



## **Mutkin Messenger**

May 2024

#### Dreams do come true

Mutkin is successful in receiving much needed funding to upgrade infrastructure across our residential centre. The Australian Government – Department of Health and Aged Care announced the \$2.6m funding which forms part of the Aged Care Capital Assistance Program. The Honourable Minister for Aged Care and Minister for Sport, Anika Wells, visited our centre to announce the funding to Mutkin.

Our CEO Linda Thomas was ecstatic when hearing of the news of the success of our funding application. "This funding brings much needed capital dollars to upgrade and refurbish our kitchen and residential living areas. This means we can provide better and improved commercial kitchen services, improvements to the structural integrity and cosmetic appearances of our buildings, and installation of upgraded plumbing systems. This funding is a huge enabler to our organisation providing quality care and services to our mob."

Cameron Fourmile, our Facilities Supervisor, can now begin working with suppliers on the new project's upgrades. Staff are also happy about the kitchen developments which for them has been a dream come true.































## **Music and Singing**

Singing is a positive social and therapeutic activity that our residents enjoy doing. On a weekly basis you will see Daniel Murgha (pictured above holding the mic) doing karaoke with residents, staff and even visitors.

Even the Hon. Bob Katter MP and the Hon. Annika Wells MP showcased their talent during their visit.







#### **Pamagirri Rainforestation Outing**

In our last edition we promoted the beginning of outings for our clients. Our workers have been busy planning for new places to visit and this month we ventured up the Kuranda ranges to the Pamagirri Rainforestation Nature Park. This outing provided participants the opportunity to engage socially as a group. We observed a lot of smiles from our clients that we wouldn't often see, which convinced us that this was exactly what they needed.

Whilst at the Park, they enjoyed watching the traditional dancers, petting the wallabies, swiftly walking by the crocodile (as quick as we could), and riding in the army duck trucks on the lake. After a long day out, the clients were ready to come back home.

Word about how enjoyable the trip was has now got around the community and already more clients are expressing their interest in the next one.



































#### **Easter Fellowship**

This year at Mutkin, there was an exceptional spiritual occasion. Residents were visited by St. Albans Church members who shared their time together through song and Word. Our dining room was filled with heavenly voices singing praises to God, led by Eric and Adelaide Sands. The Residents enjoyed the moment and left content. To Adelaide, Eric, Kate, Tina, Mary, Charmaine, and June, a hearty thanks to you. The Residents enjoyed your company and are eager to get in touch with the Church on a larger scale.

















#### Music to our Ears

Daniel undertakes strumming sessions with residents like Roderick Omeenyo and Edwin Woodley. You should listen to them play, gee they have talent!

Roderick Omeenyo (Left) picking the guitar while Daniel (Bottom Right) strums. Edwin Woodley (Centre) relaxing whilst listening to their playing.





#### **Getting his licence back**

Munroe Yantumba, one of our residents, has been fortunate in obtaining his license once more. Munroe had a goal of getting his license back after many years of it expiring. Many thanks to Esmay Murgha, our Care Worker at Mutkin, and the Indigenous Licencing Mob for making this possible for him. Don't be surprised if Munroe is shortly to be seen driving around the Community.

Congratulations Munroe!











#### **Employee of the Month**

When it comes to performing her job, Esmay Murgha is very proactive and productive. This month, the NDIS Care Worker oversaw the planning of both community and residential outings, coordinated her team to provide community access activities and plan reviews, liaised with stakeholders to provide new care arrangements for clients, was always willing to lend a hand when necessary, and is enhancing her skill set for NDIS coordination.

Congratulations Esmay!

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

This month we had two (2) residents celebrating their birthdays. Desma Yeatman celebrated a milestone birthday of 70 years young. She spent her time with family in Community on this special occasion.

Kathleen Moy also celebrated her 82<sup>nd</sup> birthday. With a special request for a rainbow cake, she was keen on sharing with the other residents.

Both ladies felt very special on their birthdays. Thanks to all who wished them a Happy Birthday.













### Give your feedback about the Aged Care system and Reforms

Mutkin had a visit from Andrea Kelly the Interim First Nations Aged Care Commissioner. The Interim Commissioner is visiting communities across Australia to hear about what needs to change to improve aged care for First Nations people.

#### Ms Kelly has been:

- leading public consultations with First Nations stakeholders and communities on the design and functions of the permanent Commissioner
- contribute to the changes necessary to bring improvements for First Nations people across all tiers of the aged care system
- advocate for culturally safe aged care for First Nations people across Australia

The Interim Commissioner is seeking feedback from older First Nations people, families and communities about:

- the aged care system
- current and future aged care reforms
- the design, functions and authority of a permanent Commissioner.

She invites your views on the following questions:

- What changes are required to enable culturally safe, trauma-aware and healinginformed access to the aged care system for older First Nations people, carers, families and communities?
- Should there be a permanent, statutory First Nations Aged Care Commissioner? If so, what should their functions and authority be?





If you would like to provide feedback you can get in touch via:

email – interimFNACCconsultations@health.gov.au

post (including handwritten letter or notes) -Interim First Nations Aged Care Commissioner, GPO Box 9848, Canberra ACT 2601

Please send your submission, letter, email, audio or video by 5 pm AEST, Friday 21 June 2024.





## **Starting Soon**

Now that we have employees trained in conducting onsite testing, drug and alcohol testing will shortly start throughout the entire organisation.

Cameron and Dixie received training on how to gather specimens for testing using breath, urine, and saliva. All of this is done to help maintain a drug and alcohol-free and safe work environment.



To all of our Residents, Clients and Staff

Mutkin would like to wish you a Happy Mother's Day. We hope your day was filled with love and happiness.



Source: Mothers Day 2024 in Yorkshire (daysoutyorkshire.com)