



Keeping you informed of ACON's programs & services, local events and news

LATEST NEWS

We are excited to announce that new team member, Stephen Doughty, has joined our project...

Hello everybody! I was born and raised in Sydney, schooled in Tamworth, and educated in Melbourne. My mob come from Megalong Valley, NSW. We have spread out to the major and I am very excited to be back in Sydney.

I am joining you as one of ACON's Health Promotion Officers for the Aboriginal Project and will be organising the Positive Retreat as well as supporting community events like Black Pearls. I will also develop a Peer Education program for our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander GLBTS community.

I am very much looking forward to meeting and working with all of you.



Meggan makes a stand against homophobia on the *This is Oz* website

ACON is proud to launch ***This is Oz*** an online photo gallery where people can help fight discrimination against the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community.

Part arts project, part human rights campaign, *This is Oz* is all about **making Australia a place where everyone belongs.**

To participate visit the website www.thisisoz.com.au and upload a picture of yourself holding a sign with a message that challenges homophobia and/or celebrates diversity.

For all the latest news, events and updates on our project check out our website www.acon.org.au/communities/aboriginal

ACON's **Positive Living Centre (PLC)** is a drop-in centre for people affected by HIV.

The PLC provides a great range of **free therapies** such as massage, acupuncture and herbal medicine, provide **free** breakfast on Tuesdays and on Fridays a free lunch. The PLC also offers a fantastic range of **workshops** including life coaching.

The PLC also runs a dedicated **Women's Day** on the third Monday of every month for women who are affected by HIV and their families.

There are art and craft activities, guest speakers and free morning tea and lunch are provided. It's a great opportunity to **meet other women who are affected by HIV** in a relaxed and friendly environment and children are most welcome to come along.



The PLC Team

The next dedicated **Women's Day** will be on **Monday 15 June** from 10:30am – 3pm.

The PLC is holding a special **Open Day** on **Saturday 20 June** from 11am – 4pm. You'll get to meet the lovely staff, find out more about the PLC's services and attend some of the hourly presentations about HIV treatments, healthy cooking, life coaching and motivational techniques. Aboriginal Project staff will also be there so come along and check out the PLC.

The PLC is located at 703 Bourke St, Surry Hills and is open to drop-in Tuesday to Friday 10am – 4pm.

If you would like more information please contact Cassandra or the PLC on 9699 8756 or visit the website www.acon.org.au/hiv/plc for the latest calendar of events.

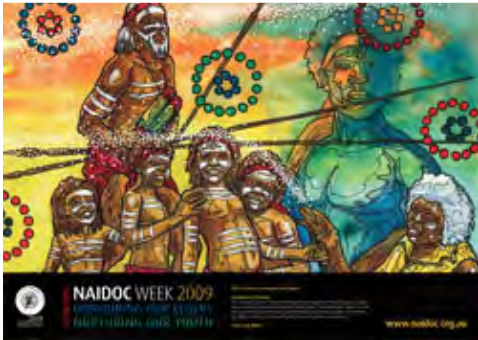
The **Gender Centre** operates a wide range of services to people with gender issues, their partners, families and friends.

Services include counselling, community case management, advocacy support, outreach, training and education, and a weekly drop-in on Wednesday nights (6-8pm). The Gender Centre also publishes Polare magazine.

The Gender Centre is hosting a **BBQ** for the Winter Solstice on **Sunday 21 June**.

If you would like to attend please call the Gender Centre reception on 9569 2366 for details.

The Gender Centre is located at 7 Bent St, Petersham. You can also access their resources on the website www.gendercentre.org.au



NAIDOC Week – a celebration of the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people is coming up on 5 – 12 July.

This years theme is ***Honouring Our Elders, Nurturing Our Youth.*** Come and join the Aboriginal Project in a range of NAIDOC activities.

Luncheon Club NAIDOC Event

In partnership with the **Luncheon Club** will be holding an event on **Monday 6 July** from 2pm-4pm at the Luncheon Club which is located at The Gordon Ibbett Activity Centre 77 Kellick St, Waterloo. The Luncheon Club is a service providing free lunch on Mondays and Wednesdays for HIV positive people and their carers.

If you are interested in attending simply come along on the day. If you would like further details please contact the Luncheon Club or Meggan, or visit the website www.acon.org.au/hiv/The-Luncheon-Club

Woolloomooloo Family Day

Held at at Forbes Reserve, Forbes Street Woolloomooloo on **Saturday 11 July** from 10am to 4pm, come along, visit our stall and join us for a deadly day. Entertainment includes a traditional welcoming and smoking ceremony, Aboriginal arts and crafts, music, cultural performances, children's activities, special speakers and traditional food.

If you would like to **volunteer your time at the stall**, we would love to have you! Please contact Cassandra.

We will also be attending other events during NAIDOC Week. Look out for further updates on where we will be on our website www.acon.org.au/communities/aboriginal.

For more information on other NAIDOC Week events visit www.naidoc.org.au

We are in the process of developing our new **Peer Education** program and **WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK** as this program is being designed for you!

We want to know

- what issues concern you the most?
- what would you like to discuss in groups?
- what activities do you enjoy?
- any other suggestions you may have

Please contact Stephen on 1800 063 060 or sdoughty@acon.org.au

Looking for work?

Don't forget to visit our website to check for our latest vacancies www.acon.org.au/about-acon/jobs



Get PASHing!

PASH is a study of **gay and bisexual men** about their experiences of, and attitudes towards, sex and pleasure.

It will **provide valuable information** for health promotion efforts and policy development and help to increase understanding of how gay and bisexual men are thinking about their sexual health.

The survey takes about 30 minutes to complete online at www.pash-study.net

Our newest resource **However You Wanna See Me, I'm Just Me** has been very popular.

It features stories from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander gay men, lesbians and sistergirls and hopes to contribute to combating homophobia and transphobia.



Copies are available to download at www.acon.org.au/communities/aboriginal/news/however-you-wanna-see-me. You can also give confidential feedback online also. You can also pick up a copy at your local sexual health clinic or Aboriginal Medical Service.

Are you **INTERESTED IN BEING A MODEL** for our campaigns?

Or would you like to **HAVE YOUR SAY** and provide feedback at a focus testing session for our resources?

We would love to hear from you!

Please contact Meggan for more information



Would you like to **run your own First Aid Training Business?**

Allens Training are offering opportunities to Aboriginal Trainers throughout Australia. If you have a Certificate IV in Workplace Assessor, and hold a current First Aid Certificate, are passionate about training and would like to start your own business contact Cassandra.

ACON and the Aboriginal Project puts on a wide range of programs, services and events all throughout the year. If you are interested in attending anything, give us a call at ACON Head office. We are here to help.

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ACON also has offices at

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|------------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| • Lismore | 27 Uralba St | 1800 633 637 |
| • Islington | 129 Maitland Rd | 02 4927 6808 |
| • Port Macquarie | Shop 3, 146-150 Gordon St | 02 6584 0943 |
| • Wollongong | 47 Kenny St | 02 4226 1163 |