



Collarenebri Water Awareness 9th of December 2008

WAMS held a Water Awareness Day at the Collarenebri Swimming Pool, the goal being to raise awareness on pool safety and to promote sun protection.

The day was started at 10.30 by Paul Peters of the Land Council. Students were divided into groups and rotated between activities every 15 minutes. Each group was spoken to by WAMS Dentist regarding the importance of good dental hygiene.

The Ambulance, State Emergency Service and the Fire Brigade attended this event and gave talks to the students about their role, and also a supervised tour of their vehicles. Whilst pool manager Seth Riely provided the students some basic information on safety skills in the water for infants and primary school students.

For morning tea the students were provided with fruit platters that were donated by GWAHS Walgett Hospital, iced water was also available. A BBQ lunch was provided, this was prepared and cooked by WAMS Director, Lawrence Walford.

Students were given a half hour free time, many made use of the pool, some played outdoor games/activities with Dental staff, others sat in groups and talked, some students interacted with community members and health providers.

Presentations were made to the winners of a colouring competition for students from Kindergarten through to Yr 6.

The winners were:

K-1:	First place:	Kelsey Lamb
	Second place:	Terri Lee Murphy
	Third place:	Casey Linke
Yrs 2,3, + 4:	First place:	Liam Peters
	Second place:	David Cunningham
	Third place:	Will Simmonds
Yrs 4,5 + 6:	First place:	Jasmine Standing
	Second Place:	Jayden Flick
	Third place:	Lane Simmonds

It was decided that the Secondary Students would design a water awareness poster after this event. This was conducted, the following secondary students are the winners:

Year 7:	Russell Cunningham
Year 8:	Marley Adams
Year 9:	Stephen Moore
Year 10:	Joseph Dixon

Promotional bags were made up and given out by WAMS included water bottles, clackers, tattoos, bubbles, pencil cases, note books, WAMS hats, cancer council hats, sunglasses and sunscreen. WAMS Dental staff also provided give aways which contained information packs with contact numbers in the event of a Dental emergency, toothbrushes, toothpaste, colour in pages, puzzles and quizzes. Invited guests for the day were also presented with a special bag filled with a WAMS mug, key ring, note book, pen and WAMS hat. The Cancer Council of Australia were also contacted, providing free posters and literature.

Local businesses provided the catering, while equipment was provided by GWAHS Collarenebri, CDEP, The Land Council, Collarenebri Central School and Pool Management.



Collarenebri Water Awareness

Attendance:

Students	63	Teachers	10
Community Members	15		
Aboriginal	51		
Male	34	Female	17
Non Aboriginal	12		
Male	7	Female	5

WAMS & GWAHS Staff in attendance:

Patricia Hall	Aboriginal Health Worker (Collarenebri)
Jessie Richardson	Clinic Manager
Rosemary Maddox	Admin Assistant
Sonya Dennis	Dental Receptionist
Kayla Thurston	Dental Assistant
Melanie Orcher	Dental Assistant
Karnie Walford	Family Health Worker
Lawrence Walford	WAMS Director
Trevor Simpson	Bringing Them Home Worker
Allirra McGregor	Collarenebri Hospital (GWAHS)
Sandy Suey-Thorne	Walgett Hospital (GWAHS)

Invited Guests Included:

Dr Khaled Amed	WAMS Locum Dentist
Dr Sandra Meihubers	WAMS Dental Consultant
Nigel Thomas	NSW Ambulance Officer, Collarenebri
Paul McDonald	NSW Fire Brigade, Collarenebri
Peggy Williams	NSW SES, Collarenebri
Sgt Clinton Smallwood	NSW Police, Collarenebri
Seth Riley	Pool Manager, Collarenebri

Evaluation:

Positive verbal responses from the Teachers and members of the community that this was such a great and enjoyable day. General consensus would like to see an event such as this take place every year before the Christmas holidays.

Recommendations:

To co-ordinate this event next year before the Christmas Holidays. Letter of thanks to be sent to business houses, emergency services, Pool Manager and those who assisted on the day.

CPM asked for feedback from the Teachers of Collarenebri Central School.

Faxed report received 17.12.2008, contents include:

Ms Courtney Cochrane (Teacher) reports, *After talking with the other teachers that attended we thought it was an overall good relaxing day we appreciate all of your time and effort that was put into make it run smoothly, regards Courtney.* Ongoing support from WAMS for outreach health promotional events to continue. An all in one DVD - TV is purchased for health promotional activities.

Signed:

Patricia Hall	Aboriginal Health Worker (Collarenebri)
Jessie Richardson	Clinic Manager (WAMS)

