



31-03-2014

Counselling Services

Sister Celine and Sister Louisa have kindly offered their counselling services to the community. Its free, and they are both trained Counsellors. If you need someone to talk to or discuss problems you may be having and don't have anyone to talk to, please call them.

Sister Celine—
(0470 257 113)

Sister Louisa—
(0499 119 572)

Pics from the welcome function



RIP Maryanne. Beautiful wantok, taken too soon!



Welcome

Hello Wantoks.

Hope your year has started well. The first quarter of 2014 has come and gone in a blur. I hope, for you, its been fruitful in so many ways.

There have been good, bad and tragic news from around the world, esp., the news about the lost Malaysian Airline plane. Our hearts go out to the families who lost loved ones.

The one piece of news I

found pleasing was the announcement made by the PNG Government about the Dual citizenship law they have recently passed. I say 'Hurrah to that', as I'm sure some of you will do likewise. Please read the extract below and go to the website to read more about it.

It's been a slow start for the Wantoks Group this year, however we did hold a welcome function in February to welcome new arrivals to Melbourne. We will be holding

few more fundraisers in the coming months, giving Wantoks the opportunity and avenue to gather and socialise.

In April, we are planning a day outing on the Puffing Billy Steam Train, so if you have kids and would love to experience the steam train, join us on the day. There will be sausage sizzle under cover at Gembrook, so hoping to see you all there. Should be a fun day outing. Please see the next page for more info.

PNG Parliament passes Dual Citizenship law

This is the best news ever.

"Parliament has passed a law that amends the Constitution and enables foreign citizens to apply for Papua New Guinea citizenship and in the case of Papua New Guinea citizens, apply for citizenship of a prescribed country.

The amendment although passed has yet to be certified by the Speaker of Parliament and once certified an administrative process should be under way to start accepting and processing applications.

Section 64 of the Constitution which previously prevented dual citizenship has been repealed so as to allow dual citizenship.

Under this new law, a Papua New Guinea citizen may apply to the Minister responsible for citizenship matters to be a citizen of a prescribed country and if the Minister is satisfied grant the application or if not satisfied refuse the application...".



To read more go to this website: <http://skerah.com/2014/png-parliament-passes-dual-citizenship->

DO KOKODA LAUNCH



Join Papua New Guinea Tourism Promotion Authority for the launch of the Do Kokoda campaign.

Hear about Garry Lyon and Sam Newman's adventures on the track and celebrate this exciting new campaign designed to encourage more Australians to trek Kokoda and raise awareness of the benefits the trek has on local communities and the important World War II history.

Special guest:

Garry Lyon from Channel Nine's AFL Footy Show

When: Wednesday 23 April, 2014

Time: 18:00 - 21:00

Where: Melbourne Cricket Ground (Lindsay Hassett Room)
Brunton Avenue, Richmond, within Yarra Park

Event type: Cocktail

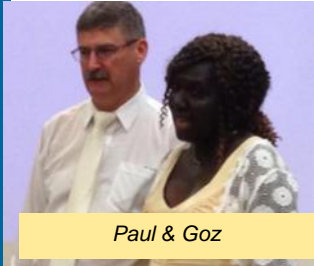


Announcements

Happy Anniversary to our favorite couple, Paul and Gorothy Whitfield for having reached their 25th wedding anniversary. We wish them another happy 25 yrs and more.

Not forgetting all you lovely people who celebrated an event in January, February and March.

A special Birthday Shout out to Verne Krastins :)



Paul & Goz

To all Ex-Sogeris - Sogeris's 70th Anniversary will be on the 1st—2nd of May 2014. Hopefully some of you lucky people will make it this year.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY GUIDE

- AZTEC opening party at the Museum. Free with entry. Sun 13th April.
- The Future Postal Service: Fed Square Amphitheatre— 10 am—2pm FREE
- April 5th to 7th— Barbie LIVE—Palais Theatre



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S26 Milk for Babies with HIV/Aids

"Over 200-300 babies and children are diagnosed with HIV/AIDS a year. Most of the families of these babies/children, diagnosed with this terrible disease, do not want it to be known to others because of stigma and discrimination.

HIV/AIDS patients of Port Moresby General Hospital range from the ages of birth to 15 years old. The treatment they receive if they make it to their check up at the Paediatric Clinic, is septrim. S26 is given to the ones that have been advised by the Paediatric doctors, to stop breast feeding and to start the babies on S26 powered milk. The cost of buying S26 is around K62-K75 (PNG kina), converting to Australian dollars is roughly around \$30 to \$40. Majority of Papua New Guineans cannot afford to buy S26."

Continuing on from this story from last year, we are able to report that in December of 2013, Lucy Loko with the help of Wantoks Group procured about \$1000 worth of S26 milk and bottles from City Pharmacy in Port Moresby at discounted rate. These milk and baby bottles were given out to affected babies who are not gaining weight. This was all made possible because of all you lovely people who came and supported the Wantoks fundraising efforts and also donated towards this worthy cause.

If you wish to help or donate towards these vulnerable kids, send Lucy an email - Lucy Loko (Email: lucyloko@y7mail.com)



City Pharmacy delivering the milk.

Baby Josie gained weight from 2.8 kg to 4.3 kg after being on the S26 milk.. Heart warming result. The request was made not to publish her photo, hence the coverup with this text.



Happy girls posing after receiving clothes donated by Friends of Adelaide, SA.

UP and Coming Events



BOOK IN NOW for 3 Sessions of Bilum weaving with Master Weaver Vicki Kinai. Aunty Vicki will be teaching the art of Bilum making with the aim to complete a Bilum by the end of the 3rd session.
Dates: Saturday 5th, Sunday 6th, Saturday 12th April 2014 • **Time:** 12-4pm
PRICE: \$180 for all 3 sessions

Join Master Weaver Vicki Kinai in a series of 3 classes on the traditional art of Bilum making (a woven string bag from Papua New Guinea).

This is a very popular class and places are limited so early bookings are advised to avoid missing out!

BLAKDOT GALLERY

413 Lygon Street, Brunswick East, Melbourne VIC 3057
P: (03) 9380 8810 | info@blakdot.com.au
www.blakdot.com.au | facebook.com/blakdotgallery

April Sat 26th - Day Outing on Puffing Billy

We are organizing a day outing for families and singles alike, who want to enjoy a day trip on the Puffing Billing Steam Train from Belgrave to Gembrook and back. There will be sausage sizzle at Gembrook, under cover. If we have 20 people coming, tickets will be discounted .

Please let us know if you are interested by emailing us on wantokgroupvic@gmail.com or call these numbers.

A flyer will be coming out shortly.

Contacts:

Linda - 0449 962 252
Gorothy—0403 437 171

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