

Russell Taylor wins NAIDOC 2018 Male Elder of Year

WentWest Board member and proud Kamilaroi man, Russell Taylor was named Male Elder of Year at the 2018 NAIDOC Awards held last week. This prestigious award recognises his significant contribution across the country as a leader and campaigner for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

“I am incredibly flattered, humbled and honoured to receive the award from NAIDOC. When you get recognised by your own mob it’s very gratifying and I feel very privileged. NAIDOC Week is getting stronger every year and it’s lovely to see the achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people honoured with such respect. It’s a great source of pleasure and pride to be part of this growing recognition,” says Russell.

Russell’s unwavering commitment to acknowledging and improving the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people has been borne out through the many government, higher education, biodiversity and community roles he has held throughout his long and esteemed career, which in 2016 saw him appointed a Member (AM) of the Order of Australia for “significant service to the community as a cultural leader and public-sector executive in the field of Indigenous affairs”. Of particular pride is his work as Chair of the Burbangana Group, who work in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to improve community, social and economic wellbeing.

WentWest Chairperson, Diana O’Halloran echoes the sentiments of many in the WentWest community, “It’s wonderful to see Russell’s efforts acknowledged in this way. His commitment to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community has genuinely changed lives across Australia and his dedication to the health of western Sydney is clearly demonstrated through his work on our Board. On behalf of everyone at WentWest we extend our congratulations and look forward to continuing to work with Russell to make a lasting difference.”

Russell has been a WentWest Board member since June 2017 with an Aboriginal health and wellbeing focus.

“I am proud of the efforts and outcomes of all the organisations I have been involved with, including of course WentWest, which has an enormous undertaking and consistently delivers to a very high standard on expectations from both government and stakeholders, while achieving considerable health outcomes for the western Sydney community,” says Russell.

Read more about his leadership and contribution on the SBS website



Events

Nurse chronic disease education: Hepatitis B

Monday 30th July 2018

6:30pm - 9:00pm

RACGP: The art of rural 'locuming' webinar

Thursday 9th August 2018

8:00pm - 9:00pm

Demystifying Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder in Youth conference

Monday 13th August 2018

8:30am - 4:30pm

Other News

Breast imaging and breast disease GP workshop

GPs are invited to the breast imaging and breast disease GP workshop where they'll explore breast screening pathways plus diagnostic workup and management of patients and gain an understanding of the complexity of atypical breast imaging findings. During the event, we'll also be launching our new breast disease HealthPathways. The event is being run with [Westmead Breast Cancer Institute](#) at Westmead Education and Conference Centre on Tuesday, 2nd August from 6:30pm - 9:30pm.

[Full event details](#) including how to register is available online.

GP survey

Orygen, The National Centre of Excellence in Youth Mental Health is conducting a short survey of GPs to inform policy work on the role of general practice in youth mental health care.

The survey investigates how GPs can be supported in this complex area of practice and to help Orygen understand the roles GPs currently play, the challenges they face and the support needed.

Start the survey to take part of this conversation.

Flu season update

The NSW Government is spending \$22.75 million on a state-wide immunisation program which will assist with flu prevention this season. This includes \$3.5 million for free flu shots to children up to five years of age and a \$1.75

million immunisation and influenza prevention campaign.

More information for health professionals is available online.

GP Association meetings

The following GP association meetings are coming up in western Sydney:

Westmead: Hypertension GP updates, Wednesday 25th July.

Mount Druitt: Case studies in hypertension, Friday 27th July.

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