

Winter 2010



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GOSFORD COUNCIL WITHDRAWS FUNDING!

NARARA COMMUNITY CENTRE IS MANAGED BY GOSFORD CITY COMMUNITY & INFORMATION SERVICE LTD, A SMALL NON-PROFIT ORGANISATION THAT HAS BEEN SERVING THE GOSFORD COMMUNITY FOR FORTY YEARS.

FOR THIRTY NINE YEARS WE HAVE HAD THE SUPPORT OF GOSFORD COUNCIL, STARTING IN 1971 WITH A GRANT OF \$200 A YEAR AND THE USE OF AN OFFICE. IN THE YEARS SINCE, WE'VE ESTABLISHED SERVICES FOR THE HOMELESS, HOME HELP SERVICES, AGED CARE SERVICES AND FAMILY DAY CARE SERVICES. WE WERE THE FIRST NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE ON THE CENTRAL COAST; THE FIFTH IN NSW. WE CURRENTLY OFFER FREE FINANCIAL COUNSELLING SERVICES, EMERGENCY RELIEF, A NO INTEREST LOAN SCHEME, AND FREE TAX HELP. IN THE PAST FEW YEARS AT NARARA WE'VE ALSO RUN FREE HOMEWORK SUPPORT CLASSES AND SET UP A COMMUNITY GARDEN.

IN EARLY APRIL WE WERE SHOCKED TO RECEIVE A LETTER FROM GOSFORD COUNCIL STATING THAT THEY WERE WITHDRAWING FUNDING FROM 1ST JULY. WE HAD NO CONSULTATION, NO FACE TO FACE MEETING, AND IN FACT WEREN'T EVEN TOLD THIS WAS BEING CONSIDERED.

WHEN WE ASKED FOR 12 MONTHS' GRACE ON THE DECISION, TO ENABLE US TO SEEK OTHER FUNDING, WE WERE TOLD THE DECISION WAS FINAL. WE WILL HAVE TO CUT STAFF HOURS, OUR OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON FRIDAYS AND WE WILL ONLY OPERATE FROM 9AM TO 3PM MONDAY TO THURSDAY. TO SAY WE'RE FEELING DISAPPOINTED AND DISRESPECTED AFTER ALL THIS TIME IS AN UNDERSTATEMENT.

WE'RE PARTICULARLY DISAPPOINTED TO BE TREATED IN SUCH A MANNER BY A COUNCIL THAT CLAIMS TO BE COMMUNITY MINDED, BUT SLASHES SUPPORT TO COMMUNITY SERVICES AFTER LOSING MILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN HIGH-RISK INVESTMENTS. IF YOU HAVE CONCERNS ABOUT COUNCIL'S DECISIONS TOO, PLEASE CONTACT THE MAYOR: CR CHRIS HOLSTEIN Mobile **0418 432 731**

CENTRE'S

ACTIVITIES

- Financial Counselling & Budget Planning
- Various Classes available to the public
- Tax Help (July to October)
- No Interest Loan Scheme
- Information and Referral Service
- Community Projects
- Rooms for Hire
- JP Service available

FONTAINE DANCE ACADEMY

Fontaine Academy of dance
from 15months

***Baby Fun** dance movement & singing
 15months to 3years

***Junior Fun** dance movement & singing
 3years to 7years

Classes assist in the development of
 Co-ordination, Rhythm & Social skills
 A Fun way to learn

Let your child grow through dance
 in a friendly, family orientated
 dance academy that caters to understanding your Children
 Boys welcome

TUESDAY AT 4.30PM AND WEDNESDAY AT 10AM
PHONE CARMEN ON 0415 964 688



Narara Community Garden

Narara Community Garden has been re-established!

The garden beds are established on organic gardening principles and all but one are raised garden beds. This means no digging and no bending or kneeling!

Organic Gardening Workshops were conducted in April, at which time the previous garden beds were given a make-over. We now have 3 raised garden beds and one no-dig ground-level garden bed.

We still need people to water the gardens, harvest the current crops, plant new crops each season and enjoy sharing information and techniques such as:

- *Understanding organic gardening
- *Creating a healthy soil, companion planting, and crop rotation
- *Composting, mulching, no dig gardening
- *Worm farming
- * Natural pest, disease and weed control
- *Good & bad bugs



Phone us if you 'd like to be involved:

4329 4477

Look Good...Feel Better

Look Good...Feel Better is a free national community service program dedicated to teaching cancer patients techniques to help restore their appearance and self-image during chemotherapy and radiation treatment.

The program was founded and developed by the Australian Cosmetics Industry in 1990, and is administered through a registered charitable organisation, The Cancer Patients Foundation Ltd.

Look Good...Feel Better relies on the support of the cosmetics industry to provide make-up, materials and financial support for the program.

On the Central Coast we conduct workshops at Narara Community Centre, Wyong and Woy Woy. Volunteers assist at the workshops, and no cosmetic product line or manufacturer is promoted.

The remaining dates at Narara Community Centre are:
 5th July, 16th August, 18th October and 29th November.

If you are having treatment and would like to attend a workshop, or if you can volunteer to help with hair & make-up, please call **1800 650 960**.



PROBUS CLUBS

Why not discover the friendship of a PROBUS Club? A PROBUS Club is for retired or semi-retired people to enjoy things such as group outings, day trips, lunches, trips away together etc.

We have an interesting speaker to entertain us at each meeting, followed by a cuppa and a chat.

Clubs have been operating on the Central Coast for almost 30 years and are friendly and welcoming.

PROBUS Clubs are non-political and hopefully light hearted in nature.

We have clubs meeting once a month at The Community Centre at Narara, on Thursdays once a month.

Visitors are always made welcome.

Why not come along to see what you think?

Currently we have a club meeting on the second and third Thursdays of the month, starting at 10am.



FRIDAY QUILTERS



Patchwork Comes to Narara Community Centre

After moving across from Niagara Park Community Centre last month, the Friday Quilters have revelled in the bright and airy rooms at Narara. Every Friday sees this talented group meet to share ideas, fabric and techniques. The completed patchwork quilts are shown off at the start of each week, and they often inspire new projects.

As sewing machines whirr, quilts of all designs begin to take shape. With a range of novice and experienced sewers, there are ample opportunities to learn from each other. The group regularly takes a day trip to explore patchwork shops, and to share a yummy café lunch. Once a term the quilters pool their creativity to complete a quilt to be used for fundraising by local charities.

The Friday Quilters meet each Friday in school terms, from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm. New members are welcome (fees apply).

For more information, please contact Fiona 4328 4369 or Dianne 4323 2782.

FOSTERING CHILDREN IN CARE

Central Coast residents are being called on to open their hearts and homes to care for children and young people who can't live with their families.

Minister for Community Services, Kevin Greene said the Central Coast is renowned for its community spirit, but more foster carers are still needed.

DoCS is looking for carers for children 0-16 years, sibling groups, children with challenging behaviours and children with disabilities. Carers can be of any age or gender, a single person or a couple and from any cultural background.

Our priority is to match children with the right carers, so the bigger pool of carers we have, the better options we have available for each child's needs.

DoCS provides intensive training for carers and backs it up with ongoing support, advice and financial assistance. **Please contact the DoCS Foster Care Team if you can assist with fostering Children in Care. Phone 4336 2400**



ROOM HIRE FEES *From 1.7.10

1. Hall
2. Meeting Room
3. Youth/Craft Area
4. Office Space
5. Kitchen

Schedule of Fees and Charges (inc GST)*

	DAY	DAY	EVENING	EVENING
	Community	Private	Community	Private
1	\$17.60 p/h	\$22.00p/h	\$33.00p/h	\$44.00p/h
2	\$8.80p/h	\$11.00p/h	\$18.70p/h	\$22.00p/h
3	\$8.80p/h	\$11.00p/h	\$14.30p/h	\$16.50p/h
4	\$110.00 Per week	N/A	N/A	N/A
5	\$6.05p/h	\$8.25p/h	\$6.05p/h	\$8.25p/h

***Private Evening Functions on Friday & Saturday nights will be charged a flat rate of \$330**

BOND: Community \$110 Private: \$330/\$550

To contact us:

Narara Community Centre

2-12 Pandala Road
Narara NSW 2250

Phone: 4329 4477
Fax: 4329 6832
Email: admin@gnnc.com.au
Website: www.gnnc.com.au

NOTE:

We do not accept Birthday Parties for 13 to 21 year olds.

LODGE JAMES KIBBLE PRESENTATION



Lodge James Kibble has come to the party once again, this time for an Erina resident suffering from chronic lung disease.

James Matthews has been housebound because his condition required 24-hour oxygen and he couldn't afford a portable oxygen system. A fixed system keeps him going at home, but James has been involved in community services as a volunteer for many years, and was particularly frustrated by his inability to go without oxygen for long periods of time.

On Tuesday 8th June, members from Karagi Court Inc and Lodge James Kibble presented Mr James Matthews with a portable oxygen system, purchased with a grant they had given to Gosford City Community & Information Service Ltd, who manage Narara Community Centre.

In April Lodge James Kibble donated two new treatment chairs to Gosford Hospital. "Lodge James Kibble is delighted to be able to help individuals and the local community to improve their quality of life" said Noel Pollard as he made the presentation to James. "We hope that James enjoys the freedom this oxygen system will give him." He went on to say that the Masons had been involved in the Gosford Community for over 80 years, and continued to be keen to support the local community.

Pictured above are from left, Jade Churchill, Caseworker; James Matthews; Laraine Sieff, Manager; and Noel Pollard from Lodge James Kibble.