

Koori Grapevine

Welcome to the Summer edition No. 25 of the Koori Grapevine. Please be advised images and/or names of people passed over could appear in this publication.

December 2017-February 2018

Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery Highly Commended again!



Left to right: ARG member Douglas Archibald, Gallery Director Debbie Abraham, ARG member Selena Archibald, and Project Co-curator Jo O'Toole.

Museums and Galleries of NSW announced winners of the 2017 IMAGInE Awards on Friday 10 November at the Australian Museum, Sydney. Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery was awarded Highly Commended for the exhibition project *Lake Macquarie: Living Cultures*.

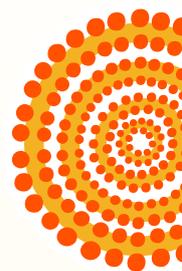
The first of an ongoing initiative, *Living Cultures* is a museum with a difference – a space in which, through community consultation and exhibition processes, local histories and stories intersect with contemporary arts and Aboriginal cultural practice. The exhibition comprised photographs, objects, contemporary art and a bark canoe made by the Aboriginal community through the Aboriginal Reference Group. A host of programs including the popular Connect to Country cultural day, group tours, a cultural opening and family activities, supported the exhibition.

For this project, the Gallery joined forces with the Community History team at Lake Mac Libraries, members of the East Lake Macquarie Historical Society and an archivist from the Auchmuty Library at the University of Newcastle. Other key community partnerships were with long-term partners and co-creators, the Aboriginal Reference Group, Hunter-based contemporary artists Luke Beezley and Maggie Hensel-Brown, contract curatorial assistant, Jo O'Toole, and researcher, Marianne Rogers.

Recognising innovation and excellence in 500 museums, galleries and Aboriginal cultural centres across NSW, the IMAGInE Awards acknowledge the outstanding achievement of more than 8000 paid and volunteer workers in fostering richer local communities and their contribution to the extraordinary diversity within the NSW museum and gallery sector. With 76 nominations, this year's winners

and Highly Commended recipients represent the best of regional and metropolitan NSW visual arts and cultural heritage experiences. A large number attended the awards night to celebrate what has been achieved in galleries and museums the past 12 months.

For more information, please contact Gallery Director, Debbie Abraham, on 4921 0382, artgallery@lakemac.nsw.gov.au or Museums and Galleries NSW on 9252 8300 or imagine@mgnsww.org.au.



BECAUSE OF HER, WE CAN!
8-15 JULY 2018

**NAIDOC Week
theme for 2018:
Because of her, we
can!**



Inaugural National Dreamtime Awards

Some of the country's most prominent First Nation People congregated at The Star Event Centre, Sydney for the very first National Dreamtime Awards. These awards have helped to fill a deep void in recognising achievements ever since the Deadly Awards ended back in 2014 from funding cuts by the Federal Government.

The Awards pay tribute to the nominees, winners, as well as put organisations, individuals and businesses into the countrywide limelight. Here are the 18 worthy winners:

Dreamtime Person of the Year – Clinton Pryor

Dreamtime Lifetime Achievement – Rachel Perkins

Dreamtime Elder – Uncle Bill Yidumduma Harney

Male Music Artist – Gawurra

Female Music Artist – Jessica Mauboy

Male Actor – Rob Collins

Female Actor – Shari Sebbens

Media Person of the Year – Stan Grant



Gawurra and Clinton Pryor.

Male Sportsperson – Eddie Betts

Female Sportsperson – Ashleigh Barty

International Sportsperson – Patty Mills

Best New Sports Talent – Josh Addo-Carr

Community Person – Jeffery Amatto

Business of the Year – Something Wild

Community Organisation – Miromaa Aboriginal Language and Technology Centre, Newcastle

Teacher of the Year – Nathan Towney – Principal Newcastle High School

Institute of the Year – ACU Yalbalanga Indigenous Higher Education Unit

Student of the Year – Jessa Rogers

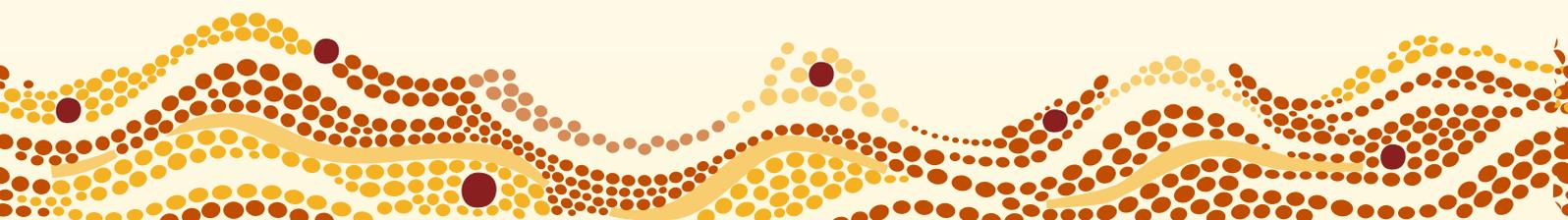
Congratulations to all nominees and winners of the 2017 Inaugural Dreamtime Awards.



Speaking in Colour and Miromaa Language and Technology staff and board



Newcastle High Principal Nathan Towney





DALE - Dynamic Alternative Learning Environment

Cr Kay Fraser, Mayor of Lake Macquarie with Judy Mason and two of the DALE YPP participants catering for Council's citizenship ceremony

St Philip's Christian College (SPCC) DALE is a Dynamic Alternative Learning Environment for students in Years 5-10 who have an Autism Spectrum Disorder, social and emotional difficulties or a mild intellectual disability.

Another arm of SPCC is the DALE Young Parents' School, which aims to minimise barriers that exist for young parents' to re-engage with education. The school also recognises the importance of supporting and building Aboriginal cultural awareness of young parents and the school community. The Waratah school employs an Indigenous Support Worker, who works closely with young Aboriginal parents and their children, to build strong connections and engagement with their education. Workshops, events and excursions are often delivered to increase cultural awareness of the local Aboriginal People.

SPCC DALE Young Parents'

Waratah has been supporting young mums for 17 years and in 2016, offered young fathers the opportunity to enrol to complete their education in a safe and supported non-judgemental environment.

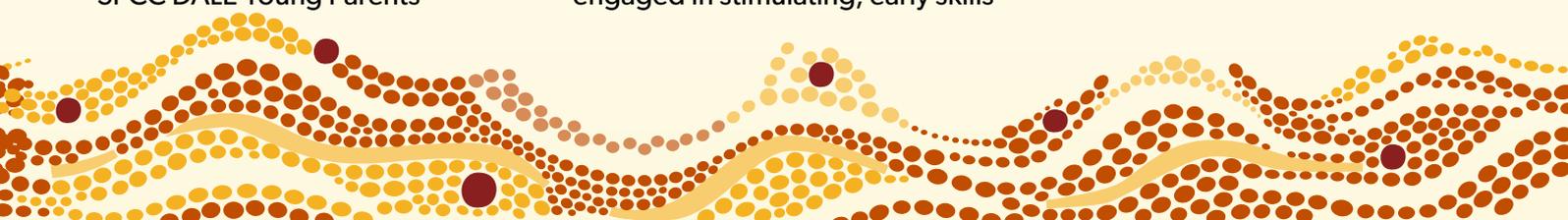
SPCC DALE Young Parents' Wyong began in 2012 to help young parents on the Central Coast break down the barriers to education. In 2014, the Young Parents' Program moved from Wadalba to its current location at the Young Parents' Hub in Wyong. In 2016, six young parents graduated with their full non-ATAR HSC, the first group at DALE to receive a full HSC.

The Early Learning Centre for 0-3 year-olds has highly experienced and fully qualified educators, who understand that the first few years of a child's life are a time of extraordinary development. While their parents are studying in the classroom, the children are engaged in stimulating, early skills

learning programs. The student classroom is adjacent to the Early Learning Centre, enabling the parents to participate in the daily nurturing of their children. The curriculum for some of the courses studied by the parents incorporates activities planned for the babies. This means that the parents are directly involved in their babies' learning at school as they are at home.

Council engaged some of the young parents to cater for this year's NAIDOC event. The pride on these young women's face was a celebration in itself, and guests noted the delicious flavours and textures of the cuisines. So much so that they were engaged to cater for Council's Citizenship Ceremonies.

For further information, phone SPCC's Waratah campus on 02 4949 2929 or the Wyong campus on 0417 653 627.



BOARD

Surf and skate culture meet contemporary art

This exhibition at the Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery includes works by Vernon Ah Kee, Gerry Bobsien, Shaun Gladwell, Nancy Kilgour, Brett McMahon, Tracey Moffatt, Nell, John Turier plus emerging artists from Hunter St TAFE, Gerry Wedd, Jud Wimhurst and Anne Zahalka.

A Gallery project curated by Meryl Ryan. This exhibition is supported by the Dobell Exhibition Grant, funded by the Sir William Dobell Art Foundation and managed by Museums and Galleries of NSW.

ALL a BOARD Sunday 10 December 10am-4.30pm

Join us for the launch of our summer exhibition program.

This epic full day program includes:

LIVE MUSIC | HALF PIPE | ART MAKING | MARKETS | SKATE COMPETITION | BOARD TALK | BOARD DESIGN COMPETITION | FREE WATER SPORTS | EXHIBITION | SURFBOARD ART DEMONSTRATION | & MORE

LM
LAKE
MACQUARIE
CITY
ART
GALLERY



5
minutes with the
mob



Sugarvalley Neighbourhood Centre is located at 65 Carrington Street, West Wallsend. Programs and newsletter are on their website and Facebook page.

Name: Candy Lee Towers

Where's your mob from: Worimi and Yorta Yorta

Your organisation and role? How long have you been there:

I've been working at Sugarvalley Neighbourhood Centre as a Community Support Worker for six weeks.

What services can your organisation provide to Aboriginal people in Lake Macquarie?

My organisation can provide culturally appropriate support for referrals, emergency relief, housing and tenancy issues and support for domestic violence victims selected Indigenous programs created with community organisations and offer local culture and heritage awareness to community.

Who is in your family? I have one son, four nephews, Mum, Dad, two sisters and one brother, I have 54 first cousins and 132 second cousins.

Who is your hero? Nan Dates (Beryl Dates)

Favourite bush food: Lilly Pilly

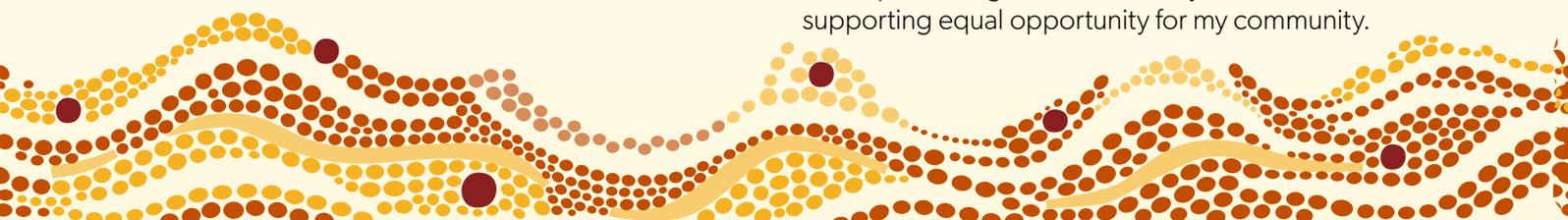
Favourite sport: Rugby League

Favourite movie:

I have two favourites, *The Tracker* and *Rabbit Proof Fence*.

Ambitions in life: To continue the connection with my people, to pass down cultural knowledge to our future generations, to build strength in cultural connections to Indigenous peoples and to provide awareness to Indigenous and non-Indigenous people to support unity for all Australians and also to be the best mum I can be!

Anything else you would like to add? I am deeply proud of my Indigenous heritage, I feel passionately about preserving the culture of my Ancestors and supporting equal opportunity for my community.





***13 February 2018
Anniversary of the
Apology (2008)**

The anniversary of the formal apology made on 13 February 2008 by the Government and the Parliament of Australia to Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, in particular to the Stolen Generations.

**15 March 2018
National Close the Gap Day**

National Close the Gap Day is an annual event held to raise awareness of the Indigenous health crisis.

**Lake Macquarie
City Council
wins the
inaugural NSW
Local Council of
the year**

NSW Local Council of the Year



Lake Macquarie
City Council

NSW
CHAMPIONS OF SPORT
2017

Community connections

Name and nickname:

Jennifer McLaren but call me Jen.

Where are you from: Born and bred in Lake Macquarie.

Your organisation and role:

Nar-un-bah Schools as Community Centres Fennell Bay Public School (FBPS).

How long have you been there?

I have been in my role for over 10 years but have worked in West Lake Macquarie for most of my working life.

I am also a member of Mankillikan AECG, our local Aboriginal Education Consultative Group and am currently the Secretary of the Westlakes NAIDOC Working Committee.

What services can your organisation provide to Aboriginal people in Lake Macquarie?

We are an interagency service that works with lots of other agencies to provide a range of programs for families with young children aged 0-5. These include supported playgroups, baby playgroups, parenting programs, infant massage as well as informal drop-in support. I also work closely with Bourkie from the Family Action Centre in providing programs for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander boys at FBPS and Annissa, Aboriginal Education Officer at FBPS. We have worked in partnership with Awabakal for more than 12 years providing a supported playgroup on Tuesdays during school terms from 9.30-11.30am.

Who is in your family? My husband Brett and three children Anderson, Declan and Georgia. I am also blessed to still have my mum and my grandma (94) in my life.

Favourite food: My Sunday breakfast special (that I make) scrambled eggs on smoked salmon with cream cheese, Spanish onions and capers!

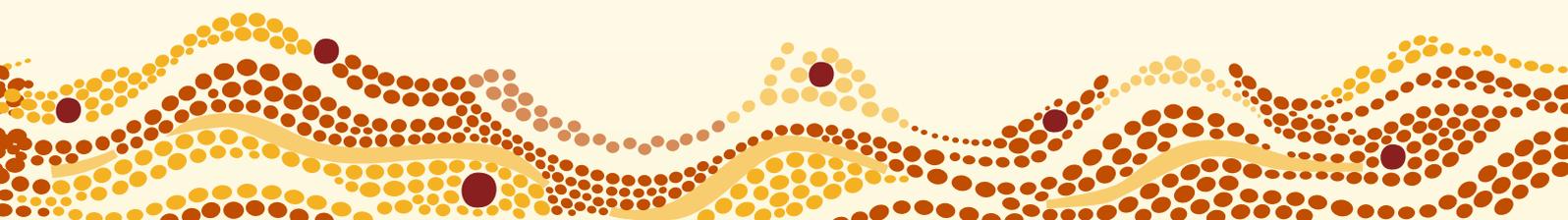
Favourite sport:

Football (soccer) as I was one of the first girls in Lake Macquarie to play under 6 for Garden Suburb in the 70s!

Favourite movie: Anything about Christmas!

Ambitions in life:

To be a positive role model not only for my children but also for the children, families and communities that I work with in believing that you can achieve anything you set your mind to.





What's on?

More events can be found at lakemac.com.au [f lakemaccity](https://www.facebook.com/lakemaccity) or contact [4921 0333](tel:49210333)

Walk a Mile Koori Style

Walk a Mile Koori Style is an Australian version of Walk a Mile in her Shoes. It is an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander male-youth-led event and men and boys from all nations and cultures are encouraged to participate. This walk is for all men to say no to domestic violence and advocate for an end to violence in their community.

The event will see males of all ages walk from Fletcher Park, opposite Newcastle Police Station, up to the exit gates of King Edward (a mile), where women will gather and await their arrival when the males will Acknowledge Country and offer an oath witnessed by the women.

FRIDAY 1 DECEMBER
9AM

Male registrations at
Fletcher Park,

Walk begins, 10AM;

Acknowledgement of Country
and Oath, 10.45AM;

Festivities at the Rotunda in King
Edward Park, 11AM-3PM.

Awabakal Cultural Festival

Cap off the year and celebrate Awabakal's 40th anniversary one last time. Awabakal will be hosting a free Cultural Festival at Wollotuka Institute at the University of Newcastle

with activities, rides, food, entertainment and much more.

SATURDAY 9 DECEMBER,
2-8PM

Lake Mac Carols by Candlelight

The festivities will begin early with the Variety Xmas Walk kicking off at 11am.

There will be free kids' activities and entertainment from 1pm before our special musical guests, Grammy-nominated artist, Toni Childs, and *The Voice Australia* winner, Judah Kelly, kick off the evening concert at 6.30pm.

Look out for a very special appearance by Santa and enjoy the spectacular fireworks finale from 9pm.

Free Wi-Fi available to download online songbook and sing along to the carols.

SUNDAY 10 DECEMBER
11AM-9PM
SPEERS POINT PARK

Lake Mac Festival

Movie on the big screen at noon, free kids' activities from noon until 4pm, entertainment on stage throughout the afternoon, Annual Scouts Canoe Race at 4pm. Evening concert from 5.30pm and fireworks finale at 9pm.

FRIDAY 26 JANUARY
NOON-9PM,
SPEERS POINT PARK

Lake Mac Festival of Surfing

Includes Stand Up Paddleboard, Teams Shortboard, Longboard Open and Shortboard Masters competitions.

Free community activities with the competition from 8am each day.

SATURDAY 20 AND
SUNDAY 21 JANUARY, 8AM
REDHEAD BEACH

Youth Grants

Not-for-profit community groups in Lake Macquarie City can apply for grants of up to \$1000 to fund activities during National Youth Week, 13-22 April 2018.

Events and activities that achieve outcomes identified in the Lake Macquarie Youth Strategy, such as improving access to services for young people or ensuring they have the opportunity to make a meaningful contribution to public life, will be highly regarded for funding. Application forms can be downloaded at lakemc.com.au and close at 5pm on Friday 15 December 2017.

Got any news?

contributions are welcome

medwards@lakemac.nsw.gov.au