

## Demand for Drug & Alcohol Services

Bridges Drug & Alcohol Treatment Service has seen unprecedented demand for its services over the past few months. Referrals have increased significantly and the source of referrals has broadened.

Fortunately, we currently have the staff to meet the demand and we're delighted to welcome our newest member to the team, Erica Olsen. With 30 years experience as a nurse in both hospital and general practice, Erica decided on a career change. She is now undertaking her Psychology Internship with us and working in our drug and alcohol service and dual diagnosis clinic.

## New Partnership with Queensland Police

In more news, Bridges is trialing a new program over the Christmas period, in partnership with Queensland Police, to address some anti-social behavior at one of our local parks.

Our Indigenous Social & Emotional Wellbeing workers will be working on Friday nights over the holiday period to engage young and 'not so young' people who are hanging around the park.

There will be a FREE barbecue, the opportunity to have a yarn with our indigenous workers and maybe play some footy or do some art.

We want to reclaim the park and make it a positive place for everyone.

A big thank you to the following sponsors:

**Australian Drug Foundation**

**beyondblue**

**Brumbys**

**Ken's Kepnock Butchery**

**Ross Gray Holden**

**Sports Power**

**Struddys Sports**



**AS/NZS ISO 9001:2008**  
**QUALITY CERTIFIED**  
**ORGANISATION**

## QUALITY MANAGEMENT

Bridges is committed to quality management and offering the best service possible for people whose lives are affected by drugs or alcohol and mental illness. We believe that good service delivery is underpinned by quality management systems that support best practice, monitor performance and provide mechanisms for ongoing improvement.

We are pleased to announce that we have recently received accreditation under ISO 9001.

Bridges Mental Health Rehabilitation & Recovery Service is also accredited under the Queensland Disability Service Standards.

Well done and thank you to all the staff at Bridges for your hard work.

**Congratulations to Ruby**  
**on obtaining accreditation as a**  
**Mental Health Social Worker**



**Check out our new website**

**[www.bas.org.au](http://www.bas.org.au)**

# Staff Profiles

## Introducing – Vernon Little



Vernon was born in Rockhampton - his mother was a South Sea Island woman from Keppel Island and his father was from Gayndah. Before coming to Bridges, Vernon worked for three years at an AOD Rehabilitation Centre in North Queensland where he obtained his Cert IV in AOD. Vernon likes working in this field as

there is a big need with his people young and old alike.

At Bridges, Vernon is working with young people aged 13 and up and although his work is in the early stages, feedback has been positive and he is optimistic about the outcomes.

Vernon is mad about guitars and is a big fan of Chad Atkins, BB King and Mark Knoffler.



Our accredited Mental Health First Aid Facilitator, Ruby Crumblin, recently completed training for staff from NEATO and Impact.

Ruby is a Social Worker with extensive experience in child, youth and adult mental health and the drug & alcohol sector. She has a keen interest in increasing community understanding of mental health issues.

To find out more about our Mental Health First Aid Training please call us on 1300707655

**Psychology Clinic – Bulk Billing**

**Ph 1300 707 655**

## Introducing – James Chapman

James recently completed a Cert IV in AOD at Bridges with on the job training.

He previously worked at Yamba Drug & Alcohol Rehabilitation Centre for two years.

James is a cabinetmaker by trade and worked for many years in construction.

He needed a career change and chose to work in the Drug and Alcohol Sector as there are very few qualified Indigenous AOD workers in the community and he wanted to help address the problems caused by substance misuse.

James is a Bronco's fan and enjoys fishing, Indigenous art and culture.



**Congratulations**

**Kelly B**

**Winner of the 2011  
Individual Disability Award**

**&**

**Bridges Mental Health  
Rehabilitation & Recovery  
Service**

**Finalist 2011  
Community Organisation**



**Mental Health Rehab & Recovery**

**New Program for 2012 – Ph 4154 2300**

**Merry Christmas & a Happy & Prosperous New Year**