL JUSTICE WORKER PROGRAM

Supports the Local Justice Worker Provides

Community Corrections

Support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Men and Women to successfully complete their Community Correction Orders by;

- Court Support
- Pre and Post Prison Release via Yawal Mugadjina Program
- Providing Community Work Activities
- Assistance to attend Community Corrections appointments such as Supervision, Mental Health, AOD, Rehab, Programs
- Referrals for Family Violence, Mental Health & AOD

Fines and Warrant Support – Sheriff of Victoria

Support Men and Women to address their outstanding Fines and Warrants by:

- Fines Days (Last Friday of the Month)
- Work Development Permit Scheme (WDP)
- Consult with Sheriff Aboriginal Liaison Officer and Sheriff Officers
- Payment Plans/Reviews/Family Violence Scheme

The Local Justice Worker helps provide a Cultural Safe support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people within the correction system by providing opportunities to strengthen their cultural identity and increase their connection to family, community and Country.

For any enquiries or assistance, please contact:

Cathy Rotumah (Local Justice Worker) – 0477 947 302

Loretta Tonzing (SALO) – 0439 529 345



MENTOR SERVICES



Worn Gundidj
employment mentor services™

Have you recently become employed and need support to stay employed?

Do you need help finding a job but you don't know where to start?

Do you need work clothes, transportation, training: first aid, food handlers, RSA, white card, etc?

We provide a free, voluntary employment support service

Contact:

Kim 0400 956 117

Sarah 0456 250 959

Brooke 0484 330 772

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

BADAC Services

BADAC supports the health and wellbeing of the Ballarat and District Aboriginal community with a range of holistic services, including:

- BADAC Medical Clinic
- Koorie Family Services
- Stronger Families
- Integrated Family Services
- Kinship Care
- Aboriginal Family Lead Decision Making (AFLDM)
- Early Years Learning
- Home and Community Support including NDIS
- Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation Support
- Social & Emotional Wellbeing Program
- Justice Support
- Family Violence Support
- Social Worker
- Youth Groups
- Cultural Outings and Camps
- Stolen Generations Support
- Playgroup

BALLARAT AND DISTRICT ABORIGINAL CO-OPERATIVE

P.O. Box 643

Ballarat VIC 3350

106-108 Armstrong St North

Ballarat VIC 3350

T: (03) 5331 5344

F: (03) 5333 1637

E: reception@badac.net.au



Have you changed your Address

OR

**Want your magazine
delivered via email**

**If so please let reception know either by dropping in or
giving us a call (03) 5331 5344.**

**You can also email our Social Media Officer, Erin Kanoa
ekanoa@badac.net.au**

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

SERVICE	CONTACT
Triple Zero—For help in an emergency, contact Fire, Police or Ambulance	000
Kids Helpline—Offers 24/7 mental health support for young people aged 5-25	1800 551 800
SuicideLine Victoria—24/7 counselling service for those effected by suicide	1300 651 251
Parentline—Counselling, information & referral service for parents and carers of children aged 0-18yrs	13 22 89
BHS Mental Health Services—24/7 support for advice, access and triage	1300 661 323
Yarning Safe 'N' Strong—Culturally safe and confidential help line available 24/7	1800 959 563
Direct Line—Drug & Alcohol counselling, information & referral service available 24/7	1800 888 236
Victorian Aboriginal Legal Service—Provides community justice and legal practice services	1800 064 865
Nurse-On-Call—24/7 service that provides expert health advise from a registered nurse	1300 606 024
Maternal and Child Health Line—Information, advice and referrals for families with young children available 24/7	13 22 29
Gambler's Help—Support service for people affected by gambling	1800 858 858
National Debt Hotline—A confidential & independent financial information service	1800 007 007
Lifeline—24/7 crisis support and suicide prevention service	13 11 14
The Orange Door— Provides family violence support 9am-5pm Monday-Friday. Outside of these hours, contact Safe Steps for support and referrals 24/7	1800 219 819 1800 015 188

BADAC SERVICES (BUSINESS HOURS ONLY)	CONTACT
Main Reception	5331 5344, opt #9
Medical Reception including Maternal Child Health	5331 5344, opt #2
Family Violence	5331 5344, opt #9
Social & Emotional Wellbeing (SEWB)	5331 5344, opt #3
Cultural & Therapeutic Support including Youth Services	5331 5344, opt #9
Koorie Family Services	5331 5344, opt #9
Home & Community Care including NDIS	5331 5344, opt #9
Gobata Burrton	5331 5344, opt #9

If you wish to speak to someone specifically, please let reception know so that they can direct your call appropriately. If the staff member is not available, a message will be taken for them to return your call.