

Archive No. 154

National Lesbian Cultural Celebration and Conference in Daylesford 1998

The National Lesbian Cultural Celebration and Conference was organised by Anah Holland-Moore, Anneke Deutsch, Brenda Muscat, Jacqui Marshall and Subi Clarke for women-born-women who identified as lesbian and held on the land of the Dja Dja Wurrung people at Rutherford Park about three km outside of Daylesford, Victoria, 3 - 12 January 1998. The venue was modified to provide accessibility, there was a no dogs policy, no smoking except in the designated undercover areas outside, some lounge areas were drug and alcohol free, children under six were welcome free of costs and a full child-care program was available every day, 9.30am - 5.30pm.

Sue Ivanyi of Wholefoods Catering in Sydney organised the vegetarian, vegan and special needs meals and there were about a dozen co-ordinators to oversee various aspects of the program. Ten whole days of living, eating, chatting, drawing, workshopping, playing, loving, dancing, singing and swimming together in lesbian space for the inclusive cost of \$450 / \$380 / \$320 for beds and \$400 / \$340 / \$290 for campers and \$45 / \$35 / \$25 for day visitors.

Massage, Reiki and hands-on healing could be arranged in the healing room and co-counselling and 12-Step program sessions happened as needed. Yoga, Tai Chi and Power Walking were available daily. Arrangements had been made with Outback Bicycle Tours for those who wanted bicycle tours, Deb Nanschild of Women in the Wilderness was offering rock climbing and abseiling off-site and volleyball, tennis and swimming were available on site. Two cabins had been hired at the Lake Jubilee Caravan Park for off-site child care.