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August/September 2026 Community Newsletter

Chairperson Report

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am pleased to provide an update on the important work being undertaken across Moogji and to acknowledge the continued commitment of our Members, Elders, staff and partners.

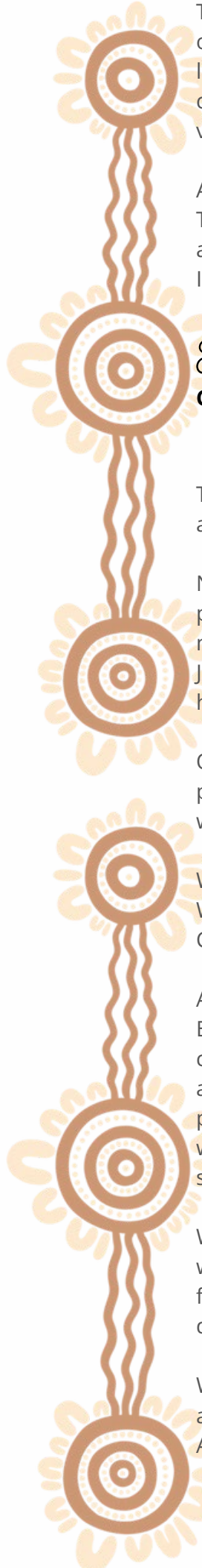
The past two months have seen significant progress across the organisation. The Board has approved Moogji's 2026-27 Operational Plan and Annual Budget, providing a clear roadmap for the year ahead as we continue delivering services that strengthen our Community, culture, health, wellbeing and Caring for Country activities. It has been encouraging to see the outstanding progress already being made against our Strategic Plan, and I congratulate our CEO and the entire Moogji team for their dedication and hard work.

Good governance remains a priority for the Board. During June we approved our updated Risk Management Framework and Membership Policy and Procedure, and we continue to monitor our Quality and Safety Framework as we prepare for our upcoming ISO recertification audit. These systems ensure that Moogji continues to deliver safe, accountable and high-quality services for our Community.

The Board has also continued to welcome new Members into the organisation while carefully considering applications for Membership and Confirmation of Aboriginality. It is wonderful to see increasing community interest in becoming involved in the future direction of Moogji, and we warmly welcome our new Members.

On Wednesday 29 July we held a Special General Meeting to consider proposed amendments to Rule 50 of the Moogji Rules. I would like to sincerely thank the Members who attended and participated in the discussion. Following consideration, Members unanimously supported the proposed changes to increase Board terms from two years to three years and introduce a revised staggered rotation of Directors, subject to approval by Consumer Affairs Victoria. These changes are designed to strengthen governance, improve continuity and retain valuable corporate knowledge while continuing to provide opportunities for Members to elect Directors on a regular basis.





The Board has also continued discussions regarding a range of future partnership opportunities that have the potential to benefit Community while ensuring that Aboriginal leadership, cultural safety and community control remain at the centre of any future collaborations. We remain committed to carefully assessing every opportunity against Moogji's values and long-term strategic direction.

As always, thank you to our Members and Community for your ongoing support and trust. Together we continue to build a stronger organisation that is culturally strong, community-led and focused on creating opportunities for current and future generations.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our Annual General Meeting later this year.

Kewan Horder.

Chairperson

CEO Report

The last few months have been busy, and I couldn't be more proud of what our team has achieved.

NAIDOC Week was a real highlight. It was wonderful to see so many of our stakeholder partners and families come together at our Flag Raising and Family Fun Day. One of the special moments for me was sharing the first of our Elders' recorded stories as part of our Cultural Journey Trail. These stories will help keep culture strong and make sure your young people can hear the voices of our Elders for many years to come.

Our school holiday activities were also a great success. It was fantastic to see so many young people getting involved, making new friends and enjoying time together in a safe and welcoming place.

We've also had some really good news with funding. We have received funding for our Family Wellbeing program, which will continue for five years! We also received funding to help our Community prepare for emergencies such as bushfires and floods, and access the NDIS.

Another exciting project is our Stanley Street Master Plan. This means we'll be working with our Elders, Community, staff and Board to plan what we want our Stanley Street site (next to the clinic) to look like in the future. It gives us a chance to dream big and use the Master Plan to apply for future funding to have a culturally safe building, something the Community can be proud of. We will be running the first set of formal consultations on 15th September. There will be 2 workshops – one at 11 am and one at 5:30 pm, but the consultants will be here all day so you can pop in when it suits you.

We've also kept working hard to help families find safe housing. After many months of talking with different organisations, we were able to negotiate 5 extra social housing homes in Orbst for Mob. We know there is still a long way to go, but every family we can help makes a real difference.

We have been negotiating long term work for our Environmental Crew with various funding agencies.. This means more local jobs, more Caring for Country, and more opportunities for Aboriginal people to work on Country.



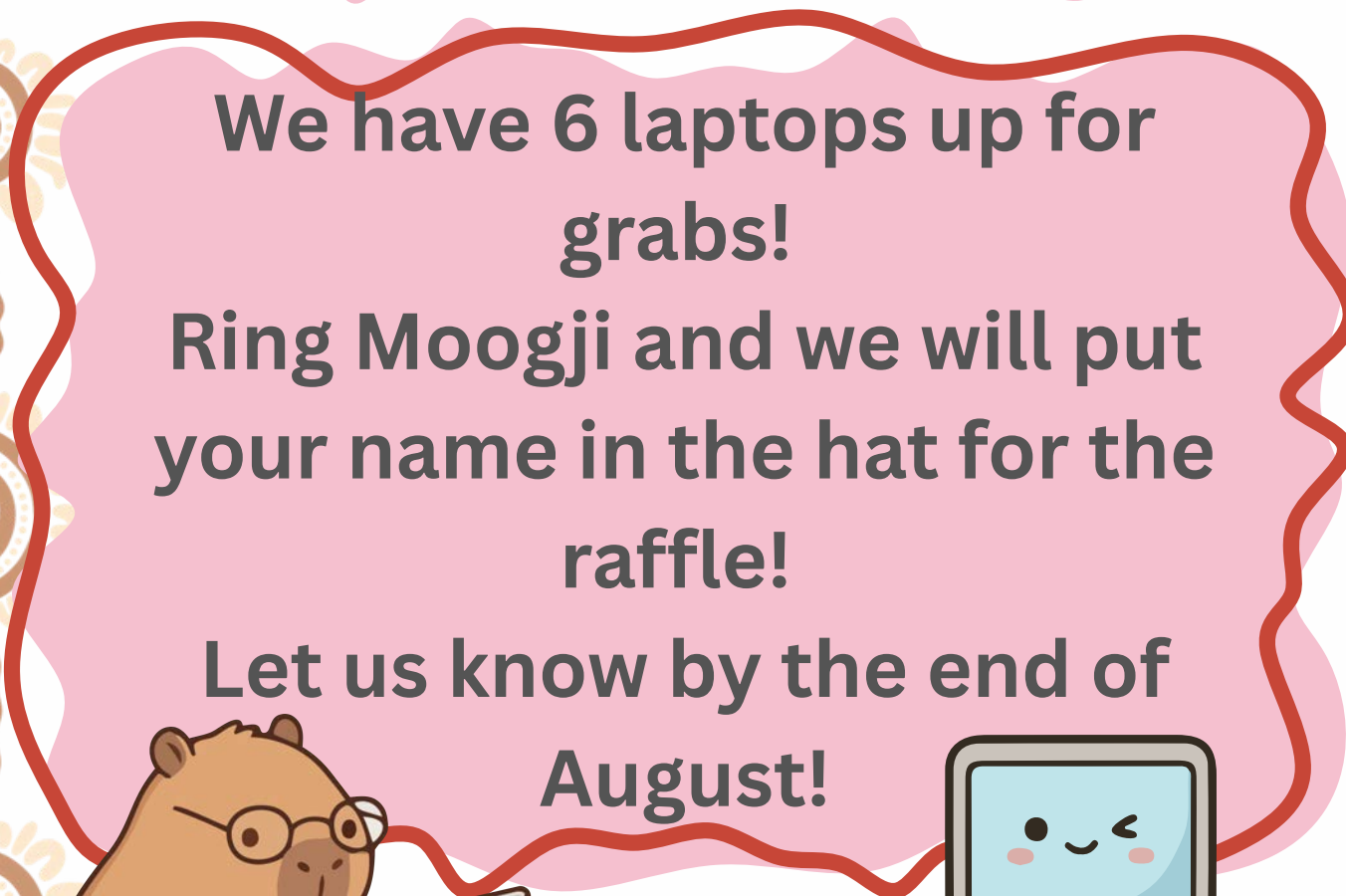
We have welcomed some new staff to the Moogji family and are also working on a fresh new look for the organisation. With help from a graphic designer, we are creating a new brand style using the beautiful Snowy River Dreaming artwork chosen by our Elders. You'll start to see this across our newsletters, reports, social media and other items over the coming months.

In early August we had our ISO Quality recertification audit. While audits can sound a bit scary, they are really just a way of checking that we're doing a great job. I'm proud to say our staff don't need to rush around getting ready because they work to a high standard every single day. That's something we should all be proud of. The work by the team meant that the auditor did not pick up a single issue against the 310 Standards which was fantastic.

Finally, thank you to our Elders, Community, Members, Board, staff, and partners. Thank you for your support, your ideas and your trust. Together we are building a stronger Moogji that will continue to grow and create opportunities for your children, grandchildren and future generations.

Take care of yourselves and each other, and I hope to see you at one of our upcoming community events.

Louise Carey



**We have 6 laptops up for
grabs!**

**Ring Moogji and we will put
your name in the hat for the
raffle!**

**Let us know by the end of
August!**





HAVE YOUR SAY ON THE FUTURE DESIGN OF STANLEY STREET

Help us imagine what our Stanley Street buildings could become.

Moogji is not leaving Stanley Street, and our clinic will remain as it is. What we are doing is inviting Community to help us reimagine the old boarding house and the spaces we currently work from.

We have engaged NJAC to work with Community to develop a visionary, culturally appropriate building design for Stanley Street — one that reflects Community, culture and how we want to use this space into the future.

This is our opportunity to think big!
If we could redesign this space from the ground up, what should it look like?
What should it include? How should it feel?

We want that vision to come from Community.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION DAY
Tuesday 15 September
Moogji – Stanley Street
Formal Group Consultation 1: 11:00am
Formal Group Consultation 2: 5:30pm

NJAC consultants will be at Stanley Street throughout the day, so if you can't make either of the group sessions, drop in anytime on Tuesday 15 September and have your say.

WHY YOUR VOICE MATTERS

This consultation is about creating a Community-led vision for what Stanley Street could become.

It is important to be clear that there is currently no guarantee of funding to build the new facility. This is Step One.

By developing the vision now, we can be ready when future building and infrastructure funding opportunities arise. We will have a strong, culturally informed design shaped by Community that can form the basis of future funding submissions.

THIS IS JUST THE BEGINNING

There will be more opportunities to have your say after 15 September. We want to make sure everyone in Community has the opportunity to contribute — Elders, families, young people, clients, staff and the wider Community.

COME AND HELP US IMAGINE STANLEY STREET'S FUTURE.

Please let reception know if you are coming for catering purposes on (03) 5154 2133

Deadly Choices®

Moogji has partnered with Deadly Choices and we're now able to hand out some deadly shirts to our Aboriginal Community once you've had your 715 Health Check signed off by the doctor. As we have only recently partnered with Deadly Choices, we are unable to back date shirts for previous 715 Health Checks, but not to worry, you're eligible for a 715 Health Check every 9 months.

We have limited stock to order from, but we'd love some feedback on what teams you'd like to see, and we'll keep an eye out each time we put an order in. Here are the shirts we currently have:



Health Promotion Calendar

We're developing a 12-month health promotion calendar for 2026. We'd love to hear your feedback on what health topics you'd like to see us cover of the next 12 months.

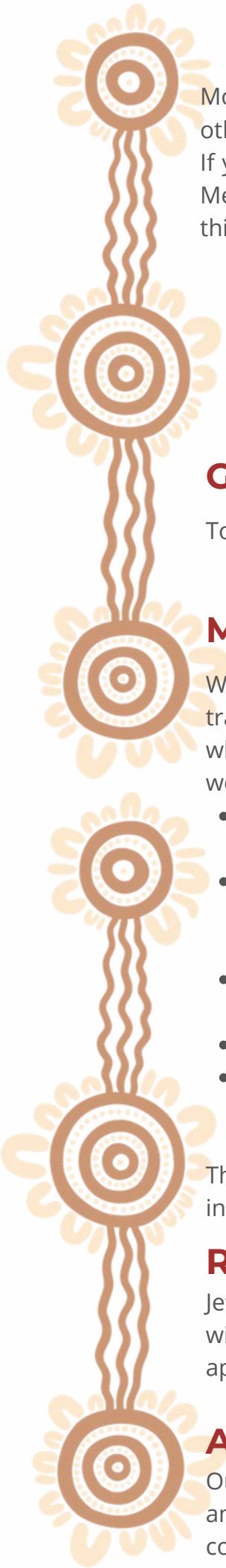


Please scan the QR code to complete the survey.

There will also be paper copies available at reception

Do you want your Newsletters emailed to you instead of by mail?

Call reception on 5154 2133, to add your email address to the list



Doctor Sessions

Moogji has a doctor onsite every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, unless stated otherwise. Please call reception to book an appointment.

If you have not yet completed your New Patient Registration Form and Transfer of Medical Records Consent form, please ask reception and they can assist you with this.

*Flu Vaccine available at Moogji.
Call reception for an appointment*

GEGAC Dental

To book an appointment, please call GEGAC on 5150 0700

Medical Transport

We know how important it is to get to your medical appointments, and our transport service is here to help. Lately, transport has been in high demand, and while we try our best, we're not always able to cover every request. To make sure we can support as many people as possible, please keep in mind:

- For medical appointments only: our transport service is just for health-related appointments.
- Local transports (Orbost): Please give us at least **24 hours'** notice. We understand some appointments pop up last minute, but letting us know as early as possible helps us find a driver for you.
- Out of town transports: We kindly ask for **7 days'** notice, so we have time to organise everything properly and ensure we have a driver available.
- Bookings: all transport requests must be made through reception.
- Cancellations: If you no longer need your transport, please let us know as soon as you can. This allows us to offer the spot to someone else who may be waiting.

Thank you for working with us to keep this service running smoothly for everyone in the community.

Riviera Counselling Service

Jeff Steedman from Riviera Counselling is onsite every Wednesday. An appointment with Jeff can be help onsite at Moogji, via phone or a home visit. For an appointment, please call reception.

AOD Services

Our AOD team are on-site at Moogji from Monday to Friday. Drop in for a cuppa and a chat anytime, our door is always open and open to everyone.. We can also come to clients homes. If you are wanting an appointment, please call reception and ask for Margie or Courtney.



Optometrist

Next visit to Moogji: TBC

PLEASE ENSURE PAYMENT IS MADE ON THE DAY

Call Moogji reception to book.

Hearing

Next visit to Moogji: 8th October

Call Moogji reception to book.



We'd Love to Hear Your Ideas!
What would help make this a
safe, welcoming space for you?

Your feedback matters and will
help shape future sessions.

Informal Catch-up

Drop-In Session

Need to chat about alcohol or other drugs?
Come in for a relaxed, informal yarn—no
appointments, no pressure.

Where: 52 Stanley Street, Orbost

Friday 14th August	11:00 am – 1:00 pm
Tuesday 18th August	1:00pm – 3:00 pm
Thursday 27th August	11:00am – 1:00pm

Whether you have questions, want
information, need support, or just feel like a
chat, you're welcome to drop in.



Everyone is welcome, and all conversations
are confidential.

While these are informal group drop-in
sessions, we understand some conversations
are better had one-on-one.
If you would prefer to speak privately,
confidential individual appointments can be
arranged.

We'd love to see you!

June/July School Holiday Program

During the school holidays, Moogji delivered a range of fun, creative, cultural and recreational activities for children and young people. The program provided opportunities for participants to connect with each other, develop new skills, try new experiences and enjoy safe, positive activities throughout the school break.

Two drop-in sessions were held across the holidays, one at The Block and another at Stanley Street, making the program accessible to young people in different areas of the community.

Drop-In Session 1 – Design Your Own T-Shirt

The first drop-in session focused on creativity and self-expression, with participants given the opportunity to design and create their own t-shirts.

A special thank you goes to Yoowinna Wurnalung Aboriginal Healing Service for bringing along their printing machine and supporting the young people to bring their designs to life. This was a great hands-on activity that encouraged creativity, confidence and participation.

Spending time together in a safe and welcoming environment.

Drop-In Session 2 – Tie-Dye & Creative Activities

The second drop-in session continued the creative theme, with participants having the opportunity to tie-dye their own t-shirts, it also included Nintendo Switch, Lego, games and cooking. A group of young girls who attended took the initiative to make cupcakes for the group, which were then decorated by participants and enjoyed by everyone.

This session encouraged young people to work together, share their skills and take ownership of activities.

Excursions

Three excursions were organised during the school holidays, providing participants with opportunities to get out into the community and experience activities that may not otherwise be accessible to them.

Lakes Entrance Indoor Pool – Aqua Run

Participants enjoyed a trip to the Lakes Entrance Indoor Pool to take part in the Aqua Run. This was a fun and active day that encouraged physical activity, teamwork and social connection.

Sun Cinema, Bairnsdale – Movie Day

Participants travelled to the Sun Cinema in Bairnsdale to watch Minions Versus Monsters. Everyone enjoyed popcorn and a drink while relaxing and enjoying the movie together. It provided an opportunity for participants to have some downtime and enjoy a positive social experience outside of their usual environment.



JUNE - JULY

SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM



Dinner Plain – Snow Trip

To finish off the school holidays, Moogji organised a family trip to Dinner Plain to experience the snow.

Participants and families enjoyed playing in the snow and having fun on the toboggans. For some of the young people, this was their first time ever experiencing snow, making it a particularly memorable and exciting experience.

The snow trip provided an opportunity for families to spend quality time together, experience something new and create positive memories.

Overall

The school holiday program was a great success, with participants actively engaging in the drop-in activities and excursions. The combination of creative activities, cooking, games, social connection, physical activity and community excursions provided something for everyone.

A highlight was seeing the excitement of participants experiencing the snow at Dinner Plain for the first time. The program created a safe, welcoming space for children, young people and families to connect, have fun and experience new things together throughout the school holidays.

DREAM BELIEVE BELONG

GIRLS MENTORING PROGRAM

Program Overview

For the past 10 weeks, Bec and Kell from the SEWB Team have been meeting with young girls every Wednesday after school as part of the Dream Believe Belong Girls Mentoring Program. The program focuses on supporting the girls' social, emotional and wellbeing needs, while creating a safe, supportive and culturally connected space where participants can build confidence, develop new skills and connect with each other.

Program Activities

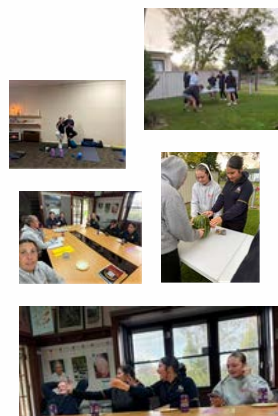
Throughout the 10 weeks, the girls have participated in a variety of engaging activities and workshops, including:

- Karaoke at the beach – encouraging confidence, fun and positive social connection.
- Mental Health – building awareness and providing a safe space to talk about feelings and wellbeing.
- Confidence and self-esteem activities – supporting the girls to recognise their strengths and develop a positive sense of self.
- Conflict resolution workshops – developing communication, problem-solving and respectful relationship skills.
- Cultural art activities – connecting participants with culture through creativity and self-expression.
- Vision boards – encouraging the girls to think about their future, goals, dreams and aspirations.
- Boxing with Reclink – promoting physical activity, confidence, resilience and teamwork.
- Yoga with Reclink – supporting relaxation, mindfulness and positive wellbeing.

Outcomes

The program has provided the young girls with a safe and supportive environment where they can:

- Build positive relationships and friendships.
- Develop confidence and self-esteem.
- Improve communication and conflict-resolution skills.
- Learn about mental health and emotional wellbeing.
- Explore their culture and express themselves through art.
- Think positively about their future goals and aspirations.
- Participate in healthy physical activities.
- Develop resilience and coping strategies.
- Feel connected, supported and heard.
- Build trust with positive adult mentors.



Moving Forward

The Dream Believe Belong Girls Mentoring Program has been highly successful, with strong engagement from the participants and positive feedback from the girls involved. Due to the success and ongoing interest in the program, Dream Believe Belong will continue running through to the end of the year. The continued program will provide an ongoing safe space for the girls to connect, learn, grow and develop their confidence, wellbeing and future aspirations.

Dream. Believe. Belong.

Creating a safe space for young girls to discover who they are, where they belong and what they can achieve.

NAIDOC

@ THE BLOCK - FAMILY FUN DAY

NAIDOC @ The Block was a fantastic day of family, culture, community and connection, held on Saturday 11 July to celebrate **NAIDOC Week and 50 years of NAIDOC**.

Families and community members came together for a fun-filled day with plenty of activities and entertainment. **Black Snake Productions and Wacky Wombat** brought lots of excitement and laughter for the kids, creating a welcoming and engaging atmosphere for everyone.

The day included a range of cultural activities, providing opportunities for children, young people and families to connect with culture, learn and have fun together.

NAIDOC 50-year commemorative T-shirts were also handed out to community members as part of the celebrations.

A big thank you goes to **Orbost Rotary** for supporting the day with a BBQ, popcorn and fairy floss, helping keep everyone fed and adding to the family fun. We also thank **Doing Dumplings & Gourmet Creations** for catering and **Pour Boys** for keeping everyone refreshed with coffee, tea, milkshakes and more.

Most importantly, the day was about engagement, connection, culture and having fun together as a community. It was wonderful to see families enjoying the activities, sharing time together and celebrating the significance of **50 years of NAIDOC**.

A huge thank you to everyone who attended, supported and contributed to making **NAIDOC @ The Block** such a successful community celebration.



REDI - MOB

PATHWAY & EMERGENCY EXPO

Behind the scenes, the SEWB Team have been busy preparing for the upcoming **REDIMOB Pathway & Volunteer Emergency Expo**, being held on **Thursday, 17 September from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm @ Lake Tyers Aboriginal Trust.**

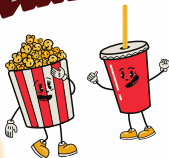
The Expo is an opportunity for young people to learn more about **REDIMOB** pathways, volunteering, emergency services, community organisations and future opportunities. The team have been working with organisations and emergency services to bring together a range of engaging information, activities and exhibits for students to explore.

From 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm, we are opening the **Expo up to Elders and community members**, providing a great opportunity to come along, check out the exhibits, connect with organisations and join us for a **yarning circle**.

We look forward to bringing our young people, Elders, community and organisations together for a day of connection, learning and exploring pathways.

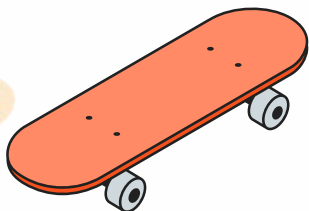
Keep an eye
out for our....

MOVIE TIME



September School Holiday Program

ON MOOGJI SOCIALS



KRISTIAN KING

Moogji visit: 10th September, 10am-2pm

I am Kristian King, the Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer based in Bairnsdale. I am a proud Gunditjmara and Ngarigo man but raised on Gunai Kurnai country and born on Bunurong country. I have recently moved back to the area after being a Senior Mentor for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the Northern Territory (Darwin City). Prior to moving I was an Employment Consultant at Job Find in Sale. True to my heart, my favourite thing to do is help people in any capacity. I am friendly and learning all aspects of Victoria Police. I cover Gippsland, and you can find me situated at Bairnsdale, Lakes Entrance, Orbost, and Sale each week, but if you know mob that is in areas like Yarram and Mallacoota, let me know I cover a big area!



In relation to any community concerns regarding our Orbost mob, I will be sitting at Moogji once a fortnight to listen to mob, point mob into the right direction for concerns or anything Victoria Police related, sometimes I will bring a member along from the Orbost Station to have a yarn, break down the barriers, so mob can be comfortable seeing police in a roundtable based yarn. No uniforms, no judgement, clear concise information regarding you or someone you may know who's struggling and needs assistance. I am so excited to sit and have a talk with our Orbost mob, come in and say hey!

As the ED6 ACLO, I am responsible for enhancing relationships between police and the local Aboriginal Community, as well as establishing effective communication and networks between the police, Aboriginal community, government, and non-government agencies.

I will provide service delivery to East Gippsland and Wellington PSAs in the following areas.

- Work in partnership with Aboriginal community groups, to develop and maintain knowledge of Aboriginal issues within the local area and maintain a contemporary knowledge of relevant legislation, policies, and procedures.
- Contribute to establishing effective communication and networking between Police members, local Aboriginal community members and other government and non-government agencies.
- Establish and maintain a positive partnership environment in which the Aboriginal community are encouraged to communicate and interact with Police members to proactively resolve issues and actively promote awareness of the role of Victoria Police within the local Aboriginal community.
- Assist in the developing, implementing and delivering appropriate training programs.
- Participate in the development and implementation of appropriate strategies to improve service delivery to customers based on customer needs.
- Attending to welfare needs and providing support to Aboriginal persons in custody, working alongside Aboriginal Community Justice Program (ACJP) members.

Diabetes Educator

Diabetes Educator Appointments at Moogji

Credentialed Diabetes Educator Rebecca Irish will be available at Moogji once a month on a Friday for appointments.

What does a Diabetes Educator do?

A Diabetes Educator can support people living with diabetes to better understand and manage their condition. This can include guidance around blood glucose monitoring, healthy eating, medications, physical activity, diabetes management and preventing complications.

No referral is required.

To make an appointment with Rebecca, please contact reception on 5154 2133.

Rebecca also works at GEGAC, BRHS and Lake Tyers, providing diabetes education and support across community.



20 August



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

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AOD drop in

Dr Chen 19
Jeff - Counsellor

Dr Ali 26
Jeff - Counsellor

AOD drop in

Dr Chen 21

Dr Ali 28

Dr Ali 24

Dr Ali 31



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Indigenous Literacy Day Jeff - Counsellor	2 Jeff - Counsellor	3	4
5 Dr Thamarai	6 Dr Thamarai 7	8	9 Dr Thamarai Jeff - Counsellor	10 Kristian King visit	11 Dr Thamarai	12
13	14	15 Community Consultation Day	16 Dr Sanjika - TH Jeff - Counsellor	17 Redi-Mob	18 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL WATCH THIS SPACE Updates on school holiday activities to come	19
20 Dr Thamarai	21 Dr Thamarai	22	23 Dr Thamarai Jeff - Counsellor	24	25 Dr Thamarai	26
27 Dr Thamarai	28 Dr Thamarai	29	30 Dr Thamarai Jeff - Counsellor			

