



MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday, 23rd June 2016

SWAMS to host local NAIDOC Week events

The Bunbury community is being encouraged to embrace NAIDOC Week this year through a series of events planned for the national week, held from 3-10 July.

South West Aboriginal Medical Service CEO Lesley Nelson, said NAIDOC Week celebrates the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

“NAIDOC Week is an opportunity for us to all come together, embrace, respect and celebrate our culture through some engaging community events,” Ms Nelson said.

“SWAMS is proud to host and support events in our local community through an Elders Luncheon (6th July) and a Family Fun Day (7th July).

“NAIDOC Week is also a very important time to showcase the achievements of our people, and on behalf of myself and the SWAMS Board, we would like to encourage our Noongar community to embrace and enjoy this special week.”

Noongar elder and Bunbury resident Isla Bennell plans to attend some local NAIDOC Week events and believes the annual milestone is important.

“Our Noongar people have such a rich culture and I believe that everyone should be proud of it,” Ms Bennell said.

“It would be great for anyone to go to the NAIDOC Week celebrations. It is a fun place where you can learn about Noongar people, our culture, language and history.”

For more information on NAIDOC Week events please check out the SWAMS Facebook page, or contact the office on (08) 9791 1166 or email info@swams.com.au

Bunbury 2016 NAIDOC Week events details:

4 July: Flag Raising Ceremony, 10am at the Graham Bricknell Music Shell.

4 July: South West Community Drug and Alcohol Service, lunch and yarn, 11.30am-1.30pm, 109 Beach Rd, Bunbury.

5 July: Nyoongar Wellbeing and Sports, Junior Sports Day, 10am-2pm at PCYC, Parade Rd, Bunbury.

5 July: Men's Football Match, contact Troy Bennell on 0457 360 517.

5 July: Adults Darts Competition, 5.30pm to late, at the Bunbury Football Club.

6 July: Elders Luncheon, 11am-2pm at the Bethanie Maali Centre, 14 Xavier St, Carey Park.

7 July: SWAMS Family Fun Day and Deadly Jobs Expo, 10am-2pm at the Bunbury Trotting Club, Milligan St, Bunbury.

8 July: Cultural Day, 10am-5pm at PCYC, Parade Rd, Bunbury.

8 July: Youth Disco at PCYC, \$2 entry, 5-7pm for 8-12 yr olds, 7-9.30pm for 13-17 yr olds.

9 July: NAIDOC Week Ball, 7pm-midnight at the Quality Hotel Lighthouse, Carey St Bunbury. Tickets cost \$75 and are available at NEEDAC, 1 Brown St, Bunbury. Contact Michelle Munns on 0408 256 480.

PHOTO: South West Aboriginal Medical Service CEO Lesley Nelson and Noongar elder and Bunbury resident Isla Bennell, are encouraging members of the community to attend local NAIDOC Week events this year.

For media enquiries please contact SWAMS Public Relations Officer Tahnia Creedon on (08) 9791 1166.