



Media Release

Thursday, 12 July 2007

For immediate release

Mental Health Library to Re-open

A reference library for mental health consumers that has been closed for the last nine months will be re-opened on Wednesday in Joondalup.

The Consumer Reference Library will be located at the Joondalup Community Mental Health Centre. The original library was closed last November when space was needed to accommodate the Centre's art therapy unit. The Joondalup Consumer Advisory Group has worked with staff at the Centre to ensure that the new library is more accessible and offers a wide range of materials for consumers and carers.

Consumer Advisory Group member, Jean King, says the revamped library is much improved. "Because the library is now located right next to the waiting room, it's even more convenient for consumers," she said. "Consumers can access a whole range of materials there - from books and magazines to service information brochures."

Erlene Chun, a social worker with Joondalup Community Mental Health, says it's vital that consumers and carers have easy access to information. "Managing mental illness can be stressful. A good reference library is an invaluable tool for people to find out more about their illness and the care available," she said.

The library will be re-opened at 12:30pm on Wednesday, the 18th of July by the Executive Director for Mental Health, Dr. Steve Patchett.

The re-opening ceremony will double as a book launch for a book written by a client of Joondalup Community Mental Health, Jamie Beggs. Mr. Beggs' book, "Inner Journey" is about the author's experiences dealing with his mental illness.

Also joining in the festivities will be local artist, Susan Owen. Ms. Owen attended the Creative Expressions Centre for Art Therapy (CECAT) on the campus of Graylands Hospital and has since progressed to the TAFE certificate course. Five of her works will hang in the Joondalup Community Mental Health Centre.

Wednesday, 18th July 12:30pm

Joondalup Community Mental Health Centre: Regents Park Rd, Joondalup

Contact: 9400-9599

All media queries:

**Varnya Bromilow North Metropolitan Area Health Service, Mental Health
0420-373-901**

