

## Note from the General Manager

Hello and thank you for picking up NUAAs Newsflash. We believe that it is really important to keep you up to date on what we are working on improving the lives of people who use drugs across NSW.

Change is the current theme at NUAAs as we continue to introduce new and improved ways of approaching and delivering our work across NSW. We have also recently said goodbye to two long serving staff members. Andrew Trist who managed our Education Team and Kerri Shying, our Community Development Worker in Hunter have both moved on to new pastures.

Our planning processes commence on the 23rd February when the team will come together to begin to assess NUAAs direction for the next four years. We will of course simultaneously be consulting with our members, partners and all stakeholders. NUAAs will be CLOSED to allow all staff to work together on this important task.

Happy reading!

## Info Alert!

**NUAA will be closed on February 23 and February 25 for planning and training.**

## Education Team

This month we're excited to announce the re-launch of our state wide Information Support and Referral Service or 'ISR'. The motto of ISR is 'From one Drug User to Another' because we are dedicated to being able to provide you with support and information while at the same time providing health promotion messages. We also have extensive referral directories enabling us to give the best referrals to a vast array of services.

Accessing the services is easy:

- By phone on 1800 644 413
- By email at [isr@nuaa.org.au](mailto:isr@nuaa.org.au)
- By mail to PO Box 278 Darlinghurst, 1300.

Issues we commonly address are self advocacy, vein care, blood-born viruses, drug treatment options, safer using, leaving prison, overdose, social support, family issues, discrimination issues... the list is endless. Whatever your issue, contact us.

You will see posters and ISR 'business' cards coming out in the next month to promote ISR in services across NSW. If your service is not displaying an ISR poster, ask them to contact Sarah on (02) 8354 7333 and we will send some. We look forward to hearing from you.



**FROM ONE  
DRUG USER  
TO ANOTHER**

*Freecall: 1800 644 413*

*Ph: 02 8354 7351*

**nuaa**  
NSW USERS & AIDS ASSOCIATION INC

*NUAAs new ISR Card*

## Community Mobilisation Team

### Asian Project

The Asian Peer Education Project has been talking with Asian users in the areas of Liverpool, Cabramatta, and Fairfield. Weekly discussions were held with peers around issues of family, hepatitis c and safer using information and access, cultural values and cultural understanding of using as well as other topics.

A picnic outing was held at the end of January with the support of Cabramatta Community Centre who pro-

vided a minibus and driver to get to the park. Everyone enjoyed helping cook the food and meeting each other.

We discussed possible activities for the next part of this project. The peers want to do something creative and fun which incorporates some of the issues and themes we've discussed over the past few weeks. With this in mind we hope to involve people in the creative arts field to work with peers to run an innovative project about Asian users and their lives.

If any Asian users want to be involved in this project please contact Kha Hien at NUAA on (02) 8354 7320.

## Policy, Campaigns and Communications Team

### Have Your Say on NUAA's Website

NUAA launched its new website in November last year, but the most exciting feature of the revamped site has now been activated: the comments section!

Users who visit the NUAA site can now leave their comments on most of the site's pages, including every User's News story and article, In The Media and Living With Drugs.

To post a comment web users simply click Add Comment at the end of each article and write in the Comment box. To post a comment you are required to leave a name (it doesn't have to be your real name). All comments are monitored and are posted the next business day.

We are hoping that the comments function will be a cornerstone of users communicating with users, and we look forward to your feedback on how it's all working. If you don't have access to the internet, give NUAA a call or pop in and we will try to hook you up with internet access in your area (a good place to start is your local library).

## Staff Member Profile

Hello, my name is Sarah Dickson and I am NUAA's new ISR/NSP Coordinator. I have worked on lots of different projects and in different positions at NUAA, including as an NSP worker. I've worked on two TRIBES projects, was the Project Officer for the Heroin Overdose Project and most recently held the ISR position.

I've now jumped into the ISR/NSP Coordinator's role, which means I work with the NSP and ISR workers, helping to make sure everything runs smoothly. The other part of my job is to assist in the Work Force Develop-

ment Project, so I'll be lucky enough to work with peers in many capacities.

I'm excited to be working again at NUAA as I believe it is the best organisation for drug users in the world. NUAA challenges and rewards you every day you walk through the door, which suits me because I like to live an interesting life!

You can contact me by calling (02) 8354 7333 or 1800 644 413 (free call in NSW and ACT). You can also email me at sarahd@nuaa.org.au or simply drop into NUAA in Surry Hills.

## Contacts

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### Policy, Campaigns and Communications Team

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### User's News

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