

Network Noise

The **YANQ** Newsletter December 1995/January 1996

Published bi-monthly by the Youth Affairs Network of Queensland Inc

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... and a whole lot more!

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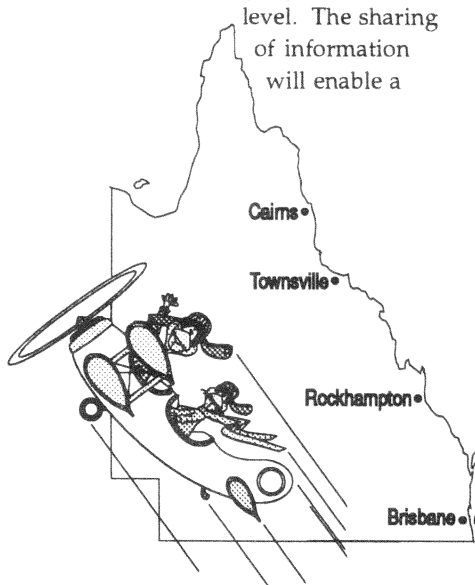
Will YANQ visit you in 1996?

It's that time of year again when YANQ plans its state networking strategy for the next twelve months. Is your region planning an event or campaign, or needing support on a particular issue? Then we need to hear from you!

Each year YANQ aims to visit as many interagencies/networks and regions as possible, with particular emphasis on services outside the south-east corner.

Networking enhances YANQ's ability to provide current information to its members. In addition, it provides a platform for services, interagencies/networks and individuals to inform and update YANQ on local issues. It is also an opportunity to identify the impact that government policy has on the lives of young people at the local

level. The sharing
of information
will enable a



more coordinated approach to the delivery of services, input into the policy development process, and lobbying.

Several of YANQ's staff support a state networking strategy. Sandra Fields addresses general networking, Tracey Tully supports networks with a particular focus on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander issues, and Susan Ferguson focuses on organisations with an interest in young people from non-English speaking backgrounds.

Our limited resources significantly affect the number of networking visits YANQ conducts each year. Please contact us as soon as possible if you would like your area targeted.

Sandra Fields
Network Development Coordinator

Planning for the 1996 State Youth Affairs Conference is underway. It is likely to be held in September... Look out for more information in the next issue of *Network Noise*!

Network Noise

is the bi-monthly newsletter
of the Youth Affairs Network of
Queensland (YANQ) Inc.
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CONTRIBUTIONS

ARE

WELCOME

Ring, write or fax
your latest news on

- workshops
- youth programs
- training events
- projects
- positions vacant
- change of address
- latest resources

to Judith Wootton, YANQ

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February/March issue

23 February 1996

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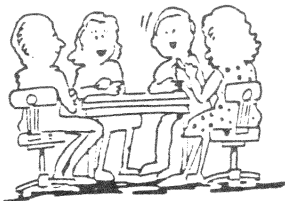
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The views and opinions
contained in this publication do
not necessarily represent the
views of the Youth Affairs
Network of Queensland.



Coordinating Committee Update

November-December 1995

Welcome to 1996!

The pre-Christmas period was a busy time for YANQ's Coordinating Committee. Committee members and staff spent two days in early December working on YANQ's strategic plan, aims and objectives for the coming twelve months. Our thanks to Fiona Guthrie, who provided excellent facilitation skills over the two days.

The Committee is pleased to welcome Dermot Ryan as its newest member. Dermot has replaced Paul Martin on the Committee, and comes with a wealth of experience from his involvement in the Youth Affairs Network of the ACT as well as his current work with the Queensland AIDS Council.

The Committee is also pleased to welcome Tracey Tully as the Project Coordinator for the Statewide Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Networking Project (see more about this project in Tracey's first article on page 5).


The year ahead will be a busy time for YANQ staff and committee. We would like to take this opportunity to thank those members who continue to provide ongoing support through their active involvement in YANQ.



Have you forgotten
to renew your YANQ
membership?



Renewal membership notices for 1996
have been sent out to all members.



Don't forget to renew your membership or
subscription before 28 February.

Young person suicides in Wilson

This is an article which I would prefer not to have to write. On 24 December, 1995, Christmas Eve, a sad and tragic event took place in the Sir Leslie Wilson Youth Detention Centre. On that evening a young man detained in the centre hanged himself in his room. This was the first death in custody in a juvenile detention centre in Queensland.

It is obviously unacceptable that a young person held in a detention centre is not protected against self-harm. The time of year when this event occurred is a difficult and emotional one. While heralded by the wider community as a time for family and sharing, many young people held in detention centres are grappling with conflicting emotions because of separation from their families complicated, for many, by issues of neglect and abuse within their families.

While the life of this young man cannot be brought back it is important that the organisational deficits which allowed this to happen be redressed to ensure that *this will never happen again*. To this end, YANQ followed up this event by meeting with the Acting Director, Office of Juvenile Justice, Mr Garry Hannigan, and the Acting Director, Youth Detention Services, Mr

Terry MacDermot, to discuss what action was being taken.

Both an external and police investigation of the event has been undertaken, although the police and coroner's reports have yet to be released. Three employees of the Centre have been removed from their duties and it would seem highly likely that there has been a breach of procedures.

As a result of the external investigation a number of actions were taken. A review and write up of procedures has been commissioned, which is expected to be completed in about two months. YANQ will have the opportunity to comment on the draft of the revised procedures. \$75 000 for this financial year has been made available to attend to mental health issues for indigenous young people in detention centres — \$20,000 will be

spent in Townsville and \$55,000 will be spent on the two centres in Brisbane. The Office of Juvenile Justice is negotiating with Queensland Health to secure funding to upgrade the clinical psychologist services. Further, all young people who have been identified as at risk of self harm will be reassessed.

It can only be hoped that these actions will ensure that such an event never happens again. In order for this to be the case the high numbers of young people being held on remand needs also to be reduced. Detention must be seen as a last option in the sentencing of young people and more financial resources need to be made available for preventative programs which support children, young people and families.

Penny Carr

Policy and Research Coordinator

working party updates...working party updates

Education

The Education Working Party has been meeting since November. The main focus has been gaining a comprehensive knowledge of what other projects are under way in the area of education and to understand the current Department of Education policies and direction. With this as a starting point, the group is working through a process to set goals to be achieved before the next YANQ Policy Forum.

Issues have already been identified and at the next meeting actions to address these issues will be developed and prioritised.

The issues identified are:

- Developing interagency links/documentation/education of same
- Suspensions and exclusions
- Lack of alternative programs
- Lobbying to get the Education Department to act on policies which aren't yet actioned
- Schools to link with parents
- Student participation and decision-making
- Convergence - vocational education links to general education

The Working Party is looking for participants from outside of the south-east corner of the state to make sure the issues for all regions in Queensland are being addressed. Participation could be by telephone hook-ups or by just receiving the minutes with a commitment to comment or input information when necessary.

The Rural and Isolated Working Party has decided to take recommendation 18 from *Living, Learning and Working — The experiences of young people in rural and remote communities in Australia*, a report by the National Youth Coalition for Housing and push for action on it.

This recommendation says:

'That the Social Justice Unit (Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet) coordinate an interdepartmental process whereby DEET, HHCS, Commonwealth Office of Local Government, and DPIE each contribute equitably to a funding pool. That this funding pool provide an extremely flexible source of funding, with a commitment to:

- Resource community organisations or local government authorities to develop a comprehensive community plan.
- Guarantee financial support for programs designed to meet the most significant, community supported needs of young people, as identified through the planning process.
- Negotiate funding for these programs using existent State/Territory or Commonwealth government funding sources where these are appropriate.
- Provide direct funding from the "pool" where the planning outcomes are incompatible with the guidelines or resource capabilities of existing funding sources.'

These working parties meet monthly at YANQ (also by phone). If you are interested in getting involved, please contact Penny at YANQ on (07) 3852 1800 or 1800 177 899.

YANQ staff — who we are and what we do...

Over the past few months there have been several staff changes at YANQ. Following is an outline of each staff position, so our members have an idea of who does what.

YANQ operates with a flat staffing structure. There are currently three core staff positions which are accountable to the Coordinating Committee and responsible for reporting their own work progress on a regular basis. These core positions are:

Administration and Publications Coordinator (JUDITH WOOTTON)

Judith coordinates the development and maintenance of YANQ publications. She also coordinates the administrative activities of the YANQ office. If you have any articles for *Network Noise* or *transitions* please give Judith a call.

Network Development Coordinator (SANDRA FIELDS)

Sandra coordinates the development and maintenance of YANQ in relation to membership, regional networks and organisational planning. This position also includes primary responsibility for liaison with the core funding agency within government.

If your network or interagency needs some organisational support, or assistance with linking with other groups with common issues, please contact Sandra at YANQ.

Policy and Research Coordinator (PENNY CARR)

Penny coordinates the development and maintenance of policies for YANQ in relation to current issues affecting young people. Penny is also responsible for preparing research programs to inform the policy development and planning process of the organisation.

Penny can be contacted about any issues of concern in your area.

YANQ also employs specialist staff to work on specific issues or with specific target groups of concern to YANQ. Currently the two specialist staff positions are:

Project Coordinator — Non English Speaking Background Youth Issues (SUSAN FERGUSON)

Susan works with the NESB Youth Issues Network in developing a model for the ongoing operation of the Network and achievement of its goals. Susan is also responsible for raising awareness of issues and responding to policy on issues affecting young people from non-English Speaking Backgrounds. She also supports other organisations to develop policy and projects.

Project Coordinator — State Networking Project for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Youth Services (TRACEY TULLY)

Tracey is responsible for developing a model for the ongoing operation of the Network of Aboriginal and Islander Services for young people. She will also produce and maintain a directory of services working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people in Queensland. Other responsibilities include raising issues, responding to policy, and supporting the Murri and Islander Working Party and other organisations.

If any of us can assist you or your organisation in meeting the needs of young people please call us at YANQ on (07) 3852 1800 or 1800 177 899.

National Conference on Unemployment Policy and Practice CALL FOR PAPERS

Policies and practices effect opportunities for change and improvement in all areas of unemployment. Unemployment is a fact of life for many people in Australia, New Zealand, and the Asia-Pacific region. Unemployment impacts dramatically on the lives of individuals, families and society, and ways of dealing with unemployment in different cultures can reduce or worsen these impacts. Unemployed people, psychologists, sociologists, human service workers, health professionals, politicians, economists, doctors, criminologists and the police are among those aware of the serious effects arising from the continuation of unemployment.

Papers are invited from professionals, activists, practitioners, and other interested parties who are working/researching in the field, to be delivered to conference participants who will come from a wide variety of backgrounds.

Papers should not exceed 20 minutes presentation time. Interested presenters are asked to contact one of the conference organisers listed below:

Dr Richard Hicks	(07) 3864 4528
Dr Wendy Patton	(07) 3864 3562
Dr Peter Creed	(07) 3226 9325
Dr John Tomlinson	(07) 3864 4528

NB All presenters and speakers must pay their registration fee. Normal registration fee will be \$250. Early registration by 31 March, \$210. Student/non-waged \$90.

The Conference organisers are keen to encourage presenters from the youth sector.

A message from the new kid on the block...

It's always really difficult to write an article introducing not only yourself, but also talking about the work that you do. I suppose it raises those old issues about trying to utter something both original and profound as well as making yourself vulnerable (even if only in print) to criticism. No matter how constructive it may be, criticism is always hard to swallow, isn't it? Anyway, here goes...

I am commonly known as Tracey (Rawiri) Tully although my full name is indeed much longer, and in itself tells a lot about my own genealogy, about which I am learning more all the time. The whole idea of learning about my cultural heritage, which is quite mixed, is a major factor in my life, for I would be a lost entity if I did not know something of my own ancestry. The way I see it, that knowledge, that personal history, provides me with the confidence to enter the world and fight for what I believe in; or, to put it more poetically, it is an anchor that ensures I always remain grounded in whatever I focus upon.

I have been at YANQ for about six weeks now, having recently taken up the position of coordinator for the Murri and Islander Youth Networking Project. It's a mouthful, I know, and, as you can imagine, the task ahead is enormous. My primary objective will be to build a statewide network and to develop a culturally appropriate and effective infrastructure that will provide a forum for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth sector in Queensland. This will act as a mechanism for advocacy, participation, coordination and information exchange between government departments, the Aboriginal and Islander youth sector and the mainstream youth sector. The purpose is also to enable all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations working with young people in Queensland to inform, negotiate with and influence government and non-government organisations.

I feel very excited about being given the opportunity to pilot such a ground-breaking project and, in more ways than one, I will really be treading on virgin territory. This project is the first to focus on young indigenous people's issues at a level that addresses statewide concerns, as well as supporting and resourcing workers in the youth sector, both indigenous and non-indigenous. I feel that I need not preach to the converted here, though the issues for indigenous young people are compounded by many factors and the statistics speak for themselves.

I will concentrate particularly on the issues of juvenile justice (encompassing deaths in custody and gross indigenous over-representation), housing, education and training, and employment to name but a few. It also goes without saying that while examining these issues, self determination becomes an inherent factor, as does reconciliation (or conciliation as I would rather put it — I don't remember the honeymoon at all!)

The project has been cross-funded by three State Government agencies, those being:

- Department Tourism, Sport and Youth (Youth Bureau)
- Department of Family and Community Services (Office of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs) and
- Department of Housing, Local Government and Planning.

With the support of the Murri and Islander Working Party, key stakeholders and you, I have absolutely no doubt that this project will enjoy a measurable amount of success.

In the early stages of this year, I will be travelling around the state in order to consult with Murri people (especially the islands and in rural and remote areas) as well as people who provide services to young Murris. I hope to gather information on a broad range of topics and will produce a report, with

recommendations on how services can be improved within a social justice framework. Hopefully, this report will serve as a tool with which to lobby for better services across the board and also to point out that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are not a homogenous group. We bleed real blood and we cry real tears. There is intergenerational conflict in our communities at times, the difficulties facing urban Murris are sometimes different from those facing rural Murris as are those facing the people on the islands. We need to gain recognition as much for our differences as for our cultural similarities. And culture is alive and changes just like we do. It is not a static entity.

I am currently setting up a directory of services, Murri, Islander and mainstream, so if you would like your organisation to be included, or know of any organisation in your area that should be included, please send me a short summary of what is available and I would be only too happy to include it in the directory. I am wanting to get a press clipping service up and running by early March and I would be only too happy to hear from you if you would be interested in accessing such a service. Any other ideas for the project will be gratefully accepted so don't hesitate to give me a call. I will give you regular updates on the project, both in the newsletter and the journal.

A happy New Year to you all,

Tracey Tully

Special centre pages

This issue of *Network Noise* includes an excerpt from the Australian Bureau of Statistics newsletter, *Australia's youth*, highlighting statistics on young people in Australia over the past ten years.

If you would like to become a regular subscriber to *Australia's youth*, contact Jeff Carlton or Carrington Shepherd at the National Youth Statistics Unit on (09) 360 5374 or 360 5328, or by fax on (09) 360 5958.

Young people's networks

Thanks to the many young people and workers who responded to our call for information on young people's networks. It is obvious from the feedback received that young people are addressing a wide range of issues which impact on their lives. By identifying existing networks of young people, YANQ will be in a position to share information and support groups in working together on common issues.

If you haven't yet registered your network/group or would like some further information please contact Sandra at YANQ on (07) 3852 1800 or 1800 177 899.

NETWORK	SPONSOR	INTERESTS	CONTACT
Aerosol Art Collective	The Base, Goodna	Recreation, aerosol art, graffiti	Jason Woodward ☎ (07) 3818 3118
Amnesty Youth Network	Amnesty International	Young people's rights, research, fundraising, humanitarian issues, sharing interests	Tim Goodwin ☎ (07) 3221 0221 Fax (07) 3221 0598
BASS Recreation Centre	Bay Accommodation Support Service & Hervey Bay Disability Assistance	Recreation for people with a disability	Mark Magee ☎ (071) 256 711
Charleville Youth Action Group	Charleville & District Community Support Association	Education, health, recreation, employment, Murri & Islander issues, info, young women's issues, research, fundraising, referral	Geoff Meng ☎ (076)543 294 Fax (076)543 240
Funky Business	Gympie Widgee Youth Service.	Education, recreation, employment, Info, young women's issues, research, self employment projects	Sandra ☎ (074)826 188 Fax (074)826098 Email:sandraP@cin.gov.a4
Goondiwindi Youth Council	Care Goondiwindi Association	Raising young peoples profiles, recreation, rights, employment, disability, Murri & Islander issues, info, young women, fundraising	Jodie Stevenson ☎ (076) 713574 Fax (076) 714132
Ingham Youth Forum	Hinchinbrook Community Support Centre	Health, recreation	Crystal Payn ☎ (077) 763 354
Nerang Youth Activity Service	Health Department	Recreation, info provision	Donna ☎ (07)5596 1126 Fax (075)965628
Pine Rivers Youth Project Association	Specific grants	Recreation, young peoples rights	Gen Sec ☎ (074) 916632
Red Cross Youth	Australian Red Cross Queensland	Accommodation, education, health, recreation, rights, employment, disability issues, lesbian/gay issues, Murri & Islander issues, NESB issues, info, young women's issues, research, fundraising	Damon ☎ (07)3835 1251 Fax 3832 2196
Suburban Base Productions	New Zealand Link Australia	Accommodation, education, health, recreation, rights, employment, NESB issues, info, young women's issues, research	Graham Mikaere ☎ (07) 55572 3297
Sunshine Coast Youthworkers forum		Education, employment, info provision, regional issues, mental health	The secretary ☎ (074)445 495 Fax (074)448905
Windsor Community Young Mothers Group	St Marys Support & Accommodation Program	Parenting, young women's issues,	Jenny ☎ (07) 3870 1767
Young Women's Group	Sunshine Coast Youth & Family Services	Education, health, recreation, rights, info, young women's issues and craft	Kristine ☎ (074) 439070 Fax (074)439 430
Youth Activity & Resource Committee	Community Development Services — Stanthorpe	Education, recreation, info provision and fundraising	Kim Lochren ☎/Fax (076)813 777

Anti-Discrimination Commission seeks stronger links with young people

The Queensland Anti-Discrimination Commission wants to establish closer links with key groups in the community, and set up ways of regularly consulting with people who might want to use anti-discrimination legislation.

Many young people are not aware that anti-discrimination laws protect them from unfair discrimination and sexual harassment in many areas of their lives, such as work, or trying to get accommodation. Other young people know the law exists but think that making a complaint would be too difficult.

Feedback received from youth workers tells us that one good way of getting information to young people about their rights and Commission processes is to provide this information to youth workers who can then disseminate it. As a result of this suggestion, the Commission would like to hold an information session for youth workers. The session would be an opportunity for the Commission to provide information about key elements of

anti-discrimination legislation, complaint processes, how young people can be supported in the complaint process and ways of tackling systemic discrimination.

The session would also provide an avenue for youth workers to suggest other strategies to the Commission for reaching young people, to equip them with knowledge about their rights. We are also keen to hear about the main areas in which young people experience discrimination and harassment.

If you would be interested in attending an information session about these issues, please call Margo Couldrey at the Queensland Anti-Discrimination Commission on (07) 3844 6099, or Susan Ferguson at YANQ on (07) 3852 1800 or 1800 177 899.

Young People's Participation Working Party

The YANQ Participation Working Party has met twice so far and already is looking very exciting.

Work from the policy forum has been reviewed and other issues have been raised. There are obviously many arenas where young people's participation is essential; however, the most appropriate place to start is in our own backyard. The group is looking at the current practises of YANQ and will be recommending ways in which YANQ can develop more participatory processes. Other goals are yet to be finalised.

Young people are strongly encouraged to join the working party as are other members of YANQ. The next meeting of the Participation Working Party is Monday 12th February from 3.30 to 5.30. If you require any other info please call Sandra at YANQ.

Support groups for young people in Brisbane

chatts

chatts is a social support network for young lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people (under 27), their friends and families.

chatts has been running since 1993. It provides the opportunity for young people who are 'coming out' to meet others. It also offers a social alternative for people during the week, to meet new people or have a coffee with old friends.

This group is facilitated by the Counselling and Support Chapter of the Youth Services Program. Hence it promotes the underlying philosophies and principles of this association, such as the motto for this chapter: *To offer compassionate, non-judgemental support to those in need and be allowed to merely walk along side.*

The Youth Services Program *does not* see counselling as an opportunity to 'fix' people, but rather as a relationship between people — one offering professional guidance in personal and social matters. The counsellor is present to act as a mediator to help the other clarify exactly what the problem is and assist in identifying solutions.

For further details contact Shaun or Shane at YSP on (07) 3369 9744.

Infonet

InfoNet is another initiative of the Youth Services Program and is facilitated through the Counselling and Support Chapter.

InfoNet is a network of organisations and people interested in being informed on health issues affecting young people. The network is facilitated like a telephone tree through a processing of faxing and/or e-mailing people.

Members of the network will receive warnings of outbreaks within their region and methods of prevention, along with regular updates on health issues such as HIV/AIDS, STD's and other infections.

We are currently calling for expressions of interest from people and groups interested in being a part of this network.

For more details contact Shane at YSP on (07) 3369 9744 or e-mail jake@gil.ipswichcity.qld.gov.au

Youth Services Program Inc

Director's Office

PO Box 352

RED HILL Q 4059 ☎ (07) 3369 9744

Children, crime and justice in Queensland

A report by the Queensland Criminal Justice Commission released on 26 September 1995

Background

The CJC published a discussion and information paper in 1992 entitled *Youth, crime and justice in Queensland*. Since then, a number of significant changes to the Queensland juvenile justice system have occurred. In particular the introduction of the *Juvenile Justice Act 1992* and the *Children's Court Act 1992* in September 1993 established a new policy and legislative framework for juvenile justice in Queensland.

The CJC Report, *Children, crime and justice in Queensland*, updates the statistics presented in the original CJC paper and examines the operation and effect of the new legislation.

The paper considers issues such as:

- the framework for juvenile justice in Queensland
- the types of crimes committed by children and the comparison of juvenile offending patterns with adult offending
- the relationship of children who commit crime with the police and courts
- the question of whether some children are more at risk than others of appearing in court
- the impact of the *Juvenile Justice Act 1992*.

A summary of the key conclusions

Juvenile offenders involvement in crime

Police data (that is, reported crime) shows that between 1991-92 and 1993-94, there has been a slight overall increase in the volume of crimes identified as involving juveniles. Features of these trends are:

- 70 per cent of crimes are property related (the most common offence is shoplifting, which accounts for 20 per cent of all juvenile offences)
- most juvenile crime is committed in

groups

- there were significant increases in relatively low volume offences (assaults and drug offences)
- males are responsible for 80 per cent of juvenile offending.

The media has chosen to highlight sub component areas such as offences against the person, and drug offences, as having major increases, rather than citing the overall effect.

These figures relate to police contact with young offenders. Appearances before Courts in the prior 1988-89 to 1993-94, adjusted for population growth show virtually no change in the rate per 1,000 aged 10-16 years. The report states 'these data indicate a relatively stable level of juvenile crime'.

Methods of processing young offenders

The report notes some positive advances. One of the key objectives of the *Juvenile Justice Act 1992* was to have police consider other methods of processing young offenders than by arrest.

The report indicates that 'the arrest rate in 1993-94 was below that for the previous two years when around 45 per cent of young offenders were arrested.'

This is a positive outcome highlighting that cautioning is used more often by police, and police are using attendance notices and complaint and summons as alternatives to arrest for young offenders.

Sentencing

The report highlights the difficulties in youth detention centre services. It reports that:

- between January 1993 and December 1994, the actual number of children in custody on sentence remained fairly static but the number of children in custody on remand doubled; and

- from December 1980 to March 1994 the number of children in custody in Australia declined by 37.8 per cent whereas in Queensland the number remained relatively unchanged.

The report points to some reasons for this trend, including the requirement for pre-sentence reports and changes in summary jurisdiction of the Children's Courts where more cases are going to Higher Courts.

Over-representation of Aboriginal Children in Juvenile Justice System

The report highlights the over-representation of Aboriginal and Islander children in the juvenile justice:

- in 1993-94, 33.7 per cent of all final appearances of children in Queensland Courts were by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, even though such children constituted 3.6 per cent of the persons aged 10-16 years.
- Aboriginal children accounted for over half of the approximately 140 children in custody
- Aboriginal children figured disproportionately in supervised court orders compared to non-Aboriginal children; and
- Aboriginal children were ten times more likely to appear in court.

The level of over-representation in Queensland is consistent with other States. A study conducted in New South Wales found that, when all factors considered at sentencing were controlled, Aboriginal children did not receive harsher sentences than non-Aboriginal children. The problem exists at the 'front end' with Aboriginal children coming into the system at a younger age and staying in the system longer.

Wally Dethlefs
Youth Justice Coalition

Local Cultural & Festival Grants Program

The Brisbane City Council invites applications for its 1996 Local Cultural and Festival Grants Program. The program will provide financial assistance to community groups to develop projects, festivals and special events that relate to the cultural development of neighbourhoods and/or specific communities.

Priority will be given to projects, festivals and special cultural events which:-

- are developed by the community;
- reflect local cultural needs; and
- demonstrate community support and participation in the development, planning and management of projects and events.

A workshop for intending applicants will be held at:
Sherwood Room, Brisbane City Hall,
6.30pm to 8.30pm,
Thursday, 22 February, 1996.

For a copy of the guidelines, an application form, and to RSVP for the workshop, contact the Community Development Branch on 3403 5457.

Closing date: 29 March, 1996.

Our Business - A Better Brisbane



9601121509

Freebies!

YANQ has heaps of copies of the two posters produced by the *Stop Violence Against Women* campaign. If you would like some copies (free!), please contact us at YANQ on (07) 3852 1800 or 1800 177 899.

We also have a limited number of copies of *the neXt generation* newsletter, which was posted out to members with the last issue of *Network Noise*. If you would like a few extra copies, give us a call on (07) 3852 1800 or 1800 177 899.



ATTENTION — ALL YOUNG PEOPLE AGED BETWEEN 5 AND 17 YEARS...

If you would like to:

- enhance your confidence
- strengthen your personal and educational growth
- make new friends and have a lot of fun
- raise much needed funds for Queenslanders with a disability
- have the opportunity to win lots of great prizes...

The Junior Australian Award is for you!

The Junior Australian Award is an exciting new fundraising initiative for the Queensland Spastic Welfare League, with an emphasis on the development of young people.

You and your family have the opportunity to participate in many different fundraising activities and win lots of cool prizes.

Another important aspect of the Junior Australian Awards is that you will gain a knowledge and understanding about disabilities, particularly **Cerebral Palsy**.

If you would like more information, or would like to participate in the 1996 Junior Australian Awards, please do not hesitate to call me on (07) 3358 8027.

Hope to hear from you soon, warmest regards,
Tania Collins

AYPAC Update

The AYPAC National Representative Board met last October and is due to meet again in February. The most pressing issues for AYPAC currently are the looming Federal election and preparation for the second National Youth Gathering.

An election strategy kit is being developed to equip young people and youth services with questions to put to aspiring politicians in order to elicit their position on youth issues. A series of forums in four key marginal electorates are being organised. The forums will cover youth unemployment, industrial issues, income support and homelessness. Local candidates will be asked to present proposals on creating jobs for young people in their electorates, after which the ALP Ministers and Coalition Shadow Ministers will be invited to present their major policy initiatives to young people.

A National Youth Gathering is currently being organised and is to be held in Melbourne at the end of August. This is the second gathering of its type. The first was held in Sydney in 1994 and attended by a large number of young people from across the country.

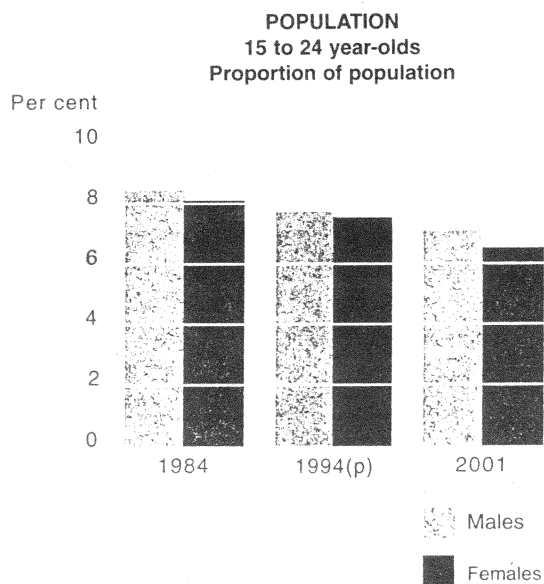
Penny Carr
Policy and Research Coordinator

YOUTH in AUSTRALIA 1985 to 1995

Ten years have passed since International Youth Year in 1985. This article compares some of the major aspects of young people's lives and the changes impacting on them over the decade.

Population

Australia's population is ageing. 15 to 24 year-olds are making up an increasingly smaller proportion of the population.



Source: ABS Cat. No. 3201.0; 3222.0

- In 1984 the estimated resident population of 15 to 24 year-olds in Australia was over 2.6 million, representing 16.9 per cent of the total population.
- In preliminary estimates at 30 June 1994 it was 2.7 million, representing 15.3 per cent of the total population.
- Population projections (Series A) estimate that by 2001 the youth population will be 2.6 million, or about 13.7 per cent of the population.

Family and living arrangements

Moving away from the parental home has traditionally been a determining feature of independence and commencement of adult life. In the last decade, higher participation rates at tertiary institutions, and opting to marry and to start families later have contributed to significant changes in the patterns of young people leaving home.

Proportion of 15 to 24 year-olds living with parents(a)

Year	Males		Females		Persons	
	15-19	20-24	15-19	20-24	15-19	20-24
- per cent -						
1982	87.5	47.9	80.8	28.1	84.2	41.0
1992	91.3	54.9	86.5	39.7	88.9	47.4

a) Excludes a small number of persons with a partner or child of their own who lived with their parent(s).

Source: ABS Cat No. 4420.0

In 1992, 89 per cent of people aged 15 to 19 years were living with at least one parent, compared with 84 per cent in 1982.

For 20 to 24 year-olds, 47 per cent were living with at least one parent in 1992, compared with 41 per cent in 1982.

This change was most pronounced for women aged 20 to 24 years. In 1982, 28 per cent of women in this age group were living with parents. In 1992, this proportion had increased to 40 per cent.

Over the same period, the proportion of young males aged 20 to 24 years living with their parents increased from 48 per cent to 55 per cent.

Cause of death

The number of deaths among Australia's 15 to 24 year-olds fell from 2,297 in 1983, to 1,876 in 1993. The major contributor to this decrease was in the number of deaths from motor vehicle traffic accidents.

In 1983, this was the the main cause of death among Australia's youth (46 per cent of all deaths), but by 1993, although still the leading cause, motor vehicle accident deaths had fallen to 32 per cent (599 deaths).

Offsetting this positive outcome, however, was an increase in the number of youth suicides - from 292 in 1983 to 400 in 1993.

Deaths at age 15 to 24 years: Main causes

Selected causes of death	1983	1993
Cancer	159	131
Motor vehicle traffic accidents	1 056	599
Suicide	292	400
All causes	2 297	1 876

Source: ABS Cat No. 3303.0

Education

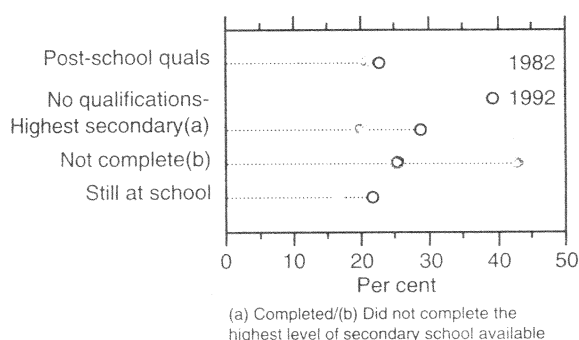
Educational attendance: 15 to 24 year-olds (per cent)

	May 1984	May 1994
Attending school	19.9	23.7
Attending tertiary institutions -		
Full-time	8.5	16.4
Part-time	9.6	8.3
All 15 to 24 year-olds attending education institutions	38.0	48.4

Source: ABS Cat No. 6227.0

Education is an important element of the lives of many young people. Almost half of all 15 to 24 year-olds were attending educational institutions in May 1994, compared with 38 per cent in 1984.

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT: 15 to 24 year-olds



Source: ABS Cat No. 6235.0

Commensurate with young people's increasing involvement in education, there have been marked changes in the levels of educational attainment by young people since 1982.

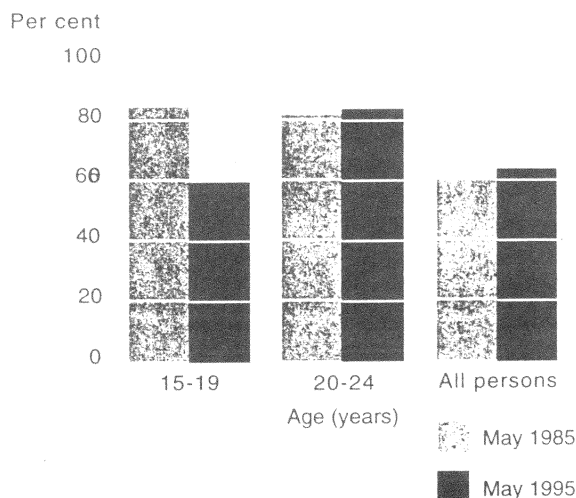
The proportion of 15 to 24 year-olds with post-school qualifications increased from 21 to 23 per cent and those still at school from 16 to 22 per cent.

Even among those without post-school qualifications, the proportion who completed the highest level of secondary school increased, from 20 per cent to 29 per cent of all youth.

Working life

As an increased proportion of young people stay on at school or enter tertiary education, there has been an accompanying fall in the labour force participation rate for 15 to 19 year-olds. In 1985, 84 per cent of this age group were employed or looking for work. By 1995, this proportion had fallen to 59 per cent.

LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATES



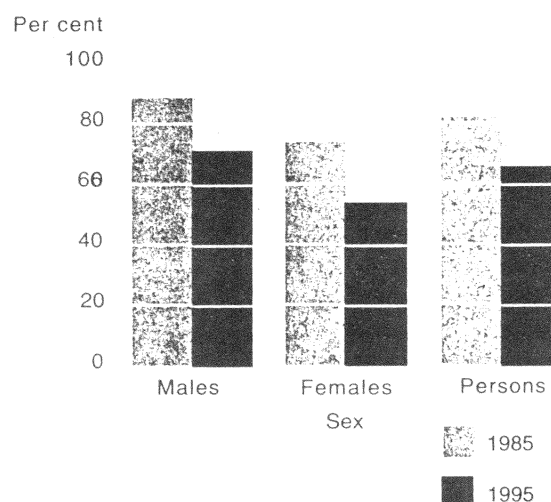
Source: ABS Cat No. 6203.0

There was also a substantial decline in the proportion who were working full-time, particularly for 15 to 19 year olds.

Among all employed 15 to 24 year-olds, 82 per cent were working full-time in May 1985, but only 64 per cent in May 1995. In 1985, 70 per cent of employed 15 to 19 year-olds were employed full-time, but this declined to 40 per cent in May 1995.

FULL TIME EMPLOYMENT 15 to 24 year-olds

Full-time employed as a proportion of all employed



Source: ABS Cat No. 6203.0

The unemployment rate among 15 to 24 year-olds remains higher than in the total labour force.

Almost 21 per cent of 15 to 19 year-olds, and 12 per cent of 20 to 24 year-olds in the labour force were unemployed in May 1995. The rate for the total labour force was 8.4 per cent, as it was in May 1985.

Reprinted with the kind permission of the National Youth Statistics Unit, Australian Bureau of Statistics

Access and equity development project

In 1993, the South East Queensland Youth Accommodation Coalition (SEQYAC) undertook research into the accommodation and support needs of young people who are of non-English speaking backgrounds (NESB). The research was funded and carried out in response to existing Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP) priorities. The purpose was to document concerns about young NESB people's access to accommodation and support services.

Findings of the research were published in 1994, in a report entitled *Accommodating Difference: the accommodation and support needs of young people of a non-English speaking background in South East Queensland* (available from SEQYAC).

The report discusses the social isolation and marginalisation experienced by young NESB people and the factors which contribute to this, including: racism, low incomes, problems in acquiring English language proficiency, unemployment, traumatic pre-migration experiences, living 'between two cultures', and potential conflicts concerning traditional family values between parents and children of NESB background.

The research, along with numerous other studies, also reports the fact that young NESB people have a very low rate of use and participation in services that exist to assist all young people. Young NESB people in need do not access mainstream services, including youth accommodation options.

As recommended in the report, SEQYAC received funding from the Department of Family and Community Services to undertake this Access and Equity Development Project as a pilot.

The vision of the project is to explore the issues of access and equity beyond the research and needs-analysis stage and take these to the broader level of development and implementation.

Project aims and objectives

- To work in collaboration with a number of youth accommodation services funded under Supported

Accommodation Assistance (SAAP) and facilitate the development of access and equity policies relating to young people of non-English speaking backgrounds (NESB) within these agencies.

- To facilitate SAAP-funded youth accommodation services to become more accessible to and actively inclusive of young people of non-English speaking backgrounds
- To explore and document models of access and equity policy development and implementation
- To establish models of practice which incorporate access and equity principles and procedures within the youth accommodation context.

A major long-term aim of the project is the progressive development and maintenance of an organisational ethos and culture within the participating youth accommodation services that is comfortable with and responsive to cultural, religious and linguistic diversity.

Time frame

October 1995–October 1996

Project geographical boundaries

South East Queensland which includes Toowoomba, Gympie, Sunshine Coast, Gold Coast, Brisbane and all areas in between.

Immediate project outcomes

- Participating organisations will have written an access and equity policy relevant to NESB young people for the organisation
- Participating organisations will have written an access and equity policy relevant to NESB young people for the organisation

- Participating organisations will have identified strategies to ensure that their service is inclusive of, and more accessible to, NESB young people.
- A document outlining the process adopted throughout the project and issues arising will be produced.
- A document which identifies models of policy development and implementation in community-based organisations within the framework of access and equity for young NESB people will be produced.

What is access and equity? What does it mean for community-based organisations?

Access and equity is a policy term which has relevance and implications for service delivery and work practices.

Access refers to fair and equal access to quality services, that is, services need to be planned, managed, delivered and promoted in ways that ensure all people feel welcome to use that service, and that services are delivered in an appropriate manner to the user.

Equity refers to fairness in the distribution of resources and power; basically a 'fair share'. What this means for community-based services is that resources such as people, information, programs, funds, are made available to everyone, not just for certain groups of people.

Who are young people of non-English speaking backgrounds?

Young people of non-English speaking backgrounds (NESB) are people who were born in countries where English is





not the first language and reside in Australia, or were born in Australia and have one or both parents born in a country where English is not the first language.

The term does not denote the young person's English language proficiency. The young person may or may not be conversant in the English language. Rather, the term is used to refer to a person's cultural background.

Young NESB people also have varying degrees of familiarity and comfort in functioning in Australian society, depending on the individual.

Defining young NESB people as being such, however, does not mean that these young people are a homogenous group. They are, in fact, a very diverse group in their cultural, religious and linguistic make-up.

How the project works

How the project goes about working with 'demonstration models' is dependent on the organisation itself. In order to be relevant and effective in facilitating awareness and policy development within organisations, the project seeks to build on the resources presently existing within the organisation. The project is, therefore, designed and based on the existing structures, time frame and approaches of the organisation.

In addressing access and equity for young NESB people in youth accommodation services, the project, in collaboration with participating organisations, will strive to examine the organisation's structures, policies, work practices and approaches, and identify ways in which services can become more accessible to NESB young people on a more equitable basis.

Role of participating organisations

Staff and management of participating organisations will guide the project's development and make it work for

them. The task of developing policy and standards is the work of the people of the organisation. It is these people who are central to the organisation and should, therefore, own the process and outcomes of the exercise.

NESBYIN update

Last November, members of the Non-English Speaking Background Youth Issues Network met to look at what has been accomplished over the past year of the project.

The meeting was well attended and the agenda was very full. We managed to agree on the four main aims for the coming year. These are as follows:

- to encourage and resource NESB young people to participate in self advocacy and policy development
- to advocate and provide advice on policy issues relating to NESB young people's needs, with a focus on newly arrived and isolated young people
- to develop an appropriate infrastructure for NESB youth affairs across the state, in consultation with key stakeholders
- to provide an information and referral source for service providers on relevant issues and data, in relation to the settlement needs of NESB young people.

Each of these goals has a number of different strategies attached which will mean that Susan will have a very full work load. However, the good news is that, at the end of January, she will be working full-time on the project instead of trying to fit the work into part-time hours. Susan will be writing an end-of-project report about her work over the past twelve months and this will be available from YANQ in the near future.

One of the main projects this year for NESBYIN will be to consult with young people about the possibility of linking

The 'demonstration models' will therefore need to invest and commit resources, time, effort and plenty of enthusiasm and commitment to the project, its ideals, goals and the projected outcomes.

Role of the project worker

The role of the project worker is that of a resource person, a facilitator and an organiser.

For further information

Contact Trang Nguyen, Project worker, at SEQYAC on (07) 3252 2555.

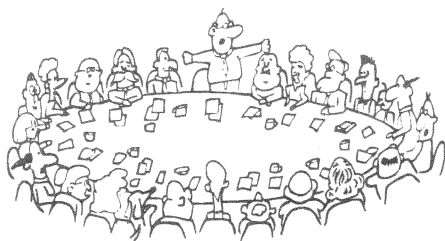
up more formally with NESBYIN. There will be a lot of contact between NESBYIN and the Youth Participation Working Party within YANQ.

Another project which Susan will be working on with NESBYIN members is developing a professional development peer support project. Francine Seeto is in the process of finalising her report about the training and professional development needs of workers working with young people from non-English speaking backgrounds. One of the outcomes is that members are keen to develop their skills through participating in group supervision meetings. These groups would consist of NESB workers and mainstream workers and could provide a space for workers to share ideas and information about cross cultural youth work skills as well as building links between mainstream youth workers and workers within ethno-specific agencies.

Please call Susan at YANQ if you would like any further information about any of the points raised in this update.

The next NESBYIN meeting is on Tuesday 13 February at Yungaba, 120 Main St, Kangaroo Point from 3.00pm-5.00pm. Hope to see you there.

**Susan Ferguson
Project Coordinator
NESB Youth issues**



Regional interagency meetings

February–March 1996

Regional Queensland interagency meetings

Cairns Region Youth Services Network

29 February 1996 at 3.30pm
FRS, McLeod Street, Cairns

Contact Diane Forsyth
Youth Service Providers Inc
PO Box 7479, Cairns 4870
PH: (070) 519 627

Central West Youth Network

29 February 1996 at 10.00am
Blackall

Contact Julie Hoey
c/- DTSY
PO Box 218
Longreach 4730
PH: (076) 581 888

Youth Services Interagency

Not available
Youth Access Centre,
Fitzroy Street, Rockhampton

Contact Tricia Miller
Youth Access Centre
PO Box 1331
Rockhampton 4700
PH: (079) 227 107

Mt Isa Youth Forum

7 February 1996 at 9.30am
Education Centrm, Mt Isa

Contact Youth Development Officer
C/- DTSY
PO Box 1605
Mt Isa 4825
PH: (077) 432 130

Gladstone Youth Interagency

Not available
Neighbourhood Centre
105 Toolooa St, Gladstone

Contact Gail Law
Gladstone City Council
PO Box 29
Gladstone 4680
PH: (079) 724 855

Bundaberg Youth Forum

Not available
Ed Centre, 111 Targo Street
Bundaberg

Contact Tony Langmaid
C/- Training & Employment Qld
PO Box 935
Bundaberg 4670
PH: (071) 537 150

SunCoast Youthworkers Forum

21 March 1996 at 10.00am
The Place, Beach Street,
Maroochydore

Contact Patrice O'Callaghan
C/- Youth Access Centre
PO Box 1174
Maroochydore 4558
PH: (074) 420 888

Gold Coast Youth Network

28 February 1996 at 10.30am
Gold Coast Youth Service
15 Oak Ave, Miami

Contact Kerry Schonfisch
Gold Coast Youth Service
PO Box 740
Burleigh Heads 4220
PH: (07) 5572 0400

Beaundesert Interagency

7 February 1996 at 9.30am
Illoura Centre
31 Duckett St, Beaundesert

Contact Marg Moss
C/- Beaundesert Community
House, 4 Davis Street
Beaundesert 4285
PH: (07)5541 3762

Toowoomba Youth Organisation Network

Not available
Student transitions program,
Albert St, Newtown

Contact Ed Bradbury
Department of Education
PO Box 775
Toowoomba 4350
PH: (076) 384 899

Magnetic North Youth Service Providers

Not available
TAFE, City Campus, Room A212

Contact Karyn Buosi
Townsville City Council
PO Box 1268
Townsville 4810
PH: (077) 714 431

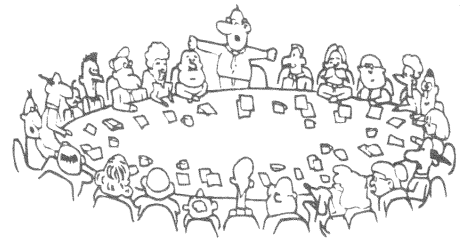
Mackay Youth Connection & Network Inc

Not available
YACCA, 10 River St, Mackay

Contact Anne Butcher
Dept of Tourism, Sport and Youth
PO Box 239
Mackay 4740
PH: (079) 518 727

Regional interagency meetings

February–March 1996



South-east Queensland interagency meetings

Redlands Youth Network

19 February 1996 at 2.00pm
CES, 27 Mt Cotton Road,
Capalaba

Contact: Bettina McGrath

C/- Redlands CES
27 Mt Cotton Road
Capalaba Q 4157
PH: (07) 3245 9333

Caboolture Youth Network

21 February 1996 at 1.00pm
Youth Access Centre,
11 Haskings Street, Caboolture

Contact Peter Nickson

C/- Youth Access Centre
PO Box 482
Caboolture 4510
PH: (074) 908 077

Logan Youth Interagency

30 January 1996 at 3.00pm
Logan Regional Resource
Centre, Woodridge

Contact Pat Taylor

C/- Youth Access Centre
PO Box 645
Woodridge 4114
PH: (07) 3808 7242

Wynnum Youth Interagency

15 February 1996 at 2.00pm
Community Corrections Office
2/71 Clara Street Wynnum

Contact Bettina McGrath

C/- Redlands CES
27 Mt Cotton Road
Capalaba Q 4157
PH: (07) 3245 9333

Youth Issues Task Group

Not available

Contact Rachel Robinson

The Base
PO Box 228
Goodna 4300
PH: (07)3818 3118

Brisbane Youth Interagency

Not available

Contact: Sgt Mike Colby

City Police Station

PH: (07) 3258 2402

Inala Youth Interagency LARGEFLY

8 February 1996 at 1.00pm
CES Conference Room, cnr
Corsair Ave & Civic Centre, Inala

Contact John Rigsby-Jones

C/- Inala Youth & Family Support
Service
PO Box 141
Inala 4077
PH: (07) 3372 2655

Ipswich Youth Focus

7 February 1996 at 12.00pm
West Moreton Community
Health Auditorium, Bell St,
Ipswich 4305

Contact Michelle Ruthenberg

C/- TEQ
PO Box 669
Ipswich 4305
PH: (07) 3812 2359

North Albert Youth Interagency

Not available

Contact to be advised

C/- RAP
PO Box 952
Beenleigh 4027
PH: (07) 3807 4875

conferences

workshops

conferences

Cross-cultural training

The Queensland Centre for Cross Cultural Development is running the following courses in February:

Brisbane (Yungaba Reception Centre)

Cross-cultural communications
12 February
Teaching cross-cultural communication skills
13 February
Working with interpreters
15 February
Housing for a Multicultural Society
27 February
Cross-cultural communication & conflict resolution
28 February-1 March

Townsville (venue to be advised)

Cross-cultural communications
25 March
Teaching cross-cultural communication skills
26 March

For more information about these courses, contact the Centre on (07) 3406 2023 or (07) 3406 2011. Fax (07) 3406 2070.

Lesbian and gay youth issues

A series of three workshops is to be held in February 1996, looking at issues that youth workers face when dealing with lesbian, gay, bi-sexual and transgendered young people.

Brisbane

Date: 9 February 1996
Venue: Warilda Conference Centre

Sunshine Coast

Date: 16 February 1996
Venue: Maroochydore Neighbourhood Centre

Gold Coast

Date: 23 February 1996
Venue: Stevens Community Centre

For more information, contact Lesa at the Gay and Lesbian Welfare Association ☎ (07) 3844 1393.

Tax Obligations for Employers

A half-day workshop for anyone in the community services industry responsible for employing staff.

Date: 6 March 1996
Venue: Conference Room, Level 1
Cnr Amelia St & St Pauls Tce, Fortitude Valley

For more information, contact Youth Sector Training Council, PO Box 459, Fortitude Valley 4006 ☎ (07) 3852 2311

Rights, ethics and justice for people with disabilities

The theme for this national conference is 'refining the principles and making them a reality'.

Dates: 11-12 April 1996
Venue: Mercure Hotel, North Quay, Brisbane

For more information, contact Amanda-Rose Arnett, Centre for Crime Policy and Public Safety, Griffith University 4111 ☎ (07) 3875 6808.

Dealing with the media

Gold Coast Youth Network Forum presents a workshop designed for anyone who currently deals with the media and/or those who wish to access the media.

Date: 8 February 1996
Venue: Stephens Community Centre, Lyn Muller Lane, Stephens

For more information, contact Kerry or Tracey at the Gold Coast Youth Service ☎ (07) 5572 0400

National conference on unemployment

Policy and practice

Dates: 13-15 June 1996
Venue: QUT, Carseldine Campus

For more information, contact Dr Richard Hicks, Conference Convenor, School of Social Science, Carseldine 4034 ☎ (07) 3864 4528 Fax (07) 3864 4995.

The CJC and you

How the CJC fights fraud and corruption in our community

The CJC was set up six years ago after allegations were made about fraud and corruption in the Queensland Police Service and the Queensland government. This session will discuss:

- What has happened since then?
- Is there still fraud and corruption in Queensland?
- What is the CJC doing about it?
- What you can do to help?

Date: 12 March 1996
Venue: Brisbane Migrant Resource Centre, 126 Boundary Street, West End Q 4101

For more information contact the Brisbane Migrant Resource Centre on ☎ (07) 3844 8144

South Bank youth action research project

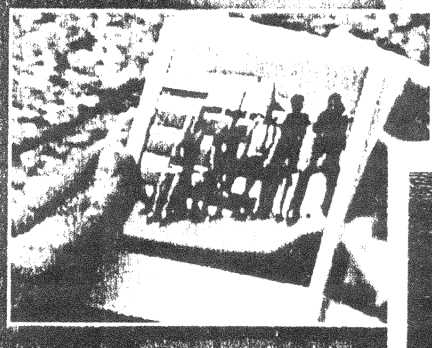
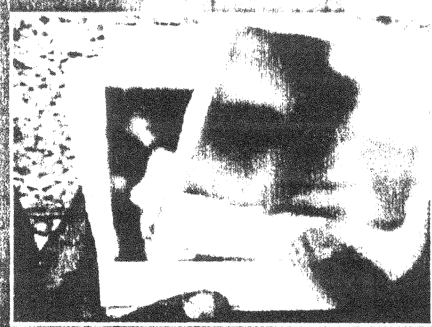
Young people and public space in inner Brisbane

This report presents the findings of a pilot project developed as a response to conflicts with young people in the South Bank Parklands, particularly during the summer of 1993-94.

The project adopted a cross-disciplinary approach involving Feral Arts and the Queensland University of Technology.

The aim of the project was to broaden the understanding of the ways in which and the reasons why young people use South Bank and the Queen Street Mall, and also to suggest some ways to reduce levels of conflict. The report presents the project findings and a series of recommendations.

For more information about the report, contact Feral Arts, 109 Edward Street, Brisbane 4000 ☎ (07) 3221 6557 Fax (07) 3221 4375.



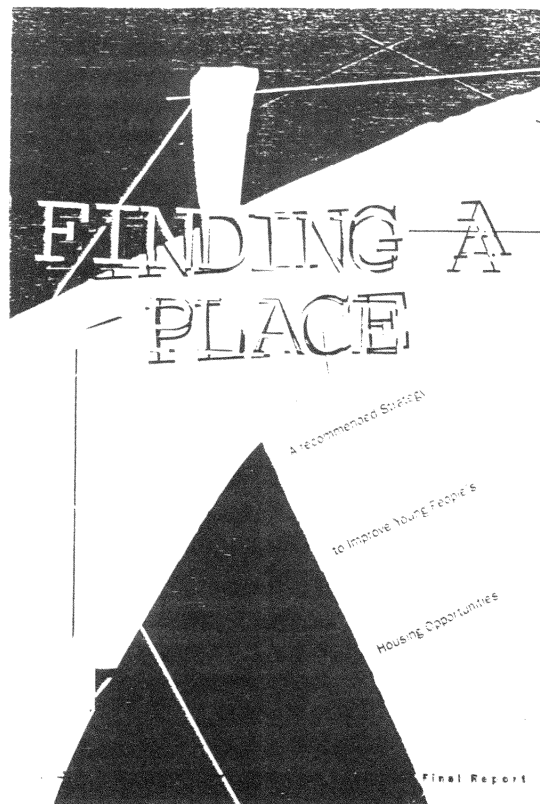
Finding a place

A recommended strategy to improve young people's housing opportunities

This National Youth Housing Strategy report, prepared by AGB McNair, has been developed following four separate consultation processes. These involved young people, youth housing service providers, community groups, government and industry.

The NYHS report details goals, objectives and recommendations across a wide range of areas including affordability, access to housing, improving the supply of housing and support and coordination.

Available free of charge from Commonwealth Department of Housing and Regional Development, GPO Box 9834, Brisbane 4001 ☎ (07) 3360 2936



Youth Data Index

This is the first Queensland government youth data index, developed by the Youth Bureau, Department of Tourism, Sport and Youth in conjunction with the Government Statisticians Office.

It has been designed as a reference guide for those seeking data about young people, and is an effective reference guide to youth affairs data held by Queensland government agencies and universities.

Available free from the Youth Bureau, GPO Box 354, Brisbane Q 4001 ☎ (07) 3224 3006.

1996 calendar designed by young women

A group of young women from Brisbane have worked with a community artist to produce a Calendar for 1996. It's groovy — it's green and purple, with pictures of the young women and their designs all over it.

Available for \$10 (including postage) from Zig-Zag, Young Women's Resource Centre,
575 Old Cleveland Road, Camp Hill 4152
☎ (07) 3843 1823.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people

The latest issue of *Youth Studies Australia* looks at Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people. It includes articles about improving understanding of Aboriginal young people, experiences of Aboriginal young people in the juvenile justice system, and working towards reconciliation.

Copies of this journal are available from Youth Studies Australia, National Clearinghouse for Youth Studies, GPO Box 252C, Hobart Tas 7001.

Ethnic Minority Youth in Australia: Challenges and Myths

This book brings together a wide range of contributions on issues relevant to ethnic minority young people. These issues reveal a great deal about the basic institutions, processes and structures of Australian society and the way in which we are dealing with questions of social justice, equity and human rights.

Edited by Carmel Guerra, Ethnic Youth Issues Network and Rob White, Lecturer in Criminology at Melbourne University.

Available for \$32 (includes p & h) from the National Clearinghouse for Youth Studies, GPO Box 252C, Hobart Tas 7001



STOP PRESS!

TRUANCY AND EXCLUSION FROM SCHOOL REPORT

The report from the Commonwealth inquiry into truancy and exclusion of children and young people from school has just been released. A review of the report will appear in the next issue of *Network Noise*.

Limited copies of the report are available from the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Employment, Education and Training, Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2601.
☎ (06) 277 4573 Fax (06) 277 4427

YOUTH AFFAIRS NETWORK OF QUEENSLAND INC

WHAT IS YANQ?

The Youth Affairs Network of Queensland (YANQ) Inc. is the independent, non-government umbrella organisation of groups and individuals from Queensland's youth sector.

Operational since 1989, YANQ was incorporated in January 1991. The Network acts to promote the interests and well-being of young people in Queensland, especially disadvantaged young people. It advocates for them to government and the community and encourages the development of policies and programs responsive to the needs of young people.

YANQ also supports the development of regional networks in the non-government youth sector. It is YANQ's view that the development of stronger networks will lead to better services for young people as information and skills are shared.

YANQ consists of over 450 individual and organisational members throughout Queensland, including youth services, advocacy groups, church groups and community organisations with interests in areas as diverse as juvenile justice, housing, health, rural issues, young people with disabilities, young women's issues and young people from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-English speaking backgrounds. Associate members are drawn from federal, state and local government bodies.

WHAT DOES YANQ DO?

YANQ employs three core staff and a number of project staff in its Brisbane-based secretariat. It undertakes a variety of activities designed to raise the profile of and encourage action on issues affecting young people. Activities include:

- submissions to government reviews
- making representations to government and other influential bodies
- undertaking campaigns and lobbying
- consulting and liaising with members and the field
- publishing newsletters and journals
- initiating projects
- disseminating information to members and the field
- providing training and
- cooperating with interstate and national youth affairs bodies.

HOW DOES YANQ WORK?

YANQ is managed by a Coordinating Committee elected by the Ordinary (non-government) membership to oversee its day-to-day operation and supervision of staff.

YANQ holds a Policy Forum at least once a year at which delegates representing the membership give direction for YANQ's policy-making and activities for the next twelve months. Delegates to Policy Forum must be Ordinary members.

YANQ working parties on specific issues may be formed at any time during the year. Any interested member may participate in such working parties.

YANQ's decision making processes are based on a consensus model.

YANQ PUBLICATIONS

NEWSLETTER

Network Noise is the bi-monthly newsletter of YANQ. Members are encouraged to contribute to the newsletter which is ideal for communicating news on • training events • youth programs • interagency or youth forum meetings • publications and resources • positions vacant • changes of address. *Network Noise* is distributed to subscribers and YANQ members only.

JOURNAL

transitions is the YANQ journal published three times per year. It presents in-depth articles on research and topical issues of relevance to youth affairs, both in Queensland and nationally. It is an ideal forum for youth service providers to describe and analyse their work. *transitions* is distributed to subscribers and members only.

WHO CAN JOIN?

Membership of YANQ is open to anyone with a proven interest in youth affairs

ORDINARY MEMBERSHIP

Is available to individuals and organisations from the **non-government** sector and entitles you to • nominate for the Coordinating Committee and Policy Forum • full voting rights; • six newsletters and three journals per year • information on campaigns and reviews • opportunities to participate in YANQ workshops.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Is available to individuals, departments and services from local, state or federal **government** and entitles you to • six newsletters and three journals per year • information on campaigns and reviews • opportunities to participate in YANQ workshops. Associate members do not have voting rights and cannot nominate for the Coordinating Committee or Policy Forum.

SUBSCRIBERS

Subscribers receive six newsletters and three journals per year.

MEMBERSHIP FEES PER ANNUM

Young person		\$5.00
Individual	Income < \$16,000	\$10.00
	Income \$16,000–\$50,000	\$25.00
	Income \$50,000<	\$40.00
Non-government Organisation		
	No funding	\$10.00
	Funding < \$100,000	\$40.00
	Funding \$100,000<	\$60.00
Government	Department or Service	\$75.00
Subscribers <i>transitions & Network Noise</i>		\$60.00

Membership fees are due and payable on a calendar year basis (covering the period 1 January–31 December)

YANQ MEMBERSHIP / SUBSCRIPTION FORM

(Contact) Name: _____

Organisation / Dept: _____

Postal Address: _____ Code: _____

Street Address: _____ Code: _____

Ph: () _____ Fax: () _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY APPLIED FOR

Individual	Income < \$16,000	N-G <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt <input type="checkbox"/>	\$10.00
	\$16,000 - \$50,000	N-G <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt <input type="checkbox"/>	\$25.00
	Income > \$50,000	N-G <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt <input type="checkbox"/>	\$40.00

Organisation	No Funding	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$10.00
	Funding < \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$40.00
	Funding > \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$60.00

Young Person ☐ \$5.00

Government Department or Service ☐ \$75.00

SUBSCRIBERS

Transitions & Network Noise only

☐ \$60.00

Please tick if appropriate

ATSI individual/organisation ☐

NESB individual/organisation ☐

I hereby subscribe to the aim and objectives of YANQ and enclose a cheque/money order for the prescribed membership/subscription fee.

Signed _____ Date _____

Membership applications must be approved by the YANQ Coordinating Committee

Please return Membership/Subscription Form to: YANQ, PO Box 116, Fortitude Valley Qld 4006