

**NEWSLETTER - ISSUE SEPTEMBER 2024**

# BLACKMAIL

Blue Mountains Aboriginal Culture & Resource Centre  
39 Whitton Street, Katoomba NSW 2780 | (02) 4782 6569

## Important Updates

**BMACRC Building Construction Update** - As of the end of September, we can confirm the construction has been completed! Now we can start planning to open up our Community room down stairs. We want to make this a welcoming space for Community to meet up with friends and have some laughs or just a coffee and yarn. This will then lead to a safe space for young people to come after school to build relationships and gain support from our Elders.

**SecondBite is back** - After nearly 6 months of not being able to have SecondBite due to the Construction on our building, we are very happy to announce it is back! Free pick up for fresh fruit, veggies and bread every Tuesday and Thursday, unless advertised otherwise.

**2024 Annual General Meeting** - We have announced the date of our 2024 Annual General Meeting is for the 30th of November. Join us for a Smoking Ceremony and Welcome to Country at 10:30am, following the Ceremony enjoy some morning tea before the meeting commences at 11:00am.



## Management and Board Message

Hi Community,

Since our last Blackmail, we have experienced some sadness in the community with one of our beloved elders, Mel Hodges passing away. Mel has been a big part of our service for a long time, her sense of humor and brightness she would bring to our events will be greatly missed. We understand the sadness it causes for everyone when we lose a Community member, If anyone is struggling, please remember to reach out for support.

With a staff update, as spoken about last time, we have had Jacinta join our team, James has returned from his travels and back supporting us with Transport and programs. We are welcoming a new staff member to our Families program and we are all working together to continue our Elders program.

We have had amazing turnouts for our men's workshops, both painting and burning kangaroo skins and our women's workshops have been just as impressive with weaving and jewellery making.

We have concluded our Community Chiropractic sessions for 2024, these sessions were very popular and we have already spoken with the University to do another lot of sessions in 2025!

As 2024 comes to a end, we are looking forward to our end of year events and our annual Survival Day event in January 2025.

We are excited to see where the future takes BMACRC.

## Community Programs - Transport

Hi all,

I'd just like to remind everyone that eating and drinking (with the exception of water) is not allowed in our vehicles. This is very important for the cleanliness and hygiene of our vehicles as well as being considerate of other passengers.

If you wish to get some food while using the transport service, mention this when making your booking and we can add the stop to your journey. If it's not booked in, the driver cannot make the stop. Also drive-through is not an option. If the stop is booked, you may be dropped off at the food seller and picked up again later.



Gerard  
transport@acrc.org.au



## Community Programs - Family and Youth

Hi Community,

It has been a great Term since our last Blackmail! We hosted an Indigenous fun day in July with free amusement rides, a BBQ and canteen full of yummy food, while we had the Mountain Devils play their Indigenous reconciliation round. I very proudly was asked to design their playing jerseys to wear on the field. We had Uncle Chris Tobin who did the Smoking Ceremony and Welcome to Country, Wagana performed and got the kids to join in. The amazing Aunty Bev Ward also helped me present the jersey and hand them out to all the players. A massive Thank you to everyone who came and supported the day!

We have continued our Koori Playgroup at our new venue, the Community Hub at Nth Katoomba PS. Our attendance has excelled more than expected since being in this new space! We are still working on the landscaping outside of the Playgroup space to make it as safe and fun as can be!

In a couple of weeks we are welcoming a new staff member to our Family and Youth team, we have so many fun things planned for 2025!

We have a lot of events and programs coming up, filling our calendars for the rest of 2024, please make sure you have RSVP'd to them as soon as possible!

Trish - [familyandyouth@acrc.org.au](mailto:familyandyouth@acrc.org.au)

# Indigenous Round 2024



# Indigenous Round 2024



## Community Programs - Elders

Hi Community,



What a great time of year, The waratahs are out here and the Tulips in Bowral were gorgeous. The recent Elders Trip to Bowral was so much fun, thank you to all who helped make the trip so memorable.

A special Thank You to Aunty Sharyn Halls, Peter, Melissa and Millie who welcomed us on Country and Mel who ran an amazing weaving Workshop for us and Peter who took the Uncles Fishing.

Thank you to everyone involved in the Elders Book, many have voted for the front and back cover. If you haven't had a chance to vote please let me know and we will make sure you do. Every vote counts. Thank you to Mel our amazing Graphic Designer too!

We are planning more interesting activities for Uncles and Aunties as the year ends including Jewellery making, kangaroo skin burning and chair yoga.

**Remember to RSVP for each event and to book transport on the Friday before the event.**

As the year ends we do need to sign everyone up to My Aged Care for funding and transport purposes. I can help with this step if you need it. That's all for now,  
Tracey

# END OF YEAR

## *Elders Events*

### OCTOBER 2024:

**WEDNESDAY** 2ND OCTOBER MEL'S MEMORIAL ACRC  
10AM - 1PM

**FRIDAY** 4TH OCTOBER SYDNEY ZOO 10AM - 3PM

**WEDNESDAY** 16TH OCTOBER JEWELLERY WWORKSHOP  
ACRC 10AM - 1PM / 1PM - 2.30 ELDERS BOOK UPDATE

**WEDNESDAY** 23RD OCTOBER MENS KANGAROO BURING  
WORKSHOP ACRC 10AM - 1PM

**WED** 30TH OCTOBER JEWELLERY WORKSHOP ACRC  
10AM - 1PM

### NOVEMBER 2024:

**WEDNESDAY** 6TH NOVEMBER MENS KANGAROO BURING  
WORKSHOP ACRC 10AM - 1PM

**WEDNESDAY** 20TH NOVEMBER CHAIR YOGA ACRC  
- 10AM - 1PM

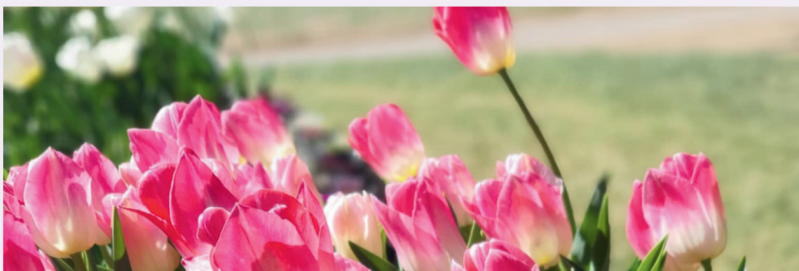
**WEDNESDAY** 27TH NOVEMBER CHAIR YOGA ACRC  
10AM - 1PM

### DECEMBER 2024:

**FRIDAY 13 DECEMBER** -MANLY CHRISTMAS PARTY LUNCH



# Elders Bowral Trip





# OCTOBER



4<sup>th</sup>  
FRI

Sydney Zoo Excursion - ACRC Elders and Family day trip to the zoo

9<sup>th</sup>  
WED

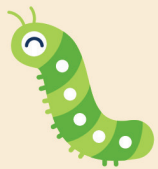
Family Fun Day - A community fun day at Bullaburra park

10<sup>th</sup>  
THUR

Youth Disco - 'Let it glow' themed Youth disco at Springwood Hub

18<sup>th</sup>  
FRI

Koori Playgroup Term 4 - Playgroup returns for our last term of 2024



# NOVEMBER

WED

Check the Elders calendar for all Elders workshops for November

30<sup>th</sup>  
SAT

BMACRC Annual General Meeting

# DECEMBER

20<sup>th</sup>  
FRI

BMACRC Annual Christmas closure start date



RSVP to any events at [www.bmacrc.org.au](http://www.bmacrc.org.au)



School Holiday Fun

# Family Fun Day Bullaburra

9th October, 2024

10am - 1pm



**Village Green, Noble Street, Bullaburra**  
Join family and friends and enjoy a day  
out in the park.




**Activities provided by ACRC and Belong  
Blue Mountains.**

**Bring a picnic rug and enjoy a chat with  
other families .**

**Free BBQ and entertainment.**

To find out more contact  
Belong or ACRC



 02 4759 2592  
 [info@belongbm.org.au](mailto:info@belongbm.org.au)  
 [belongbm.org.au](http://belongbm.org.au)

 02 4782 6569  
 [familyandyouth@acrc.org.au](mailto:familyandyouth@acrc.org.au)  
 [bmacrc.org.au](http://bmacrc.org.au)



**BELONG**  
**BLUE MOUNTAINS**  
COMMUNITY AND NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

BE HEARD • BE CONNECTED • BE SUPPORTED • BELONG

Blue Mountains Youth Council is excited to invite you to the Let it Glow Dance Party.



LET IT  
GLOW  
Dance PARTY

Musical notes and vinyl record icon.

**The theatre will transform into a dancefloor with live DJ, lights and projections.**

Wear something that lights up the night and celebrate the end of winter and the return of warmer days.

We'll have food, drinks and a chill out space to relax and recharge.

**Get your tickets now**



**WHEN Thursday 10  
October 7-10pm**

**WHERE**

Blue Mountains Theatre and  
Community Hub, 106-108  
Macquarie Rd, Springwood

**WHO**

Open to 13 – 17 years

**COST**

\$10



*This is a drug, alcohol and vape free event, supported by MYST, Wesley Mission and Blue Mountains Aboriginal Culture and Resource Centre.*