



New Executive Team

Dianne Scott was recently appointed as the new Executive Officer of Neighbourhood Central. Di has over 12 years of experience at Neighbourhood Central and has worked within a variety of programs. She has a wealth of knowledge within the community sector, previously undertaking the role of Executive Assistant for seven years. Di has a strong focus on community and actively promotes the vision and mission of Neighbourhood Central within her daily work. She is looking forward to continuing to make significant contributions to our communities and to meet our responsibilities with strong and sustainable services that are able to meet needs not only now but also into the future.

Rowen Pearce has worked at Neighbourhood Central for over eight years, starting in the Family Support team. Rowen is the Financial Controller and now has the additional role of the Assistant Manager. He has brought comprehensive knowledge to this role with a broad understanding of the community sector, and is committed to introducing more contemporary business practices as we continue to innovate our systems, programs and services.

Samantha Leonard recently returned to Parkes after a 3½ year hiatus. Samantha previously worked for Neighbourhood Central from 2013 – 2018 as a Home Care and Disability Services Officer. In 2018 she moved to the Far North Coast of NSW and worked for a local aged care service provider for two years. This expanded her knowledge on a much broader scale and utilised her transferrable skills within the industry. Samantha then spent a year working for the local council as an executive assistant to the executive support team. This gave her valuable insight into Local Government and governance. Samantha was thrilled to be given the opportunity to move back to Parkes and work again at Neighbourhood Central, valuing the close-knit community and the talented and dedicated staff that she now works with.

Di, Rowen and Samantha are a strong leadership team that will build on Neighbourhood Central's strengths and drive our transformation agenda.

They look forward to working with all the dedicated staff and volunteers who play an important role in Neighbourhood Central's success.

Photo above: EO Dianne Scott (centre), with Samantha Leonard and Rowen Pearce.

Our offices are open with COVID safe practices in place: check-in, sanitise, social distance.



Paint the Town REaD



Above L-R: Rhonda Brain, Hugh Campbell, our patron Her Excellency Mrs Linda Hurley (as Cat in the Hat), Shonel Redfern and Pat Dedy.

Neighbourhood Central's Shonel Redfern (above left) attended the recent Early Literacy National Conference together with Rhonda Brain from Parkes' own *Paint the Town REaD* team. Not only were they inspired by guest speakers and various workshops, including a panel of fathers, but they presented their own workshop called *Paint Parkes Uniformly REaD, an Annual Community Reading Day with a Difference*.

Recognition for Parkes PTTR: Amongst the many *Paint the Town Read* communities, Parkes is recognised as the town that "knows how to stage a great reading day". This sentiment was shared by organisers at the Conference where participants were encouraged to make their way to Parkes on the 10th September to see "how it is done!"

The Conference was opened by Mrs Hurley. Following is an excerpt of her speech.

"It is a real privilege to serve (the Paint the Town REaD village) as your Patron. You are committed, you're passionate and you're determined to make a difference. I think that the *Paint the Town REaD* team epitomises Australia's richness of spirit. You are kind, selfless and caring. These are important traits that make our community and country so special. Your work is extraordinary. *Paint the Town REaD* is now active in 90 communities across Australia."

On the theme of this conference, *Enhancing Early Literacy by embracing our cultural diversity*, Mrs Hurley said: "Reading, music and literacy are so important and I love that Paint the Town REaD is supporting and encouraging children being read to in home language."

Mrs Hurley went on to say what a wonderful gift that the the children are given by the Paint the Town REaD community. "I know that your work is not always easy. It is, though, enormously rewarding. Education opens doors and creates opportunities. You help to unlock potential. You may never see the fruits of your labour, but you should be confident that you have changed lives and helped put young people onto the right path. So as your Patron, and on behalf of all Australians (I say) thank you! Please keep up your great work. You are making a difference."



Pictured above, the group of attendees, and right: Her Excellency Mrs Linda Hurley delivering her welcome speech.



Community Transport Wyalong



Farewell and thanks to Jackie Sibraa who has retired from Wyalong Community Transport after fourteen years of service. Above are Wyalong volunteer drivers and driver support attending a farewell party in Jackie's honour. Top right is Jackie pictured with Suzanne, who coordinates the Community Transport service at Wyalong. Taking Jackie's place is Megan Fuller.

Welcome Megan

Megan Fuller recently joined Neighbourhood Central to replace Jackie at the Wyalong office of Community Transport. Megan is married with four children, and some of her work experience includes owning and running a motel in West Wyalong. She lived for a while in Parkes, then returned to Wyalong two years ago. Megan says of herself: "As a devoted mum I love spending time with my family which includes four precious grandchildren. I also love being back at work now after spending quite some time as a stay-at-home mum."



Manildra Movies 2021 for Parkes and Forbes Clients

Cost: CHSP \$25 / CTP \$35:
Bookings are open to any client eligible under CHSP or CTP funding guidelines. Call in to our offices at Parkes or Forbes to reserve a place. Payment is due day of reservation.

Movie dates: Booking dates:

Thursday 5 Aug.	Monday 5 July
Thursday 7 Oct.	Monday 6 Sept.
Thursday 2 Dec.	Monday 1 Nov.



Left, Gloria and Norm Kopp, and the lovely artwork they donated as a token of their appreciation for service provided by Wyalong Community Transport.

For **all Community Transport** needs, contact your local office during office hours: *Parkes and Peak Hill 6862 2825; Forbes 02 6851 4550; Condobolin 02 6895 4190; Wyalong 02 6972 3106.

For **emergencies** (out of office hours) we can be contacted on 0403 463 533. Please **DO NOT** contact drivers on their personal landline or mobiles!

Drivers are **not** authorised to make or change bookings.



Volunteer Drivers Needed: Community Transport services across all localities are in need of more volunteer drivers. If you like helping people, have an unrestricted licence, and are willing to volunteer on a regular basis, please contact Service Coordinator Lyn Townsend on 02 6862 2825.



Volunteers. Recognise. Reconnect. Reimagine.



Recognise, Reconnect and Reimagine was the theme for this year's Volunteer Week. Never has the importance of volunteers been more evident than after a year where Australia has dealt with drought, devastating bushfires, floods and then a global pandemic. Amidst the pandemic, while many of us stayed home, many volunteers continued to deliver essential services, organise food packages and offer care, comfort and more to support the well-being of Australians.

Over the years, Australia has seen a decline in the number of volunteers and the hours they give. Currently, Australians are experiencing higher degrees of uncertainty and stress, and with COVID-19, two-thirds of volunteers have stopped working.

Volunteers make our communities stronger, especially during times of need, crisis or isolation. Australians are therefore being invited to *reconnect* by considering once again to give time to help others, and by doing so to help themselves. Australia is also called to *reimagine* how we can better support volunteers and the communities they help.

At Neighbourhood Central, volunteers are involved with Community Transport (either as a driver, or in a driver support capacity); with the Community Visitors Scheme (visiting the frail aged in Aged Care Facilities, or in their homes); with the Housebound Library service (delivering books and other media to those who can no longer get to the Library themselves), with Meals (the delivery of); with social support activities, and with Palliative Care.

Neighbourhood Central at Parkes needs more meals delivery volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering with us, you can request our information booklet which includes a request form to be filled out. If you are in Parkes, you can call in to our front desk to pick up a copy; or send us an email request.

Neighbourhood Central acknowledges and thanks all its volunteers for the vital role they play in our communities.

Below are some photos of a recent morning tea held for volunteers.





Aboriginal Program



Peak Hill Girls Group and Women's Group

Left: Girls from the Peak Hill Girls Group learning how to prepare corn fritters. Above: some of the women from the Women's Group enjoying the fruit of their work after trying out the recipe for corn fritters.

Weigelli/Orana Haven Hub Project

Parkes Neighbourhood Centre
80 Currajong St, Parkes NSW 2870
Weekly every Monday

Peak Hill Neighbourhood Centre
87 Caswell St, Peak Hill NSW 2869
Weekly every Wednesday

Providing ongoing Alcohol and Other Drug support to people & communities
Case Management | Support | Advocacy

Alcohol and Drug Support

The Weigelli/Orana Haven Hub Project provides ongoing alcohol and other drug support to people and communities. Refer to Neighbourhood Central at the Parkes Office and the Peak Hill Hub for more information

Police Aboriginal Consultative Committee

A meeting was held in June at the Neighbourhood Central Peak Hill Hub focusing on youth. The next Police Aboriginal Consultation meeting will be held at the Hub on 24th August at 11am. Community members are invited and encouraged to attend.



Pictured left: Neighbourhood Central staff, Rebecca Cohen and Amanda Corcoran, with Jay Cohen and three representatives of our regional police force at the recent Police Aboriginal Consultative Committee in Peak Hill.



NAIDOC WEEK PARKES 2021

10th July 2021 starting 11:30 am

This is an exciting event open to all at the Indigenous Precinct, Bushman Hill, Parkes. Coordinated by Amanda Corcoran and hosted by Neighbourhood Central and Parkes Shire Council, the guest speaker will be Irene Ridgeway on the theme of “Healing Country”. Musical entertainment will be provided, with Tyrece on the didgeradoo, an orchestral performance, the Spirit River Cultural Dancers, and the “3 Day Bender Band”. The NAIDOC award ceremony will be delivered by mayor Ken Keith and Karen Hawkins.

Forbes Craft Group



Pictured left are some of the ladies who attend the Craft group in Forbes. They are delighted to be able to attend their Craft group again to work on their projects while enjoying a chat and a cuppa. Forbes Craft group meets every Wednesday in the Uniting Church hall in Browne Street. Contact our Forbes office on 6851 4550 for further details. All groups are subject to COVID restrictions.

Work Experience Student

Year 10 students are required to complete a week of work experience. Charley chose to do hers at Neighbourhood Central in Parkes. Prior to commencing Charley said: “I am 16 years old and live in Parkes. I am in year 10 at Red Bend Catholic College in Forbes. I am really looking forward to spending my week here and seeing and experiencing a few of the many aspects of this job. In my spare time, I like to be with my family and friends and to play sport.” While Charley was here, she helped out in Administration, experienced some social assistance activities, and attended play group in Tullamore and Parkes.





Healthy Lifestyle & Wellness Program

Parkes and Forbes

Healthy Lifestyle and Wellness activities are now on a two-week break. Groups will resume with Term 3, which is the week commencing 12 July 2021 (subject to COVID restrictions), and have a duration of ten weeks.

Unfortunately, activities at Peak Hill will not be available for the foreseeable future, and delivery of activities in Parkes and Forbes could change from term to term, since all classes are subject to government funding and are revised at the end of each term.

On offer for Term 3 are the following activities:

At Parkes: Stepping On; Gym Exercises; Yoga; Line Dancing (New); Craft Group.

At Forbes: Stepping On; Yoga; Craft Group, Morning Tea.



Pictured above are clients doing some gym exercises at the Pulse Gym.



Pictured above is a class of line dancing, held at the Services Club in Parkes.

All participants in the Healthy Lifestyle and Wellness Program must first be assessed by My Aged Care (freecall 1800 200 422). Eligible clients will pay a contribution fee as determined by Neighbourhood Central for each term.

For enquiries and availability contact Louise Tosetti at Neighbourhood Central, Parkes, on 02 6862 3757.

All group activities are subject to COVID safe measures as updated by the NSW Government

Parkes Bumps n' Bubs

The *Bumps n' Bubs* group for expecting and young mothers meet Thursday mornings at 10am. Morning tea is provided. Older children are welcome.

NB Change of address: The Family Support team are no longer in Welcome Street, but have moved back into the premises of Neighbourhood Central at 80 Currajong Street. For further information on the venue for *Bumps n' Bubs* call Shonel on 0418 412 093.

Tullamore Play Group

The Tullamore play group is held each week on Tuesdays at 10:30 in the CWA Hall, and is coordinated by Shonel Redfern of Neighbourhood Central in Parkes. For further information contact Shonel on 0418 412 093.



Parkes Meals Service

Helen and Tanya at Parkes continue to prepare fresh meals twice a week, delivered to your door by our staff and volunteers. A hot meal is always available, however, Helen and Tanya have also prepared some delicious soups. These will be delivered frozen and can be put aside for dinner that same night; or place them immediately into your freezer for a later date.

Tuesday and Thursday subsidised meals, delivered by Neighbourhood Central at Parkes:

Hot lunch \$6.50. Also available: \$6.50; Sandwich \$3.50; Soup (delivered frozen) and a bread roll \$3.50; Sweet \$2.

Monday, Wednesday and Friday subsidised meals prepared and delivered by the Parkes Coffee Pot on behalf of Neighbourhood Central include:

Fish+Chips+Salad \$6.50; Lasagne+Chips+Salad \$6.50; Hamburger+Chips \$6.50.

For ALL orders please call Neighbourhood Central on 1300 810 771 or 02 6862 3757 by 11am two days prior.



FROZEN MEALS AVAILABLE EVERY DAY

We have a wide range of frozen meals, including Roasts, Rissoles, Sausages, Lamp Chops and more, including a Curry and a Sweet and Sour. There is a choice of two frozen sweets. The menu is available at Parkes Reception.

Cost for CHSP clients (My Aged Care subsidy): \$7.00

Full Cost (non My Aged Care subsidised clients): \$8.50



PARKES	80 Currajong Street	(02) 6862 3757
PEAK HILL	87 Caswell Street	(02) 6869 1037
FORBES	7 Harold Street	(02) 6851 4550
CONDOBOLIN	7 Melrose Street	(02) 6895 4190
WYALONG	255 Neeld Street	(02) 6972 3106

Phone: 1300 810 771



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