

October 2004

ADAC Spring News



ABORIGINAL
DRUG AND ALCOHOL
COUNCIL (SA) INC.

**“Educating the community
about substance misuse”**

Important News

**ADAC Review
Petrol Manual Evaluation
Risky Business
IDU Report
National Workshops**



ISSN 1447-2244

MY FAMILY FREE ESSAY

I am doing my free essay on my family and my family's past and origin.

There's been a lot of turmoil and tribulation around Aboriginal half castes and I've been called a half-caste many times first I would just like to say that there's no such thing as a half caste you are either Aboriginal or not and I am Aboriginal and proud of it. It started on the 30th of April 1929 when my grandfather Harold Richard Wilson was born he had four good years with his mother, when he was five he was stolen along with two of his brothers and put into different homes run by missionaries.

how awful.

With his two brothers he was put into a variety of missions including one in Darwin, one in Alice Springs and eventually ended up in a home in N.S.W. He was mistreated, beaten along with being defaced and made not to believe in his own culture before eventually being released into the free world at 16 he worked making train lines and worked on cattle stations in Central Australia before joining the Royal Australian Army in 1951 he was 22 but enrolled as 21 because he didn't know his date of birth due to not having a birth certificate. He was sent to Korea where he was wounded 3 times and he stayed in the Army for the next 20 years seeing service in Malaysia and twice being sent to Vietnam. He received 7 medals for his service including: the Australian Active Service medal, Korea medal, United Nations medal, Australian Service medal, Vietnam medal, Vietnamese Campaign star and the Long Service and Good Conduct medal.

wow!

My grandfather got out of the Army when his wife, my grandmother died and he had to raise 4 kids on his own. He then settled down with a woman named Carol Crogsetter and had three more kids to her and after being accused of abusing his children he went to court and came out the second male ever in Australia to get custody of his children and then went on to be a single father of seven children on his own.

On a mission to find his mother and two brothers he found out that his brother Henry died of dehydration after getting drunk and falling asleep in the heat outside of a pub then in 1975 my grandfather found his mum buried in Alice Springs 5 years after she died taking any knowledge of culture, tradition and a chance of finding his people and where he's from with her. He was to have one short lived meeting with his mother and brother 30 years before but after that he was to never see his mother again.

Although growing up as a part of the stolen generation, where kids were taught to deny their heritage my grandfather accepted and embraced it in the end my grandfather's coffin was painted by a close friend and Aboriginal artist it symbolised life passing and spirits made. Although we don't know where we're from or who our people are I have a saying 'we may not know where we're from but we know we still belong'. After an attempt to try kill out the Aboriginal race in my grandfathers case they just made us stronger on the 26th of September 2003 he died a hero of 7 children 30 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren from one amazing person to 43 proud Aboriginals.

I believe being stolen is a disadvantage for the little things as well as the big including knowledge which is one of the most important thing for a Aboriginal person due to that is how laws and stories are told to generation after generation not only did they kill out a race but they killed what was most important to us culture. We have been deprived and diminished as well as defaced and it is wrong. Generation after generation, century after century we have passed down ancient laws and stories and that was all destroyed having no elder to tell the stories or no men to initiate the boys a tradition that had been around for thousands and thousands of years is slowly dying out.

Written by Joshua Wilson
(1st Year Memorial)

Hooley dooley Josh. This is a brilliant piece of writing. See me please. I can't put a mark on this except 20/20. Outstanding. What a powerful story.

Scott Wilson ADAC Director



Welcome to the Spring Edition of the ADAC newsletter. Since the last newsletter ADAC has had a busy and productive time.

We have finally managed to produce the National Indigenous Illicit Drug Training Package and the National Indigenous Australian Alcohol Guidelines Package.

These are now with the Commonwealth for final approval for distribution to all OATSIH funded services across Australia.

During Drug Action Week ADAC also launched the National Indigenous Youth Alcohol and Drugs Comic and Educators Kit, with over 25,000 copies of the comic and 2,500 copies of the Educators Kit to be distributed nationally.

ADAC Review Have Your Say.

In June 2004, the Department of Health and Ageing (DHA) through OATSIH, in partnership with the Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Council (SA) Inc. (ADAC), advertised a tender to undertake a review of ADAC.

During the last ten years there have been many changes and developments in substance use (and the response to it) in South Australia. These have impacted on communities, organisations such as ADAC, and the range of programs and activities undertaken and/or funded by both the government and the non-government sectors.

Both OATSIH and ADAC agree it would

be timely and useful to undertake a review of ADAC.

The Objectives of the Review are:

- to determine the most effective way to provide peak body and advocacy functions for Indigenous substance misuse
- to identify any overlap, duplication or confusion that may exist between ADAC and other agencies and organisations
- to clarify appropriate foci, directions and future for ADAC
- to identify the various types of activities and functions that best suit a substance misuse peak body
- to make recommendations in relation to the above matters.

Have your say, send in your suggestions or comments on what you think ADAC should be funded to do.

ADAC is after all a community controlled, organisation, please send comments to 53 King William Street, Kent Town, SA, 5067.

Petrol Manual Evaluation

ADAC received funding from OATSIH to employ a consultant to review and evaluate the "Petrol Sniffing and Other Solvents Resource Kit for Aboriginal Communities".

The Resource Kit developed by ADAC in 2000, has won both national and International awards, ADAC has distributed and sold 1,500 copies of the kit Australia wide.

The evaluation will help decide whether the Kit needs updating or additional resources developed, and will also inform ADAC and others on how the Kit is being used and if communities benefit from its use.

Risky Business

A new Comic and Educator's Kit was launched on Wednesday 23rd June as part of *Indigenous Awareness Day for National Drug Action Week 2004*, targeting Indigenous youth substance misuse.

These resources were produced by Streetwise Communications in conjunction with the Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Council and funded by the Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation (AERF)

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Mr Wilson said,

Have your say, send in your suggestions or comments on what you think ADAC should be funded to do.

Scott Wilson
ADAC Director



Mr Wilson said,

"The eight page Comic and Educators Kit is ground-breaking in its content and sensitively tackles the issue of substance misuse from a preventative perspective."

**Streetwize
General Manager,
Liz Skelton said,**

“The research phase revealed that Risky Business is the first step in creating many culturally appropriate resources addressing the needs of an age group that often slips through the net.”

“If under 16’s have access to drugs, then there is an urgent need for access to preventative information about how to reduce risks and enable informed choices.”

Ms Skelton said.

**Mr Daryl Smeaton said,
“Importantly, the Risky Business Educator’s Kit is a great tool for Indigenous and non-Indigenous workers to use with young people nationally, to educate them about the wider impact substance misuse has on their communities.”**

**State Director
Scott Wilson said,**

“For the first time it has given a clear picture as to what are some of the issues and problems confronting this group of people in dealing with substance abuse issues”

The first of its kind in Australia, this groundbreaking, innovative resource addresses the issue of substance misuse and young Indigenous people under 16.

The Comic and Educators Kit was launched at The Parks Community Centre in Adelaide, South Australia by Director of the Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Council (ADAC), Mr Scott Wilson.

ADAC Director, Mr Wilson said, “The eight page Comic and Educators Kit is ground-breaking in its content and sensitively tackles the issue of substance misuse from a preventative perspective. We worked in partnership with Streetwize, utilising the comic format, to ensure that we reached our target group, traditionally a difficult group to access”

Streetwize General Manager, Liz Skelton said, “The research phase revealed that **Risky Business** is the first step in creating many culturally appropriate resources addressing the needs of an age group that often slips through the net.”

“If under 16’s have access to drugs, then there is an urgent need for access to preventative information about how to reduce risks and enable informed choices.” Ms Skelton said.

Citing a lack of cross-cultural training for workers in the youth sector, CEO of the Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation (AERF). Mr Daryl Smeaton said, “Importantly, the **Risky Business Educator’s Kit** is a great tool for Indigenous and non-Indigenous workers to use with young people nationally, to educate them about the wider impact substance misuse has on their communities.”

Over **25,000 copies** of the **Risky Business Comic** and **2,500 Educators Kits** will be distributed throughout Indigenous specific Youth, Community and Neighbourhood centres, in Australia.

Injecting Drug Use Amongst Indigenous People Living in Metropolitan Adelaide

ADAC has also published the Final and Community Reports into injecting drug use, which is the largest research of its kind ever undertaken in Australia looking at Indigenous injecting practises.

“For the first time it has given a clear picture as to what are some of the issues and problems confronting this group of people in dealing with substance abuse issues”, State Director Scott Wilson said. This report for the first time gives government and community organisations the first comprehensive look at the issues and harms associated with injecting drug use among Indigenous people in South Australia.

It clearly shows there is a silent epidemic that is creating havoc and despair amongst the community, and ADAC and other groups have been given a wake up call to better provide services to these, the most vulnerable.”

National Workshops

Throughout the remainder of 2004, ADAC will be hosting a series of National Workshops in each of the states and territories around the Indigenous Standards Drinking Guidelines and to workshop Health Promotional playing cards which, when finalised, we will print and distribute over 150,000 packs nationally.

Makin’ Trax

The Makin’ Trax project is entering into its fifth year with the team of Jimmy Perry and Paul Elliott. The program continually receives calls from across South Australia, Central Australia and the border regions of Western Australia. (For further information see Jimmy and Paul’s articles).

Scott Wilson
ADAC Director



National Police Drug Diversion Strategy

In April 1999 the Prime Minister announced the creation of a National Police Drug Diversion Strategy. This new strategy is designed to divert people arrested in possession of drugs into assessment and treatment. For example, in the past a person arrested with Cannabis would receive an on the spot fine in South Australia, under the Police Diversion Strategy they will be automatically referred for a drug and alcohol assessment. If the person attends and successfully completes requirements the Police will not proceed further and evidence etc. will be destroyed. On the other hand people can still elect to go through the normal criminal justice system. This strategy will be targeted at both juveniles and adults. (For further information see Byron's article).

Quality Assurance

ADAC is being used as a National pilot for substance misuse services to undertake Quality Assurance processes in their organisations. This project, depending on outcomes will provide a basis to roll out to all substance misuse services nationally. ADAC and Quality Management Services in Sydney are managing the project. (For further information see Warren's article).

Mentor Project

ADAC has received funding for continuation of the Mentor program based in Murray Bridge and targeting the Murray Mallee region. This project aims to help those members of the community that are more vulnerable in that they do not access services, or have huge problems with members of the household in relation to drug and alcohol abuse. (For further information see Billy's article)

Drug Action Week

From June 21st to June 25th has been declared Drug Action Week. This week of activity is being organised by the Alcohol and other Drugs Council of Australia. It is a week of activity across Australia to highlight the issues surrounding substance misuse issues. Each day of the week has a theme with Monday focussing on Treatment, Tuesday on Prevention, Wednesday on Alcohol, Thursday on Indigenous issues and Friday focussing on

Workplace issues.

The idea behind Drug Action week is to:

- raise awareness of the broad range of harms associated with the misuse of drugs;
- promote the work of alcohol and other drug prevention and treatment agencies and;
- promote public debate about good practice strategies for reducing drug related harm.

During Drug Action Week ADAC attended the Alcohol Free Day at Davenport Community, and helped organise events in Yalata, Oodnadatta and Coober Pedy. ADAC also hosted a workshop on amphetamines in Mt Gambier and a workshop on petrol sniffing and other solvents at Nunkuwarrin Yunti. We launched the National Youth Drug and Alcohol Comic and Educators Kit at the Parks Community Centre and hosted a BBQ in the West Terrace Parklands on the Friday.

As you might be aware, ADAC is involved in a considerable amount of projects and other issues. Over the coming year we will try and keep the community informed on issues that affect them. If you would like to know more about ADAC or of any of these projects, please do not hesitate to contact our office by either phoning on 08 8362 0395, faxing 08 8362 0327 or emailing us at adac@adac.org.au.

Quality Assurance

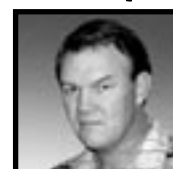
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fax 08: 8362 0327 or
email: adac@adac.org.au**

Scott Wilson
ADAC Director





Quality Assurance Project Warren Parfoot Mandy Watson



Farewell

This is my last report for the Aboriginal Drug & Alcohol Council. I would like to thank the many people who have made this period of time a valuable part of my life. Regards Warren Parfoot

Quality Assurance Project

This financial year sees the end of this project. It has been a four year project aimed at encouraging and supporting Indigenous substance misuse services to engage in the process of quality accreditation.

This financial year sees the end of this project. It has been a four year project aimed at encouraging and supporting Indigenous substance misuse services to engage in the process of quality accreditation.

To date only ADAC has completed its Quality Assessment and gained accreditation. The whole organisation contributed to this but special thanks must be given to people outside of the organisation who helped us achieve this goal. The accreditation report has provided the basis for a quality workplan that provides guidelines for ADAC's continued development and improvement. The quality process is ongoing and we report regularly on how we are achieving the goals of the workplan.

Kalparrin, through the employment of Joanna Paynter, an accredited quality assessor, continues to be engaged in the QA process and it is hoped they will undergo assessment and accreditation this calendar year.

Aboriginal Sobriety Group have employed a consultant to work with them in achieving accreditation and intend to be enrolled in the accreditation process this financial year.

Kainggi Yunti warrin were unfortunately defunded and are no longer involved in the QA process. I would like to thank all the people from the various organisations who have been involved in this process over the last four years.

Hepatitis C (HCV)

We continue to be involved in the area of HCV. This is a major problem confronting Aboriginal people, one that is not being addressed well by governments. We are on the steering committee of the C Clearly project, which unfortunately finishes this calendar year. We continue to be involved with the Hepatitis C Council through the Hepatitis C Network and are associated with them in two joint ventures. An OATSIH funded initiative, which includes Nunkuwarrin Yunti and focuses on young people and engaging with them, through music, to raise awareness of Hep C and safe approaches to injecting drug use. The other project involves DASC and the Hep C Council. This is also youth focussed, but aims to work with young people in Coober Pedy, Berri and Mount Gambier. This project is funded by the Commonwealth through the National Drug Strategy.

Dementia

We continue our long association with the Alzheimer's Association, in the provision of Dementia Training for Indigenous Communities. This package has now been thoroughly revised and is in the process of being rewritten. It will now be available in three blocks, making it more flexible and able to meet the needs of a wider range of people. The entire 3 blocks of training will lead the successful participant to gain accreditation against the national dementia competency.

Sofia Rivera Finance/ Admin Officer



My name is Sofia Rivera and I am the Administration/Finance officer at ADAC. This year has been a very busy one, I have taken on more responsibilities to what I did last year as I am responsible for the every day bookkeeping and all the reporting for the end of financial year. As part of my administration duties I have maintained the assets register. I also report new assets to our insurance company. I also enter ADAC task request forms into a database every Friday.

This financial year I had the task of working out the Fringe Benefit Tax for Salary Sacrifice, which was a long and time consuming one as I had to work out the previous two financial years, however it was a learning experience and I now believe I have mastered Fringe Benefit Tax.

In March, Geoffrey and I had the opportunity to travel to Murray Bridge to assist (Harold) Billy Wilson to set up his office. Billy is the new Mentor Project Officer; this position is based at The Lower Murray Nunga's Club in Murray Bridge. I also attended a Suicide Intervention Workshop (along with other ADAC staff) for two days organised by Centacare and presented by Dr Sheila Clark who is a senior lecturer for the University of Adelaide. The workshop was very informative for a person like myself who has not experienced suicide in my life in any form. However it was disappointing to find there was no information targeted for Aboriginal people, considering suicide is a real issue in Aboriginal Communities.

This year one of the most exciting things that I had the opportunity to share with ADAC staff members and the community was to celebrate ADAC's 10 year anniversary which we did with a dinner at the Royal Coach Motel in Kent Town on the 28th November 2003. I also helped to organise our AGM, which happened from 27th to 29th October 2003 at the Parks Community Centre.

I have also attended a submission-writing workshop facilitated by Philanthropy Australia, in this workshop we learnt the basis on how to write a submission, planning and searching for the best places to apply for funding. As a result of this workshop I had a go at writing my first submission to Community Business SA.

Helen Wilson Office Manager



Hi to all, the Decade of Survival celebrations throughout the year went really well with all the celebrations, barbeque's galore, workshops across the state as well as a range of other activities. Apart from the celebrations we have all been working hard, in particular I have been involved in developing, designing and printing the following new initiatives.

Indigenous Alcohol Guidelines

Linnell Barelli worked on the Indigenous Alcohol guidelines preparing the text, Max Mansell did all the graphics for the booklet. Linnell left last November and Max and I have been working with the guidelines and getting them checked by the Commonwealth. Once these are approved we will also

Sofia Rivera

Finance Administration Officer



Helen Wilson

Office Manager



Illicit Drugs Package

The Package took a bit of work to finish but it is now up to the Commonwealth to approve then we will produce 300 packages unless the Commonwealth want us to produce more.

Jimmy Perry

Makin' Trax

Project Officer



The Makin' Trax project is a Commonwealth funded project, which aims to assist communities in rural and remote South and Central Australia to develop and sustain substance misuse strategies.

be producing a flip chart and other resources and undertaking a national consultation/training workshop around the Australian Alcohol Guidelines.

Illicit Drugs Package

Sharyn Watts seconded from DASC, worked with ADAC preparing the National Illicit Drug Strategy: Training Frontline Workers Initiative. Max Mansell developed a painting to be used in the package and I designed and laid the information out. In the Package we have leaflets, Workers Manual, Book 1, Book 2 and an Audio CD. The Package took a bit of work to finish but it is now up to the Commonwealth to approve then we will produce 300 packages unless the Commonwealth want us to produce more.

Posters & Calendar

During 2003 ADAC undertook a series of workshops throughout the Pitjantjatjara Lands and remote communities in Central Australia where the team from the Makin' Trax project helped schools look at the issues of substance misuse and its impacts on the community, and to use these findings in a poster competition. As a result of this competition ADAC selected 5 of the better entrants from across South Australia and produced posters and a Calendar so far we have distributed over 8,000 posters and 500 calendars.'

Vein Care Leaflet

In 2002, ADAC produced the report "Responding to the needs of Indigenous people who inject drugs" where there were a number of recommendations arising from that report. Recommendation 4 was to develop resources specifically for the target group and along with Carol Holly in her new position at SAVIVE we will jointly produce a vein care leaflet.

Quality Assurance

ADAC is proud to be the first Australian Aboriginal Community Controlled Substance Misuse Peak Body to have been awarded Quality Assured status by the Quality Improvement Council of Australia. Well we did it we have achieved QA. Now OATSIH want us to be reviewed, timing was weird, the day ATSIC was defunded an advert was put in the paper by OATSIH for a consultant to review ADAC and a number of people thought we were

part of ATSIC and that ADAC was also being defunded. We have been assured by OATSIH that the same future is not in store for ADAC.

Health Promotion Playing Cards

We have been developing a set of playing cards with health messages, Max has drawn some images, we will bring around a demo set when we do a tour to show people the Alcohol Guidelines and flip chart we have produced and the Illicit Drug package.

All of the above resources will be available through ADAC in late 2004/05 financial year.

Jimmy Perry Makin' Trax Project



The Makin' Trax Project is a Commonwealth funded project, which aims to assist communities in rural and remote South and Central Australia to develop and sustain substance misuse strategies. The project is supported by a Steering Committee with representatives from Aboriginal Communities, Aboriginal Organisations and mainstream services. Professor Dennis Gray from the National Drug Research Institute at Curtin University in Perth is evaluating the program.

Over the last 12 months I have been involved in many projects and programs.

Comgas is a Government initiative to combat petrol sniffing within remote Indigenous communities. ADAC won the submission through the Commonwealth Government to evaluate the impacts of Avgas on communities. This took me right through the Lands, Arnhem Land,

Torres Strait and Western Australia. Over the year Andrew and I have facilitated the Petrol Sniffing & Other Solvent Manual at conferences. We visited Cairns, Weipa, Townsville and Mackay. I have attended many Health Promotional days through out the state to promote ADAC and the services we provide.

I travelled to Port Lincoln, Ceduna and Yalata to gain acceptance of the revised Alcohol Standard Drinking Guidelines. This involved liaising with health workers, nurses and community leaders to help make the booklet Aboriginal user friendly.

In January I took a group of young Aboriginal sniffers from Yalata who were staying in metro Adelaide to Camp Coorong for a week for respite. We went canoeing, bush walking and fishing. While in Adelaide I took these young boys to the Aquatic Centre and out on a boat cruising around Outer Harbour and Semaphore.

Makin' Trax also supported BBQ's in the Parklands by ADAC to liaise with and get to know the drinkers on West Terrace. I have also attended several camps, conferences and meetings around South Australia and interstate, which have made for good networks and future partnerships with Makin' Trax and ADAC. Some of the communities that Makin' Trax has visited in the last year are Yalata, Ceduna, Port Lincoln, Murray Bridge, Coober Pedy, Oodnadatta, Cairns, Weipa, Townsville, Mackay, Finke and Alice Springs.

I have worked in partnership and built new networks with DASC, Port Lincoln Aboriginal Community Council (PLACC), Port Lincoln Health Service, Pika Wiya Health Service, SAPOL and Aboriginal Sports and Recreation. This is my third year at ADAC, I am enjoying working on the Makin' Trax program, I have made lots of friends and networks. I value the opportunity to visit communities and share my knowledge. Hope to be in your community soon. Nukkin Ya

Paul Elliott Makin' Trax Project



Since the last newsletter I have been working and living at Yalata for some seven months as part of the Makin' Trax Project. During this time I performed a community needs analysis with all the stakeholders. I was able to plan programs and write session plans for each of the sessions the Community had identified as something they would like to have running.

I initially had two drug and alcohol workers working with me who required training and some experience with many of the sessions.

I was also asked to participate in three steering committees that were planning services for Yalata. A Multifunction Centre where the Pastor was seeking funding to build and house a number of services to cater for the communities needs.

The Sniffer's camp had received funding to set up and run a number of camps to deal with the rising numbers of young people sniffing petrol.

The other was the Diversionary program having alternatives other than involving the Justice system for drug dependent community members.

During my time at Yalata I was on a number of other health related committee's which included the following;

- Chairperson of the Professional Aboriginal Health Worker Association SA Inc,
- State Representative on an Indigenous Male Health Advisory Committee.
- Member on the Aboriginal Health Worker's Forum,

Paul Elliott

Makin' Trax

**Project
Officer**



Yalata

The Sniffer's camp has received funding to set up and run a number of camps to deal with the rising numbers of young people sniffing petrol.

Paul Elliott

Makin' Trax

**Project
Officer**



Comgas Evaluation

Our first trip was to Arnhem Land where we worked with Anne Mosey ADAC, with other partners was contracted by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing to evaluate the success of its Comgas scheme and to make recommendations about extending the life of the scheme which makes Avgas available to remote communities at prices equivalent to petrol. Avgas is able to be used as an alternative to petrol in cars and other motors but it is no good for sniffing.

Andrew Biven

**Special
Projects
Officer**



• Representative on the National Competencies Standards Working Party.

All of these commitments at times took me out of Yalata to attend meetings. I finished working in Yalata in August 2003 and returned to be a part of the Comgas Evaluation at Ceduna, Yalata and Oak Valley.

As part of the Makin' Trax Project I then moved to the Riverland with the Barmera Health Service for my next placement. During this time I planned a survey of a Drug and Alcohol Resource ADAC produced, in a number of communities and developed a youth survey of the region, which included communities in the lower South East, Coober Pedy and the Riverland.

Whilst working in the Riverland, I designed a course to address drug and alcohol and sexual health issues.

During my time there I completed a 14-week course with 8 young people who graduated and received certificates. I also supported the Drug and Alcohol worker at Kainggi Yuntiwarrin and the new Youth worker in their day to day activities, co-running groups, writing reports, and planning and developing programs and activities.

We planned and held a family information day at Gerard and provided a Hungi which people loved. It was a successful day and the youths were presented with their certificates.

My current work is supporting health worker's from Noarlunga to Mount Gambier. I am involved with the Youth worker in Mount Gambier, planning programs to address alcohol and substance misuse, whilst planning a regional drug and alcohol strategy, and a regional Drug and alcohol-healing centre with other stakeholders.

I have offered my services to the Aboriginal health worker's in the South East and Lower Murray Health Support Network of which I am now a member. I have some work coming up with the Drug and Alcohol Counsellor at Kalparrin, which will involve developing a resource for Primary Health Care workers and Drug and Alcohol workers.

**Andrew Biven
Special Projects Officer**



Highlights of a challenging year for me have been several voyages to the north of Australia into Aboriginal lands I had not ventured to before.

On both trips I was accompanied by Jimmy Perry and in our free hours we relentlessly pursued the mythical 'barra' – plentiful in restaurants, but elusive in the wild.

Comgas Evaluation

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We travelled to Maningrida, Galiwinku, Gapuwiyak and Yirrkala on this trip and interviewed many people in these communities about their experiences with Avgas.

I would like to thank all those communities who participated in the Evaluation.

Our strong recommendation to the Government was that the Comgas scheme should continue and other communities encouraged to join it as a way of reducing the numbers of petrol sniffers they have.

We spent several months on the Comgas Evaluation visiting other

communities across Australia and writing up a detailed report.

An important finding was that those communities which used Comgas consistently were successful in reducing and in some cases eliminating petrol sniffing, and communities that did not use Comgas were more likely to have severe sniffing problems.

The report will be released by the Government shortly.

Petrol Sniffing & Other Solvents

The other trip Jimmy and I undertook was to far north Queensland - to Weipa, Cairns, Townsville and Mackay where we ran workshops for Indigenous and non-Indigenous workers about the Petrol Sniffing & Other Solvents manual.

We were invited by Queensland Health because of increasing concerns about petrol sniffing in a number of remote communities. We worked with community workers, assisting them to use the manual to develop ways of increasing the knowledge of community decision-makers and of initiating action.

It was a welcome relief from the cold, wet weather of Adelaide to spend two weeks in the tropics and to have the odd day off to explore the area.

The Petrol Sniffing and Other Solvents manual continues to be a very popular ADAC product, to the extent that we have almost run out of copies. We have decided that prior to reprinting the manual we will have it evaluated independently and that may lead to some revisions and additions to the manual. The evaluation commenced right at the end of the financial year.

Court Assessment and Referral Drug Scheme (CARDS)

We have also been approached by the Attorney General's Department to participate piloting an extension of the Police Drug Diversion Initiative (PDDI) to cover people charged with certain drug-related offences who are before a Magistrate. This new scheme is called the Court Assessment and Referral Drug Scheme (CARDS). Byron will be

assisting Indigenous clients to access this scheme which aims to keep them out of jail and connected with counselling services. Should CARDS prove successful, it will be implemented across South Australia and it is likely there will be a much bigger role for ADAC and other Indigenous services.

Makin' Trax

During the year the Makin' Trax Project was refunded for a further three years, bringing stable employment conditions for the two project officers, Paul and Jimmy and a much needed new 4WD for Jimmy. Makin' Trax spent a considerable amount of time and effort supporting Yalata community in the past year. Paul and his partner lived out there for six months and Jimmy visited regularly. I accompanied Jimmy on one visit and we worked with Ken (Golly) Burgoyne on setting up a bush camp for some of the kids in the community who are getting into trouble with various substances. Makin' Trax continues to visit lots of communities, schools, organisations and events, providing education, worker support and resources to assist with drug and alcohol interventions.

Drug and Alcohol Training

In the second half of the year, in a collaborative venture with APOSS and the Aboriginal Kinship program, I ran a drug and alcohol training program for workers from a number of Indigenous services, both government and non-government. Around 15 people attended each Friday morning session where they not only listened to me talking about drugs and counselling interventions, but also had the opportunity to discuss issues with a range of visiting presenters from organisations such as DASC and SAVIVE. Participants also researched and presented on a selected drug and talked about their own services and organisations.

In this my seventh year at ADAC, I have again been privileged to work with a number of dedicated individuals and organisations. I hope I have been able to add to the knowledge, skills and effectiveness of some of those around me so that we can continue to make some impact on the very difficult problems caused by substance misuse in Indigenous communities.

Andrew Biven

Special Projects Officer



Petrol Sniffing & Other Solvents Manual

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Byron Wright



**Police Drug
Diversion
Officer**

**Homeless BBQ West
Parklands Adelaide.
ADAC and the
Hepatitis-C Council
of SA**

The collaboration with the Hep-C Council this time round has proved to be good for people wishing to know more about how to deal with Hep-C. A number of homeless people have engaged with Sharon Drage from the Hep-C Council, it has allowed us to talk about more than one issue that maybe affecting them. The numbers turning up this year have increased to a regular forty plus people at each BBQ

Billy Wilson



**Mentor
Project
Officer**

**Byron Wright- Police Drug
Diversion Initiative (PDDI)**



The Diversion Project has continued to improve with the implementation of better communications between SAPOL and the Drug Diversion Line (DDL), enabling a steady flow of diversion clients. There is still little awareness out in the communities about SAPOL diversions. In brief, the first thing the people I see are surprised to know is that diversions are about supporting decisions made by themselves. Also that SAPOL diversions will not automatically break parole, bond or bail. It is as the word (Diversion) suggests, an alternative to the justice system supporting and assisting in self determined direction. As many workers would know working around stages of change with any person's life is very individual for that person/client.

ADAC is in the process of designing a new diversion information pamphlet. I have also continued to attend the Diversion Custody Panels with Andrew Biven conducting diversions with people under incarcerated conditions. It has been good being able to make contact with youth services for the younger clients this year. I must make mention of Kumangka Youth Services, in particular Patrick Davey, (Reconnect Project) for taking on another youth in need at short notice. I should also mention the Kinship Program which has been available to assist a number of times this year, also without a lot of notice.

The SAPOL Diversion Initiative experience at ADAC has enabled me to assist in a pilot program (CARDS) at the Port Adelaide Nunga Court starting the 28th June 04. My role will be to assist

with transport, to attend assessments and/or support in sitting in on the assessment. Contacts with clients will increase in number hopefully allowing for more quality time.

**DAT (Northern Drug
Action Team & Port
Adelaide Drug Action
Team)**

Participation with the Northern Drug Action Team has continued with a collaborative holistic approach from community members within the area. The Port Adelaide Drug Action Team is a new team for the area, the approach from the start has been again a holistic one inviting many organisations to attend.

**Homeless BBQ West
Parklands Adelaide.
ADAC and the Hepatitis-C
Council of SA**

The BBQ's this year have once again been well received. The collaboration with the Hep-C Council this time round has proved to be good for people wishing to know more about how to deal with Hep-C. A number of homeless people have engaged with Sharon Drage from the Hep-C Council, it has allowed us to talk about more than one issue that may be affecting them. The numbers turning up this year have increased to a regular forty plus people at each BBQ, if not more. Quite a few times, the numbers were only down when people were attending Sorry Business. A notable change this year is the transient nature of the people, although the numbers had increased it was different groups of people on a regular basis.

**Billy Wilson
Mentor Project Officer**



The Mentor Project is an exciting new development in service delivery involving close cooperation between a

number of organisations – ADAC, the Lower Murray Nungas Club, Kalparrin, the Commonwealth Department of Families and Community Services (FACS), and the State Attorney General's Department in the Murray Mallee Region.

The Family Mentor Project aims to assist Aboriginal families and help to relieve the stress that elders who are dealing with substance misuse within their family unit have to deal with. Either as supporters of the drug users themselves or as carers of the children of family members who are using drugs.

To promote the Mentor Project and find out what services/supports are available, I have made contacts with all local services to explain what and how the Mentor Project can be of help. I have also made contacts with regional providers of drug and alcohol rehabilitation services including the Woolshed at Strathalbyn, LTW at Manarto and Kalparrin Inc.

To develop project skills and knowledge, I meet weekly with Janet Chambers who is acting as a mentor to me in my new role and I have attended a range of workshops in Suicide Interventions as well as travelling to Adelaide Fridays to attend the drug and alcohol training that ADAC delivers at Nunku Warrin Yunti.

As with all new projects the first things that need to be done do not necessarily involve program delivery, but involve development and marketing of the project to the target audience.

To further setup the project, I have, with help from Helen at ADAC, developed and distributed leaflets about the Mentor Project. I am getting my head around evaluations for the project which involves developing a Project Evaluation Plan with Danielle Bament from DASC to ensure that if the project is of benefit it is documented to help ensure the funding bodies continue funding the project.

To ensure this and other projects at the Lower Murray Nungas Club have some success and involvement we have also formed a team with Resilience Project worker, Steven Walker. We have established a steering committee

for the project and I look forward to the next ADAC newsletter to be able to report on the progress and positives of this project.

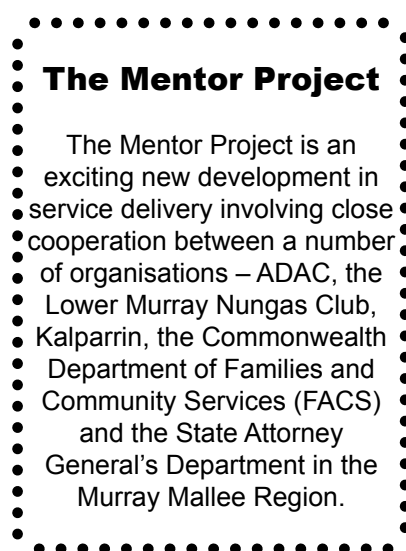
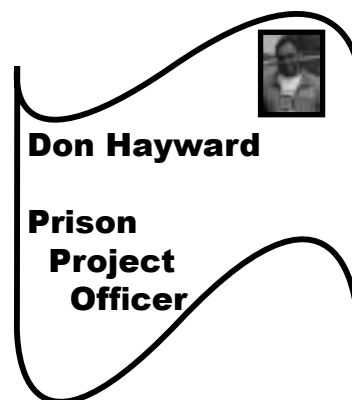
Don Hayward Prison Project Officer Ending Offending Program



In 2003 ADAC received funding from the Aboriginal Services Unit of the Department of Correctional Services to facilitate a Department of Correctional Services Core Program "Ending Offending", an Alcohol Education Course for Aboriginal offenders.

The Ending Offending Program came in the form of a kit, which comprised of a video, resource manual, overhead projector sheets, drink recording diary and a facilitator's manual. The ultimate aims of this program are to modify drinking behaviour and modify offending behaviour, and those who participate in this program would be selected on the basis of a motivational assessment which would identify a strong link between their drinking and offending behaviour.

This particular program was to follow the format of two hourly sessions per week within the selected correctional institution over a period of six weeks. The minimum number of participants was to be four and the maximum number being ten. For our first Ending Offending Program there were seven men who were selected to participate (by way of a motivational assessment) in the program, but by the time it began there were four participants who attended as the other three men were transferred making it impossible for them to attend.



The Mentor Project

The Mentor Project is an exciting new development in service delivery involving close cooperation between a number of organisations – ADAC, the Lower Murray Nungas Club, Kalparrin, the Commonwealth Department of Families and Community Services (FACS) and the State Attorney General's Department in the Murray Mallee Region.

**Don
Hayward**

**Prison
Project
Officer**



**Don Hayward
Prison Project**

We also ran programs for people at Mobilong prison and back at Yatla.

It s a bit sad that unfortunately to date ADAC have not received a letter from DCS on wether the project would be continuing beyond June 2004, and as a result I have know found work at DASC.

Amanda Boswell

**Dementia
Project
Officer**



This being the first Ending Offending Program, we ran with the original program, which was purely an alcohol education course. We were fortunate because all of the men who participated in this program identified alcohol as one of the contributing factors to re-offending. As the program continued it was quite obvious there were other types of drugs which also contributed to their re-offending but we were not able to focus on these as the original of the program only allowed us to deal with alcohol related issues.

The next Ending Offending Program was held in the Intervention Unit and it was a combination of men from both E Division and B Division. After the motivational assessment was conducted six men were chosen to participate in this program. This particular program was the first time we utilised the modified version of Ending Offending, which included other drugs as well as alcohol. From here on the modified version was utilised in all the remaining Ending Offending Programs.

By the time the Ending Offending Program began there were five participants consisting of three men from E Division and two men from B Division. These five men remained with the program right until its completion. This was the first time two staff members from the Aboriginal Services Unit Department of Correctional Services helped facilitate this particular Ending Offending Program.

The project has also run similar courses in the Women's prison and at the conclusion an article was written up in the Koori Mail outlining some of the positive work that was being done in the prison community especially in the area of alcohol and other drugs.

We also ran programs for people at Mobilong prison and back at Yatla. It is a bit sad that unfortunately to date ADAC have not received a letter from DCS on wether the project would be continuing beyond June 2004, and as a result I have now found work at DASC.

**Evaluation Ending
Offending Program**

The Drug and Alcohol Services Council of S.A independently conducted the

evaluation process of this particular program. This evaluation was being largely based on an independent questionnaire developed specifically for men and women who have participated in the Ending Offending Program.

**Amanda Boswell
Dementia Project Officer**



Hi all, yes its that time again to up date you on what is happening with the Dementia Project. The Dementia Training for Indigenous Communities Learning Resource is currently undergoing a National Review process. The Learning Resource will be aligned to the National Dementia Care Competency (CHCAC15A) and the Working Effectively in a Cross Cultural Context with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and Organisations Competency (HLTHIR4A). As a part of the National Review we will also be developing additional resources specifically for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities. It has been a very busy year, I have been coordinating review meetings between NSW, NT and SA, holding the National Review meeting and rewriting much of the Learning Resource. I have also travelled to Newcastle, NSW and observed the dementia training run over there for Aboriginal Communities.

ADAC and Alzheimer's Australia SA were successful in obtaining funding from HACC in the Department of Human Services for a new project. This project will run for a year and will work closely with three regions. Working groups will be set up in the Metropolitan, Hills, Mallee, Southern and South East regions, to direct and oversee the new project. This project

aims to raise Community awareness of dementia and related issues.

In the past year I have had the privilege of meeting and working with some amazing Aboriginal people, families and Communities and I would like to thank them for sharing their wisdom and for the wonderful support. I look forward to visiting you all again and sitting down for a yarn.

Carrolyn Lowe **Administration Assistant**



Hi, my name is Carrolyn Lowe, I have been employed by the Aboriginal Drug & Alcohol Council in an administrative capacity since early 2000. My administrative duties include reception responsibilities, which involves the greeting of guests on arrival, incoming phone calls and processing of incoming and outgoing mail.

In early 2000 ADAC produced an invaluable resource for petrol sniffing specifically aimed at Indigenous communities. This resource package has been extremely popular Australia wide, to date we have given away in excess of 250, which equates to in excess of \$22,000.00 worth of free resources. We gave all OATSIH funded organisations a complementary copy of the package when it was hot from the press. Since that time, we have also sold over 1,100 copies. Due to the overwhelming requests for workshops around the package, and the lack of manpower to perform the workshops, a video was made in-house at ADAC to complement the package.

Another aspect of my job at ADAC is the maintenance of our vehicle fleet, this involves the purchasing, servicing

and general maintenance of the vehicles. The servicing, logbooks and general conditions of the vehicles are recorded on computer to maintain a true and valid history of each vehicle.

On 27th & 28th of October last year, we held our AGM at the Parks Community Centre, which as always had a good turn out from all our rural communities. We also used this time to have a celebration dinner at the Royal Coach Motor Inn on the evening of the 28th, as we were assured of having our rural counterparts available to join us in celebrating ten years of success in the Aboriginal Drug & Alcohol field. This was a very successful evening, we had booked for 100 guests and I don't believe we had more than one or two empty seats.

Also in October, four of us attended a Submission Writing workshop, and as a result we have put in a few of our own submissions. We are very excited and we just have to wait now until we hear from them, unfortunately we won't know until the end of the financial year, our fingers are crossed.

ADAC has a Mentor Project working out of Murray Bridge, I was lucky enough to accompany one of the steering committee members and do a barbecue for the steering committee meeting lunch.

One of the most encouraging things about working for ADAC is the support for additional skills and education. Any staff member that needs or would like extra training or education in any area or field is offered the opportunity and support for further education. In March of this year a number of the team at ADAC attended a Suicide Prevention workshop, this is a vitally important subject in our particular area of work, but it was disappointing to hear there is no Indigenous specific workshop of this nature. They have taken our concerns on board and we hope there will be some thing in the future, but unfortunately it is not Dr Shiela Clarke's area of expertise.

Geoffrey Hawkins **Administration Assistant**

We have had another busy year at ADAC and our Ten Year Celebrations last year ended with a dinner at our Annual General Meeting in October.

Carrolyn Lowe

Administration Assistant



Carrolyn Lowe

Also in October, four of us attended a Submission Writing workshop, and as a result we have put in a few of our own submissions. We are very excited and we just have to wait now until we hear from them, unfortunately we won't know until the end of the financial year, our fingers are crossed.



Geoffrey Hawkins

Administration Assistant



Geoffrey Hawkins

I am responsible for organising and minuting ADAC Executive Meetings and I help Carolyn to organise ADAC's Annual General Meeting. I also take the minutes for other ADAC project meetings and I maintain files of all other meeting minutes that ADAC staff attend.

I have now been employed at ADAC for 3 years and I am enjoying the work as much, if not more than when I first started. My position has grown somewhat and it is always interesting and varied with each day having something different to do.

My main responsibility is working as part of the administration team here at ADAC, and I work alongside Helen and Max in the Indigenous Substance Misuse Health Promotion Unit. This position is very interesting and varied and keeps me very busy. Apart from answering the phones and sitting at the front desk, my position requires me to be very flexible. Sometimes I can be out of the office for quite a while, either running odd jobs like going to the post office or bank, small things like shopping for office furniture, paying bills, visiting other services or providing resources and information at special events.

Part of my responsibilities is to keep records of submissions that are sent to funding bodies, keeping records of funding contracts to ensure that monies are paid on time and that reports are sent when they are due.

I am responsible for organising and minuting ADAC Executive Meetings and I help Carolyn to organise ADAC's Annual General Meeting. I also take the minutes for other ADAC project meetings and I maintain files of all other meeting minutes that ADAC staff attend. I also keep transcripts of all NISMC Conferences, ADAC's Annual General Meetings and any other event that ADAC hosts. I am also responsible for keeping copies of all presentations that are developed by ADAC Project Officers.

I had an opportunity in March to visit Yalata Community, I travelled with Byron (Police Drug Diversion Project Officer) and I spent 4 days helping out in the office at Tullawon Health Service. Being my first trip to a remote community I was quite surprised at the great time I had and I thank everyone for their hospitality, I really enjoyed my visit and the staff made my stay very pleasurable. Big thanks to David and Jan.

Resources – ADAC resources are in demand right across the country

and this year has been no exception. We have had requests for resources from many government and non-government agencies during the year and we have provided resources to some 1800 different organisations. The set of posters developed from ADAC's Ten Year Anniversary Competition were sent to 667 government and non-government schools in South Australia and to all OATSIH funded organisations in Australia. To date we have distributed approximately 8,000 of the new posters nationally.

Last year ADAC developed some promotional gifts to celebrate our Ten Year Anniversary and we distributed some 3,000 Balloons, 2,100 Pens, 2,000 Tote Bags, 1,000 T/shirts, 2,300 Rulers, 2,000 Frisbees, 2,500 Yo Yo's and 1,000 ADAC Newsletters to community members during our celebrations across the state.

Apart from mailing out ADAC resources, ADAC also on request will provide resources for special events like conferences, workshops, health awareness days etc. We can either provide the resources, or for large events Carolyn and myself will set-up a display and staff that to provide substance misuse information to the public.

Max Mansell Design Co-ordinator



Hello my name is Max Mansell I am the design co-ordinator for the Indigenous Substance Misuse Health Promotions Unit (ISMHPU). Which is the production house of ADAC.

This year has been very busy, with the

Max Mansell

Design Co-ordinator



National Indigenous Alcohol Guidelines consuming most of my time. These guidelines cover more than the current National Alcohol Guidelines and are more direct and accommodate those who are illiterate making it easier for people to understand the serious effects of alcohol on the body and body organs.

In between this I have been busy creating more medical imagery for Ricks CD on Unhealthy Effects of Alcohol Addiction and its effects on your body .

Another exciting project has been creating images for a set of playing cards focusing on health. These are being designed and produced by the Indigenous Substance Misuse Health Promotion Unit. (ISMHPU)

The cards are very exciting and very educational for all age groups. They should be ready towards the end of the year so contact ADAC now on 08 83620395 or drop in to 53 King William Street, Kent Town

I have also attended the Suicide Risk Assessment seminars held here in Adelaide.

I have been to Yalata painting with the young people and petrol sniffers of which about 20 turned up for the two days. The painting was left at the community as a motivational piece.

The unit has a new sign, which has been up for about 4 months, which took about 80hrs to complete.

For those who are not aware, my employment ceases on the 14th of July, it has been a great experience for me working in a community controlled Aboriginal organisation. I have enjoyed my time whilst working for ADAC, I will be attending to my company Karni Productions Pty Ltd, I established 12 months ago, and my art.

I will still continue the relationship with ADAC well into the future and beyond. I have decided to give designing a break in order to concentrate on my company and art.

Designing is very exhausting and requires total concentration and lots of mental energy, especially when

a number of different designs are required for different projects in a short time span.

ADAC has developed into a very professional organisation since its humble beginnings way back in 1992, being financially efficient and efficiently productive through its delivery of services which is something not just us mob should be proud of but all Australians should be proud of.

Before I go I would like to pay my respects to the Aboriginal people of South Australia.

In the spirit of goodwill I wish to honour all the exhausted great grandmothers and grandmothers, and grandfathers of South Australia who are now spending their relaxing time on caring and nurturing the children from domestic violence situations, drug addiction and alcohol abused families.

Suan Goldsmith Young Nunga's Yarning Together



Hi, my name is Susan Goldsmith. I am a young Narrunga woman originating from Point Pearce on the Yorke Peninsula.

I have been living in Adelaide for the past 13 years. I have a daughter named Mahkyah who is 6 years old.

I have been employed by ADAC as the Project Officer, for the Peer Education Project called "Young Nunga's Yarning Together".

I am based at The Parks Community Health Service and work there on Monday, Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

I was last employed at Nunkuwarrin Yunti as a Nu-Hit worker for 20

Max Mansell

You have my total unconditional love and my support and may this heavy exhaustive burden be removed from you all so you can enjoy your twilight years with love and happiness.
Thankyou

Suan Goldsmith Young Nunga's Yarning Together

Hi, My Name is Susan Goldsmith. I am a young Narrunga woman originating from Point Pearce on the Yorke Peninsula

months. In this position I worked with the Homeless Intravenous Drug Users living within the CBD.

As this is a new project, I will be spending my first few weeks doing a lot of reading, orientation and networking, but I will keep you posted on the progress of the project.

IMPORTANT NEWS

**ADAC Review
Petrol Manual Evaluation
Risky Business
IDU Report
National Workshops
Staff Reports**

**Dear Colleagues,
Assalamau Alaikum w.b.t. May God's Blessings of Peace be
with you.**

Please join me to congratulate:

**ADAC - Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Council (SA) Inc.,
Australia for being Awarded the IFNGO Commendation
Certificates for its Project entitled "Educating the
Community about Substance Abuse", and**

**The Hon'ble Karu Jayasuriya, Minister of Power and Energy
and Chairman of the Health Committee, Government
of Sri Lanka gave away the Award and the Special
Commendation Certificates at the Closing Ceremony of the
20th IFNGO International Conference on
Friday, 15th August, 2003.**

**I have the pleasure to append below for your information
the Citation for the IFNGO Award for
Outstanding New Project 2003.**

**With my best wishes always. "LET'S TALK ABOUT DRUGS"
"ONE WORLD, ONE OBJECTIVE, ONE LOGO - DRUG-FREE"**

Sincerely,

**(Dato Haji Mustapha Ma) Hon. Secretary, IFNGO.
16th August, 2003.**

**Exciting news for ADAC, the IFNGO International Conference
on 15th August 2003 gave ADAC
the Citation for the
IFNGO Award for Outstanding New Project 2003.**

