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## Back to the 80s!

### Join in our 20<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations

Youth Solutions annual charity event is back to celebrate 20 years of giving service to the community. This year's Charity Event will include a trip down memory lane with an 80s theme in salute of the 20<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations. There are many opportunities for involvement including: Corporate Sponsorship, donating items for the Silent Auction or by attending the event. AMP Foundation and Macarthur Wealth Management will again be our major supporters of this event.

Youth Solutions was established in 1988 as the Macarthur Drug and Alcohol Youth Project (MDAYP) and has been managed by a community committee ever since.

The Service was originally set up to work with young people 12-25 years living in Campbelltown, Camden and Wollondilly and Wingecarribee Local Government Areas and has continued to receive core funding from the NSW Health Department via the Sydney South West Area Health Service. Youth Solutions would like to invite all those people who have helped the service over the last 20 years and also members of the public to come along and support the charity night.

The event will be held on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> July at the Campbelltown Catholic Club in the new 'Cube' Convention and Entertainment Centre and will include a three course dinner, beverages and entertainment. To book your tickets or to enquire about other opportunities for involvement contact Youth Solutions on 4628 2319 or email us at [info@youthsolutions.com.au](mailto:info@youthsolutions.com.au).

**party like it's the 80's**  
**YOUTH SOLUTIONS CHARITY EVENT AND 20TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS**

- Entertainment by The Hit Machine
- Sponsorship Opportunities Available
- Ticket Cost - \$125 pp
- Donations Welcome

Join us at 6.30pm  
 Saturday 26 July 2008  
 at Campbelltown Catholic Club

Proudly supported by:  
 Macarthur Wealth Management,  
 AMP Foundation, Macarthur Chronicle,  
 C91.3FM, The Rotary Club of Narellan

For Bookings and Information:  
 Ph - 02 4628 2319  
 Email - [info@youthsolutions.com.au](mailto:info@youthsolutions.com.au)  
 Web - [www.youthsolutions.com.au](http://www.youthsolutions.com.au)

We already have the following sponsors supporting our event, why not consider joining the club!!  
**Major Supporters-Gold**

AMP Foundation & Macarthur Wealth Management



foundation



**Silver Sponsor**

- Rotary Club of Narellan

**Bronze Sponsors**

- C91.3FM
- The Protectors Insurance Brokers
- Macarthur Chronicle
- Event and Design Hire
- Grimes Finance and Mortgages
- Profit Advantage Group
- The Outdoor Furniture Specialists
- McDonalds Macarthur
- Campbelltown Chamber of Commerce & Industry
- Delfin Lend Lease Bingara Gorge
- Macarthur Financial Planning
- Ace Tooling Company
- Survival It's Life, Macarthur
- Esanda Finance Corporation Ltd
- MTM Group Australia Pty Ltd
- Chris Agius Standards & Conformance



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 Gilchrist Drive, Ambarvale

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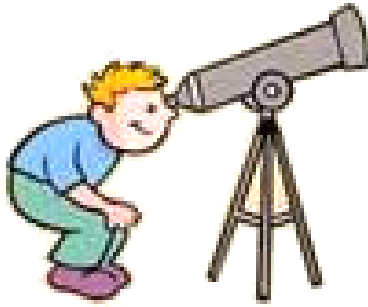
F: 4626 7844

E: [info@youthsolutions.com.au](mailto:info@youthsolutions.com.au)



## Reflections 1988-2008

*'Vision is not enough; it must be combined with venture'*



It is with great pride that I share with you a reflection of Youth Solutions over the past 20 years. I am so proud to have been the CEO of this organisation and a part of the journey since 1989 to 2008.

This amazing organization began in 1988 as a result of a community needs assessment by a group of dedicated workers and community members.

Funding was achieved and the Service was named the Macarthur Drug and Alcohol Youth Project and began as a small service operating out of the Broughton Street Youth Centre.

Our vision has always been to support young people to make decisions that are life affirming and health promoting. This has always been a demanding task that requires extensive resources and commitment.

Our Service has played an important role in defining prevention and increasing the scope of it to go beyond school based drug education to include whole of community based strategies that embrace a philosophy of youth participation and harm minimisation.

Over the past 20 years we were often involved on State and Federal Ministerial Advisory Committees, peak alcohol and other drugs boards ( both State and National) and Parliamentary forums and proudly represented not only Macarthur and Wingecarribee but young people across NSW.

In 2002 and 2003 we changed our name to Youth Solutions and increased our funded area to include Wingecarribee.

There are endless reasons to be proud of all that Youth Solutions has achieved. We have set benchmarks for other organisations to follow.

Our key achievements have included:

- Drug Sense
- Youth Drug Forums
- Winner Ted Noffs Awards - Specialist Youth Service
- Finalists in National Drug Prevention Awards 2006 and 2007
- Participation in the NSW Alcohol Summit
- Dope EFX u campaign
- Inspiring Resource
- Presented papers at Local, State, National and International Conferences

One of the strengths of this organisation has been and will always be the passion and dedication of all those involved with the Service. It is these people that not only provide the vision but also combine the venture!

Congratulations Youth Solutions on 20 years of great achievement. May you always continue to be a source of inspiration and excellence!

**Linda Goldspink-Lord**

## Helpful Phone No.s

Drug & Alcohol Treatment Access Line  
Sydney South West Area Health Service  
**9616 8586**

ADIS (Alcohol Drug Info Service)  
24 hour free service  
**1800 422 599**

For Emergencies  
**000**

After Hours Counselling  
**Lifeline 13 11 14**

## Helpful Websites

State Health Information  
**[www.health.nsw.gov.au](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au)**

Comprehensive drug information site  
**[www.druginfo.adf.org.au](http://www.druginfo.adf.org.au)**

Provides accessible counselling  
service to all Australian children  
**[www.kidshelp.com.au](http://www.kidshelp.com.au)**

Web based service that inspires  
young people to help themselves  
through tough times.  
**[www.reachout.com.au](http://www.reachout.com.au)**

# Farewell to CEO

## Linda Goldspink-Lord

It is with sadness that we farewell Linda Goldspink-Lord who has been the CEO of Youth Solutions since 1989.

Linda is unable to return to the role of CEO due to a long term health issue.

Linda has contributed her heart and soul to our Service over the years. She was a leader in the Alcohol & Other Drug Field and has contributed to making a difference in our local area and at a State and National level.

Linda had provided training in harm minimisation to many professionals throughout NSW and was a member of the NSW Ministerial Advisory Council on Alcohol and Other Drugs from 1994-1999. Linda had also facilitated workshops and presented at various International, National, State and local conferences and forums.

Since joining Youth Solutions 19 years ago, she has established Youth Solutions into the success it is today. She now provides us with the strong foundations for the next 20 years.

On behalf on the young people of our community we thank her for everything!

**Debbie Roberts Acting CEO**



**Linda says Farewell Youth Solutions**

*"Having been employed with Youth Solutions since 1989, it is with much sadness I formally announce that my time with this amazing organisation has now come to an end.*

*Unfortunately due to ongoing health issues I am unable to return to the role of CEO.*

*I am unable to personally thank all the amazing people I worked with during that time but I would like to pass on my appreciation to so many of you for providing me the opportunity to work with you. I know how fortunate I have been to be able to be involved with this service for so many years. The memories and experience I take with me are endless.*

*I will always passionately believe in the work that is undertaken at Youth Solutions. Our young people need every resource to ensure they make decisions that will result in actions that are life affirming and health promoting.*

*It has been an absolute honor to work with the wonderful young people in Macarthur and Wingecarribee and I have learnt so much from all of them. I wish all of you the very best in the future and hope that you can continue to support Youth Solutions so that they may share their wings with those who have trouble flying." Linda*

## Get on Track!

### Young People OnTrack!

Youth Solutions and the Foundation for Young Australians have provided funding for young people across Macarthur to get OnTrack!

**Campbelltown Performing Arts High School (CPAHS) Interact Club, HUMmedia and Narellan Interact Club** have benefited from On Track grants that have been made available to enhance the experiences, youth-led involvement and leadership skills of young people.

**HUMmedia** Will put on an arts workshop and music event in Wollondilly

**Narellan Interact** Will create a road safety DVD from the perspective of young driver's in Narellan

**CPAHS Interact** Will contribute to the staging of the 2008 Campbelltown Youth Excellence Awards

For more information about young people OnTrack in our area, contact [rebecca@youthsolutions.com.au](mailto:rebecca@youthsolutions.com.au)

**[youthsolutions.com.au](http://youthsolutions.com.au)**

## Alcohol

### How Much Is Too Much?

Alcohol is a part of the Australian way of life – many of us enjoy a drink. Unfortunately, many people come to depend too much on alcohol, sometimes with serious consequences to their health, families, jobs, and others around them.

Odyssey House NSW has created a wonderful new online information resource for those people who would like to gain some insights into their alcohol consumption (or that of a friend or family member).

Go to Odyssey's website: [www.odysseyhouse.com.au/site/more/alcohol\\_insights/](http://www.odysseyhouse.com.au/site/more/alcohol_insights/) and take a few minutes to answer the questions in the form below – it's quick, simple and anonymous.

Your score will indicate whether your drinking habits may be of concern

## Board Member Update

### Farewell to David Michell

Youth Solutions farewellled **David Michell** recently who spent seven years as a member on the Board. David has contributed to our Service in many ways over this time and held The Protectors Insurance Brokers Annual Golf Day which raised over \$115,000 for our Service since its inception in 2001.

The Board and staff of Youth Solutions appreciate his support over these years and wish him luck for the future!

We would like to welcome several new Board members to the Youth Solutions team in the last few months- **Lisa Hunt** and **Damon May**. Lisa comes to us with extensive experience in Human Resources and Damon owns Maytek IT Solutions and will provide guidance to our team in relation to our IT service needs.

**Our Corporate Sponsors for 2008 – 2009 include:**  
Macarthur Wealth Management  
AMP Foundation  
The Protectors Insurance Brokers  
Rotary Club of Narellan  
IMB Community Foundation  
C91.3FM

Board Acknowledgement

- Geoff Ellis – President
- Tony Ross – Vice President
- Peter Campbell – Treasurer
- Emma Macfarlane
- Karen Dries
- Gordon Hay
- Jennifer Gleeson
- Lisa Hunt
- Damon May

Youth Solutions Team

- Debbie Roberts  
Acting Chief Executive Officer
- Rebecca Whitford  
Acting Manager
- Geraldine Dean  
Communications Project Officer
- Sue Willoughby  
Administration Officer

July Newsletter

Contribution to articles and formatting  
by Mia Agius, Journalism Student

Diary Dates

**'Party Like it's the 80s' Charity Event**  
**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2008**  
Campbelltown Catholic Club  
Tickets and Enquiries 4628 2319

Strategic Direction

**Our Mission**

Supporting young people to make safer  
life choices to achieve their full potential

**Our Vision**

Creating solutions with young people,  
families and the community to promote  
positive life outcomes by preventing  
harmful drug use



This is a Quality Improvement Council  
Accredited Service



## Strengthening Parents

### Parents Learning More

The *Strengthening Parents Project* concluded earlier this month with the success of informing parents about drug abuse in young people and also encouraging parents to talk more about the issue of Alcohol and drugs with their teenagers.

The campaign targeted parents of 12-17 year-old young people who live in the Camden and Wollondilly areas. The message of the project, *'Alcohol – is your teenager safe? Don't leave it to chance'* made parents and young people respond proactively to help inform each other of the concerns of alcohol and drug abuse.

Two surveys were issued to both parents and young people which highlighted Alcohol as the top drug of concern in our community.

The campaign was funded by the Commonwealth Government through their Community Partnerships Initiative which helped the project to advertise in various media's including local newspapers and the local radio station C91.3FM. A full report will be available on our website in coming months.

## Responsible Service of Alcohol

### 30 young people trained in June

Youth Solutions and Wollondilly Shire Council, with the support of Vaby's Mediterranean Grill at Picton, have recently partnered to offer free accredited Responsible Service of Alcohol training to young people 16 – 25 years from the Wollondilly Shire.

This program is a win-win initiative for the community of Wollondilly. We have had the opportunity to proactively inform and improve young peoples' knowledge and understanding of the laws relating to the service of alcohol within licensed venues as well as highlighting the responsibilities of patrons in and around licensed premises.

The program increased participants' knowledge and skills, as well as providing them with an approved qualification which may help them enter the hospitality industry or undertake further study in this field. Due to the overwhelming demand, Youth Solutions is currently seeking funding to be able to offer further training to young people across Macarthur and the Southern Highlands.

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Lancaster St

