

# GBNC Newsletter

## What's happening at GBNC

Autumn 2024



### What's on weekly at GBNC

#### Mondays

- Playgroup at The Summitt State School - term-time only
- Kids Korner Childcare
- GBNC Client appointments
- Emergency Relief 9am–12noon
- Youth Get-together every Monday
- Youth Pride group 12-21yrs mthly

#### Tuesdays

- Playgroup for kids aged 0-5
- Hippy (Home Interaction Program for Parents and Youngsters) for kids aged 4-5 years

#### Wednesdays

- Kids Korner childcare
- Catholic Care kids/family counselling fortnightly
- Baby & Me 9:30–11:00 – 5 sessions during school terms
- Music time - fortnightly - 0-3yrs 9.30-10.00am and 4-6years 10.15-10.45am

#### Thursdays

- Foodsupport 10 -11am
- Sensory playgroup for babies aged 0–5 months

#### Fridays

- Playgroup at Dalveen State School - term-time only
- Kids Korner childcare
- GBNC Counselling
- D & D for youth every Friday

#### Sundays

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Quart Pot Quilters

### What's on monthly at GBNC

- Rotary Stanthorpe Ageing Well morning tea at Hilton Street every 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month
- Free technology assistance for personal devices 9:00–11:30 Tuesdays. Check with reception for next available date

### GBNC Updates

GBNC welcomes Gina Roberts as the Healthy Ageing Program Coordinator who will be working in the Granite Belt communities. STAR Community Services has been contracted to deliver Healthy Ageing services to the Warwick and surrounds communities.

GBNC was funded by the Dept of Communities for 12 weeks of post-fire recovery work with the Wallangarra and Dalveen communities. We welcome, Kristy Gillman as our Post-fire Project Officer until the 1<sup>st</sup> week of April, 2024.

#### *Farewell.*

The Granite Belt sadly says farewell to the Healthwise program that for the past 14 months or so, has used GBNC as its office base.

This program was not refunded and it closes down by the end of March 2024. GBNC has loved working with Julie and Sue: they did so much for the Southern Downs' communities.

### Partner Agencies



**CatholicCare**  
Social Services



**Legal and Social  
Justice Services**

### Donations

- ✓ Australian Vinegar
- ✓ Diggers Club
- ✓ Rotary Stanthorpe Satellite Club
- ✓ Zonta club of Stanthorpe
- ✓ Sam's Farm Fresh Fruit & Veg
- ✓ Local farmers
- ✓ The Nappy Collective
- ✓ Spano's IGA Stanthorpe

### Supporters



*A vibrant organisation growing, building and nurturing our community*

# GBNC Newsletter

## Community Development

Autumn 2024



### Comments on Facebook – be respectful

Recently, GBNC was on the receiving end of a tirade from a couple of people using dreadful and ugly comments in response to a facebook post advertising one of our programs.

These people's comments were disrespectful, highly personal, offensive, casted aspersions and contained veiled threats.

Ultimately the police requested the page's administration to turn off comments for this post. GBNC works to the concept of universal access, that means it wants to be a place for all.

We understand that not all our programs or activities will everyone either agree with or want to be part of.

We also respect everyone to have their opinion and to voice it.

**PLEASE voice your facebook comments using respectful words.**

You still get the message across if you simply say "I don't agree with this activity" or some such.

GBNC wants to continue the use of comments. However, should there *not* be a change in comments being framed in respectful language, we will turn off comments for all our posts.

Also, we will continue reporting the names of those posting any disrespectful comments to police every time.

GBNC works hard to be a place for everyone, including people using disrespectful words.

### Granite Belt communities needs and wellbeing survey – happening for the month of March

GBNC's Community Support Service (CSS) during for the entire month of March will be conducting a needs and wellbeing survey within the Granite Belt.

The survey will be distributed widely and will be available to be completed online or on paper.

This will be the first needs wellbeing survey of the Granite Belt communities in a very long time, if ever.

**We encourage each of you, regardless of age to complete it.**

GBNC will make the report from the survey also publicly available to others. This is so other agencies can use the data in their submissions for new services or increases to their current program's funding.

Within GBNC this report will:

- inform what the focus of the CSS program coordinator's work
- shape what new programs GBNC may seek funding for
- encourage other agencies to deliver their services to the GB.



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GRANITE BELT



NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE

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### GBNC's 1<sup>st</sup> radio spot monthly

At the invitation of the Scotsman from Ten FM, Jenny Leigh, GBNC's Service Manager, was interviewed for the first time on February 14<sup>th</sup>

The session seemed to go so fast and the Scotsman was wonderful at making it feel like a chat over a cuppa.



GBNC appreciates this opportunity to bring to the communities' attention our work.

### New year – New look!

GBNC has kicked the year off with exciting news that finally the building work at Corundum Street commenced. While it has gone on for way much longer than Qbuild indicated it is almost complete.

We've closed in the hub area so there is now a definite training room and the outside verandah near the kitchen has had a door installed so we now have even more lockable storage area.



Thanks for bearing with us.

Rumour is we may be getting an automatic front door too!!

### How much value has Fair Play vouchers given to Granite Belt?

GBNC's Family Support Service has for the past 3 years applied to the State Government to be supplied with Fair Play vouchers.

Fair Play vouchers are valued up to \$150 per child and can be used towards sport and active recreation membership, registration or participation fees with registered activity providers. There is a limit of 1 voucher per child per calendar year.

Over the years the number of vouchers we apply for have climbed and we now have reached the maximum possible. There are usually 2 rounds per year to get vouchers.

In 2024, specific vouchers for swimming were on offer and GBNC sourced a number of them. These vouchers differ in age range eligibility and expiry timeframe to the Fair Play vouchers.

From this current round GBNC's receptionist, Nikki, has issued 116 Fair Play at \$150 each and so far, 24 Swim Start vouchers at \$150 each.

This means in this round alone GBNC has provided **a total of \$21,000.00 support to Granite Belt families and sporting clubs.**

To know when these are available follow GBNC's facebook page.





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### Update – Improving transport access within the Granite Belt

GBNC was funded by the Primary Health Network (PHN) for a 1 year project to improve access within the Granite Belt via community transport – that is local transport.

GBNC has been working with a community reference group and reporting on this project's progress to the Stanthorpe Hospital's Community Consultative Committee.

It's taken a while for this project to shape up.

2024 year started well with STAR recruiting a worker to be based in Stanthorpe 2 days per week.

However, the worker having accepted the job then resigned in the lead up to day 1 of work.

SO... its back to recruiting a staff member and to the GB communities waiting longer until we get this project off the ground.

Please bear with us. We are trying hard to put in place a new service that will continue in the GB beyond its initial funding.

Stay tuned!

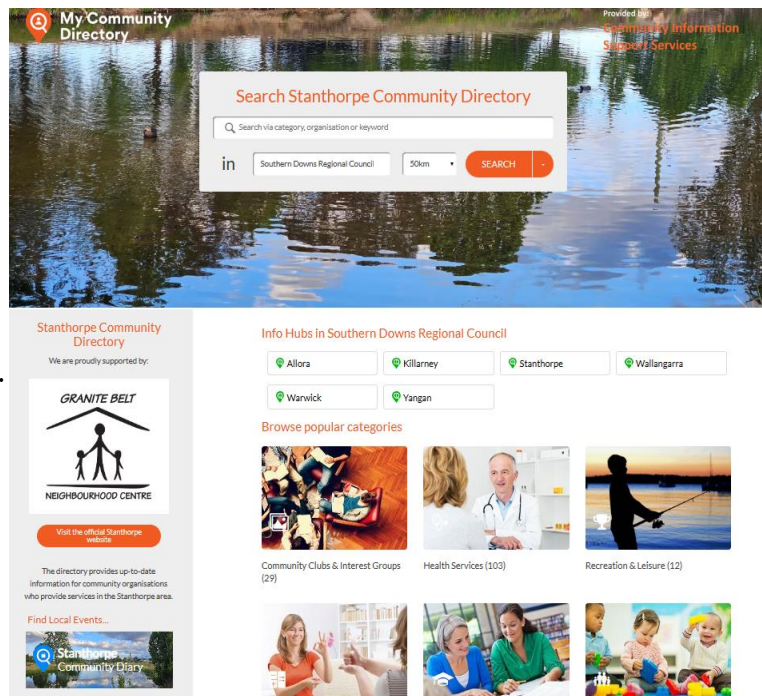
### Update – Online directory and community diary

This community-available-for-use tool is a partnership between Rotary Club of Stanthorpe and GBNC.

GBNC's Jaqui Unold is overseeing this project ably assisted by Shane Linton, GBNC's IT consultant and Helen McWater, a very supportive volunteer.

If you would like to look at and use the directory or diary as it currently is, use this URL:  
<https://www.mycommunitydirectory.com.au/Queensland/SouthernDowns>

You can also add your agency's or activity details into the diary or directory NOW – look at the top right-hand side for LIST FREE button.



# GBNC Newsletter

## Our services

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### Early Years

Activities for parents and their children (prenatal to 8 years) aimed at assisting effective parenting skills.

### Youth

Activities aimed at working with youth who are at risk of disengaging from school, family and/or the community 12 – 21yrs.

### Mental Wellbeing (PHN)

Focused on initiatives to improve families and children's mental health transitioning to high school.

### Family Support Services

Assists vulnerable families to develop family/household management skills, improve life skills and provide information, advice and referral.

### Healthy Ageing Support

Supports senior Southern Downs residents to live at home through enhanced social connections.

### Sustaining Tenancies

Available through GBNC for clients who need a helping hand. A realistic payment plan is set up to come out of your Centrelink payments

### Food Support

Available weekly on a Thursday morning via a referral from GBNC staff. Clients are to attend our Food Support 15 Hilton St 10—11am only.

### Emergency Relief

Available to assist on a time-limited basis with basic life needs and is available to any person/resident in the area including backpackers

### Community Support Services

Works in a diverse range of ways including community development aimed at increasing sense of connectedness and build community capacity.

### Kids Korner

Limited hours childcare for children aged 15 months to 5 years. Days of operation are Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Casual use is encouraged.

### Driving Work/Life Opportunities

Aims to expand life options & employment through addressing the barriers that prevent persons aged 16-25 years from obtaining a driver's licence. This program works with the PCYC's Braking the Cycle Stanthorpe program.

*If you would like to be notified of GBNC's upcoming events follow us on Facebook or Instagram*

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