



Unite

Issue 1, September 2016

SUBSCRIBE NOW to receive your RASSIC *Unite* bi-monthly newsletter: RASSIC_INC@hotmail.com

Message from President

Welcome to RASSIC Newsletter “Unite”. Being so proud of our culture, heritage and community we are very excited to share with you the news, information, successes and ideas of our community.

To succeed in today societies, committee’s need more skills and capabilities than ever before which leaves me highly impressed with the credentials of each board member. It is with great pleasure I introduce our RASSIC Management Team elected for 2016.

- Chairperson** – Mr Randall WARKILL
- Vice Chair** – Mr Warren WESSER
- Secretary** – Ms Dealonna BICKEY
- Assistant Secretary** – Mrs Elisha HILL
- Treasurer** – Ms Fredreka BICKEY (Vacancy Pending)
- Assistant Treasurer** – Mr Earl HARBIN (Position Vacant)
- Registrar** – Mrs Latoya HARBIN (Position Vacant)
- Promotion Officer** – Ms Tomasina BICKEY
- Funding Officer** – Ms Reegan BICKEY

I believe each person elected has contributed to the future of RASSIC and to further our progress I appeal to our readers to help fill the vacant positions left by previous officer bearers.

Since elected our focus has been the inclusiveness of families, service providers, governments, local business and other ASSI organisations. We aim to build relationships and have a simple objective of making RASSIC a leading organisation to protect and enhance the Rockhampton Australian South Sea Island community’s cultural history and future.

Whilst being President my role is clear in building a strong foundation for the future. I believe the management team is more than capable of achieving this goal with the support of our members. My vision and approach to how, where and why is inclusive of community as it is your values ideas and future I endeavour to progress.

Please enjoy the first edition of “Unite” and as the name suggests, join in making Australian South Sea Islanders an integral part of Australia and a support mechanism to our motherland Vanuatu.

In closing:

I’d like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the people of the area in which we stand upon our brothers and sisters of the Darumbal Nations. Christianity has been a strong influence in the lives of Australian South Sea Islanders so I’d also like to acknowledge the Lord Jesus Christ as our guiding principal in what we do. And last I’d like to acknowledge Tomasina who is the editor for this great initiative “Unite”.

Thank You !

Randall Warkill
President
Rockhampton Australian South Sea Island Community Inc (RASSIC)
Email: RASSIC_INC@hotmail.com



RASSIC encourages everyone for feedback on the events and other related topics to allow the Community organisation to grow and improve for the local Australian South Sea Islanders.

If you have feedback or concerns, please send an email to RASSIC_INC@hotmail.com. No feedback will go unnoticed and will be taken with great confidentiality.

We all need people who will give us feedback,. That’s how we improve. ~Bill Gates~



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Australian South Sea Islander Recognition 2016

RASSIC hosted two events so far in Rockhampton to celebrate the Australian South Sea Islander Recognition around the two significant dates (25 August & 7 September) which annually unite all ASSI's to come together. Both events were funded by Multicultural Affairs Queensland.

Market Blo Komuniti Event, 20 August 2016

Hosted by RASSIC was the Market Blo Komuniti event supported by community members who featured their talents and hobbies in a range of different stalls from clothing items to homemade food. The day was MC'd by Mr Nathias Warkill.

RASSIC had the privilege to have guest speakers LeLarnie Hatfield-Yasso performed Welcome to Country to open the day, Member for Keppel Brittany Lauga and Cr Rose Swadling spoke on importance of recognising the ASSI culture.



L to R: LeLarnie Hatfield-Yasso, Member for Keppel Brittany Lauga, Randall Warkill and Cr Rose Swadling

Corporate support from Relationships Australia, who provided activities for the children throughout the day. Their stall and services brought arts and crafts, painting and photo banners to occupy the children.



L to R: Chevez Hill, Se'Zahn Hill and Anaali Powell

The Market Day wouldn't have been as successful without our local stall holders, a BIG thank you goes out to the stall holders who helped bring this day together. We hope to see you back next year.



L to R: 2016 Market Blo Komuniti Stall Holders - Robyn Harbin, Vicki Leo, Alison Chamberlain, Jeannie Parter, Kim Bickey, Debbie Dawes, Wilma Warcon, Rhonda Dorman, Dea Bickey, Cheryl Penola, Reegan Bickey and Donna Warrie.



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There were many Elders of the community present to enjoy such a great day. We would like to thank Uncle Neville Willie for his beautiful accordion playing.



L to R: Uncle Neville Willie entertaining the crowd with assistance from Evan Warkill.

Aunty Emily Asse won our Lucky Door Prize. The Lucky Door Prize was a voucher valued at \$55 for Freedom Fast Cats ferry service over to Great Keppel Island. RASSIC hope you enjoy your trip Aunty Emily. Thank you to Freedom Fast Cats for donating the voucher.



RASSIC is pleased to announce that more than 180 people come through the doors to take part in the festive day. Appreciation is expressed to all the volunteers that had helped plan the Market Blo Komuniti event from the start to finish. To the those who attended, RASSIC hopes that all enjoyed the day.

To view more pictures from the Market Blo Komuniti event please visit RASSIC's facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/rassicinc/>



Elders present at the Market Blo Komuniti Event 2016.

If you would like a copy of any photos taken at the Market Blo Komuniti, please email RASSIC_INC@hotmail.com.



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Call for Volunteers

RASSIC are looking for volunteers over the age of 18 to become apart of our volunteers list. Volunteers that would love to assist and represent RASSIC at events.



Upcoming RASSIC Events and Meetings

Next RASSIC General Meeting

Saturday, 10 September 2016
10am @ RASSIC Hall, Cnr Creek & Simpson Streets, North Rockhampton

Willby's Restaurant Special South Sea Island Lunch

Thursday, 8 September 2016
12pm – 2pm @ Canning Street, Rockhampton

Smol Smol KaiKai Blo Ol Olfala, *25 August 2016*

RASSIC Elders Morning Tea was held on the day of the ASSI Recognition. The Elders got to celebrate and remember the ASSI culture.

Mentioned previously the event was funded by Multicultural Affairs Qld as part of the Queensland Multicultural month.

In collaboration with AICRA Aged Care we were able to host an event to show appreciation to our Elders.

Kim Bickey, Event Planner organises this event yearly on behalf of RASSIC with great passion for making events available to the Elders of the community.

This years discussion topic was "What celebratory event would the Elders like to participate in 2017" for ASSI Recognition? Kim has already started raising money is for the 2017 Elders event and we are hoping with great support over the next year the Elders will have an opportunity to do something special in 2017.

Raffles and entertainment from Pastor Tom, All Saints' Community Anglican Parish of North Rockhampton enlightened the Elders for the period.

RASSIC would like to thank all the Elders that participated in the Morning Tea and to expect more interaction with our Elders in future events as we believe our Elders are our main source of knowledge about our culture and heritage.





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RASSIC Logo under Review

It was the decision after the AGM took place that the RASSIC Logo would be under review.

Logos discussions have been happening between RASSIC Board and have been discussed briefly at general meetings with members. As this is work in progress no final decision has been made on any logo design.

The design process will take some time in regards what logo will represent RASSIC. The logo will be used for marketing and branding mechanisms to promote RASSIC and the ASSI heritage.

The existing logo will still be used whilst Logo Review is in progress. If you have any concerns, suggestions or simply would like to be involved in the review and design process please email RASSIC_INC@hotmail.com. We encourage inputs from all our members.

• SHARE YOUR •

FAVORITE

Family Recipes

Our people are known to be amazing cooks, bakers, bbqer's, hungi cookers.

Please share with your community, your favourite family recipes, pictures, kitchen tips or old recipes passed down for others to try.

Send your name, story and recipe through to RASSIC_INC@hotmail.com to be mentioned in *Unite* and have everyone talking about your recipe/s.



Name

Shame

If you know of anyone in the community that has excelled, completed a qualification, achieved a milestone or simply need to be recognised for something special, please NAME & SHAME them. Email RASSIC_INC@hotmail.com and be featured in *Unite*.



Go to: <https://www.facebook.com/rassicinc/> to keep to date with the latest ASSI news in Rockhampton and around QLD.

The Koal Kids Korner

Young Athlete Travel Subsidy

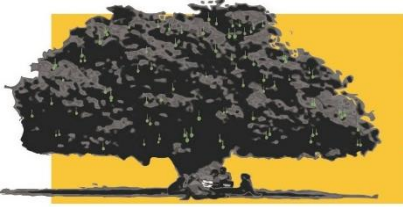
The travel subsidy aims to foster the development of young athletes (under age of 18) and support elite athlete pathways by providing financial assistance to help alleviate the costs associated with attending championship events.

The travel subsidy will allow up to a maximum of **\$1200** in financial assistance over the 3 event tiers, once every 2 calendar years. Eligible athletes and officials can apply for 1 event per tier once every second calendar year.

- State or state school event - **\$200**
- National or national school event - **\$400**
- International event - **\$600**

For more information visit:

<https://www.qld.gov.au/recreation/sports/funding/athletes/yats/>



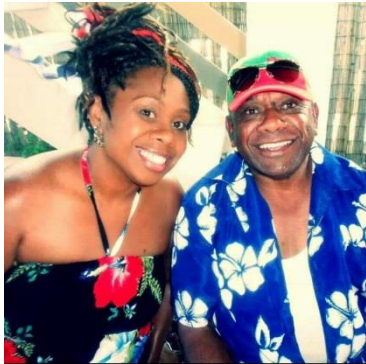
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Connect with your Committee

Each edition of *Unite* will feature a section where the Committee members will be asked a couple of quick questions and you can read their responses to understand and Connect with your Committee.



Name: Dealonna Bickey **Role:** Secretary, RASSIC

What skills do you contribute to RASSIC?

I believe the values and beliefs of respect, reciprocity, unconditional care, integrity and mindful of the connectedness amongst people and things that has been instilled by my parents, grandparents and family in my early years of life have been integral to the person I am today. My professional career has built on those values and beliefs and aided in my well developed communication, problem solving, project management, organisational and business, planning and development skills.

I am driven by my belief in my responsibility to transfer forward all the has been shown to me for the common good of all. I use my passion to guide my contribution to equip our up and coming generations with a sound understanding and a strong appreciation of the history, sacrifices and contribution of our forefathers.

I want to be apart of the mechanism that transfers forward what is important, unique, credible and meaningful to us as people. I want my contributions that define pathways and opportunities to have suitable access to education and employment that enable families to experience in all its fullness.

What do you want to see RASSIC achieve?

During this term that I am privileged to sit as part of the Management Committee I want to:

- Reinforce the organisations governance;
- Encourage more community participation in RASSIC
- Enhance RASSIC's partnerships with other organisations for the common good and benefit of all ASSI people.

Long term I would like to see RASSIC as a successful and profitable community owned, community led business with a diverse range of for-profit and not-for-profit business activities that are centred around the physical, emotional, cultural well-being and economic prosperity of our children and families.

