

Cunnamulla NAIDOC Celebration

QBLAI & Cunnamulla Police hosted a special day in celebration of NAIDOC week 2016. Cunnamulla Police Liaison Officer Raeleen Rach got the ball rolling when she contacted QBLAI State Office for some possible funding assistance. Raeleen had some great ideas for a celebration that she knew would be a success with a little funding. This led to Blue Light submitting a grant application, which was successful to the tune of \$3000.00. Not exactly a huge grant, but it's amazing what you can do with plenty of volunteers and a little imagination!



QBLAI State Administrator Jenny Monk travelled to Cunnamulla to help out on the day, with assistance from Blue Light Volunteer Scott Monk. (Her son). They took some giveaway items and made balloon animals with the kids.

Raeleen engaged the services of Susie Klein, who conducted indigenous art and craft workshops with the kids all day. Activities included chalk art, mural making, face painting, paint pouring and finger puppetry. A colouring in competition was also run throughout the day.

Another big hit was damper making. Local Police & Police Liaison Officers rolled up their sleeves and helped the kids to make their own individual dampers.

As a show of respect, local Elders had their own special area set up, and were served tea, coffee and damper by the children.

A BBQ lunch and drinks were supplied free of charge for the 80 or so people that attended.



All in all the day was a great success. It was terrific to see so many Elders attend, and also to see the respect shown to them by the kids. Jenny was impressed with the children's behaviour, and the good manners shown. It's a long way to Cunnamulla from State Office (9-1/2 hours) but well worth the trip to be involved in this cultural celebration.



QLD BLUE LIGHT ASSOCIATION INC



In Support of NAIDOC Week Celebrations

**Providing Drug & Alcohol Free
Activities for Queensland Youth
Since 1984**





The QBLAI acknowledges the Traditional owners of country throughout the lands where we work, meet and live, and recognises their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respect to them and their cultures; and to elders past, present and future.

