

## Pharmacy open for everyday business



A five-year partnership between Yarrabah's community-owned health service and an Edmonton chemist has resulted in what was a much celebrated opening of a new pharmacy in the community late last month.

CEO Sue Andrews said they had been working with Pharmacist and part owner of the Edmonton pharmacy Leo Maltam to deliver services to Yarrabah for the past five years.

"The Edmonton pharmacy has provided good service and delivered medication to many people who were not able to

go to Cairns or Gordonvale," Mrs Andrews said.

"However, the pharmacy staff needed approximately four hours a day to prepare the medication and time to travel to and from Yarrabah. This meant that some people in Yarrabah would not get their medication on the same day,

as the deadline for people to submit their scripts was 12pm."

Mr Maltam said it was essential that Queensland's largest Aboriginal community of around 3,000 residents should have access to such a service.

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“For a community this size to not have timely and affordable access to essential and lifesaving medications was something we wanted to help address,” Mr Maltam said.

“We have two pharmacists running the new Yarrabah Pharmacy, and we are very excited about working with Sue and her team,” he said.

“We would also like to thank Mayor Errol Neal for all of the support he has provided over the past couple of years.”

Senior Medical Officer (SMO) Dr Adam Brownhill said the new pharmacy was an excellent example of two organisations striving to close the gap through

collaboratively working towards improving access to services for a disadvantaged community.

“For the past two years, as part of Gurriny’s commitment to safety in medication use, local pharmacist Pippa Travers-Mason has been working with Gurriny’s Pharmacy Assistant Teresa Neal to home visit clients on Webster packs, and any regular medications, to assist in their understanding and use of their long-term

medications,” he said.

“From the perspective of the clinic the on-site pharmacy will improve patient care as there will be no delay in patients accessing their medications.

“This will improve recovery times for acute illnesses and ensure that clients with chronic conditions do not miss out on their regular medications.

“This has been a very successful program and will be ongoing.”







# Child Health Team

Terry, Devetta and Savanna continue to run programs and provide clinics during the week.

Every Tuesday from 8.00am to 3.30pm we have the immunisations clinic at the Gurriny health centre. On

Thursdays we have our in service training from 1.00pm to 3.00pm.

The team continues to assist the Australian Hearing service delivering clinics to children and their parents and families at the Gurriny Health Centre.

While our daily schedules are full with programs currently being implemented within the Schools it is necessary that we continue to deliver early detection and preventative programs here in the community.



The team have now increased the immunisation status with the help of the new “NO JAB, NO PAY” put in place by Department of Human Services where parents who fail to get their children immunised will not receive their benefits.

As a result our 0-4 year's olds are nearly all up to date with their immunisations this year.

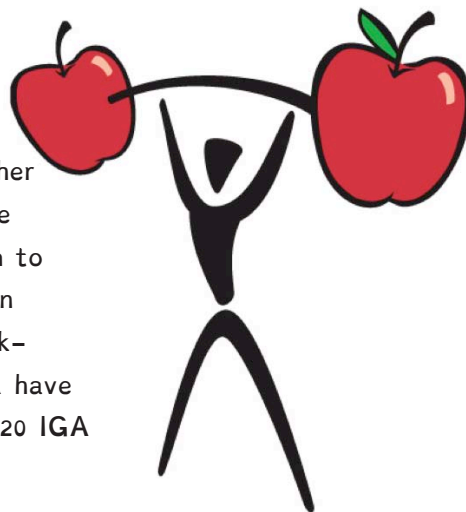
In January the Child Health Team delivered a three day back to school health check clinic.

This has been a huge success this year with over 90 children in total attending, an average of 30 a day.

We thank the Health Promotion Team Alicia (Dixie), Lucrecia and Chrisstella for helping us make this a real success. With their support and assistance in promoting the clinic, getting the posters out there and engaging with families and friends to attend the clinic

## Adult Health Checks on now!

The Chronic Disease Team, SEWB team and a doctor have been working together engaging clients to participate in weekly Health Checks. The Health Checks are being held at the Gurriny building on Workshop Street every Tuesday from 9am to 3pm. Anyone who needs a Health Check may call the Health Centre to make an appointment or can just come along for a review including your 3 monthly check-ups that can be done here. We also have light refreshments available once you have seen the Doctor”. When you come back for your results you will be given a \$20 IGA voucher. Please call 42264100 to make an appointment.



Have you seen our website?

<http://www.gyhsac.org.au>

This issue of Gurriny News was written, photographed (except where otherwise stated), edited and produced by Christine Howes (www.chowes.com.au) For more information about the font 'Dyslexie' see www.studiostudio.nl