

MVNS NEWS

AUTUMN 2014



OUR VISION IS A JOYOUS, DIVERSE AND INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY WHICH CELEBRATES IT'S UNIQUENESS AND STRENGTHS

FREE—HIGH TEA AND WOMENS HEALTH SEMINAR

An invitation to All women to come along and network; speak to a women's health nurse from Taree Community Health and ask those questions you never get to ask.....

**Then indulge in a high tea prepared by our fabulous volunteer cooks.
Let your friends know and please remember to book as numbers are limited!**

When: Wednesday 19th March
Cost: FREE!
Where: Old Courthouse Community Centre, Farquhar St, Wingham
Phone: 65535121

What else is happening at MVNS this Autumn?

COMMUNITY GARDENS—We are seeking a volunteer garden coordinator to coordinate, develop and promote our community gardens.

—don't forget that our pizza oven is available for use at a nominal fee—
ring us to discuss the options.

Interested people should contact Caron on 65535121

- seedlings for sale—all funds raised are used to support the gardens



THE AFRICAN FESTIVAL RETURNS TO THE MANNING VALLEY in May 2014!!

Be prepared to be amazed by the offerings that will be provided at this years festival.
Check out the April 'FOCUS' magazine for more details and MVNS
website at www.mvns.org.au



Linguere and Lioba at the 2013 festival

Oz Afrique!! In 2013



OUTREACH SERVICE DATES 2014:

Outreach services at the Neighbourhood Centre:

Legal advice—1st and 3rd Thursdays

Financial Counseling—1st & 3rd Tuesdays

AND—

We now have a newly renovated kitchen at the centre which was undertaken jointly by GTCC and ourselves. Bookings for the use of the courtroom and kitchen can be made through Wingham Library on 6553 4555

HARMONY DAY 2014—Everybody Belongs—
a celebration of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home,
Friday 21 March



Borrow a 'Living' Book and connect through conversation

Manning Valley Neighbourhood Services Migrant Support Worker in partnership with Greater Taree City Libraries has put together an amazing talking feast! in the form of a Living Library to celebrate the diversity of people that reside in the Manning Valley. A Living Library is just like a regular library, with one difference the books are living, real people with real stories. Borrowers get a chance to engage in an informal half hour conversation with the Living Books about their lives and life choices.

Jane O'Dwyer from the Migrant Settlement Project (funded by the Department of Social Services) has recruited a number of diverse people from the community that all have a story to share about migrating to Australia. Living books will share with borrowers the challenges and opportunities associated with arriving to Australia and starting a new life. "Our books tell of their unique and moving experiences from their home countries including Kenya to Senegal, Vietnam, Indonesia, Egypt, Russia, Congo, India and Austria" said Jane.

The Living Library will be held on Tuesday 18, Wednesday 19 & Friday 21 March and involves the borrower loaning a living book, sitting with that book in one of the lounge rooms at Taree Library and having a 30 minute conversation about their story. There will be morning and afternoon borrowing sessions available.

This opportunity is also supported by the Community Relations Commission, Harmony Day and Love and Read.



A Living Library example:

How Pygmies Adjust to Modern Day Life

Isaac Bacirongo is a Batembo pygmy from the Mafuo chiefdom in the Bunyakiri area of South Kivu, Democratic Republic of Congo. Pygmies are marginalised peoples, considered to



be slave class. Isaac grew up in the forest as a hunter-gatherer until he was 10, when he left to attend school. Interested in finding out more? Borrow this living book. Make a reservation at the library asap on 6592 5290 or email library.events@gtcc.nsw.gov.au



There are eight more living books to borrow!

Old Courthouse Community Centre, Farquhar St, Wingham | 65535121 | www.mvns.org.au