

Birak (December - January) Newsletter

Birak, first summer (season of the young) sees the rains ease up and the warm weather really start to take hold. The afternoons are cooled by the sea breezes that abound from the southwest. This was the fire season, a time to burn the country in mosaic patterns. <http://www.bom.gov.au/iwk/nyoongar/birak.shtml>

Welcome to 2022 Champion Lakers.

In this newsletter, we would like to share some of the highlights of 2021 and advise you of several events planned for 2022.

CLRA CHRISTMAS PARTY

Our annual Christmas Party was held on a very hot December afternoon. Many locals attended and joined in the fun. Uncle Albert and Auntie Irene McNamara joined us on the day. It was a privilege to have them attend and for Uncle Albert to open the event with the Welcome to Country. Both Albert and Irene said they had never been made so welcome at a community event before. Lots of games were organised including totem and table tennis, quoits, bag toss, box building and bubble making. The box building was hugely popular with the kids and most of the boxes were gifted on Facebook after the event. We had some talented people on the day with Janine doing balloon twisting and Tamar face painting. Santa arrived on a very smart BMW motorbike and the kids got lolly bags and popcorn. Kids food was provided, and adults were able to purchase a sausage sizzle and drink. Five raffle prizes were kindly donated by members of the CLRA committee which helped the committee cover most of the costs of the event. It was definitely the best party we have ever had!!



Uncle Albert-Welcome to Country



Families enjoying the event



Santa arriving on a BMW



Enjoying a chat with Santa



Children chatting with Santa



Santa entertaining the kids



Brilliant face painting



Using the photo board



Santa, Paul his driver and Uncle Albert



Box building

UPCOMING EVENTS

Australia Day breakfast – 26 January on the veranda at the CL Community Centre. BYO breakfast to cook on the BBQ, tea and coffee provided-starts at 8.30am

Harmony Day Family Picnic – 26 March Joe Sanders park opposite the CL Community Centre. Bring along a cultural dish to share with your neighbours and friends – 5 to 7.30pm

ANZAC Day Service – 25 April, assemble at the Community Centre at 5am. Please check the Facebook page for information closer to the date

CHAMPION LAKES COMMUNITY CENTRE (Formally known as The Hub)

We are currently negotiating a lease with the City of Armadale to manage the building and grounds on behalf of the council. Renovations to the building will commence this year which will bring our centre in line with other halls and centres within the city. The community garden is running well with a group of volunteers watering the gardens and vegetables on a regular basis and keeping the weeds down. The wellness garden is progressing beautifully and there are now benches to sit on to enjoy the garden. Huge thanks to Helen who has been using her artistic talents to paint the walls around the Community Centre. Volunteers are always welcome, and you may even get to take home some freshly picked vegetables.

FUNDING OUR CENTRE

We have recently received a grant from the federal government for our ongoing volunteer work and our environmental initiatives. Thanks to Paul M who spends a lot of time applying for and completing the applications for the different grants

ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES

One of our plans is to get our bi-monthly newsletter emailed to as many households as possible. This will save the committee from delivering the newsletter to over 400 houses in the community. This task takes many hours of time. The costs involved in printing the newsletter would be reduced significantly if we could get people on board. Email addresses will be protected and not released to any other parties. Please send your email address along with your home address to the email address at the bottom of the page.

