



Koori Mail

The Voice of Indigenous Australia

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When the call went out for help following two massive floods on Bundjalung Country ... **They stepped up**



The Koori Mail has been unable to publish for the first time in 30 years since a major flood swept through Lismore, NSW, on February 28, destroying our offices, and the homes of thousands of people across the Bundjalung Nation. With the hard work of countless volunteers such as those pictured above, we are back. The above is by no means an exhaustive list as help has come from across the region, and Australia, and for that we thank you. Full coverage, pages 4, 26-33, editorial.

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Writing keeps Ruth young

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Wallam firing for the Firebirds

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World Cup winner Ash Gardner

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MY FAMILY

Savage/Lui Family, Sunshine Coast



We are a very close family so we always support each other especially during milestone events like marriages and birthdays.

We have come together for our nephew's 21st birthday.

Where possible, we will travel long distances to show our support and love to people of our family clan.

We have very strong traditional and cultural connections and this is practiced and passed down through generations.

Except for funerals, every family event is a joyous event, being a large family it's like an instant impromptu party.

It's like we've never been apart.

Usually there is much loud laughter and lots of reminiscing of days gone by and all the fun times we spent together and making more lifelong memories.

Everyone gets involved in our family gathering, no one walks in as a guest, we are all hands-on creating together as family.

We feel connected to both sides of our families, and our closeness has always been there.

Our family can be serious, loving and extremely fun to be around when the occasion presents.

We grew up this way and wouldn't want it any other way.

OUR CHILDREN



There were lots of bunnies at the Yallburru Gold Coast Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation for Community Consultation Easter festivities. Children from the community had their faces painted, and they made baskets which were filled with chocolates from the Easter Bunny.

SHARE YOUR FAMILY WITH OUR READERS

If you would like to see your family featured in the 'My Family' section of the Koori Mail, email a high-resolution digital photo to editor@koorimail.com along with a full caption (always reading from left to right) and between 350 and 400 words about your family. Tell us who is in your family, what you like to do as a family, your traditions and achievements, and what is important to you.

Koori Mail

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Byron Bluesfest is back with Black



Briggs gave a powerful performance on the Friday night.



THE Byron Bluesfest returned with a stellar line-up of Black performers and others from around Australia and the world over the Easter long weekend.

The award-winning event was cancelled at short notice due to coronavirus concerns in the lead up to its traditional Easter timeslot in 2020 and 2021. Plans to stage the festival last October were also scuttled by the pandemic.

Among the line-up of

Indigenous talent to grace the stages at the world-renowned festival were rappers Briggs, a Yorta Yorta man, and JK-47, who hails from Tweed Heads, which lies in Bundjalung Country.

Following the floods which have ravaged Northern NSW, Bluesfest organisers kindly offered *The Koori Mail* a fundraising stall at the festival to help with ongoing relief efforts.

Ballina-based photographer Kristopher Cook was commissioned to take photos and his wrap-up will be featured in our next edition.



JK-47

Aboriginal funeral funds placed into liquidation

By DARREN COYNE



A FUNERAL fund company that targeted Aboriginal people is dead. But the real victims, are those that it left behind.

Liquidators calculate there were about 14,000 members across the four funeral funds operated by the Youpla Group, which previously traded as the Aboriginal Community Benefit Fund.

They also admit that it is "impossible to say how much (if anything) members will get back and it's not possible to give a timeframe on when any monies can be paid back".

Liquidator David Stimpson told *The Koori Mail* his firm SV Partners was taking calls daily from concerned members but there was little they could tell them.

"We are providing regular updates via the Youpla Group/ACBF Group Portal located on the SV Partners website (svpartners.com.au) and we are hoping to release, at a minimum, updates on the first of each month," Mr Stimpson said.

"We are talking to government bodies at the moment to obtain



Mob Strong Debt Help solicitor Mark Holden.

assistance. It's too early to say however whether assistance will come by way of funding or resources, however there is broad interest from government bodies on this issue and we are reaching out for assistance for both funding and resources."

Mr Stimpson explained that the liquidator's role typically was to investigate the company's affairs and in particular investigate the conduct of directors.

"If I identify breaches of duty or other offences committed by the the directors I will report those breaches or offences to ASIC and it is then up to ASIC to take action

against the directors if they consider it warranted.

"It is too early to say whether there have been offences committed; but that is an issue we are investigating at the moment.

"The only other information I can give at this point is to note that the funeral funds have all ceased operating; as a result, members are unfortunately no longer covered for funeral costs.

"We have complete details of all members of all four funeral funds and we have details of how much each member has paid into each fund.

"We are seeking advice on how members claims are to be handled and how the monies in each fund is to be distributed.

"I can't give specific details at this point in time as to how much money is held in each fund and how much the claims are in each fund, except to say that combined, there is a substantial shortfall in contributions by members across all funds as compared to the dollars held in the combined funds.

"It will likely take us months to determine the correct handling of member claims and the proper refund of monies across the various funds."

Meanwhile, a coalition of community organisations which

work with First Nations consumers and consumer groups have called on the Australian Government to step in to assist policyholders who have been devastated by the sudden collapse of the company.

The coalition includes Financial Rights Legal Centre's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-led Mob Strong Debt Help service, the Indigenous Consumer Assistance Network, Victorian Aboriginal Legal Service, Consumer Action Koori Help, Bush Money Mob, CHOICE and Financial Counselling Australia.

Mob Strong Debt Help solicitor Mark Holden said the Australian Government should, as a matter of urgency, take measures to allow policyholders who have died since the collapse of Youpla or who pass away in coming months, to depart with dignity and allow sorry business to be observed respectfully, pending permanent arrangements for the redress of all affected policyholders.

"First Nations policyholders have sacrificed and worked hard to put money aside for sorry business and have now been left with the risk of unimaginable intergenerational debt as a result of Youpla's inability to follow through on its promise," Mr Holden said.

"They deserve to know how

this has happened and why they have lost their right to funeral benefits that many people have been paying for decades."

Mr Holden said the Australian Government had been on notice for a long time about allegations that Youpla was misleading disadvantaged consumers with clever, misleading sales practices long before they were revealed at the Banking Royal Commission in 2018.

"Youpla's conduct has continued in plain sight for decades," Mr Holden said.

"Youpla's practices were exposed at the Banking Royal Commission, where Commissioner Kenneth Hayne noted that First Nations people, especially those living in regional and remote communities, were sold policies of little value to them, through predatory sales tactics.

"The Australian Financial Complaints Authority also has found consistently that First Nations consumers were deceived into thinking that they were buying into a financial product run by and for the benefit of Aboriginal people.

"It's time for the Australian Government to end the heart-breaking consequences of this appalling mistreatment of First Nations peoples."

Didge auction raises money for victims

By KRIS FLANDERS



ARTIST Buddy King and his wife Lauren, like millions of others in Australia, were deeply moved by the devastation of the NSW floods and in particular the heartbreaking damage endured by mob on the Far North Coast.

"I used to live up that way and play (rugby league) football for Northern United," Buddy said.

"I saw some of the fellas that I played footy with, like my old coach, Chris Binge, on his boat during the floods.

"Another devastating thing I saw was one of my old captains, Allan Roberts, standing with one of his family members on Cabbage Tree Island after they lost everything. So it didn't take me and Lauren much to want to do something for people we knew."

Initially, Lauren wanted to drive from their home in Port Macquarie to Lismore to lend a hand. But after some thought they decided on Buddy creating one of his didgeridoos and auctioning the work with the monies going north to assist with flood recovery.

"We thought if we can't go up then let's do something and raise some money from that to help," he said.

"I was lucky enough to have the didge lying about in my workshop and it was a piece of a

eucalyptus tree that I picked up from the bush."

The talented artist took the didgeridoo from its original state as a piece of wood and transformed it to its final presentation. It's a process that Buddy loves.

"I use that as a way to tune out and focus and express myself.

"To take something from a piece of timber, take the bark off, sand it all back, shape it, put oil on and ready to paint. It's just amazing."

Buddy's handiwork with the paintbrush tells the story of the floods in Lismore and surrounding areas, from the devastating rains to the tragic aftermath and the strength of the community rebuild and clean-up.

"The story that we came up with was three sections," he said.

"The first was using those darker, earthy, brown colours which represented the devastation up the top. Then as you come down you've got those pastel bright colours that represents the clean up for the mob. Then the bottom is represented by those rainbow like tones which tells the healing and the community coming back better.

"I included those songlines on it too and the ancestors watching over the mob up there during the recovery as well as the animal totems on there as well."

The special didgeridoo went for a winning bid of \$1502 which Buddy hopes in some way makes

things easier for the all the Bundjalung mob.

"The response was amazing and the shares (online) and likes we had, you know, the *Koori Mail* got on board too," he said.

"Taubmans Paints come on board too. I was very happy with what the auction bidding raised. I was going to be happy with anything that helped. I was more than happy to donate my time, the didge and the resources to this."

Buddy and Lauren also hope that the winning bidder is reminded of what Mother Nature can do but also of the resilience, strength and human kindness of community when they look at the didgeridoo.

"I hope they understand how special that didge is," he said.

"We made contact with the buyer and they bought it for their children and they can pass on the story of the didge and what happened in the floods. It's about sharing culture and teaching everyone. But also that they've helped the *Koori Mail* and the Bundjalung Mob.

"I was relieved that we were able to do something. I was pleased with the end results and happy to contribute. Those Bundjalung Mob took me in as one of their own many years ago playing footy there and they're wonderful, beautiful people. My daughter was also born up that way in Mullumbimby – the country up there will always hold a special spot in my heart for me."



Buddy King with the didgeridoo he auctioned for flood victims.
Right: A closer look at the artwork.

Koori Mail

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Millions pledged to rebuild communities



FLOOD victims in NSW will get another much needed injection of joint federal and state funds totalling \$855 million, with a focus on Aboriginal communities and rebuilding roads.

The package builds on nearly \$3 billion already committed by both governments including almost \$1.4 billion that the Federal Government has already paid direct to people in affected areas.

More than \$312 million will rebuild roads that were severely damaged from flash flooding and mudslides, especially in the Northern Rivers region.

Some \$168 million is slated to replace and build new social housing units along with a dedicated funding focus on Indigenous residents.

Cabbage Tree Island, where multi-generational Aboriginal families have lived for more than 100 years, was particularly hit hard during the relentless floods.

Both governments have now committed to disbursing \$70 million to build new homes for more than 170 residents who were displaced.

An extra \$50 million will also go towards the repair and reconstruction of Aboriginal community infrastructure owned by Local Aboriginal Land Councils (LALC). Other parts of the package include \$100 million going towards rebuilding community, arts and cultural facilities such as libraries, playgrounds and parks.

Crucially, \$36 million will be allocated for urgent works and repairs of flood levees battered by rains across northern NSW.

Jali Land Council chief executive Chris Binge said he was "so excited to announce that the Land Council will receive this money from the government to help with the rebuild of Cabbage Tree Island".

"We're not talking about what might be, or what could happen, this is confirmed and it's something all of you know how hard I have been

working to achieve this outcome for the whole of our community,"

"These funds are for you, and for the Land Council, because it doesn't say the funding is for Ballina. It doesn't say its for Lismore, this is funding that will directly impact Cabbage Tree Island,"

"But this is just the first phase. The next phase is to work with Council and Public Works to get the demolition started on the island so that we can rebuild again. Rebuild in a way that suits us and the needs of our people and the needs of our community."

"We will have regular updates and meetings here at the LALC about this and we will be in consultation with the community over and over until we get it right. This announcement is big. This is massive for Cabbage Tree Island. This is a guarantee that we will be able to rebuild our lives."

"This is about going home."

● More flood pictures and stories, pages 26 to 33

Message to our subscribers

As a result of the major floods in Lismore, the Koori Mail newspaper was unable to go to print for the first time in 30 years. As we rebuilt our office space, three editions of the newspaper were missed. We would like to assure our subscribers that their existing subscriptions will extend to cover those three newspapers.

History calls: time

By CHRISTINE HOWES



THE time is as right as it will ever be for a referendum on First Nations' Constitutional Recognition, an Uluru Statement of the Heart Dialogue meeting decided.

The meeting was held earlier this month in Cairns and Yarrabah, and included a youth forum, the largest gathering of senior First Nations leadership since the Uluru National Convention in 2017 and a visit to the birthplace of the 1967 referendum campaign – the Tree of Knowledge in Yarrabah.

The call came less than a week after Uluru Dialogue co-chair Noel Pearson told former Prime Minister Paul Keating at the Judith Neilsen Institute there had not been a public policy issue as protracted and as involved as constitutional recognition of Indigenous Australians.

The end result of the far north Queensland gathering was the leaders, including Mr Pearson and youth, agreeing on the Yarrabah Affirmation which reaffirmed their commitment to the Uluru Statement from the Heart, and called for a constitutionally enshrined Voice.

Kimberley's leader Nolan Hunter said it was a continuation of the journey.

"This is a continuation of the long journey about Indigenous people striving to be heard," he said.

"There are lots more people across the whole of Australia, not just Indigenous people, but non-Indigenous people supporting the Uluru statement and a referendum and an Indigenous voice."

Uluru Dialogue co-chair Professor Megan Davis said they were feeling positive.

"It's been a very long, almost five years," she said.

"We've all been working toward this for so long and now that an election has been announced, and the fifth anniversary is coming, we are saying, 'we're ready, the work's done'."

"That's what the Yarrabah affirmation is about – it's been five years and over that five years we've put all the ducks in a row."

"The work is done and the time is now."

Making the call from Yarrabah, and in the presence of 1967 campaigner and Elder Alfred Neal, she said it was about bringing the two campaigns together.

"Each time we come out we listen to him and his family history," she said.

"What he's been through and the incredible work he and his community did in 1967, and that's why we are here at Yarrabah, because we wanted the two campaigns to come together – 1967, which was the most successful Australian referendum in Australia's history, and the Uluru campaign."

"Here we all are ready for the next successful referendum."

Youth spokespeople Bridget Cama and Allira Davis agreed.

"We feel the same as our senior leadership that the time is now," Bridget said.

"We, as young people, have seen our Elders and the people that have come before us do all the hard work and allow us to join the journey, to get the job done, and that is for a successful referendum for a First



Standing at the Tree of Knowledge in Yarrabah are Mala Nea, Pat Anderson and Elder Alfred Neal with Uluru Dialogue co-chairs Noel Pearson, Professor Megan Davis and Yarrabah Mayor Ross Andrews. Pictures by Christine Howes (chows.com.au)



Uluru Dialogue co-chair Pat Anderson.



Uluru Dialogue co-chair Noel Pearson.



Uluru Dialogue co-Chair Professor Megan Davis.

Nation's voice in the Constitution."

Allira said said bringing all their voices together was important.

"I think it's very important our young people have a voice, our future is also on the line," she said.

Uluru Dialogue co-chair Pat Anderson said they were feeling optimistic and re-energised.

"It has been 55 years since First Nations Peoples in Australia first sought to be counted," she said.

"We agreed today we will not stand another year with no movement or progress."

"It is time to take the first step and start delivering on the ask in the Uluru Statement."

Mr Nolan said it was important not to underestimate the Australian people.

"People, particularly governments have to acknowledge the wider Australian community who are behind this," he said.

"Do not underestimate the Australian people who appreciate and understand, and have aspirations for the legacy and future of their generations to come, particularly with the Indigenous people in Australia."



Youth delegates Bridget Cama, Allira Davis, Alisha Agland and Alanna Reneman are making sure young people's voices are heard too. "I think it's very important our young people have a voice, our future is also on the line," Allira said.

for change is now

The Yarrabah Affirmation

ON Sunday, April 10, 2022, First Nations delegates, including senior leaders and youth, met on Gunggandji Country at Yarrabah with Alfred 'Pop Alf' Neal, the last surviving member of the Lantern Movement and a leading campaigner of the 1967 referendum.

Two referendum campaigns came together at the Tree of Knowledge on the Yarrabah foreshore. This was where many activists used to gather under the light of hurricane lamps to strategise.

It is where the 1967 referendum was planned.

There have been two referendum campaigns. The first was the 1967 campaign where First Nations people sought to be counted.

Pop Neal is one of the last surviving activists of this campaign, the most successful referendum in Australia's history.

The second is the new 2023 referendum campaign where First Nations people are seeking to be heard through a constitutionally enshrined Voice to the Parliament.

We are asking the 47th Parliament to put this question to the Australian people in the next term of parliament.

We came together to make this Affirmation at Yarrabah:

We are united behind the Uluru Statement from the Heart.

We are committed to seeing the constitutional enshrinement of a First Nations Voice as the first step in the roadmap of the Uluru Statement.

Our First Nations youth inspired the Uluru Statement from the Heart and the campaign for structural reform.

We are inspired by our Youth gathered here who make our future bright. In 2017, we left basecamp at Uluru, and started our trek across this vast country.

We invited the Australian people to walk with us in a movement for a better future.

A majority of the Australian people have accepted the invitation.

Each day, more Australians are joining.

The Uluru Statement from the Heart has touched the hearts of Australians.

It has been 15 years since Prime Minister John Howard committed his Coalition Government to putting constitutional recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to a referendum of the Australian people.

Every prime minister since – Kevin Rudd, Julia Gillard, Tony Abbott, Malcolm Turnbull and Scott Morrison – maintained the commitment to constitutional recognition.

The question was what, how and when – and we have been working hard on these questions for five years.

The "what" was decided at Uluru: First Nations people want constitutional recognition through a Voice to Parliament.

The "how" is near completion.

The work is done.

We will soon submit our proposed wording for constitutional recognition of a Voice.

The "when" is in the stars.

From all points of the southern sky we can see alignment in the 47th Parliament.

27 May next year will be the 56th anniversary of the 1967 referendum and the 6th anniversary of the Uluru Statement.

It is the coincidence between the overwhelming success of 1967 and the historic consensus of the Uluru Statement.

Who would have thought that history and the future would coincide and give us such a day?

There is great premonition in this.

Early 2024, Saturday, 27 January is the day after Invasion Day/Australia Day. These are propitious dates.

The time is now right.

The stars will soon align.

The politicians were not ready for Uluru in 2017.

But now the Australian people are.

We call on all sides of politics to support our call.

History is calling.



The Uluru Dialogue meeting participants walk along the Yarrabah foreshore.



Percy Neal takes the microphone.



Welcome to Country given by Mala Neal.



Uluru Dialogue delegates Joann Schmider (Cairns), Parry Agius (Adelaide) and Delilah MacGillivray (Sydney).



Elder Sammy Wilson speaking at The Knowledge Tree in Yarrabah.



At The Yarrabah Knowledge Tree was Sophie Coffin, Tyson McEwan, Cherie Sabisado, David Baird, Tyrone Garstone, Nolan Hunter and Anthony Watson.



Yarrabah Councillors Kenneth Jackson and David Baird, Wayne Bergmann, Anthony Watson, Geoff Scott, Lucy Davis, Dameyon Bonson, Allira Davis, Eddie Synot, Parry Aguis, Bridget Cama, Professor Megan Davis, Tyrone Garstone, Nolan Hunter, Pat Anderson, Sammy Wilson, Sally Scales, Walter Scales and Yarrabah Mayor Ross Andrews.

NLC warns remote Aboriginal people may miss out on voting



THE powerful Northern Territory land council has raised concerns about low voter enrolment in many Indigenous communities.

The Northern Land Council (NLC) said the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) had failed to implement the widely used automatic enrolment policy in remote communities.

It means about 30 per cent of eligible residents aren't on the electoral roll six weeks out from the federal poll scheduled for May 21.

"This whole business has been going on for far too long," NLC chair Samuel Bush-Blanasi said.

"We still see far too many of our Mob being left off the roll.

"Any policy that diminishes the democratic rights of one group of citizens diminishes the rights of everyone."

The NLC said direct or automatic enrolment using data from Centrelink, the Australian Taxation Office and motor vehicle registries had been implemented across Australia to add voters to the electoral roll.

But as many as 40,000 people could have been left off the roll in the NT because the AEC hasn't applied the policy in remote communities.



Northern Land Council chair Samuel Bush-Blanasi said many Aboriginal Territorians in remote areas did not have mailboxes.

"This isn't good enough," Mr Bush-Blanasi said.

It comes as the Human Rights Commission continues to mediate a complaint about the AEC's alleged failure to provide proper enrolment services to Aboriginal Territorians. Matthew Ryan and Ross Mandi lodged the complaint in 2021 alleging the AEC had excluded Indigenous people without a postal address from the

electoral process.

The AEC won't automatically enrol these people to vote because it can't send a written notice to them.

The policy affects many residents in remote Indigenous communities where many homes don't have mailboxes and most residents rely on a central postal address.

The NLC says the complaint, if upheld, could show the AEC has systematically discriminated against Aboriginal people on the basis of their race and their living circumstances.

About 30 per cent of the NT's 251,396-strong population are Indigenous.

Across Australia, 17,690,746 people or 96.3 per cent of eligible people are estimated to be enrolled to vote and 657,839 are not enrolled.

The AEC estimates there are 52,755 Indigenous Territorians of voting age and 36,696 or 69.6 per cent were enrolled to vote.

Nationally, 79.4 of Indigenous people are enrolled to vote and the estimated enrolment rate for the whole NT is 85.8 per cent.

"We are absolutely committed to closing the enrolment gap," Electoral Commissioner Tom Rogers said.

"We've worked hard to achieve what has been year-on-year growth that has not only outstripped the broader national enrolment rate but the growth in the population of Indigenous Australians as well."

The AEC said it was also working to improve its direct enrolment system and had recently completed a trial using emails to send notices to new Australian citizens, instead of the post.

The outcomes of the trial are being assessed to see if it's possible to use email as an alternative to post.

The AEC also emailed or texted about 600,000 potentially unenrolled voters across the country reminding them to enrol.

About 19,000 of these were to residents in remote and very remote areas.

"The stimulation event particularly supports reaching remote and Indigenous communities where there are no gazetted street addresses," Mr Rogers said.

The AEC plans to roll out mobile polling stations in remote Indigenous communities during the election.

"We use 4WDs, light planes, helicopters and occasionally barges to get into remote communities with as few as 20 enrolled voters," Mr Rogers said.

-AAP

Advertisement



WALKING WITH FAMILY

For our children, we all walk together, to keep them safe, strong and connected to culture. Community organisations you trust are here to walk with you. To contact them and find free and confidential support near you, visit the Family Wellbeing Services website. Because we all want the best for our kids.

Visit familywellbeingqld.org.au

Authorised by the Queensland Government, William Street, Brisbane.



Inquest to examine police conduct on the day of shooting



A CORONER says she wants to understand why police shot an Aboriginal teenager three weeks after a court cleared the Northern Territory officer who killed him of any wrongdoing.

Kumanjayi Walker, 19, was shot three times in November 2019 as he resisted being handcuffed in Yuendumu, north-west of Alice Springs.

Magistrate Elisabeth Armitage says the inquest cannot undo the past but will give the teen's family and the community the chance to express their distress and hopes for the future.

Distress

"We will endeavour to not simply hear them, but understand them," she told the Northern Territory Local Court in a directions hearing on March 29.

"In a fair and balanced way we will seek to better understand what happened ... and why it happened, with the



Kumanjayi Walker

goals of determining the truth and and making recommendations that may assist in preventing future deaths in similar circumstances."

Ms Armitage said the continued grief and shock over the teen's traumatic death was likely adding to the feelings of anger, fear and confusion.

"The family's and the community's voices have not yet had an opportunity to be heard and understood,"

Ms Armitage said.

Mr Walker died after Constable Zachary Rolfe, 30, fired three shots into him as the pair and another officer scuffled inside his grandmother's home.

The teen had stabbed Const Rolfe in the moments before he was shot and had threatened two other officers with an axe three days earlier.

The Yuendumu community's grief over Mr Walker's death was compounded on March 11, when Const Rolfe was acquitted of intentionally killing the teen following a five-week trial.

Betrayed

After Const Rolfe was cleared, Mr Walker's family said they did not believe justice had been served and the community felt betrayed.

"We are all in so much pain, particularly our young men. They have struggled.

"They have been scared but still, they respected this process and so has our whole community," Mr Walker's cousin and family spokeswoman

Samara Fernandez Brown said on the steps of the Supreme Court in Darwin.

"We have been respectful, but still we have been let down."

The trial heard allegations Const Rolfe and three officers ignored orders and didn't follow police training when they entered the dark home where the shooting happened.

The final scope of the inquest, scheduled for September 5 in Alice Springs, is yet to be determined.

However, Counsel Assisting the Coroner Peggy Dwyer told the court it would examine police conduct on the day of the shooting, the operation to arrest Mr Walker and any changes to practice or training since.

Seven parties will be represented at the inquest including Mr Walker's family, the Yuendumu community, Const Rolfe, the NT police commissioner and his executive team, NT Health and the North Australian Aboriginal Justice Agency.

What the Rolfe jury didn't hear



THE Northern Territory policeman cleared of murdering teenager Kumanjayi Walker allegedly assaulted an Aboriginal man and used excessive force with

three others.

Constable Zachary Rolfe also lied under oath, according to a judge, and sent text messages saying his job was a 'sweet gig with no rules in the wild west doing cowboy stuff'.

The 30-year-old was acquitted on March 11 of all charges related to the shooting death of Mr Walker, 19, in November 2019 during an attempted arrest in the Aboriginal community of Yuendumu, 290km north-west of Alice Springs.

Suppressed evidence not presented to the trial jury has been released in recent weeks about four incidents before Mr Walker's death where Const Rolfe allegedly used excessive force.

The first was during an arrest when the constable allegedly punched Aboriginal man Malcolm Ryder in the head, grabbed his hair and slung him to the ground, rendering him unconscious with cuts that needed 16 stitches.

After the incident in January 2018, Const Rolfe allegedly asked a detective at Alice Springs Police Station to scratch his face so he could blame it on Mr Ryder to justify his use of force.

A local court later found Mr Ryder had no case to answer over allegations he hindered and assaulted police, with Judge Greg Borchers saying Const Rolfe's evidence lacked credibility and he had lied.

"Rolfe deliberately banged his head into the floor as he was being turned over to be handcuffed," he said of the incident.

Const Rolfe is also accused of banging a 17-year-old boy's head into a rock several times, causing cuts, during an arrest in April 2019 and making a false statement to cover his excessive use of force.

About six months later in September, the constable allegedly struck a man who had run away from him causing him to crash with force into a fence.

A month before Mr Walker died, Const Rolfe allegedly pushed another man involved in a domestic argument with such force that he struck his head and needed four stitches.

- AAP

Watchdog to probe prosecution decision



THE Northern Territory anti-corruption watchdog will investigate the decision to prosecute a policeman for murder after he fatally shot an Aboriginal teenager.

Chief Minister Michael Gunner said he supported the probe into improper conduct allegations linked to Constable Zachary Rolfe's arrest over Kumanjayi Walker's death in 2019.

Mr Gunner has previously denied politically interfering in the decision to charge Const Rolfe with murder four days after the shooting.

Independent Commissioner Against Corruption Michael Riches has confirmed he would examine the allegations and the process that led to the murder charge.

"My investigation will focus upon the period between the shooting incident and the presentation of Mr Rolfe for charging,"

Mr Riches said.

Opposition Leader Lia Finocchiaro welcomed the inquiry while calling on Mr Gunner to stand aside while this investigation was underway.

The NT Police Association said it welcomed ICAC's announcement and it was important the community had confidence in the justice system.

The NT Police said it would cooperate with the inquiry.

- AAP



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End of era for Bogaine

By KARINA HOGAN



COMMUNITY radio host, activist, and Kooma/Gamiliraa family man Bogaine Spearim has wrapped up his long serving broadcasting gig at Triple A Murri Country but not without the recognition of his colleagues and community.

Boe was recognised for his unwavering and deeply valued commitment to the flagship program Let's Talk, a nationwide program focusing on current affairs and issues of significant importance to Indigenous Australians.

Spanning more than a decade, Boe was dedicated to focusing on raising awareness about issues including incarceration, history, frontier wars, politics all of which have shaped and continue to shape the experience of First Nations people in this country.

Produced and broadcast four days a week, he was later joined by co-host Karina Hogan who subsequently finished up alongside Boe.

"Boe holds a unique place in the media space, he is a strong black man with love, integrity and a distaste for injustice, we need more Boe's in black media and media in general if we want to see the shift we need to," Ms Hogan said.

Let's Talk was born in the 80s by the late uncle Ross Watson, and was originally played on



Bogaine wraps up decade long role as host to Let's Talk.

4ZZZ and gave a platform to the issues impacting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Since its inception, Let's Talk has been hosted by the late Tige Bayles, Amy McGuire, Chelsea Watego, Karina Hogan and

Angela Hurley (Wild Black Women).

Every presenter brought a different perspective and Boe's no exception.

"I wanted it to be a platform to talk about truth, advocacy, self

determination, history, and anything else that mob thought was of importance" said Boe

"From my very first broadcast I knew this was more than a run of the mill show. I knew I had a responsibility to Mob to have them heard, and treated with care and respect, and I hope I could did that ", said Boe

What's next for Boe?
It's not over for him by any stretch.

His podcast *Frontier War Stories* is dedicated to truth-telling about a side of Australia that has been left out of the history books and for many, that story does not sit well with them.

In each episode, Boe will speak with a cross-section of the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal community about research, books and oral histories which document the first 140 years of conflict and resistance. These times are the Frontier Wars and these are our War Stories.

While continuing to produce his podcasts Boe is moving into the Indigenous health space where he will work to support mob.

Boe says he sees a deep connection and many synergies between the true history of this country being told and the health and well-being of Australia's First Nations people.

You can listen to Let's Talk through the National Indigenous Radio Service (NIRS) or you can download the podcast on all your major platforms.

Indigenous people hit hard by bushfires



RESEARCHERS say the Black Summer bushfire impact on Indigenous Australians has

been made worse by inadequate treatment, including racism, from recovery services.

An Australian National University study reported that Indigenous people were hit hard during the 2019-20 disaster, with many feeling unwelcome at recovery centres after enduring the devastating loss of homes, land and lives.

The ANU Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research study also claimed there were 'scary similarities' during the recent NSW floods.

"So many Aboriginal people were affected by the bushfires," the study's lead author Bhiemie Williamson said.

"They experienced extreme trauma both from the fire itself and the response from non-Indigenous organisations and government agencies," he said.

The study highlighted the need for emergency management plans that addressed Aboriginal people's unique needs, he said.

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Image credit: 'Yanhababirra Burambabirra Yalbailinya' (Come, Share and Learn), 2020 by Luke Penrith for the One Sydney, Many People Strategy.

CRICOS 00026A

COVID excuses cripple Cape York businesses

By CHRISTINE HOWES



AFTER decades of encouraging people in the community to take up small business initiatives across remote Cape York, several enterprises report they are on the verge of collapsing due to visiting government services using COVID as an excuse to cancel their business on-site.

Businessman and Traditional Owner Thomas Hudson built and runs an accommodation business in Kowanyama. He said while it was normal to have reduced numbers during the wet, the number of cancellations – often last minute – was becoming a problem.

“Most of the cancellations are coming from government,” he said. “And when asked for a reason they say, ‘because of COVID’.

“My business is really suffering, when people don’t come up, some of them will pay a cancellation fee, but some don’t. It’s just not working for our business.”

A Queensland Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships (DATSIP) spokesperson said the health and safety of communities was a priority.

“Local leaders are asking that all government employees or contractors be fully vaccinated, that they comply with all COVID-19 public health directions, and visits are restricted to essential purposes only,” they said.

But Mr Hudson said they were using COVID as an excuse.

“COVID has been in Cape York already, so why use that as an excuse,” he said.

“Two things: one is they are preaching we have to live with it.

“Secondly, they don’t know the repercussions for small business like myself.”

Cook MP Cynthia Lui said they acknowledged the problem.

“We acknowledge the impact of COVID on small business in our remote communities,” she said.

“Especially in communities where local small business relies



Thomas Hudson runs an accommodation business in Kowanyama and he is unhappy about customers cancelling their bookings.

heavily on government department visitors who deliver out-reach services locally.

“Since COVID there has been a reduction of visiting services to keep communities safe.

“Some local Councils instigated entry restrictions to protect their communities during the Omicron outbreak.

“We will continue to work with small business and local leaders as we transition back to normality.”

Lockhart River Car and Machine Hire owner Paul Piva has been operating since 2009 and he was also experiencing difficulties.

“Probably 90% of our business is government departments flying in, usually on a Monday, and leaving Friday,” he said.

“We should be powering on at this time now – January, February March – right through the wet season, because there’s obviously

no other way to get in, except to fly in and hire our cars.

“But at the moment, we’ve got one client this week. It’s very stagnant.”

He said he was having the same issue with unexpected and short notice cancellations.

“A lot of the government organisations have cancelled a lot of their trips, I think they’re trying to do a lot of their business via Skype, and all these other gizmos that they use these days,” he said.

“That’s had a massive impact on us, and probably all the other local operators here as well, like the airport and accommodation, it impacts everybody.

“They just don’t realise the damage it does to small businesses that have taken forever to get started.

“Like anybody, you’ve got to run the business, you’ve got to make

money, you’ve got to pay the bills.

“If clients don’t turn up because they don’t want to come up because of COVID, then yeah, it impacts us.

“And we’re not getting any support from anybody, so it’s like you build up a business, and it slowly dies.”

Mr Hudson said his business was in danger of folding.

“My main points are that we’re not going to say everyone should book, because that’s none of our business,” he said.

“But when they do book, please stick to your commitment.

“And that’s what any business will say that because without that money flow, they’re struggling to pay their bills and they’re making ends meet in a very, very tight way, but if they go any further it’s going to mean their businesses fail.”

Mr Piva said it wasn’t just

COVID at this time of year.

He said his community had endured ongoing connection problems every wet season. Already this year they had lost business because of it.

“Two days, the lines were down for,” he said. “I’m telling you, it’s like being back in the stone age, not having any internet and this just proves it.

“One of our clients flew in on the Monday and had to fly out on Tuesday because there was no internet, and no telephone connection. He was supposed to stay here until Friday, so we lost four days of business because the internet dropped out.

“I can’t charge anybody because it’s not their fault the phone lines have been down.

“These are the unseen challenges, I suppose, of living remote.”



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Get your kids vaccinated to keep our mob safe.
Visit nsw.gov.au or call **1800 020 080** for assistance.



SCAN TO FIND OUT MORE



East Pilbara dig reveals 50,000 year old history



A WEST Australian archaeological dig has confirmed Aboriginal people have lived in the eastern Pilbara region for more than 50,000 years.

Archaeologists analysed stone tools, charcoals, and bones collected from the Yirra rock shelter at Rio Tinto's Eastern Channar mine to confirm the Yinhawangka people's ties to the land.

The project, commissioned by the Yinhawangka Aboriginal Corporation (YAC) with funding from Rio Tinto, is the first ever traditional owner-led, non-mining related heritage excavation on Yinhawangka Country.

Great significance

"Yirra has great significance not only to the Yinhawangka people, but also to our Wangarada (desert family) and Ngarngarada (coastal family)," YAC chairperson Halloway Smirke said.

"We hope that Yirra will help us tell our ancestral story to Australia and our future generations."

Initial dating results indicate Yirra is one of the oldest sites in



Excavation activity is ongoing at the Yirra rock shelter in the Pilbara region of WA.

Australia, with Aboriginal people occupying the region at the height of the last Ice Age.

University of Western Australia Professor Peter Veth, who led the excavation team, said there would

be an ongoing analysis of the Yirra site.

"These studies and community voices will feed into community reports and peer-reviewed publications over the next couple

of years," Prof Veth said.

Mr Smirke said there should be other traditional owner-led digs in the Pilbara region.

"We would still be visiting this site if it wasn't for the mining

leases," he said.

"Important sites like Yirra need to be protected, especially when they turn out to be amongst the oldest known places of human habitation in Australia."

YAC Heritage manager Doctor Anna Fagan said it was the first study of its kind to be done, not for mining compliance or heritage clearance, but for Yinhawangka people and Country.

"The Yirra findings help overturn and reset ideas of desert presence in Australia and I'm confident in global narratives," she said.

"I am certain that future Traditional Owner-led, scientifically scrupulous, and collaborative projects of this kind will only reinforce Yinhawangka's enduring custodianship, culture and deep-time story: that these are their lands, and they have always been here," Dr Fagan said.

Rio Tinto Iron Ore chief executive Simon Trott said the mining company would fund further cultural research and archaeological digs.

"This is a wonderful outcome for the Yinhawangka people and we welcome this incredible discovery," he said.



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Decision to rebury Mungo remains is welcomed



THE return of ancestral Aboriginal remains of more than 100 people, including the oldest human skeleton found in Australia, to their original resting grounds has been approved by the Federal Government.

The remains were removed from Lake Mungo in the Willandra Lakes area of south-west NSW without the approval of traditional owners between 1960 and 1980.

Among them were remains known as Mungo Man and Mungo Lady, discovered in 1974 and 1969.

Mungo Lady's remains show evidence of one of the world's oldest known cremations and Mungo Man is the oldest human skeleton to be discovered on the continent.

Both also provided knowledge of ritual burials.



AAG chair Patsy Winch

"While the discovery of Mungo Man and Mungo Lady helped scientists establish that Aboriginal people have been in Australia for more than 42,000 years, it's time to let their spirits rest in peace," NSW Heritage and Environment Minister James Griffin said.

The discovery of the remains paved the way for Mungo

National Park to be declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site, which delayed the reburial.

Reburial required approval under Commonwealth law and Environment Minister Sussan Ley announced in August the federal assessment of a Willandra Lakes Region World Heritage Area Aboriginal Advisory Group (AAG) and NSW government plan.

The remains have been in a safe since being returned in 2017.

AAG chair Patsy Winch welcomed the approval.

"Finally, after all that time has passed, the voices of the elders have been heard and I am thankful that these ancestral remains will finally be laid to rest the traditional way, in Country," Ms Winch said.

She said future projects offered the chance for traditional owners to work with scientific and university institutions with respect and harmony.

NT man shot at six times



AN Indigenous man shot at by Northern Territory police six times after he allegedly attempted to throw a spear at officers faces charges of being armed in public and assault.

The 20-year-old is accused of confronting police with the spear on March 8 in the suburb of Gray in Palmerston, about 20km south of Darwin.

Police have not confirmed how many

rounds struck the man. He was taken to hospital in a critical condition and is understood to still be receiving treatment for his injuries.

Police have charged him with going armed in public, assaulting police and conduct endangering life.

He was issued with a summons to appear in court on May 3, a spokeswoman said.

The shooting occurred three days before NT Constable Zachary Rolfe was acquitted of murdering teenager, Kumanjayi Walker.

Wakka Wakka winning



A 25-YEAR legal battle is finally over for the Wakka Wakka people after the Federal Court recognised their native title claims in southern Queensland.

However, the Wakka Wakka people's fight began in earnest almost 200 years ago, the court heard.

The Federal Court has recognised the Wakka Wakka people's native title claim for two areas located west of Maryborough and Gympie as well as another north-east of Dalby.

It covers a total of 1178 square kilometres of land and waters including the site of the historic Federal Court hearing, the township of Cherbourg.



Wakka Wakka traditional dancers

There was rousing applause from the packed gallery after the decision was announced at Jack O'Chin Oval.

It marked a "day of great joy and celebration" for the Wakka

Wakka people, considered Queensland's third largest Aboriginal community, who filed their first native title claim in 1997.

"It is important to emphasise that the court is not giving the

Wakka Wakka people anything," Justice Darryl Rangiah said.

"The court is simply recognising that which the Wakka Wakka people have always known – that this has always been and will always be your land."

But Justice Rangiah also acknowledged the Wakka Wakka people's battle to maintain their identity since European settlers first colonised their land in the 1840s.

He cited the Cherbourg community itself which was first established in the early 1900s, with Aboriginal people forcibly relocated from Queensland and northern NSW to the government settlement.

"It has been described as something like a concentration camp in which the lives of

Aboriginal people were closely and tightly controlled," Justice Rangiah said.

They were used as slave labour, children were forcibly removed from families and authorities would punish those who used traditional language or customs, usually with floggings.

Native title recognition will now give the Wakka Wakka people a chance to not only survive but thrive, Justice Rangiah said.

"It is a great pity that so many of you who lived through those dark times are not here today – those people should not be forgotten," he said.

"Despite dispossession of their land, frontier violence, segregations, assimilation attempts ... you are still a strong, vibrant, traditional community."

Cops torment restrained Aboriginal teen



A NSW Police officer found to have engaged in 'serious misconduct' when he repeatedly touched a restrained, sedated Aboriginal teenager on the nipple should be charged, the Aboriginal Legal Service says.

An inquiry into the misconduct recommended administrative punishments including coaching or restricted duties, but the ALS wants the officer to face criminal charges.

The findings were part of the NSW Law Enforcement Conduct Commission's investigation that was released recently, following an investigation during which the officers involved were shown footage of the incident.

In the footage, the officer is seen

repeatedly touching the teenager on the nipple and making 'turkey gobbler' noises as fellow officers laughed.

"The officer alleged to have inappropriately touched the young person's nipple conceded that the footage clearly depicted him doing so whilst laughing along with other officers," the LECC said.

The investigation was triggered following a complaint from the ALS on behalf of the boy, who was 15 when the incident occurred in February last year.

"This behaviour is cruel and dehumanising, and the response from these other officers demonstrates an even bigger problem in the culture of NSW Police," ALS NSW/ACT chief executive Karly Warner said.

"When this is the way Aboriginal children are treated by police, it's no

wonder there is a lack of trust in the community."

The teenager was restrained, sedated, and his face covered with a towel on an ambulance stretcher when the officer repeatedly touched his exposed nipple, the LECC reported.

Police later accused the teen of assaulting police, a charge that was dismissed by a magistrate.

The ALS said the teenager was being transported to hospital due to mental health and self-harm concerns.

When officers were shown footage during the LECC examination they conceded they were laughing and it was inappropriate of them to do so.

Investigators concluded those who laughed were not deemed to have engaged in misconduct themselves.

A separate allegation of excessive

force preceding the inappropriate touching was not upheld by the LECC.

"The officer ... explained that the use of force was to prevent the young person, who had threatened and was preparing to spit on the officer, from doing so," the LECC said.

However the inquiry was satisfied the repeated touching of the 15-year-old's exposed nipple while making a noise like a gobbling turkey and laughing with other officers amounted to serious misconduct.

It recommended the police commissioner consider taking "non-reviewable action", which can range from coaching and mentoring, through to warnings, reprimands and restricted duties for the officer.

Ms Warner said the officer should be sacked from the police force and charged.

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The Greens acknowledge and respect the work of the Koori mail, its staff and many volunteers in the First Nations led recovery in Lismore and surrounds.

Authorised by D Hayden for The Greens NSW, Suite D, 263-279 Broadway, GLEBE NSW 2037.

Writing keeps Ruth young

By SUSANNA FREYMARK



AUNTY Ruth Hegarty took up writing when she was 70 years old.

"I can't knit or sew like most people my age," she said. "Give me a pen and paper and I'm happy."

Aunty Ruth's story features on the ABC Golden Oldies series.

Aunty Ruth is a proud Gunggari woman and at 92 she is only just starting to slow down — a little.

She has published five books, the most well known, *Is that you, Ruthie?* is used in schools and universities to teach about injustice.

"When I'm lecturing on it, I feel like I'm not talking about myself," Aunty Ruth said.

When Aunty Ruth was six months old her mother took her to the Cherbourg mission in south-east Queensland. It was during the Depression and Ruth's mother had taken her parents to Cherbourg where she was told they'd be cared for.

Cherbourg was not what they thought it would be and when little Ruthie was four years old she was separated from her mother at another part of the mission and rarely saw her mother.

"Up until I was 14, we had no connection," Aunty Ruth said.

"Trying to catch up with your mother later on is extremely difficult."

At 14, Aunty Ruth was sent to work at different properties—lighting the fire in the morning and doing housework.

This was in the days before electricity, Aunty Ruth said, and it would have made the work that much harder.

Aunty Ruth is the last one left



Aunty Ruth Hegarty started writing at the age of 70.

of the 70 girls in her dormitory from the Cherbourg mission.

"I want to make sure Australia knows how we were treated by the government," she said.

Her book makes sure that portion of the nation's history is not forgotten. It wasn't easy telling her personal story.

"It was my secret," Aunty Ruth said.

She only learned she was Aboriginal when she was 56 years old. And she had two children before she was married.

"I didn't want my children to think badly of me."

There are plans to turn *Is that you, Ruthie?* into a film.

"The story is not dissimilar to *Rabbit-proof Fence*," Aunty Ruth said. "We had it bad."

Later, in her adult life, Aunty Ruth spent years fighting for the stolen wages of Aboriginal people. The government returned some of the money, she said.

Aunty Ruth belies her age and is enthusiastic and determined.

"Back then we weren't allowed to speak out. It became a shame thing."

She is speaking out now.

"One day we will have an Aboriginal premier," she said of the state of Queensland.

There are eight generations of Aunty Ruth's family — she has eight children and 145 grandchildren and great grandchildren.

She is keen to inspire young, Aboriginal people.

"I tell them failure is not a reason to give up."

"You just keep going. There's always another pathway."

After all she has been through in life, Aunty Ruth said

she is "still the same person".

"I knew right from wrong. I'd be there for anyone who got into trouble," she said.

When she was at the mission, the punishment was severe.

"You'd get the strap - the cat o' nine tails or you'd be locked up."

Aunty Ruth encourages everyone to write their story.

For themselves. And for the history of Australia.

You can watch the *90 Years Young Aunty Ruth* video at [vimeo.com](https://www.vimeo.com)



Community consultation on the draft Murray and Murrumbidgee Regional Water Strategies

The New South Wales Government is developing regional water strategies to help manage the water needs in the Murray and Murrumbidgee region over the next 20 years.

From 11 April to 22 May 2022 you can learn more and have your say by:

1. Attending a webinar

Thursday 21 April: 12 pm – 1.30 pm
Tuesday 3 May: 12 pm – 1.30 pm

2. Attending a face-to-face session

Tuesday 26 April: 9 am – 3 pm:
Albury Entertainment Centre,
525 Swift Street, Albury

Wednesday 27 April: 9 am – 3 pm:
Deniliquin Golf Club, 1 Golf Club Road,
Deniliquin

Thursday 28 April: 9 am – 3 pm:
Griffith Exies Club,
6-12 Jondaryan Avenue, Griffith

Friday 29 April: 9 am – 3 pm:
Mercure Wagga Wagga,
1 Morgan Street, Wagga Wagga

Tuesday 10 May: 9 am – 3 pm:
Wentworth Grande Resort,
61-79 Darling Street, Wentworth

Wednesday 11 May: 9 am – 3 pm:
Theatre Royal, 90 Market Street, Balranald

Friday 13 May: 9 am – 3 pm:
Tumut Golf Club, Fairway Drive, Tumut

Monday 18 May: 9 am – 12 pm:
Queanbeyan, 85 Monaro Street, Queanbeyan

**Submissions close at 11.59 pm (AEST)
on Sunday 22 May 2022.**

To register for the webinar or face to face session and to find out more information, including how to make a submission please visit: dpie.nsw.gov.au/regional-water-strategies or email regionalwater.strategies@dpie.nsw.gov.au

BLZ JH RWS



Expressions of Interest

The National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) is seeking expressions of interest (EOI) for the lease of the new Kurnell Visitor Centre Café, Kamay Botany Bay National Park.

Experienced food and beverage operators are invited to provide business proposals for the lease of the café within the new Kurnell Visitor Centre. Proposals must be consistent with the environmental and cultural values of the site.

Construction of the Kurnell Visitor Centre is part of the Kamay 2020 Project, which is a joint Commonwealth and NSW Government initiative. Construction is anticipated to be completed in the second half of 2023.

Submissions close 10:00am on Monday 9 May 2022.

For further information and to apply for this opportunity please visit the NSW eTendering website (tenders.nsw.gov.au) and search using reference **EOI-957**.



BLZ KE0043

Thornton's vision gets stamp of approval



THE next time you post a letter it might be filmmaker Warwick Thornton that helps it get to your destination.

The Kaytetye man is in the company of fellow film veterans Baz Luhrmann, George Miller, Gillian Armstrong and Peter Weir in having his portrait featured on a postage stamp.

The 2022 Australian Legends of Filmmaking stamp issue celebrates the powerful contributions to Australian culture and the global film industry.

The film director and cinematographer is best known for his work on 2009 film *Samson and Delilah*, as well as *Sweet Country* (2017), 2018 television series *Mystery Road* and *The Beach*, a documentary series made in 2020 about Thornton's experience living on an isolated beach.

Australia Post Group Philatelic manager Michael Zsolt said each of the directors had been recognised not only

for their vision, talent and acclaim, but for their diverse and impactful storytelling on a national and international scale.

"Each year since 1997, we've celebrated living Australians who have made a unique contribution to the Australian way of life," Mr Zsolt said.

"The films created by our 2022 Legends all tell powerful stories that connect strongly with Australian audiences and help to shape our perception of not only ourselves but historical events and important socio-cultural themes."

The annual Australia Post Legends Awards celebrate living Australians who have made a unique contribution to the nation through their field of endeavour, inspiring the community, and influencing the way Australians think about themselves.

Filmmaker Warwick Thornton's portrait features on an Australia Post \$1.10 stamp to celebrate Australian filmmaking legends.



Garma is back



Australia's largest Indigenous gathering, Garma Festival is back on in the Northern Territory after it was cancelled for two-years in a row because of the COVID pandemic.

The festival, which usually attracts 2500 visitors, is scheduled to run from July 29 to August 1 in north-east Arnhem Land at Gulkula, a significant ceremonial site on the Gove Peninsula.

"There's always a lot of excitement in the air ahead of Garma but it feels extra special this year after so much time apart," Yothu Yindi Foundation chief executive Denise Bowden said on Friday.

Garma is a celebration of the cultural, artistic and ceremonial traditions of the Yolngu people.

In the past, it has also been an event to discuss the many issues facing Indigenous Australians. Attendees often include high-ranking politicians, business leaders, and academics.

This year's event theme is Nhangga Ngathilyurra, which is a Yolngu phrase which means to look ahead, or look toward the future.

"Our art centres are bursting at the seams with new work to share with our guests, and local bands and musicians are jumping at the chance to get back onstage and perform again," Ms Bowden said.

The 2021 festival was cancelled in May last year over fears visitors to Gulkula could spread COVID into the Top End's many Indigenous communities.

The Gove Peninsula is about 1000 kilometres by road from Darwin.



5th Annual National Indigenous Social & Emotional Wellbeing Forum

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Reduce stigma and discrimination associated with mental health



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Jacob Takurit with wife Renae, daughter Zahli, and son Zeke in Mount Isa.

Jacob at home on the Mount Isa airwaves

By ALF WILSON



IT was a foreign experience for Jacob Takurit of Mer Island descent to be answering questions.

"Normally it is me asking the questions during the many interviews I do each week," Jacob said.

The 33-year-old lives in outback Mount Isa where he is the program manager for MOB FM Indigenous Radio Station.

MOB FM is the community radio broadcasting arm of the Mt Isa Aboriginal Media Association (MIAMA) serving the regional Indigenous community and local businesses of Mt Isa.

"I also host a breakfast show and an afternoon drive program for listeners in what is the heart of Kalkadoon land.

There is also a big number of TS people living here, many from Boigu, and they have jobs in the mines. A lot of our programs are cross-cultural," Jacob said.

Townsville born Jacob arrived in Mount Isa, which is 900km inland from the coast, 15 years ago for a job in the mines.

Life has its twists and turns and I asked Jacob how he managed to get into Indigenous radio.

"I was a volunteer at first and a shift came up and I was offered it and I have never looked back," he said.

Life is going great for Jacob who married Ranae and they have a daughter Zahli, aged one, and a son Zeke, aged two.

While Jacob is happily settled in the 'Isa' he does enjoy travelling down to Townsville when time permits for family gatherings and All Blacks rugby league carnivals.

"I have played for Mer side Eastern Warriors and Burdekin Delta at recent Bindal carnivals in Townsville."

Jacob said Radio stations such as TSIMA (Waiben), 4KIG (Townsville) and MOB FM play an important role in their communities.

"I never thought I would last 15 years here but I have and love it so much," he said.

Helpline is up and running



13 YARN, Australia's first and only national Indigenous-led crisis hotline is now up and running.

Funded by the Australian Government (through the Department of Health), the new purpose-built, 24/7 national telephone helpline is codesigned by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people specifically to help Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

The Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander crisis support line has been developed in collaboration with Gayaa Dhuwi (Proud Spirit) Australia and is run by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander

people with the support of Lifeline.

All crisis supporters will be of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage and are provided with clinical and cultural support. As the line grows, helpline staff will be embedded in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island communities across Australia, with a virtual workforce and training model ensuring that information and expertise can be shared around the country.

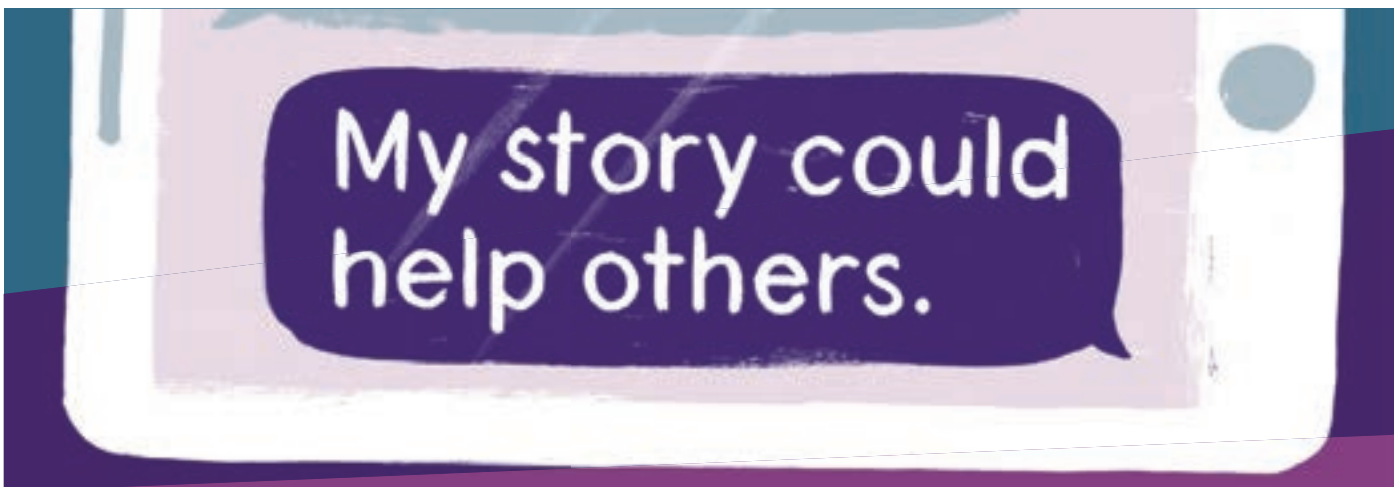
National program manager Marjorie Anderson said every aspect of 13 YARN has been designed to be culturally appropriate – from the non-typical conversation approach to the welcome message and Aboriginal hold music.

"13 YARN offers a confidential one-

on-one over the phone yarning opportunity for mob who are feeling overwhelmed or having difficulty coping. It's a place where they can connect and receive help from a trained Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Crisis Supporter," Ms Anderson said.

"We believe there is always hope at the end of a yarn, we know how to listen without judgement or shame, and we believe in the power of storytelling to heal."

Anyone can access the line by calling 13 YARN [13 92 76] around the clock, where they will be assisted for their immediate situation and, if necessary, referred to culturally appropriate programs and services.



If you're a First Nations person and living with disability, the Disability Royal Commission wants to hear your voice if you have experienced violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation.

We encourage families, people within the community and support networks to share their personal experience as well, should they be able to provide insights.

The Commission acknowledges that sharing these stories may be difficult. That's why you can request a private session with our First Nations Commissioner, and First Nation staff are available to support you in a culturally safe space. What you share in confidence is protected and will remain confidential.

Registrations for private sessions close on 30 June 2022.

Submissions close on 31 December 2022.

There are a number of ways you can make a submission:



Email DRCenquiries@royalcommission.gov.au



Telephone **1800 517 199** (9:00am to 5:00pm AEST Monday to Friday, excluding national public holidays)



Make a **written, audio or video submission** on the website disability.royalcommission.gov.au

If you would like to share your story in a First Nations language or any other language, an interpreter will be organised to translate for you.

If you are Deaf or hard of hearing, you can use the National Relay Service, or text 0459 906 629 for an Auslan interpreter.

Counselling and support is also available to assist.

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into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation
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Four day Mabo celebration

By ALF WILSON



THE 30th anniversary of the Mabo decision will be celebrated across four days in Townsville from June 1-5.

ABIS Community Co-Operative Society on behalf of the local Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal Community Elders of Townsville is seeking support for the event that will celebrate the Mabo decision handed down on June 3 of 1992.

The Mabo high court decision is one of the most significant in Australian history.

Forty years ago in May 1992, a group of Meriam people from the eastern Torres Strait led by Eddie



The monument marking the historic Mabo decision on June 3, 1992.

Koiki Mabo, and including David Passi, Sam Passi, Celuia Mapo Salee and James Rice, challenged 'terra nullius' and lodged a case with the high court of Australia for legal ownership of their island. On June 3 of 1992, the High Court recognised this group held ownership of Mer

(Murray Island).

This decision altered the foundation of land law in Australia and led to the passing of the Native Title Act of 1993.

This provided the framework for First Nations People to make claims of native title.

This was significant for all

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as it brought a sense of acknowledgement and recognition of their culture.

Since the Mabo decision, 52 Native Title decisions have been determined within the North Queensland Land Council footprint, the highest number of determinations nationally.

Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal community Elders of Townsville have agreed that these local celebrations are to include youth, encouraging them to take on and continue the challenge to tackle the unfinished business of reconciliation.

The elders want to give them a voice as the future custodians of their traditional country, to maintain their heritage, story lines, rights and practices.

On June 1, a Meriam meeting will be held and on June 2, there will be an official Mabo corporate dinner with keynote speaker Doctor Bryan Keon-Cohen who was the plaintiff's counsel.

On Friday June 3, there will be an official Mabo Day March from Perfume Gardens to the Eddie Mabo Monument on the banks of Ross Creek in Central park.

This will be followed by traditional dancing and stalls at Central Park. A Community Day will be held on Saturday June 4 at AMR Hall in Aitkenvale.

June 5 will be the final day with Community Fellowship also at AMR Hall.

These celebrations will coincide with National Reconciliation Week.



Australian Government
Australian Heritage Council

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

ASSESSMENT OF PLACES FOR THE NATIONAL HERITAGE LIST

The Australian Heritage Council (the Council), as required by section 324JG of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) (the EPBC Act), gives notice that the Council is assessing whether the following places meet any of the National Heritage criteria:

- (i) North Pole Dome/Meentheena (WA)
- (ii) Binthi Warra Indigenous Heritage Places 'Thaman' and 'Yirmbal' (QLD)

Persons are invited to make comments to the Council on whether any of the above places meet any National Heritage criteria and whether they should be included in the National Heritage List. For information on the National Heritage criteria visit:

<https://www.awe.gov.au/parks-heritage/heritage/about/national>

Comments must be in writing and address one or more of the following:

- (i) whether the place meets any National Heritage criteria
- (ii) if it meets any National Heritage criteria, a statement about how it meets those criteria
- (iii) whether the place should be included in the National Heritage List.

Comments close on **2 June 2022**. Email to AHC@environment.gov.au or mail to:

Australian Heritage Council
GPO Box 858
CANBERRA ACT 2601

The Hon. Ted Baillieu AO
Chair
Australian Heritage Council
20 April 2022

PLACES UNDER ASSESSMENT

WESTERN AUSTRALIA:

The North Pole Dome/Meentheena nomination includes six component sites within the Shire of East Pilbara of north-western Western Australia:

- the North Pole Dome, a circular geological structure located approximately 110 kilometres south-east of Port Hedland and approximately 30 kilometres west of Marble Bar, accessible via the North Pole Road. This site is within WA Pastoral lease N50454 – Panorama, which is a component of Hillside Station
- an area of Unallocated Crown Land adjacent, and to the east of Pastoral lease N50454
- three discrete WA Geoheritage Reserves (identified as Buick, Trendall and Awramik), which are all surrounded by Pastoral lease N50454; and
- part of the former Meentheena pastoral lease, approximately 70 kilometres to the east of the town of Marble Bar, south of the Woodie Woodie-Telfer Road.

QUEENSLAND:

Binthi Warra Indigenous Heritage Places 'Thaman' and 'Yirmbal' is situated approximately 30 kilometres north east of the Hope Vale Aboriginal Community near the Gubbins Range, McIvor and Morgan Rivers, located between Cape Flattery and Cape Bedford.

The National Heritage List includes places with outstanding natural, Indigenous or historic heritage value to the nation, protecting their heritage values under the EPBC Act. The Australian Heritage Database <http://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/ahdb/search.pl> includes information on listed places. Any public comments provided to the Council in response to this notice will be provided to the Australian Government Minister for the Environment, who decides whether to list a place. If you require a map of the assessment area or have questions about the comment process please email: heritage@environment.gov.au

0224SF_2976



nationalparks.nsw.gov.au



Mt Yarrowyck Nature Reserve has been handed back to its Aboriginal Owners!

Come and celebrate with us on Saturday 30th April onsite at Bulagaranda (Mt Yarrowyck) Aboriginal Area, 30km west of Armidale on Thunderbolts Way.

For more information



Australian Government



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Applications close on April 24.



An advocate for her people

Colleen Power, a proud Aboriginal Birri-Gubba Juru (Bowen), Jangga (Mt Coolon), Birri (Collinsville) and descendant from Ugar (Stephen Island), was a passionate and devoted advocate for her people.

Born in 1962 in Bowen (North Queensland), Colleen was raised by her parents, Henry John and Emily Nicol (nee Earl) along with her siblings John, Willia (Billy) (deceased), Jane, Leah and Paula Power (nee Nicol) and their sister Glenys Parter (deceased).

In 1973, her father Henry passed leaving their mother, Emily, to raise them on her own. Although, this was a tough time for the family, especially for their mother, Colleen saw in her mum the strength, resilience and determination to push through and hold to the commitment her parents made to each other to carry on and support each other in every situation and circumstance. Exposed to such strength early on, Colleen grew into a strong woman herself.

Colleen grew up in her father's country, Bowen (Juru) and attended the local state schools up until year 10. After leaving school she started work at the local supermarket as a check-out operator.

At the time she was dating a Darrambal (Rockhampton) and



Colleen Power (nee Nichol)

South Sea Island man Reynold Power. They married in 1981 and together had five children: Nathan, Justin, Luke, Mariah and Quentin. Colleen worked in many organisations in the community and one of her biggest

achievements was working at Girudala, an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisation supporting mob with housing, household essentials and necessities and supporting them to access other crucial services,

such as health and aged care.

At the time Colleen worked there, it was spearheaded by her mother the late Emily Nicol, who was the organisation's president. Colleen and her mum were seen as a dynamic duo and both remained with Girudala until the late 90s.

Emily retired and Colleen went on to work at the Barrier Reef Institute of TAFE, Bowen, running programs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, building their skills and knowledge and setting them up to pursue their future aspirations. She worked at the TAFE until 2000.

Moving to Brisbane at the end of 2000 opened up the opportunity for Colleen to work in organisations and positions that focused on achieving better outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. She worked for the Aboriginal Centre of Performing Arts (ACPA), Aboriginal Recognised Entity Gugingin Billin (non-operational). She also worked for Queensland State Governments and non-government organisations. Some key highlights of her career were setting up the Indigenous First Step Program and Certificate III in Community Safety, advocating for Indigenous children and families involved with child safety, and implementing Reconciliation

Action Plans (RAP) to improve practices and policies of organisations when working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families. Colleen's skills, knowledge, and experiences landed her a position with the Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Protection Peak (QATSICPP). She knew in this organisation and position she would have a greater chance to affect change in an impactful way for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families. Colleen worked here until her passing.

Colleen was a loving wife, mother, and grandmother, a caring daughter sister, aunt and cousin. Family meant everything to Colleen and she lived to spend as much time together with her family as often as possible. She devoted her life to her grandbabies (yalloring). She was their biggest supporter and cheerleader when they played sports. They were her world.

Colleen's legacy and aspirations for her people will continue to live on through her children, grandchildren and their children to come.

Sadly, on April 1, 2022, Colleen stepped into the dreaming with her mum, dad, sister Glenys and brother Bill. She will be always remembered and never forgotten.

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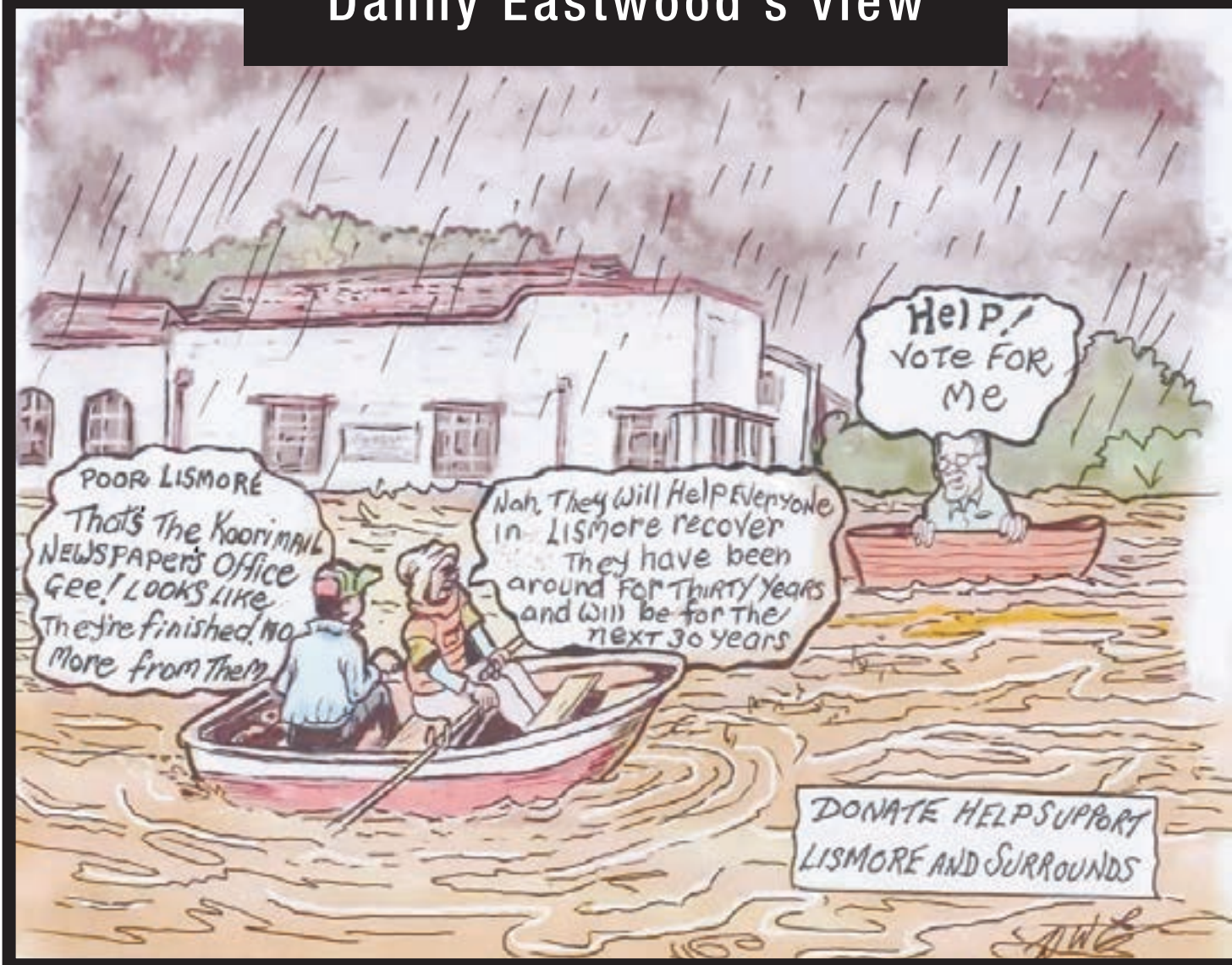
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nbn acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land, seas and skies and we pay our respects to Elders, past, present and emerging across Australia.

Danny Eastwood's view



A YARN WITH...



Glenn Barry

Gamilaraay
Tingha NSW

based on Gold Coast

Quote



"I think the government needs to step up and take a look at what's been happening here at this relief hub, and the successful ways we are helping community to recover during this crisis, and maybe they could learn a thing or two."

— Yuwaalaraay Ngarrabul woman
Jamie Taylor talks about the Koori Mail flood relief effort.

● See page 32

Unquote

Our community is everything

One thing that has become abundantly clear since 'the great flood' smashed Lismore and surrounds in the early hours of February 28 is the importance and strength of community.

On that night, the 'tinnie navy' swung into action, with ordinary people motoring or paddling from house to house saving their neighbours, and moving them to higher ground.

It was scary stuff, but those heroes put their friends and neighbours – their community – above their own safety.

The next day, authorities were warning those very same heroes that they should get their boats out of the floodwaters and leave it to the SES crews, who had been waiting impatiently, on orders from above, to hit the water.

With flood levels peaking more than two metres above anything recorded in modern history, hundreds could have died waiting – for a waiting SES.

Just as when the waters began to recede, it seems most levels of government again adopted the wait and see approach. Meanwhile, the community sprung into action, turning up in large numbers to the *The Koori Mail* offices in Lismore, offering assistance.



While clearing away the debris left after 30 years of publishing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stories, these heroes also set about coordinating and distributing food, clothing and medical

supplies, and all manner of cleaning equipment, to isolated communities across the Bundjalung Nation.

As the various levels of government ran around in circles, making announcements about complex grants and loans, thousands of people across Australia chose to send money directly to where they knew it would help the most.

As we prepare to send this edition off to press, a quick check of the Bundjalung Community Flood Relief GoFundMe shows that our wonderful community of both strangers and friends has contributed \$1,155,000 towards rebuilding the five Aboriginal communities which own this newspaper.

For that we thank you, from our hearts to yours, and hope you enjoy our first edition back.



KOORI MAIL 100% ABORIGINAL-OWNED

The Koori Mail is owned by five Aboriginal organisations on Bundjalung country in northern NSW – Kurrachee Cooperative (Coraki), Bunjum Cooperative (Cabbage Tree Island), Nungera Cooperative (Maclean), Buyinbin Cooperative (Casino) and the Bundjalung Tribal Society (Lismore).

Favourite bush tucker?

Grilled marinated octopus.

Favourite other food?

Roast pork belly 'n crackly.

Favourite drink?

Strawberry 'n banana smoothy.

Favourite music?

Yidaki /didgeridoo.

Favourite sport?

Shorinji Kempo (Shaolin origins – Japanese Martial Arts) and surfing.

Favourite read?

The Body is the Barometer of the Soul
So be Your Own Doctor II
by Annette Noontil.

Favourite holiday destination?

Sumba Eastern Indonesia.

Favourite television?

NRL and #blackAF.

What do you like in life?

To practise my Shorinji Kempo, feel connected, find balance and live healthy ways.

What don't you like in life?

Feeling stuck or thinking too much.

What person would you like to most meet?

Auntie Lorraine Mafi Williams again (RIP) and my great great-great grandmother.

Which people would you invite for a night around the campfire?

Ash Barty, Latrell Mitchell (and the Souths team) would work in the real world. Some close souls (Dhuwi) that share their true hearts (Gii), making some good original music.

Who/what inspires you?

Listening to my intuition and seeing people who get those "aha moments of self-awareness", people who follow their joy and share this vibe with others.

What would you do to better the situation of Indigenous people?

Focus on creative ways of regaining our agency, and supporting the benefits of/as First Nation mob we have in our DNA and to rewrite our stories from our experiences.

Celebrating 10 deadly years of IndigenousX

By SOLUA MIDDLETON



IF you're a Blackfulla and on Twitter, there's a good chance you're following IndigenousX. They've been

bringing conversations about Black Australia to the forefront for the past 10 years, and as they hit this milestone there's plenty to reflect on, and plenty to look forward to.

Luke Pearson is the man behind IndigenousX, he founded it when he gifted his account to the brand with the aim of highlighting Indigenous excellence.

Today he remains the CEO.

The premise of the account was to have a weekly rotating roster of different Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people to host the account and share their views, knowledge and experiences.

The Gamilaraay man recalls the birth of the idea and the moment he said, 'I'm going to do it'.

It was an era of the focus being on countering the deficit through the celebration of 'Indigenous Excellence' — organisations like NCIE, Congress, AIME and NASCA were all in their early days too.

As a young outspoken commentator and mentor Mr Pearson was attending many conferences and moving in circles with other young Indigenous people who he believed would be the next generation of movers and shakers.

At one event in particular, he announced his plans to launch the account, sent a blank piece of paper and a pen around the room and it came back with a few dozen names.

Among them was Benson Saulo, who eventually became the first to host the account.

Mr Pearson said Benson gave us the tweet, "IndigenousX is for Indigenous Excellence, but it stands for so much more! Follow us, join us & RT us — together we can make a difference!".

It's a tweet that has stuck with the founder all this time.

Aboriginal jokes

The former teacher already knew social media was a powerful tool for storytelling and getting cut through in the mainstream media, especially for Indigenous Australians.

He, like many other First Nations Australians were already in the Twitterverse but when his students were given an Aboriginal research topic and he discovered the first result returned were Aboriginal jokes, he shared his befuddlement to the platform.

"I saw kids on these racist joke pages in the school one day," he told *Koori Mail*.



IndigenousX team: Founder and chief executive Luke Pearson, education officer Michael O'Loughlin, creative development managers Rachael Hocking(back) and Aiesha Saunders. Inset: Chief operating officer James Saunders.

"They were proper ones, 80s playground ones — the worst of the worst ones.

"So, what do you do with that?"

"Who do you ring? How do you protest that? Where do you march? What the hell do you do with that?"

It was then he realised the power of social media could be extended for communication, activism and community building.

"I tweeted about it and was like 'this is really bad'," he said.

Someone tagged Google and eventually the algorithm for that search recommendation was removed.

Mr Pearson wondered if it had something to do with his tweet. He learned later that it did after speaking with someone involved who was able to confirm it.

That was when he just had his Luke Pearson account.

Following in this vein, a host for IndigenousX flipped the script and drove change. In 2014, Big W and Aldi came under fire thanks to a tweet from host Aaron Nagas who called out the retailers for selling Australia Day themed shirts blazoned with 'Established 1788'.

Not long after the shirts were pulled from shelves.

Being IndigenousX

But as Mr Pearson points out it's a big job to sit in the seat of IndigenousX for a week.

He says when you sign up to be IndigenousX, people need to come in with a basic informed consent that there's risk and reward with posting on the platform.

"You know what you are walking into, you know what you are putting your hand up for," he says.

"You're putting your hand up in a space where all the media

operate — that is a very high-profile account — it's got 75,000 followers. You've got to be ready for whatever might come.

Taking on the Twitter handle isn't for everybody.

"You write an article for the *Guardian* and you talk to 70,000 people, for a week, and that's not for everyone," he said.

But for those who are up for it and can use it, there can be great wins.

"If you've got a campaign, if you're trying to raise funds, if you're an educator, a communicator, if you're an academic or a community worker, if you're like anyone in that spot, this can be the best week you've ever had, and it could be like a year's worth of what you'd have to do elsewhere," he said.

"So, if it is for you, you can just step up and go f***ing 'whack' and knock it out of the park."

Hosts publish an article in the *Guardian* to coincide with their Twitter takeover.

Mr Pearson acknowledges that for some people it might be 'the only thing they ever write that gets published anywhere' and it's one of the things he loves most about that partnership.

"We have a lot of people on the site who have only ever written one thing once that gets published, and they're real proud of that, and I love that it is something we are able to provide for people," he said.

IndigenousX is more than just Twitter

The evolution of IndigenousX has busted through the walls of the web.

"I've always said IndigenousX is a philosophy more than a business model," he said,

"People think of us as social

media ... but we fill gaps, we meet needs, we fill community requests where possible."

They began writing their own articles and criticised other media for not doing things properly.

"Rather than just yelling at them to do it properly when they clearly don't want to, maybe we just start doing stuff," he said.

One of the big things to come out of that is anti-racism and professional development for teachers in schools and other sectors.

Their program digs deep into people's understanding of racism.

"I think a lot of anti-racism is too focused on white people — what they think and do. It focuses on them as individuals and it ignores systems," Mr Pearson said.

John Howard recently said that he didn't think there was underlying racism in Australia but instead believed there are racists in Australia.

It's a position that Mr Pearson believes has been pushed for the past 20-30 years to frame racism as an anomaly.

"That kind of had an impact on the Australian psyche as well, where you talked to a lot of organisations and they think it's individual behaviours and they are very focused on white people wanting to think they're not racist," he said.

"A lot of the focus has been more on that than improving outcomes for mob and empowering mob, and handing back control to mob."

"So, with our training, we don't go in and go like you're trained with the rubber stamp. We go in and go, 'no, this is what racism is, this is what institutional racism is and how you fix it is with policies, with funding, with governance, with representation, with what all

the evidence has said and has always said about how you make meaningful change."

But he doesn't do all this work by himself.

Mr Pearson says it's important to highlight the other members making up this evolving organisation.

Joining him in the ranks is James Saunders as the chief operating officer, Aiesha Saunders and Rachael Hocking as the creative development managers, Rhianna Patrick as the head of audio and podcasts, Michael O'Loughlin as the education officer and Natalie Cromb as the commissioning editor.

As they now look to the next 10 years, Mr Pearson knows that Indigenous-led media and Indigenous-led things need to succeed to show other mob they too can succeed.

It's personal, and he wants IndigenousX to be a safe employer.

"I don't want you to take a pay cut to work for IndigenousX, just because you are doing it for mob," he said.

That vision for the future is an open one, and Mr Pearson wouldn't be disappointed to find that in a decade's time IndigenousX has served its purpose with the 'next generation taking over and doing something better'.

"I'm happy to be a stepping-stone on the big collective journey that we're on," he said.

"As long as I can leave that legacy — whether that's tomorrow or ten years or when I'm gone or, whenever."

"I'd like it to only exist for as long as it has value to people, as long as community want it, and mob want it, and as long as we're doing something that matters."

Festival brings young mob to the ballot box

Pictures by MICK HARVEY (MH) and PAUL CONNELLY (PC)



IN February, almost 5000 people descended on the Rumbalara Football Netball Club in Shepparton on Yorta Yorta country, Victoria, for Treaty Day Out.

The mini music festival was organised to bring people together to vote in a by-election for the First Nations Peoples' Assembly of Victoria, north-east division, to replace former member Nartasha Bamblett who stepped down last year.

Musical acts included Archie Roach, Yothu Yindi, No Fixed Address, Scott Darlow, Alice Skye, Madison Colville Walker and others.

After the votes were counted, Travis Morgan was confirmed as the successful candidate.

Mr Morgan is a descendant of the Yorta Yorta and Wemba Wemba peoples and grew up within the Aboriginal community of Echuca.

He said he wants to ensure

north-east community voices are included in the Treaty framework.

"I'd like to sincerely thank the Aboriginal community in the north-east for taking the time to vote for me and having the confidence in me to listen and give voice to the issues that they raise. I look forward to getting around and having a yarn with people," Mr Morgan said

Assembly co-chair and Bangerang and Wiradjuri Elder Aunty Geraldine Atkinson, also an elected Member from the north-east region, acknowledged the north-east community for participating in the process.

"I'm proud of our north-east community for such a strong voter turn-out. Treaty is our chance to take back control and put our people in the driver's seat. To do that, we need to join together and show government that we've got strength in numbers. This is history-making work we're doing and each of us has a role to play."



Archie Roach. Picture MH



Bart Willoughby on drums. Picture: PC



Rock on! Victor Marks, Ringo Terrice, Derek Hayes, Alicia Atkinson, Amanda Briggs and Big Smoke PC make the most of the music festival vibe. Picture: PC



The guitarist and drummer with Australian music's hottest new dynamic duo Marlon x Rulla rocked the crowd. Picture: MH



Legendary band No Fixed Address. Picture: MH



From left: Karyn Ferguson, Will Morgan, Marnie Morgan, Uncle Mookeye, Sandra Bell, Robyn Briggs and Willard Briggs. Picture: PC



Madi Colville Walker on stage. Picture: PC



The iconic Yothu Yindi hit the stage, offering their trademark performance of light and sound, music and dance. *Picture: MH*



Wergaia woman Alice Skye on stage. *Picture: PC*



Scott Darlow. *Picture: PC*



Gustaf Von-Zweigbergk, Drew Berwick, Levi Power, Gavin Ryan, Linda Andonopoulos and Vlad Mageanu helped festival-goers to vote. *Picture: MH*



Callum and Dean Bridgent. *Picture: PC*



Kiah Darlow. *Picture: MH*



Johnny Lovett and Tom. *Picture: PC*



Marlon Motlop performs as one half of Aussie music duo's Marlon x Rulla. *Picture: PC*



Marli Hudson and Brad Braun. *Picture: MH*



Sam McIntosh, Lily Shearer and Jay Little. *Picture: MH*



Faye Lynam. *Picture: PC*



Yothu Yindi dancer. *Picture: MH*

No justice in racist system

The acquittal of Zachary Rolfe for the murder of Kumanjayi Walker last week has left Aboriginal people and our allies across Australia despondent, hurt, and betrayed, with more than 500 Aboriginal deaths in custody, and still not one conviction.

In West Australia we sat through the trial for the murder of JC, shot by an officer in Geraldton last year and resulting in an acquittal by a jury – a jury which included no Indigenous people. Indigenous people are simply told that racism is not a factor in the killings and deaths of our people, many of whom were young with lives before them. We know this is not true and that racism played a real role in their deaths.

Over 20 years ago I studied the killings of Aboriginal people by non-Aboriginals, identifying a clear pattern of unequal treatment. This was evident from early contact and an observation by a concerned Swan River colonist that 'No Jury Will Convict'. In practically every case studied the non-Indigenous accused was acquitted. The acquittal would happen regardless of evidence of guilt. If not acquitted, the conviction would be for a lesser offence than murder, namely manslaughter.

The violence used against the victims in the cases was horrific, with the evidence of racial motivation frequently denied in the



Hannah McGlade

court room process. Time and again it was clear that juries that comprised no Indigenous peoples and were largely all white had refused to place weight on evidence that could lead to a finding of guilt and conviction. As one victim's family asked, 'How can the jury reach a verdict of not guilty when the defendant has admitted to going back to finish them off?'

My research made several recommendations to address racial violence and ensure that Aboriginal people were properly represented in jury trials, however, this has not occurred.

It seems that we cannot have

an open debate about racism and racial justice in Australia, unlike in the US where these issues are commonly engaged, and where newly elected President Biden, along with his deputy, the first Black woman to hold the position of Vice President, declared he would ensure justice prevailed for African American people.

In the 1980's Aboriginal people across the nation marched on the streets for justice for the Aboriginal men who were dying in custody, in police and prison cells. Many died in violent and brutal circumstances such as young John Pat killed by several off-duty police officers who'd been drinking that night at the Roebourne pub. They were eventually charged, although not convicted.

We know now that Aboriginal women and girls are the single most over-represented prison population. The deaths of Ms Dhu, Ms Day, Rebecca Maher and many more has become the new norm, highlighting the relevance of the US movement #Say Her Name also on our lands. Nobody has been charged for their deaths.

The family of Walker in their public statement, broadcast only on National Indigenous Television, said this:

'It was hard to come here. We thought we were coming to a neutral ground, where we would

have a multicultural jury, instead of just non-Indigenous people, but there were no Yapa (Indigenous) people on that jury. We felt we were left out. Are we not part of Australia? We want Yapa people on that jury. It's always Kaardiya (white) people on that jury, they see through their eyes but they need to see through our eyes too.'

There should be no more police guns in their communities and Zachary Rolfe should face their law, they said. Police that come to the communities should meet Yapa Elders, senior knowledge holders and their own community police officers. They should learn from the people how the community works, and gain a better understanding.

'We are the custodians of this land. We need to be recognised as true owners.'

For too long our people have been made silent in the face of the racism and violence that is endemic and systemic in Australia today. We are constantly told we cannot talk about it and are punished when we speak out. We won't be silent in the face of the wrongful deaths and killing of our people. Evidence of racism in this country is widespread and the issue of jury bias must be addressed.

Reconciliation Australia is now urging people to be brave and take

brave actions to address systemic discrimination that is blighting the lives today of so many people. However, reconciliation has become a superficial process in Australia, concerned more with corporate image and economic financial incentives than racial equality.

Aboriginal people know that there is no progress, that engagement is superficial and even worse, that things appear to be going backwards.

Take the Australian Law Reform Commission Inquiry Pathways to Justice tabled in federal parliament in late 2019. Aimed at reducing incarceration and supporting Aboriginal community justice responses, the report has largely gathered dust as incarceration and deaths in custody steadily rise.

The decision in the NT Supreme Court highlights the imperative for meaningful structural change to ensure our voices are properly heard. But with the Uluru Statement from the Heart having been dismissed by two Prime Ministers while our people still die young, it's fair to say we have not come very far at all. As Kumanjayi's family asked 'When are we going to get justice? When?'

● Hannah McGlade is a Kurin Minang Noongar woman of the Bibulman nation. She is a dedicated academic, human rights advocate and lawyer.

Keep our political voice strong

Our Mob have been resisting the colonial invasion of this country from the very first European footprints left on our beaches. This has involved active battle within the frontier wars to active protest against generations of government policies that have continued the settler invasion.

The violence, disease and dispossession resulting from colonisation has acted as a cultural and physical attempted genocide over our people, and for those who remained, survival came at the expense of culture, family, land, language and independence: All the price we paid for the whiteman's 'protection'.

We were made wards of the state and subjected to policies that gave government the power to determine where we could live, who we could marry, and where we could work – denied our control over every aspect of our lives with the establishment of government reserves, missions.

We were segregated from the rest of Australia, living in third-world conditions and did not have anywhere near the same rights as non-Indigenous Australians.

We were seen as problematic, un-Australian and we were forced into slavery and assimilated into



Woolombi Waters

Australian culture.

We were forced towards community driven protests in order to keep our culture alive. Without these movements there would be no debate today regarding the attempted genocide ... yes genocide – of the oldest culture in the world, previously hidden within the pages of white history. In the past many historians have consistently used the figure of 20,000 Indigenous Australians and about 2,000 colonial soldiers, police and settlers having lost their lives within the original frontier wars.

Truth is this is a conservative estimate, based largely on the academic research of Henry Reynolds, John Connor and others... that figure,

translating to about 10 Indigenous deaths for each European killed, has been hotly contested. Today research suggests that the real frontier war fatality figure is close to 50 Black deaths to that of every white colonialist.

We will never know for certain. The documentation needed to determine an exact figure has never existed or has been destroyed, be it wilfully or accidentally. What we do know is that the stories of our massacres are everywhere in the archives of the major cultural institutions of Australia and Great Britain. The diaries, letters, journals and memoirs of colonial and postcolonial officials, troops, police, farmers, frontiersmen and women are full of accounts of massacres of our Mob.

These stories are often defined by a chilling, deeply disturbing openness as the killers remain so detached from the humanity of their victims. It's a detachment to human life that is engrained within the very consciousness of Australian identity and that of the West.

More recently our own protest movement, reflected in our strength and truth-telling, has been infiltrated by the 'freedom movement'. Initially centred around anti-lockdown and anti-vaccine sentiment, for almost two years the movement has

seen protesters, particularly in Melbourne, take to the streets to reject government COVID health measures.

As lockdowns lifted, the movement's leaders shifted their attention to vaccine mandates. This year protesters have descended on Canberra, talking about everything from the dangers of vaccination to QAnon-adjacent theories about paedophiles within the Australian government. At the extreme edges are those who claim they are willing, as 'sovereign citizens', to launch a full government takeover – violent or otherwise.

Terms such as sovereign citizens, used as political slogans, have driven our own political resistance from the very beginning of the invasion but they are now losing significance as they are appropriated by fringe right wing supremacist groups who have never previously supported our struggle.

Not only the controversy over the Tent Embassy which started our year but also the Invasion Day rallies which saw numbers fall by the thousands as Mob stayed home not wanting to expose themselves to non-vaccinated protestors and because they didn't want to align themselves with the far-right and the anti-vax movement.

As Blackfellas we need to take stock and have a

good look at the people behind this freedom movement. Pre-pandemic, QAnon are known to believe that the world is run by a group of paedophiles who drink the blood of children, stating this is why Pharrell Williams and others like Oprah Winfrey and Jay Z stay so young and not appearing to age.

During Oprah Winfrey's interview with Prince Harry and his wife Meghan that aired on March 7, 2021, social media users shared posts online claiming that Oprah was wearing an ankle security monitor while under house arrest in the interview.

These claims are linked to the QAnon conspiracy theory that alleges Donald Trump was waging war against these social elites. The images in the posts were later revealed to be simply creases in Oprah's boots.

Prior to the infiltration of far right conspiracy groups who invaded our own protest movement, we were making significant inroads into established institutions of racism where over the previous five years we had seen more people march with us on Invasion Day than attend official Australia Day celebrations.

Last year the ABC ran a survey that found a majority of support, for the first time, for changing the date of Australia Day. The Australia

Talks National Survey 2021 revealed a majority of people now believe Australia Day should not be celebrated on January 26, given the historical trauma of that date for our Mob.

The number of people who agree with that sentiment has jumped by 12 per cent since the last Australia Talks survey in 2019, one of the biggest moves in public sentiment ever seen.

And young people want the date changed. A recent survey by CoreData Australia, covering 1250 Australians aged 18 and over, shows younger people are less likely to celebrate the day. Almost 70 per cent of Gen Z participants – people under the age of 26 – said they did not intend to celebrate.

The Roy Morgan poll released during the week of Invasion Day found almost 65 per cent of participants younger than 25 supported January 26 being referred to as Invasion Day instead of Australia Day.

With such change happening in our country we can't let right-wing extremism infiltrate our own protest movement. We owe it to our old people and the generations to come to say no and retain our own voice. There is just too much to lose.

● Woolombi Waters is a regular Koori Mail correspondent.

Here's how you can stay COVIDSafe every day



Wear a mask.



Keep windows
and doors open.



And get tested
if you have any
symptoms.

**Get your third dose now,
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COVIDSAFE
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Here we go again! The Koori Mail building begins to flood for the second time on March 30. Pictures: Nick Paton

Koori Mail stands with devastated community

By NICK PATON



THE big white building sitting on the bank of the Wilsons River in Lismore has been home to the Koori Mail since 2002.

After a major flood on February 28, the Koori Mail was unable to print for the first time in its 30 year history.

General manager Naomi Moran said not publishing for the first time in 30 years was a difficult decision to make.

"We are all affected by this," Naomi said.

"Our local Bundjalung communities have become our priority for now, they have all been affected by the devastating impacts of this flood.

"We are extremely concerned for their welfare and have been working hard to support them in their hour of need," she said.

"We are down but we are not out."

The Koori Mail lost everything during the first major flood in February, including precious archives, documents, artworks, files and personal possessions.

Following the advice of emergency services that flood waters could potentially reach the 2017 major flood level of 11.59 metres on the Sunday evening of February 27, Naomi rushed to the Koori Mail building in the Lismore CBD.

Along with her husband Eddie and other staff members, Naomi had one thing on her mind: to move valuable equipment like computers, hard



Koori Mail's general manager Naomi Moran and husband Eddie Ragamate rushed to the Koori Mail offices to save equipment just hours before the February 28 flood destroyed the entire office.

drives and servers to higher ground.

"What is precious to us was what's on those computers," Naomi said.

"That's all our page layouts, basically everything that we need to print a paper."

Shortly after returning home, Naomi learned the flood was expected to exceed well beyond the 2017 flood level.

She headed back to the Koori Mail building for a second time that evening to move any equipment in hands reach to even higher ground, up to

the third floor.

Stuart Corlett from the Koori Mail's advertising department has worked with the paper since it began. He said he got the call from Naomi soon after midnight advising him of the new flood warning – just hours before the basement and first floor of the building would be completely destroyed.

Stuart jumped straight out of bed and rushed to the Koori Mail building to help Naomi take the final opportunity to salvage valuables.

"I couldn't believe it when



Clean up of the flood aftermath wouldn't have been possible without the support from a group of Fiji Pacific Scheme workers, based in Lismore, who did most of the heavy lifting after the first major flood.

Naomi said the flood was expected to peak beyond the 2017 major flood level," Stuart said.

"When I got down to the building we were joined by a number of our Fiji friends who were helping to move any equipment we could grab.

"It was a mad rush trying to get all the valuable equipment and technology that we could carry up to the third floor of the building," he said.

"In the little time we had, we managed to move all the staff computers and hard

drives, upstairs."

"All we could do then was wait to see what would happen."

Naomi said she remembers the morning of Monday, February 28, and trying to see snippets of buildings from helicopter footage on the news to see what kind of damage the Koori Mail building had sustained.

"There was just that overwhelming anxiety around wondering, 'did it get to that third floor?', that's all that I was worried about.

(continued page 27)



The *Koori Mail* prepares for a second major flood in just four weeks.



A photo of *Koori Mail*'s Stuart Corlett, who helped to save valuable equipment from being destroyed by floodwaters, was found among the debris.



30 years of *Koori Mail* history washed away.



Lismore's Keen Street was one of the last parts of the CBD where floodwaters receded.



Noel King and his family were back in the Lismore CBD helping to clean up after the second flood.



Chris Costello who has worked with the *Koori Mail*'s advertising department for more than 14 years was one of the first staff members on the scene after the first major flood on February 28.



"Thank goodness the computers were moved upstairs," said *Koori Mail* sub-editor Cath Hunt after seeing the state of her office after the February 28 flood.



A Fire and Rescue crew member helps to clean up the debris outside the *Koori Mail* headquarters.

(continued from page 26.)

The *Koori Mail* has kept a print copy of every single edition of the newspaper from the past 30 years.

"They're completely gone," Naomi said.

"There was a \$20,000 Albert Namatjira original floating around there too. Just gone."

"For the first time in history, even though we are 100% self-funded, we need people to hold our hand during this process," Naomi said.

"Hold our hand, support us where possible, whether it's contributing to the *Koori Mail* rebuild fund, or taking a bit of pressure off, and making sure we can rebuild our office."

The clean up of the February

flood aftermath wouldn't have been possible without the support from a group of Fijian Pacific Scheme workers, based in Lismore.

They did most of the heavy lifting, removing large pieces of damaged and destroyed furniture along with other non-descript debris, directly after the first major flood.

The workers only migrated to Australia a few weeks ago, and are now residents of Lismore.

They were instrumental in the rescue and recovery efforts in Lismore and made themselves available at any time for the community and surrounding towns.

Chris Costello from the *Koori Mail*'s Advertising department

was one of the first staff members on site after the floodwaters receded from the building, lending a hand for days on end to help clean up the damage.

"Working for the *Koori Mail* for 14 years, I've seen it flood around our building before, but never this bad," Chris said.

"Everything, except for the computers and hardware we moved upstairs, is gone. Absolutely everything."

"It was an absolute shit-fight," he said.

The *Koori Mail* lost thousands of dollars worth of brand-new merchandise along with 30 years of important history.

Among the mud and debris, Chris was able to salvage a box

of CDs containing important documents and files.

"We'll see how we go washing the CDs and what we can get off them," Chris said.

"I've tried to format a couple already but the ones I have tried seem to be corrupted."

"It looks like we will be starting everything from scratch."

The second flood to hit Lismore on March 30, again wiped out the basement of the *Koori Mail* building.

This time, with the relief hub having been up and running for a few weeks it wasn't long before volunteers arrived to start the clean up again.

Noel King and his family were among those who headed back to the *Koori Mail* building

to resume the clean up, as soon as the flood waters had receded enough to drive into town.

"I just can't believe this has happened again," Noel said.

"We are so grateful to all the volunteers who came down just before the second flood hit to help us move all the valuable equipment, food and resources that our communities are relying on, out of the basement (of the *Koori Mail* flood relief hub) to higher ground."

"Otherwise we would have lost it all again."

Please donate to the *Koori Mail* REBUILD Fund:

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Locals share their

By NICK PATON



LISMORE has experienced massive floods in the past but no one in the community was prepared for what would turn out to be two of the most destructive floods on record to hit the area, all in the space of a month.

In 1954 the Wilson's river reached a catastrophic height of 12.4 metres, the worst flood the town had ever witnessed, a record now broken by the 14.2 metre flood that came smashing through town with little warning on the morning of Monday, February 28.

The second recent major flood event to inundate Lismore's CBD on March 30 is also among the worst recorded, peaking at a level of 11.4 metres.

Widjabul Wiabul woman and member of the *Koori Mail* board Tracy King said witnessing the first major flood on February 28 was terrifying.

"It was horrific actually," Aunty Tracey said.

"The water came up so fast, out of nowhere, and all of a sudden it was like — Panic! Panic! Panic!" she said.

"I could hear people screaming out for help and old people crying, it was just terrible."

"I just knew that I had to stick with the other people I was with, and so we waited until we were rescued."

"I just don't know what to say to be honest, everything in the house was destroyed. I only managed to walk out with my handbag so it's indescribable what thousands of others have gone through. This is a disaster in the true sense of the word. And natural disasters do not discriminate."

Lismore local Candy Wilson said the flood on February 28 was an extremely traumatic event that the whole community experienced together.

Candy lost everything in her home and was at the *Koori Mail* relief hub picking up supplies to clean her house.

"It's amazing to see our community come together through this tragedy, and to see us all sticking together as one during this tough time," Candy said.

"I've lost everything, alongside thousands of others who have lost everything," she said.

"We have lost our possessions, our beloved pets, and what's even more disturbing is that we have lost people too, our friends, our loved ones."

"But it's not just our homes that were destroyed, the businesses in town have been wiped out too, so that means losses of jobs in the area, and that means it's potentially going to take us a very long time until we are back on our feet as a community."

"There's not much else we can do other than to stand together, and be kind to each other as we move through this."

A number of *Koori Mail* staff were affected by both floods, losing their homes and possessions, in some cases



Lismore local and *Koori Mail* board member Tracey King said, "This is a disaster in the true sense of the word. And natural disasters do not discriminate." Pictures: Nick Paton



The February 28 flood is the worst on record.



Towns and villages in Bundjalung Country were devastated by the floods with hundreds of homes destroyed and thousands of people without a place to stay. Picture: Charlotte Wighton Photography

not once, but twice.

In Coraki, *Koori Mail* board member Janis Kapeen evacuated, along with her mother Alvina, to sister Vanessa's house on higher ground.

Long-time *Koori Mail* editor Rudi Maxwell was on leave when the flood hit. She evacuated with her two dogs in a *Koori Mail* car, which became their home for almost a week parked outside the Coraki evacuation centre.

The floods devastated the little town, which sits on the

convergence of the Wilsons and Richmond rivers ('Coraki' means meeting of the waters' in Bundjalung language) along with towns on the lower Richmond, including Woodburn and Broadwater. Rudi had hoped that her home would be safe, having never had the floodwaters come through her house before, but it was not to be and, as for so many people, the muddy waters destroyed the contents of her home and left her without a place to stay for a few weeks. But she is

grateful that her house is still standing.

Senior journalist and acting editor Darren Coyne said the first flood was one of the most terrifying experiences of his life.

"To be honest, I did think we were going to die," Darren said.

"Sitting in the rafters, watching the water rise, my partner Chelsea and I cuddled, trying to keep warm, while also trying to remaining Zen in the face of something terrifying and unexpected. I had no shirt, and

was covered in putrid flood muck, and Chelsea was also soaked and shivering. So we cuddled."

"Our two dogs — Bender and Vera — were now sleeping soundly in the rafters, happy to finally be above the water, and out of the canoe, which had kept them alive that evening as the water rose."

"Although I love him, in the midst of everything else going on, it's true that Bender almost killed me!"

After lifting 'the old bugger' into



Melissa Bolt, pictured with Candy Lawson who lost her entire home in the first major flood that hit Lismore on February 28.



Local man Jarmbie turned up to help out. Picture: Charlotte Wighton Photography



Actor Luke Carroll, whose voice you will have heard if you listen to our podcasts, headed up to Lismore from Sydney to lend a hand with the clean-up. Picture: Charlotte Wighton Photography



The entire first floor of the *Koori Mail* was submerged in the floodwaters, where up to seven offices once stood — now just a bare shell waiting on the rebuild.

stories of survival



Monica Cicchinelli who works in subscriptions at *Koori Mail* with her sister Michele Laurie, both lost everything in the February flood.



Koori Mail staff member Susan Andrews helps remove the contaminated floor coverings from the advertising department.



All of the *Koori Mail*'s records, files, archives and precious artwork among the debris awaiting to be picked up and taken to landfill.

(continued from page 28)

the roof through the hole Darren had smashed through the ceiling in his office, Bender managed to push his way back through a ceiling manhole on the other side of the roof cavity – perhaps thinking he needed to rescue his dad – and jumped into the flood water below.

"A bit of underwater action later, my half-blind, 12-year-old pup and I were reunited."

"Once we were all up high and dry, Chelsea and I cuddled for the next six hours.

"The torch died and we sat in

darkness. We barely spoke. The only noise was the relentless rain, drumming ominously on the tin roof above us. My phone was dead."

"The water had reached about a foot from where we were sitting inside the ceiling cavity, and I remember Chelsea telling me she was terrified we were going to drown, and later admitting this theme had become a recurring nightmare."

"The water continued to rise. It was time to go to the next level. Onto the roof."

"Although I was not really keen

on getting wet again, I laid back on the rafters and kicked a section of the 60-year-old tin roofing until it finally cracked. Our dark was suddenly light."

"From the rooftop, all that could be seen were the tops of neighbour's buildings and brown, fast-flowing water. But there was also a boat, about 500 metres away, heading in the opposite direction. Bill and Tom, who already had three others on board, turned around.

"Chelsea managed to save our most precious things, clutched to her chest in a hard hat, while I

scooped up the dogs and climbed onboard."

Bundjalung woman Monica Cicchinelli from the *Koori Mail* accounts team lost her entire home and possessions.

"The water just came up so quickly," Monica said.

"So by the time I realised what was happening, it was too late, I was waist deep in flood water."

"I'd been checking the front steps all night to see if the water had reached me and even at midnight there was no water to be seen."

"I didn't sleep much that night

knowing there was a real risk that we were going to flood while I was asleep – and within a few hours the house was going under," Monica said.

"All I managed to save and take with me was a box of photos of the family and kids that I'd moved to a higher shelf just a couple of hours before the water came through."

"Everything else is gone."

The *Koori Mail* has set up a go fund me to make sure nobody in the community goes without: gofundme.com/f/bundjalung-community-flood-relief



Social Media coordinator Amarina Toby and a volunteer attempt to salvage and restore precious artwork from the rubble.



Volunteers take a break outside the *Koori Mail*'s relief hub to celebrate International Women's Day.

Flood relief hub for the people, by the people

By NICK PATON



WHEN *Koori Mail* headquarters were completely destroyed by floodwaters on February 28, general manager

Naomi Moran didn't hesitate for a second in finding ways the *Koori Mail* newspaper could help the community.

With a simple post on social media and a couple of phone calls and emails, in a matter of hours the entire flood-ravaged *Koori Mail* site was transformed into one of the biggest and reliable flood relief hubs in the Northern Rivers area.

But it didn't stop there. A Bundjalung Flood Relief Fund was immediately set up through GoFundMe and has amassed more than \$1 million in the six weeks since the flood.

"This years NAIDOC theme *Get Up Stand Up Show Up* is testament to the hundreds of volunteers and donors who have come together to bring the *Koori Mail's* flood relief centre to life," Naomi said.

"They got up, they stood up and they showed up."

Tens of thousands of items of donations poured in and it took a dedicated team of selfless volunteers to deal with the influx of stock.

Everything from toothpaste, toothbrushes, kettles, toasters, brooms, mops, cleaning supplies, gas cylinders, generators, fuel, washing powder, bin bags, hammers, screwdrivers, shelves, clothes and bedding have been donated to the relief hub.

The donations have come from across Australia.

"It's not just about your groceries and your cleaning products, your bedding and your clothes — we're providing a holistic approach to what the community needs," Naomi said.

"We've got a medical team here, we've got people to assist with health and wellbeing, we've got massage therapists and people doing body work."

One of Naomi's first tasks in setting up the relief hub was to build a response team.

For more than six weeks, Bundjalung Gaangalu woman and *Koori Mail's* social media coordinator Amarina Toby, Bundjalung woman Ella Bancroft, Barkindji woman Kirilly Dawn and Midi Shuvali have led the coordination of the relief hub.

From essential food and supply drops to flood victims in Coraki and Cabbage Tree Island, to cleaning houses in Evans Head and flying food in via helicopter to Gundurimba, these



The Indigenous-led flood relief hub at the *Koori Mail* building in Lismore provided support to the community throughout the flooding event. The operation is run by volunteers and supplied by donations. Picture: Charlotte Wighton Photography



Koori Mail social media coordinator Amarina Toby coordinated the day-to-day operations of the relief hub. Pictures: Nick Paton



Amit (Midi) Shuvali from Darling Point in Sydney volunteered weeks of her time helping to coordinate the *Koori Mail's* flood relief hub.



Volunteers Ella Noah Bancroft and Kirilly Dawn have been there since the start helping to establish and run the relief hub.

staunch women haven't stopped.

"When the government failed everyone in the Lismore and surrounding Northern Rivers community, it was Naomi and the Black community who stepped in to support," Kirilly said.

"Naomi has been leading the relief hub with integrity, grace and humour. She has helped hundreds of families throughout Bundjalung, leaving no one behind."

Volunteer Midi Shuvali was instrumental in the administration of the relief hub, spending weeks as a second set of hands and coordinating critical tasks.

Midi said she was watching the crisis in Lismore unfold on television in Sydney when she felt the urge to pack a bag and head up to help.

"I couldn't continue with my

normal life in Sydney working and going out, and having fun with my friends, while all this was going on for the people of Lismore who have been left with nothing," she said.

"So I got in my car and just spent a day driving up."

"Since then, I've been using my past military experience to assist Naomi with things like finding vulnerable people and families suitable accommodation and other administrative tasks like donation registers, and sourcing generators and other big ticket items that are desperately needed."

Bundjalung woman and renowned artist Kylie Caldwell said she was at the *Koori Mail* relief hub helping people and families who have lost all of their possessions and are struggling

and needing help.

"We're talking about people from all walks of life who are needing everything they lost in the floods like food, water, and clothing," Kylie said.

"But also, people who have been injured can come here and get treatment for their cuts and bruises as well as basic medical supplies they can take home."

Kylie said the experience has been 'full-on' every day since day one at the relief hub.

"People are shattered," she said.

"And I can see that for many people this is going to be a very long healing journey."

Kylie said one of the saddest circumstances she encountered while working at the relief hub was that of an elderly woman

who had broken her arm cleaning her flood damaged house all on her own.

"I just couldn't believe it. The poor lady was in a sling, but it just shows you the resilience of this community, because she was here to pick up more supplies so that she could continue cleaning her home."

"We sent out a volunteer cleaning crew to help her."

"There is a lot of emotion going on here at the flood relief hub," Kylie said.

"You can see just how much people appreciate the help and support they have been provided, because people are just so thankful."

The *Koori Mail* flood relief hub is open weekdays 9am-5pm and weekends 9am-3pm at 11 Molesworth Street, Lismore.



Free cleaning supplies and equipment, donated to the community, have been available at the relief hub for more than six weeks for those in need.



Dunghutti men Barry Vale and Barry Roberts dropped off much needed donations.



Bundjalung woman Kylie Caldwell has volunteered at the relief hub for many weeks to give back to her community.



The food bank at the Koori Mail relief hub houses thousands of cans of food, all of which have been donated.



Inset: Volunteer nurse Mindy(right) has been providing basic medical support in the hub's medical centre(main picture) while daughter Freya(left) has been helping with hub organisation.



Kirsty Laing and Danae Elarde drove up from Newcastle with a van full of donations.



People came from far and wide to help out. Ryan Cornish arrived from the Gold Coast with donations.



Members from Macleay Vocational College in Kempsey arrived at the relief hub with donations for the community.



Andy Hannagin showed up with a heap of donated food from Bounce Snackfoods.



The ADF assisted with building a ramp for access to medical supplies and a treatment area.



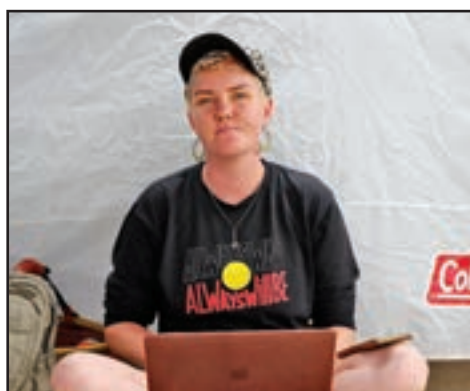
Annie Chapelle from the Byron Bay Coffee Company donated delicious snacks to the relief centre and quality hardware like tents, bedding and garden equipment.



Hundreds of pairs of shoes have been donated so far.



Yuwaalaraay Ngarrabul woman Jamie Taylor from nearby Kingscliff.



Maddy Braddon from Resilient Lismore.



Volunteers Michael Walker and Joe Hedger showed up at the relief centre day after day to help their community.



Monica Hammond, Nicole Roberts and Melinda Breckenridge have spent weeks at the relief centre keeping things rolling.



Chelsea Claydon and Izzy Walton have served more than 24 thousand meals (and smiles) to the Bundjalung community at the relief hub since it began six weeks ago.



Shane Philips, Ashley Moran and Noel King have helped to coordinate donations coming in and out of the relief hub.



Pat McCulkin, Jesse Marshall, James McKenzie, Jackson Harvey, Kurt Harris and Tyron Roser helped demolish the destroyed interior walls and offices of the Koori Mail.



Volunteer James Rae has provided essential support at the relief hub since the first flood hit.

An army of volunteers

By NICK PATON



HUNDREDS of people have volunteered their time at the Koori Mail relief hub since the floods hit Lismore at the end of February. Many flood survivors lost their homes and possessions in the first major flood that hit Lismore on February 28.

Shane Philips, chief executive of social enterprise Tribal Warrior in Sydney's Redfern, flew up to the relief hub to drop off donations and lend a hand.

He said seeing the community do all of this for themselves, by themselves, and responding to the crisis in this way was something that he was

absolutely blown away by.

"This is a movement," Shane said.

"There's food, equipment and essentials that are coming in just as fast as they are going out. The people of this town and all the surrounding Countries have mobilised to make this happen all by themselves.

"But at the same time, I'd like to see more leadership from the government in these times of crisis.

"It can't be an us-and-them thing, this has got to be a co-designed operation to deal with what can only be described as a complete catastrophe."

Yuwaalaraay Ngarrabul woman Jamie Taylor from Kingscliff in the NSW far north coast has been helping people all

over the Northern Rivers area during the flood recovery.

"Although I haven't been directly affected by the floods, I can see just how much the floods have devastated almost every community that surrounds me in the region," Jamie said.

"I just had to be here because there's always something a volunteer can do, and it's so lucky there are so many volunteers here, because there doesn't seem to be a lot of government leadership happening in response to the biggest natural disaster Lismore has ever seen.

"I think the government needs to step up and take a look at what's been happening here at this relief hub, and the successful ways we are helping community

to recover during this crisis, and maybe they could learn a thing or two."

Joe Hedger has been volunteering his time at the relief hub knowing how much the communities of the Northern Rivers needed help.

"This is our mob, so it's important we get the donations sent here first so we can allocate them and get them out to our communities as fast as possible.

"We don't want our communities to be forgotten about, and that's what I'm here for."

Michael Walker said the stories he has heard since volunteering at the relief hub have been nothing short of harrowing.

"You've got people here who

are breaking down and crying, their lives have completely fallen apart, and so to have a set up like this, which is so community-focused and community driven is testament to the resilience of mob," he said. "But we need as much help as we can get here, so the more people that can get down here to pitch in, even just for a couple of hours, the better."

Volunteer Han Marko from Goonengerry in NSW said the relief hub is an example of community helping community.

"It's an absolute joke that the government still hasn't come to step in at this stage," Han said.

"It's just been the community stepping in and stepping up to make things happen, when it seems as though the government is showing no empathy



Volunteers Jade Kruizinga and Kati Garnett.



Anna Hutchcroft from Newrybar has been helping with hub coordination.



Bundjalung woman Aunty Rose Walker has been instrumental in the management and coordination of collecting, sorting and distributing donations.



Volunteer Leela Carroll from nearby Ewingsdale.



Azza More from the Glen Centre travelled from Maroubra to volunteer at the relief hub.



Will Palmer from Meerschaum Vale donated boxes of hobby farm limes.



Tasma Barton and Nikki Turner from Goonellabah donated essential items.



Volunteers Cami Piazza and Freya Woodland have provided countless hours of their time to keep the relief hub running smoothly.



Nox Palu, Eddie Ragamate, Dumax Rasuluta and Wilson Lovokuro have spent weeks at the relief hub helping the Bundjalung community.



Daimon and Mandie Clark came from Brisbane.



Volunteer Michael Bible at the hub.

flood into Bundjalung

whatsoever for the enormity of this crisis situation."

"The community members and volunteers showing up with their love, their heart, their passion, and their soul, is something truly spectacular."

Pat McCulkin and a group of mates who work together in the Byron Bay area came to the *Koori Mail* building to help remove the water-logged interior walls and ceilings of the destroyed office space soon after the first flood.

"We've been up to Mullumbimby and we've seen the destruction the floods have caused up there, so we helped there a bit," Pat said.

"We saw all over the news how bad it was here in Lismore so we arranged to all come over

together to see what we could do to help out and lend a hand."

"And when we heard the *Koori Mail* office building had been so badly damaged, we came straight to the site here and got to work demolishing the whole office area, including all the internal gyproc walls and ceilings so that the *Koori Mail* can start to rebuild as quickly as possible."

A food bank at the relief hub has provided ongoing warm meals and support to flood victims and volunteers since the first flood.

Volunteers Chelsea Claydon and Izzy Walton have been serving the community from day one.

"I did one day here at the *Koori Mail's* relief hub, and fell in

love with the community spirit, and haven't looked back," Chelsea said.

"The hub has just expanded and grown bigger and bigger as the days roll on and now we're serving up to two thousand meals a day," she said.

"This has been a traumatic experience for so many people and what we're finding when we talk to the people who've been affected by the floods, is that a lot of them are out there are doing it tough.

"As much as people might need a hot meal, just having a yarn with people is so helpful too. Here I can do both of those things, so this is where I need to be."

Chef Izzy Walton said since the *Koori Mail's* food bank

started up, more than 24,000 meals have been prepared and handed out to the community.

"Come and get what you need, it doesn't matter if you need a little or a lot, it's all here for you and it's healthy and it's nourishing," Izzy said.

"Everyone needs some comfort food and some stability during these times of crisis, so this is just a way that I can give back to my community."

Jade Kruizinga said the feeling at the relief hub was chaotic and overwhelming in regards to how many people she could see in desperate need of food, help, and supplies.

"But the good thing is, everyone is keeping their spirits up, and that's making this a good experience," she said.

"We have been trying to source good quality donations for the relief hub and so it's great to see what's been coming in the last couple of days."

Leela Carroll said volunteering at the relief hub has been totally inspiring and profoundly beautiful.

"There is nowhere else right now that I'd rather be," Leela said.

"I've have friends and family who have lost everything, so to see people coming together in this way has really restored my faith in humanity, to be honest."

If you can volunteer your time, expertise, or help, please head to the *Koori Mail* relief hub at 11 Molesworth Street in the Lismore CBD and make yourself known.

Grants to elevate craft of Indigenous writers

By SOLUA MIDDLETON



A GROUP of Indigenous writers from across Australia will build their literature goals thanks to a grant from the

Australia Council.

The ELEVATE initiative is in its first year and aims to develop the careers of First Nations writers, editors, illustrators and arts workers in the literature sector.

Australia Council's manager First Nations Industry Initiative, and project lead for ELEVATE Jorjia Gillis said the project was open to people at all levels of their career.

Ms Gillis said there was a strong field of applicants but what stood out about these recipients was that they all had proven themselves in the sector and were self-motivated.

"It was really their voice and sharing what opportunities they want, and saying what the grant would improve for them," Ms Gillis said.

"It also wasn't just about them, it was about their communities too."

Bigambul and Wakka Wakka woman Melanie Saward from Queensland was one of six recipients to be awarded the grant.

Working as a writer, editor and university lecturer based in Tulumur (Ipswich), Ms Saward hopes to use the grant in various ways.

The first was using the grant to attend the recent Blak and Bright First Nations Literary Festival.

The other way will be to get feedback on her writing.

Ms Saward has published several times and had some manuscripts shortlisted for various literary awards, but said she was frustrated that would become an end point without getting further feedback.

"I've come really close to getting some mentorship or even publication, but it was mentorship that I was really after," she said.

"It's just got to that point with mine, you keep getting shortlisted for things but you don't always get feedback."

Instead of wondering why it didn't make it to the next stage, she will use some of the money for a manuscript assessment where someone will write a short report about her work.

The process will put her manuscript under the microscope to look at things like characters and the plot as well as making suggestion for other areas for change.

"You know that it's good enough to get shortlisted, but it's not good enough to win or get published, which is fine ... but you worry that when you're gonna fiddle around with something that you might inadvertently ruin what was good about it," she said.

Ms Saward is also hoping this opportunity will help her to connect with other Black writers.

"I've got a great writing community, but it's not Mob, and then I've got a great community of Mob here, but they're not writers," she said.

"Sometimes just having people who are both is really, really important, and



Australia Council's manager First Nations Industry Initiative and project lead for ELEVATE Jorjia Gillis.

so I wanted to build that community."

One of the challenges of being an Indigenous writer is the gatekeepers.

"It can be more difficult to get Indigenous stories published," she said.

"Sometimes they become a genre of their own in commercial publishing houses and so if they've got one Blackfella on their list, they don't want another Blackfella on that list."

But she believes that change is on the way.

"We're seeing people crying out for more diverse stories, and I think people are interested in our stories and the breadth of that and starting to understand that blackfellas are not a monolith and we're all different from different backgrounds," Ms Saward said.

"You know, we got lots of stuff in common, but we also got lots of stuff different too, and I think there can be an extra barrier when you're presenting something that doesn't buy into some of the stereotypes."

"But you know, I'm pretty bound and determined to write the stories I want to write."



Melanie Saward was one of the \$5000 grant recipients. Picture: by Paul Pugh.

Elevate grant recipients

CARL MERRISON (Carl Kija/Jaru) is an author from Halls Creek in the heart of the Kimberley, WA who will use the grant to develop a humorous picture book aimed at bush kids across Australia – and to increase understanding, reconciliation and connection between city kids and bush kids.

CELIA COULTHARD is a proud Adnyamathanha woman, an artist and producer at Adelaide Festival Centre who will use the grant to support networking and the program development for OUR WORDS 2022 – an annual literary and storytelling event.

BROOKE SCOBIE is a queer Goorie single mum, poet, writer, podcaster and community worker who will use the grant to work towards her first full-length novel, allowing the time and space to develop and refine her craft.

KIRLI SAUNDERS is a proud Gunai Woman and award-

winning writer, artist and consultant. She will work closely with Bundjalung editor, Grace Lucas Pennington, Nimunburr and Yawuru Publisher Rachel Bin Salleh and the Magabala Books team to develop her collection of poetry.

LENORA THAKER is a proud Torres Strait Islander woman with connections to Erub and Mabuiag living on Yidinji and Yirrganydji Country in far north Queensland. Lenora used the grant to attend the Blak & Bright First Nations Literary Festival in Melbourne to build important networks and develop her skills as a fictional genre writer.

MELANIE SAWARD is a proud descendant of the Bigambul and Wakka Wakka peoples. She is a writer, editor, and university lecturer based in Tulumur (Ipswich). The grant will support Melanie toward two novel projects, and she also used a portion to assist her in attending the Blak & Bright First Nations Literary Festival.

Culturally responsive palliative care matters



CHANGING the way Indigenous people are treated in palliative care begins with a culturally responsive workplace.

An undergraduate palliative care curriculum run by Nicole Hewlett aims to change the way staff connect with those needing care.

Ms Hewlett is a Palawa woman from Lutruwita (Tasmania) and she is the National Indigenous Project manager at the School of Nursing at Queensland University of Technology.

The inspiring national program has been running for 23 years.

"A culturally responsive workforce is where it begins," Ms Hewlett said.

"Many of our people cannot access non-Indigenous work styles."

Ms Hewlett asks the question: How do we bring in non-Indigenous people on the journey and how can we build trust?

"It is about understanding the way our people see sacred times such as at the end of life," she said.

"These times are deeply revered in our communities and disregarded by non-Indigenous.

"They don't give space for



Palawa woman Nicole Hewlett is behind an inspiring national undergraduate palliative care curriculum.

that connection."

The space for that connection, the building of trust and learning from each other is how Ms Hewlett sees palliative care serving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

"Our Aboriginal way of

doing and being.

"It is about all human beings. It is about spirit."

It only takes one person to have the openness to do things differently, Ms Hewlett said.

"For one person to say – 'I'm going to get to know you

and your spirituality.

"I have as much to learn as I have to give."

It sounds so simple.

And perhaps it is if there is a willingness for non-Indigenous people to connect.

"One of the most beautiful things about our people is they will shift in the moment," Ms Hewlett said.

"Don't assume there are boundaries."

The program Ms Hewlett oversees across the nation is about building the capacity of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workforce to understand palliative care. The program also builds the capacity of non-Indigenous staff.

Key to this is the availability of culturally safe resources.

"Resources are often written about us, without us which means our voice is lacking, along with true knowledge and education," Ms Hewlett said.

Through the program a toolkit has been developed.

"The toolkit has been decolonised and built again from the ground up on foundations of the sovereign spirit of our people."

The toolkit on Caring for Australian Indigenous peoples affected by life-limiting illness can be viewed at pcc4u.org.au

Amputation numbers are a national shame



ABORIGINAL and Torres Strait Islander people experience amputation at twice the rate of non-Indigenous people.

In Australia, 8.9% of amputees are Indigenous.

Limbs 4 Life chief executive

Melissa Noonan said the figures are "utterly shameful and massive cause for concern".

A new report revealed the number of amputees in Australia by 2050 will have doubled. The report, prepared by KPMG, showed the hidden costs linked to amputees will climb dramatically from \$1.7 billion (the current cost) to \$32.9 billion by 2050.

By 2050, the report stated there would be more than 300,000 amputees in Australia. This is enough people to fill a city the size of Canberra.

Ms Noonan is an amputee and she said, "amputation was Australia's forgotten disability".

The report also revealed that every three hours someone in Australia loses a lower limb due to the growing issue of diabetes.

"The Federal and State Governments well and truly have their heads in the sand on the issue," Ms Noonan said.

Limbs 4 Life wanted to see the Federal Government fund a culturally safe appropriate information campaign for the Indigenous community.

The report showed men are hugely over-represented making up 72% of all amputations. This is Australia's first evidence-based study on amputation and the estimated costs of amputation are likely to be "very conservative".

There are the further effects of amputation in terms of mental health and well-being.

"Depression and anxiety are the most common psychological reactions that amputees experience. Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) is another. People can experience decreased self-esteem, distorted body image, increased dependency on others, significant levels of isolation and a sense of grief," Ms Noonan said.

"The number of people personally affected by amputation literally runs into the many millions. It affects family and friends, community members who offer unpaid care."

Healthy pregnancy is focus of quit smoking campaign



CLOSING the gap on tobacco use in pregnancy is the focus of a program designed for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women at Southern Cross University in Lismore.

The program supports the release of a new national Close the Gap target to increase the number of babies born at a healthy weight by 2031.

Tobacco smoking is the major contributor to low birthweight in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander babies and although many women are motivated to quit smoking during pregnancy, there are challenges to achieving this.

The program to address the challenges is iSISTAQUIT. The program provides training for health professionals using the ABCD approach – Ask, Brief advice, Cessation, Discuss.

The program also includes community outreach to promote the quit smoking message.

Southern Cross University academic advisor and Aboriginal obstetrician Doctor Marilyn Clarke said having culturally thought-out approaches and a pathway of support helps Indigenous women navigate health and wellbeing systems safely.

"Women are more likely to be interested in quitting while pregnant, but if health professionals are not familiar with how to adapt their consultations to be culturally appropriate, then it can be a further challenge for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women," Dr Clarke said.

iSISTAQUIT is a blended model of community support and traditional cessation treatment by doctors and other health professionals, with 23 sites nationally participating in the training.

Southern Cross University professor and doctor Gillian Gould said research had shown there were three main things needed to make a difference to the numbers of Aboriginal women who smoke

during pregnancy.

"These are clinician training; better access to oral forms of nicotine replacement therapy; and specific health promotion messages to address the challenges Indigenous women face when quitting," Prof Gould said.

iSISTAQUIT has been launched in a national social media campaign in consultation with Gilimbbaa Creative Agency, Indigenous X, an advisory committee and through community consultations, to promote the iSISTAQUIT training for health professionals and to share advice and benefits for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women to quit smoking and join the Smoke-Free Sistaood.

The campaign supports women on the quit journey to not feel alone and can increase the chances of becoming, and staying, smoke-free.

iSISTAQUIT training opportunities are open to health practitioners and health service providers.

For more information go to: isistaquit.org.au or go to the iSISTAQUIT Facebook page.



iSISTAQUIT is a program providing training for health professionals to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women give up smoking.

Nursing scholarships support students keen to deliver healthcare on Country



NURSING scholarships are helping Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students realise their dream of providing healthcare on Country.

Mater Education Student Services team leader Lauren Andrew said the access and equity scholarships were helping to close the gap in Queensland's healthcare workforce.

Brisbane student Britney Lawton, a 21-year-old Gumbaynggir woman, is pursuing a career in nursing and it is helping her reconnect with her community and giving her the opportunity to give back to her Mob.

"For many years I struggled with connecting with my culture and identity due to not being seen as 'black enough' from society and the people around it," Ms Lawton said. "It's a struggle I know a lot of Indigenous Australians face still to this day."

"Learning about my culture has really inspired me. I have never felt more connected and am surrounded by amazing sistas who help me learn and grow."

Ms Andrew said the scholarships covered the costs of tuition, uniforms and textbooks, breaking down financial barriers to education.

Townsville's Amber Wiley, 16, decided to return to the classroom after choosing a different pathway to complete her education.

Ms Wiley said her mother, Kym, had inspired her to get more involved in their family's Aboriginal community.

"I've always dreamed of a career in health," Ms Wiley said. "I want to travel to rural and remote areas within Queensland and help out there. My dream is to become a nurse anaesthetist."

Mrs Wiley is from the Kuku Yalanji Mob and said she was incredibly proud of her daughter for following her dream.

"She's a very determined girl and nursing is something she's always wanted to do," she said.

Wiradjuri woman Jamie Maney realised her long-held dream in mid-2020 when she graduated as an enrolled nurse with Mater Education and began working as a practice nurse with the Orange Aboriginal Medical Service in NSW.

"In my late teens, my grandmother fell seriously ill and needed to stay in hospital for a couple of years," she said. "Spending time with her in hospital opened my eyes to the need for more nurses and healthcare workers who understood and were culturally sensitive to Aboriginal people."



Amber Wiley with her mother Kym Wiley.

More Indigenous teachers for remote NT classrooms



THE Northern Territory Government is working with Charles Darwin University (CDU) and Batchelor Institute to deliver a more culturally responsive education in remote communities by increasing the number of Aboriginal teachers and educators in remote classrooms.

This year's Remote Aboriginal Teacher Education (RATE) model, which encompasses the previous Assistant Teacher Project, will streamline support for Aboriginal educators through the delivery of a targeted suite of professional learning opportunities including non-accredited training, Vocational Education and Training and tertiary education qualifications.

The model aims to build the capacity of existing Aboriginal educators in remote and very remote education settings at every step of their educational career and to create opportunities for Aboriginal educators who aspire to become

qualified teachers.

In 2022, the tertiary component of this model involves eight remote communities and is available to Aboriginal Educators from Adelaide River, Alice Springs Galiwinku, Groote Eylandt, Millingimbi, Nyirripi, Wooliana, Yipirinya School (in Alice Springs) and Yuendumu.

Education Minister Lauren Moss said the expanded RATE program would create a sustainable and streamlined approach for about 250 Aboriginal Assistant Teachers across the 108 remote and very remote Territory education settings.

"The Remote Aboriginal Teacher Education model creates a talent pipeline that drives growth and ensures future sustainability of our Aboriginal educator workforce in Territory education settings," Minister Moss said.

"Teachers have the biggest in-school impact on positive student learning outcomes."

"Positive, energetic, culturally responsive, and skilled educators motivate children and young people to engage in

learning and experience success."

CDU College of Indigenous Futures, Education and Arts Dean Professor Ruth Wallace said investing in the Aboriginal education workforce is an investment in culturally responsive and effective education for all Territorians.

"By working in partnership with remote communities, the Department of Education and Batchelor Institute are building a connected learning system that will see Aboriginal people graduating and taking leadership roles in NT classrooms and schools," Prof Wallace said.

"CDU continues to build connected pathways through vocational courses in education support and early childhood development and enabling programs that will ensure there is a clear path for every Aboriginal person who wants to engage in leading NT educational opportunities."

Last year, 187 Aboriginal educators across 46 remote and very remote schools were supported through both the Remote Aboriginal Teacher Education pilot and the Assistant Teacher Project.

Thirteen 2021 RATE tertiary participants are due to graduate from the Undergraduate Certificate Remote Educators course in upcoming ceremonies. Six participants will graduate at a CDU Graduation Ceremony at the Darwin Convention Centre on April 7.

An additional seven participants will graduate in June in Alice Springs with further graduations expected in Darwin in September.

In addition to the graduating RATE participants, one recipient of the Department's Aboriginal Teacher Education Scholarship, Skye Clayton is graduating at the CDU graduation with a Bachelor of Education Primary degree.

In 2022, 29 tertiary RATE participants will study the Undergraduate Certificate of Remote Educators and Diploma of Education.

The RATE model provides education career pathway opportunities with entry and exit points that lead to meaningful employment in education settings around the Territory.

Employment

EXECUTIVE • PROFESSIONAL • POSITIONS VACANT

Training program is the perfect fit



RUBY Longbottom is forging a new path in life in the mining industry, thanks to CQUniversity and BHP's Future Fit Academy.

The Future Fit Academy is BHP's new approach to training with a pathway to a career in maintenance with "fit for purpose" training programs in dedicated learning centres in Perth, WA and Mackay.

Ruby, a Dharawal and Gamilaraay woman living on Yuwibara Country is doing a maintenance traineeship, which includes a Certificate II in Engineering-Production Technology qualification at CQUniversity's Mackay Ooralea Campus.

As a young mother of two children, Ruby grabbed the opportunity at the Future Fit Academy.

"I wanted to take the next step with my life. I wanted to be more than just a stay-at-home mother," she said.

"It was a big change and a lot of sacrifices.

"Training to be a maintenance associate is amazing, I love the work and I love learning and growing my skills."

Ruby said the Future Fit Academy and CQU's training has changed her life for the better.

"The BHP Future Fit Academy is in all honesty, changing lives for the future," she said.

"It's helped me be more aware and gain skills that I didn't think I had. They've given me an opportunity that I'm so very thankful for."

During her studies, Ruby engaged extra assistance from CQU's Language, Literacy and Numeracy team in the School of Access Education to help her with the math and computational aspects of the training.

"The training at CQU TAFE is great. I love the support that I have with both Leonie Keating and Indigenous Student Engagement Officer Mellisa Taggart," she said.

"Leonie helped me so much with my math for both high risk training and computations. She is an amazing help and is very supportive of your needs."

Ruby said she planned on moving to Western Australia with her family to work in the mines there.

"I'm so keen to see where my future takes me within this company and I'm hoping to learn for an apprenticeship in heavy diesel," she said.

"If you want to study engineering, I say go for it. It's an amazing opportunity and a great course to learn and it'll challenge you for sure," she said.

"I'm so pleased with my experience so far and I would 100 per cent say it's challenged me and I love it."



Dharawal and Gamilaraay woman Ruby Longbottom is undertaking a maintenance traineeship with support of Future Fit Academy. "It's helped me be more aware and gain skills that I didn't think I had. They've given me an opportunity that I'm so very thankful for," she said.

Applications for ISEP grants open



EMPLOYMENT providers are invited to apply for the first competitive round under the newly-developed Indigenous Skills and Employment Program (ISEP).

ISEP is an innovative, community informed employment program that will deliver place based investments, and replaces three existing Indigenous-specific employment programs; Vocational Training and Employment Centres (VTEC), Tailored Assistance Employment Grants (TAEG) and the Employment Parity Initiative (EPI) from 1 July 2022.

Federal Minister for Indigenous Australians Ken Wyatt said the program will build on the most successful elements of the current Indigenous-specific employment programs and focus on upskilling Indigenous Australians for in-demand jobs.

"ISEP has gone through extensive community consultation to ensure it meets the current needs of Indigenous jobseekers and this new approach will now gauge which projects communities want to see come to fruition.

"The Indigenous Skills and Employment Program was a 2021-22 Federal Budget commitment, and I'm pleased to see the program moving from design to implementation.

"Organisations across the country are invited to submit an expression of interest for this \$42.8 million annual fund and tell us how their proposed project meets the specific employment needs in their region."

In the spirit of co-design, the grant application process will have two stages of assessment.

The applications received in stage one will be shortlisted and selected applicants will co-design their specific project with key stakeholders before submitting a second stage comprehensive grant application.

"This model will ensure organisations are closely connected with the community they are servicing and that they have the buy-in from local industry stakeholders," Mr Wyatt said.

"It will foster deeper partnerships between jobseekers, employment service providers and employers to develop initiatives together – this reflects the essence of ISEP, which is to work in local level partnerships from the get go to create community-led employment pathways for Indigenous Australians.

"We want to give organisations applying for this grant the greatest opportunity to run successful projects that sustainably and practically contribute to closing the Indigenous employment gap."

For more information on the application process and to submit an expression of interest by April 25, visit GrantConnect at grants.gov.au

Your guide to employment

Welcome to the Koori Mail's Indigenous Job Opportunities section. Each edition we publish scores of employment advertisements from around the nation. To be part of this section, simply give our advertising staff Chris or Stuart a call on (02) 66 222 666, email advertising@koorimail.com or see our website – www.koorimail.com

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Queensland South Native Title Services

Community Relations Officer

Position Location: Brisbane

Employment Type: Full-time, Fixed Term Contract - 24 Months

Salary: \$74,818 - \$85,817 (negotiable based on skills and experience), plus superannuation

It is a genuine occupational requirement under Section 25 of the Anti-Discrimination Act (Qld) 1991 for the successful candidate to be an Indigenous person.

About Us

QSNTS is a Native Title Service Provider funded by the Federal Government to assist Traditional Owners in the pursuit of their native title aspirations by providing a comprehensive range of statutory services under the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) ('Native Title Act').

We are committed to building trusting partnerships and walking together with Traditional Owners to ensure they have the support they need to make strong and informed decisions through every step of their Native Title journey.

We are a dynamic team of professionals who are committed to right people, right country, right path.

About the Role

We are looking for a Community Relations Officer to develop and maintain effective relationships between QSNTS and the Indigenous community to ensure the best possible advocacy and outcomes for native title claimants and Native Title Holders.

About you

The successful applicant will ideally possess:

- Knowledge of current Indigenous issues in contemporary society and a commitment to the principles of advocacy and self-determination for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People;
- Ability to work in a high pressure environment with regular travel through Queensland, and ability to work autonomously and in a team environment;
- Previous experience in project management, record management systems and researching and preparing grant funding applications;
- Demonstrate the ability to liaise with variety of stakeholders in a professional and proactive manner; and
- Knowledge of ethics of collaborative conflict resolution including: neutrality, confidentiality, objectivity, respect for differences, and honesty.

Sounds like the role for you?

A detailed position description is available on the careers page of the QSNTS website (www.qsnts.com.au/careers), and applicants seeking further information are encouraged to contact the QSNTS HR on (07) 3224 1200. Closing date is 5pm 29 April 2022.

(07) 3224 1200 www.qsnts.com.au

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Ph: 66 47 2131

Exciting Management Role with Great Benefits!!!

Are you looking for an exciting new challenge and have a desire to work directly with community members in a rewarding and fulfilling career? The Baryulgil Local Aboriginal Land Council (BLALC) are searching for an experienced and committed Chief Executive Officer (CEO) who can take the organisation in a positive direction and accomplish a number of key projects that will secure the financial future of the BLALC. This role requires a person with key organisation and planning skills and an ability to multi task. You will be surrounded by a supportive and committed Board and Membership and have access to great salary benefits including salary sacrificing. The BLALC are large land owners and have unlimited potential in terms of economic and social development opportunities. For information on the position and to obtain a recruitment package please contact the contact officer Scott Monaghan at baryulgillalc@gmail.com to obtain further information.

Applications marked "Confidential" and posted to:

The Contact Officer
PO Box 1383 Grafton NSW 2460 or e-mailed to above address.

Applications close: 31/3/2022

Union Organiser

- **Level 4 or 5 - \$76,409 to \$94,063**
- **Additional 17% employer superannuation**
- **Flexible Work Arrangements**
- **Healthy Lifestyle Allowance**
- **Rewarding career with a progressive organisation**

The NTEU Queensland Division is seeking to employ a full time, permanent Union Organiser to join our team at James Cook University.

To find out more and to apply go to:
www.nteu.recruitmenthub.com.au & enter ref code: **5907869**.
Applications close COB on **Tuesday, 26 April 2022**.

National Tertiary Education Union






Researcher, Indigenous Mental Health

Why your role matters

- Focus areas: Population Mental Health | Clinical Research | Suicide Prevention
- Full-time or part-time considered; 3-year fixed term contract; remote or hybrid work options
- \$111,563 - \$155,460 (depending on experience) + 17% superannuation + annual leave loading

The Black Dog Institute is implementing a 5-year plan to further improve and expand on being a trusted partner with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to improve Social and Emotional Wellbeing (SEWB). The Institute recognises that First Peoples SEWB goes beyond Western conceptualisations of mental health and involves a holistic and integrated concept of wellbeing, recognising the importance of country, culture, spirituality, kinship and networks of relationships.

This role presents a significant opportunity for an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander identified SEWB researcher to further develop their skills and leadership in a highly dynamic team environment and will supervise and mentor Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander researchers, and build essential partnerships with key community, government, and non-government research stakeholders.

The Organisation

The Black Dog Institute (BDI) at UNSW is dedicated to understanding, preventing and treating mental disorders. The institute focuses on creating a world where mental illness is treated with the same concern, immediacy and seriousness as physical illness. Scientists work to discover the causes of illness and new treatments; and where discoveries are immediately put into practice through health services, technology, and community education.

To apply: Please visit jobs@unsw.edu.au to review the Position Description and or make an application.

Contact

Professor Jennifer Hudson
Director, Research
e: jennie.hudson@blackdog.org.au
Shiree Thomas
Talent Acquisition Consultant
e: shiree.thomas@unsw.edu.au
t: 02 9065 7058

Applications close: 11.55pm, Thursday 5th May 2022

This position is open to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants only. UNSW has obtained an exemption under section 126 of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977 (NSW) to designate and recruit professional and academic positions for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander persons only, to fulfil UNSW's goal of a representative workforce rate.

UNSW partners with Australia's leading diversity organisations, networks, and campaigns. Please refer to UNSW's diversity offerings for further information on our flexible work and leave options, and support for carers (childcare, parent rooms, parental leave).

I work for NSW



Aboriginal Health Worker – Grafton

Department: Northern NSW Local Health District
Location: Grafton, Grafton Base Hospital | Far North Coast
Employment Status: Permanent Full Time
Position Classification: Aboriginal Hlth Worker
Salary: \$55,492 to \$81,731 per annum
Hours Per Week: 38hrs
Enquiries: Cameron Johnson on Cameron.Johnson@health.nsw.gov.au

Aboriginal and/ or Torres Strait Islander descent. Aboriginality is a genuine occupational qualification and is authorised by section 14(d) of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977.

Grafton Base Hospital is seeking an Aboriginal Health Worker to provide flexible, holistic and culturally sensitive health services to Aboriginal clients and the community, to achieve better health outcomes and better access to health services for Aboriginal people.

If you have/are:

- Aboriginal and/ or Torres Strait Islander descent. Aboriginality is a genuine occupational qualification and is authorised by section 14(d) of the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1977*. Possession of, or aspires to hold a minimum Certificate III qualification in Aboriginal Primary Health Care or a minimum Certificate III health qualification in the relevant area of care.
- Demonstrated knowledge, and understanding of the key policies and issues that impact on Aboriginal Health in Northern NSW Local Health District.
- Demonstrated ability to liaise, engage and collaborate with Aboriginal communities and relevant agencies to ensure culturally responsive services.
- Ability to maintain confidentiality when dealing with health information and to manage information and documentation processes.
- Knowledge of relevant legislation, policies and procedures and mandatory reporting requirements in a primary health care environment.
- Demonstrated effective written and verbal communication skills and ability to learn and use a computer for relevant programs, including those for patients records and data reporting.

We can offer you:

- Diverse career pathways
- Professional and personal development
- Help with further study and education
- Flexible and supportive work environment
- Opportunities to start or build a career, or re-enter the workforce
- Challenging, inspiring and rewarding roles, and
- The opportunity to make a difference!

Northern NSW Local Health District embraces the diverse skills and perspectives that our people bring to the workplace. We foster inclusiveness and diversity to help us deliver quality care to our community.

Applications Close: 4 May 2022

Applications must be lodged electronically at jobs.health.nsw.gov.au
Search for Job Ref Number: **REQ302812**




Domestic and Family Violence Specialist Worker (Aboriginal Focus)

Molonglo Support Services are seeking a Domestic and Family Violence Specialist Worker (Aboriginal Focus) for the Monaro Hume Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service (MHWDVCAS) based in Queanbeyan NSW.

Do you have a passion and experience for helping women and their children experiencing domestic and family violence? Do you identify as an Aboriginal woman? A role in our friendly team as the Domestic and Family Violence (DFV) Specialist Worker (Aboriginal Focus) might be just what you are looking for.

The Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service is a support service for Women and their children who have experienced or are experiencing domestic and family violence. Our service assists women to obtain effective legal protection through applications for Apprehended Domestic Violence Orders (ADVOs) from NSW local courts. MHWDVCAS is a frontline service that works collaboratively with NSW Police and other Community Service Partners to provide support to women and children. **Molonglo Support Services** is the service provider for MHWDVCAS and manages Louisa Domestic Violence Service, *Your Place* Housing Support Service & Monaro Hume Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service. More information available at <https://molonglo.net.au>.

The DFV Specialist Worker (Aboriginal Focus) is a 35 hours per week position in MHWDVCAS with training provided. It exercises a high degree of autonomy and provides high-level advice regarding how to ensure the WDVAS is relevant, accessible and responsive to Aboriginal women and their children. Being a woman is a genuine occupational qualification for this position under s.31 of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977 (NSW).

If this sounds like a role for you, **please apply**.

How to apply

To apply you need to review the Position Description for details about this role and its duties/responsibilities and then send us:

- Your current resume
- Your response to the selection criteria with examples that show you have the skills and knowledge for this role and why you are the best person for this role

Selection criteria – essential, knowledge and skills

- Qualifications in social welfare or related field or a minimum 3 years experience in a community services field.
- Current NSW Working with Children Check and NSW Police Check.
- Current drivers' licence and your own vehicle with comprehensive insurance.

Knowledge

- Understanding of domestic and family violence, its complexities and consequences, particularly as they affect Aboriginal women and children, and sensitivity to their needs;
- Ability to work with local Aboriginal communities and the broader community to promote awareness of domestic and family violence and WDVAS services;
- Excellent communication skills (verbal and written), networking and advocacy skills.
- Ability to engage effectively with clients in crisis and provide appropriate, trauma-informed support; and
- Excellent organisational and administrative skills.

SCHCADS Level 5, PBI Salary Packaging available.

If you have any questions or would like a copy of the Position Description/Selection Criteria, please contact Julie on 0414 946 544 or email julieh@molonglo.net.au.

Applications close 5pm Monday 16th May 2022.

Start at the top with a career at Australia's
Best Place to Work 2021 Nous Group

**Aboriginal and/or
Torres Strait Islander Graduate Consultant**

July 2022, February 2023, July 2023 intake
All Locations (Brisbane, Canberra, Darwin, Melbourne, Perth, Sydney)

Nous Group is a leading Australian owned management consulting and leadership development firm, offering a broad consulting capability across business strategy, public policy, organisational capability, executive talent and development, transformational change and digital strategy and capability, to the public and private sector. As a graduate consultant, you will have the opportunity to work across all of these service lines.

Nous strives to create and sustain a work environment in which Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff feel empowered to be their best selves and add unique value through their individual capabilities and lived experiences. You will have the opportunity to contribute to projects that empower Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities to achieve their goals, as well as a broader range projects that achieve positive impact for other stakeholders and communities.

Want to find out more?

Visit <https://nousgroup.com/careers/available-roles/> for more details.

We would be happy for you to chat with a current Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nous staff member to learn more about the role. Please reach out to careers@nousgroup.com.au if you have further questions.

**Rumbalara Aboriginal Co-Operative
Engagement and Family Services now have
the following vacancies based at the
Rumbalara Road, Mooroopna office**

Multiple re-advertised positions - If you are interested in applying for more than one position, separate applications will be required.

x1- Foster Care Worker

Full time – 38 Hours per week, Fixed term 12-month contract
(Participate in after hours on call roster, where relevant)

x1 - Foster Care Worker

Full time – 38 Hours per week, Ongoing
(Participate in after hours on call roster, where relevant)

Role purpose

- The Foster Care worker is responsible for providing case management or case support (as appropriate) to children and young people placed into both statutory and voluntary foster care.

Minimum qualifications required to be considered for these positions include: Diploma of Community Services/ Early Childhood or equivalent.

x2- First Supports Worker

Full time – 38 hours per week, Ongoing
Willingness to work flexible hours including some evening and weekend work

Role purpose

- Undertake comprehensive assessments of kinship carers for Aboriginal children and young people.
- Provide family services support and recommendations to Child Protection about the suitability of a kinship care placement, carers' ability to meet the needs of the child and engagement in planning regarding maintenance and placement.

Minimum qualifications required to be considered for these positions include: Tertiary qualification in Community Services, Social Work, Youth Work or related discipline; or working toward obtaining qualification

x1 - Kinship Case Manager

Full time – 38 Hours per week, Ongoing

Role purpose

- The role will work directly within case management and care teams ensuring a shared understanding of key issues related to: theoretical frameworks including attachment theory, trauma theory, brain development, ages and stages of development, resilience theory, strength-based approach and the neurobiological development of maltreated children.

Minimum qualifications required to be considered for this position include: Tertiary qualification in Community Services, Social Work, Youth Work or related discipline; or working toward obtaining qualification

Salary Packaging is a benefit available for Part or Full Time Employees

The successful applicant will be subject to comprehensive reference and background checking prior to employment, including a Working with Children Check and National Police Check.

For further information, please obtain a position description from Rumbalara's website <https://rumbalara.org.au/careers/>

To apply, you must submit a cover letter addressing elements of the Key Selection Criteria and a current resume to marieta.martin@raclimited.com.au or to <https://rumbalara.org.au/careers/>

Application close Wednesday, 27th April 2022

Rumbalara Aboriginal Co-Operative is an Equal Opportunity Employer who provides an inclusive work environment and embraces the diverse talent of its people.

I work for NSW



**Administration Officer (Level 2)
Drug Health Services**

Department: South Western Sydney LHD

Location: Drug Health Services Fairfield Hospital

Employment Status: Permanent Full-Time

Hours: 38 per week

Remuneration: \$56937.26 to \$58939.35 pa

Enquiries: Corrina D'Monte on 0475 949 262 or

Corrina.DMonte@health.nsw.gov.au

Closing Date: 1 May 2022

In this role Aboriginality is a genuine occupational qualification and is authorised by section 14(d) of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1997.

Stepping Up aims to assist Aboriginal job applicants by providing information about applying for roles in NSW Health organisations.

For more information, please visit:

steppingup.health.nsw.gov.au

Applications must be lodged electronically at jobs.health.nsw.gov.au Search for Job Ref Number REQ303170

BLZ KE0107

Jana Ngalee

Local Aboriginal Land Council

ABN 97 987 762 386

PO Box 1398, GRAFTON 2460

Ph: 66 47 2209

Exciting Management Role with Great Benefits!!!

Are you looking for an exciting new challenge and have a desire to work directly with community members in a rewarding and fulfilling career? The Jana Ngalee Local Aboriginal Land Council (JNLALC) are searching for an experienced and committed Chief Executive Officer (CEO) who can take the organisation in a positive direction and accomplish a number of key projects that will secure the financial future of the JNLALC. This role requires a person with key organisation and planning skills and an ability to multi task. You will be surrounded by a supportive and committed Board and Membership and have access to great salary benefits including salary sacrificing. The JNLALC are large land owners and have unlimited potential in terms of economic and social development opportunities. For information on the position and to obtain a recruitment package please contact the contact officer Ramona Walker at janangalee.council@harcourtsat.com.au to obtain further information.

Applications marked "Confidential" and posted to:

The Contact Officer

PO Box 1398 Grafton NSW 2460 or e-mailed to above address.

Applications close: 31/3/2022



**Notice of an application for determination
of native title in Queensland**



**National
Native Title
Tribunal**

Notification day: 4 May 2022

This is an application by a native title claim group which is asking the Federal Court of Australia (Federal Court) to determine that the group holds native title in the area described below.

If you want to become a party to this application, you must file a Form 5 (Notice of Intention to become a Party) with the Federal Court, **on or before 3 August 2022**. Further information regarding how to file a Form 5 is available from www.fedcourt.gov.au. After **3 August 2022**, you will need to seek leave from the Federal Court to become a party.

Under the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) there can be only one determination of native title for a particular area. If a person with native title rights and interests does not become a party to this application, there may be no other opportunity for the Federal Court, in making its determination, to take into account those native title rights and interests in relation to the area concerned.



Application name: Ann-marie Keating on behalf of the Wallara People, Clan of the Koko-Muluridji

Federal Court File No: QUD224/2021

Date filed: 7 July 2021

Registration test status: The Native Title Registrar has **not accepted** this application for registration. Although this application has not been registered, the Federal Court may still refer the application for mediation and/or make a determination in relation to it

Description: The application area covers approximately 995 sq km, located west of Cairns, south of Port Douglas and north of Atherton
Relevant LGAs: Mareeba Shire Council and Tablelands Regional Council

For assistance and further information about this application, call Sylvia Jagtman on 07 3052 4248 or visit www.nntt.gov.au.

**Notice of an application for determination
of native title in South Australia**



**National
Native Title
Tribunal**

Notification day: 4 May 2022

This is an application by a native title claim group which is asking the Federal Court of Australia (Federal Court) to determine that the group holds native title in the area described below.

If you want to become a party to this application, you must file a Form 5 (Notice of Intention to become a Party) with the Federal Court, **on or before 3 August 2022**. Further information regarding how to file a Form 5 is available from www.fedcourt.gov.au. After **3 August 2022**, you will need to seek leave from the Federal Court to become a party.

Under the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) there can be only one determination of native title for a particular area. If a person with native title rights and interests does not become a party to this application, there may be no other opportunity for the Federal Court, in making its determination, to take into account those native title rights and interests in relation to the area concerned.



Application name: Brenton Weetra and Ors and the State of South Australia (Naou #4)

Federal Court File No: SAD185/2021

Date filed: 15 October 2021

Registration test status: The Native Title Registrar has **not accepted** this application for registration. Although this application has not been registered, the Federal Court may still refer the application for mediation and/or make a determination in relation to it

Description: The application area covers 27 land parcels totalling about 7.4 sq km, located along the west coast of the Eyre Peninsula between Elliston and Coffin Bay
Relevant LGAs: The District Councils of Elliston, Lower Eyre Peninsula and Wudinna

For assistance and further information about this application, call Huia McGrath on 08 6317 5442 or visit www.nntt.gov.au.

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PRODUCER - FIRST NATIONS PERFORMING ARTS PROGRAM

Calling for Expressions of Interest

Merrigong Theatre Company is proudly committed to the development of a distinct, self-determined First Nations Performing Arts program. We are now seeking a **Producer** and are inviting Expressions of Interest from First Nations artists or creative practitioners who wish to make their mark on the cultural landscape with an exciting, innovative vision for this program. The position will work closely with Merrigong's First Nations Communications and Engagement Coordinator and our First Nations Advisory Group.

For more information about how to submit an Expression of Interest and what to include in your submission, please take a look our web ad on the Koori Mail website under the heading **JOBS & GENERAL WEB ADS** or check out Merrigong's website: <https://merrigong.com.au/about-us/work-with-us/>



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ABORIGINAL OR TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER TRAINEE DENTAL ASSISTANT

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www.employmentmatters.com.au



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To apply: please visit our website: www.mymomentum.org.au or call Janet on 0437253130

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Notice of an application to register an area agreement on the Register of Indigenous Land Use Agreements in New South Wales

Notification day: 27 April 2022



National
Native Title
Tribunal



NI2022/001 Werai Lands ILUA

Description of the agreement area:

The agreement area covers about 118 sq km and is located approximately 18 km northwest of Deniliquin, 21 km southwest of Wanganella and 17 km north of Wakool, extending along the Edward River

Relevant LGAs: Edward River Council and Murray River Council

The agreement contains the following statements:

[Explanatory notes in brackets inserted by the National Native Title Tribunal]

6.3 [The Minister and/or the Secretary shall, at no cost to Werai Corporation:

(a) remove or breach any illegal levee banks within the Werai Lands, being the parcels of land subject to the agreement;

(b) erect a boundary fence between Werai Lands and Balpool and Werai Lands and Baratta;

(c) erect replacement fences between the private freehold land known as "Baratta Station" and the Werai Lands, and the private freehold land known as "Balpool Station" and the Werai Lands, taking into account all relevant environment features as reasonably practicable and complying with State

Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008 and any relevant council policy or guideline under that Policy;

(d) erect signage with locations, content and design of the signs to be determined by Werai Corporation].

6.4 [The Minister shall Transfer the Werai Lands in fee simple to Werai Corporation].

6.6 (a) To the extent that:

(i) [any act done in accordance with this clause 6 by NSW Department of Planning Industry and Environment or by the Minister in preparing or lodging the Transfer of a parcel of the Werai Lands];

(ii) the Transfer of any parcel of the Werai Lands; or

(iii) any other act done under or in accordance with this Agreement,

is a Future Act:

(iv) [the Parties consent to the doing of the act or the Transfer in accordance with this Agreement];

(v) [the "right to negotiate" provisions in Subdivision P of the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) are not intended to apply to the doing of the act or the Transfer].

["Transfer" means the transfer of a parcel of the Werai Lands to Werai Corporation in fee simple in accordance with clause 6, the National Park Estate (Riverina Red Gum Reservations) Act 2010 (NSW) and the Real Property Act 1900 (NSW)].

["Werai Traditional Owners" means the persons who are intended to comprise all those persons who claim to hold native title in relation to the Werai Lands].

Parties to the agreement and their contact addresses:

Werai Land and Water Aboriginal Corporation (ICN 8425) (Werai Corporation); and Stewart Taylor, Deidre Hamilton, Jeanette Crew and Neville Whyman for and on behalf of the Werai Traditional Owners c/- NTSCORP Limited, PO Box 2105, Strawberry Hills NSW 2012	Minister for Energy and Environment of the State of NSW, in his capacity as the Minister administering the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i> (NSW) (Minister); and Secretary of the Department of Planning and Environment (Secretary) c/- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, PO Box 1049, Griffith NSW 2680
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Responses to an application to register an ILUA—where the application has not been certified:

Any person claiming to hold native title in relation to land or waters in the area covered by the agreement may wish, in response to this notice, to make a native title determination application or equivalent application under a law of a state or territory in respect of any part of the area. **The application must be made by 27 July 2022.** If that application is registered on the Register of Native Title Claims, the registered native title claimants must be a party to this agreement before it can be registered.

Details of the terms of the agreement are not available from the National Native Title Tribunal.

For assistance and further information about this application, call Sylvia Jagtman on 07 3052 4248 or visit www.nntt.gov.au.

Notice of an application to register an area agreement on the Register of Indigenous Land Use Agreements in Queensland



National
Native Title
Tribunal

Notification day: 27 April 2022



QI2021/015 Barada Kabalbara Yetimarala People and Lotus Creek Wind Farm ILUA

Description of the agreement area:

The agreement area covers about 239 sq km and is located about 35 km west of St Lawrence and extends southwest of Lotus Creek

Relevant LGA: Isaac Regional Council

The agreement contains the following statements:

[Explanatory notes in brackets inserted by the National Native Title Tribunal]

6.1 [(a) The Parties agree and consent to the Agreed Acts and the undertaking of the Project.

(d) For the purposes of s 24EB(1)(c) of the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) (NTA) and reg 7(5)(b) of the Native Title (Indigenous Land Use Agreements) Regulations 1999 (Cth), the Parties agree that Subdivision P, Division 3, Part 2 of the NTA is not intended to apply to any Agreed Acts or the undertaking of the Project on and from the date this agreement is registered];

7. [(a) The Native Title Party and the Native Title Claimants consent and agree to any Agreed Acts being applied for or granted to, and also to the Project or any part of it being undertaken by, a Third Party, either separately to or jointly with Lotus Creek (by agreement with Lotus Creek)];

Agreed Acts [means the grant, variation, extension, substitution, replacement or renewal of any Approval for the undertaking of the Project on the ILUA Area including: (a) the addition of a purpose relating to the production, transmission, storage or metering of energy from a renewable source to the tenure the subject of the ILUA Area under s 154(2)(b) of the Land Act 1994 (Qld) (**Land Act**); and (b) any other Approval for the production, transmission, storage or metering of energy on the ILUA Area, including under the Electricity Act 1994 (Qld), Environmental Protection Act 1994 (Qld), Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth), Forestry Act 1959 (Qld), Land Act, Planning Act 2016 (Qld), Vegetation Management Act 1999 (Qld), Water Act 2000 (Qld), local government by-laws and ordinances and any other legislation, regulation, by-law, ordinance, or other instrument required for the Project];

Approval [means any grant of tenure, title, authorisation, lease, sub-lease, licence, permit, approval, declaration, development approval, easement, right, certificate, consent, exercise of a discretion, direction or notice from or by any government agency or authority, land owner or State lease holder];

Native Title Claimants [means the persons claiming to hold native title in the ILUA Area as described in the native title determination application QUD13/2019 Sam Dallachy and Ors on behalf of the Barada Kabalbara Yetimarala People v State of Queensland & Ors];

Project [means the development, planning, construction, commissioning, operation, modification, expansion, extension, maintenance and decommissioning of the equipment and infrastructure in the ILUA Area associated with the Wind Farm including substations, switchyard, energy storage systems, energy metering, electrical connections, powerlines and transmission lines, operation and maintenance facilities, overhead and underground electrical cabling, hardstands, construction compounds, access tracks, road widening, offsets which may include any or all of stock exclusion, assisted regeneration, revegetation, pest animal and weed control and fire management, vegetation management and temporary construction laydown areas, and includes all infrastructure and anything incidental to any purpose listed above];

Third Party means any person other than Lotus Creek or the Native Title Parties, and includes Queensland Electricity Transmission Corporation Limited trading as Powerlink Queensland ABN 82 078 849 233.

Wind Farm means the wind farm proposed to be developed on land in the vicinity of the ILUA Area.

Parties to the agreement and their contact addresses:

Sam Dallachy, Vanessa Saunders, Norman Ross, Margaret Hornagold, Anthony Henry, Elizabeth Doyle and Davina Tilberoo on behalf of the Barada Kabalbara Yetimarala People (Native Title Party) c/- Queensland South Native Title Services Level 10, 307 Queen Street, Brisbane QLD 4000	Lotus Creek Wind Farm Pty Ltd c/- King & Wood Mallesons Level 33, Waterfront Place 1 Eagle Street, Brisbane QLD 4000
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Responses to an application to register an ILUA—where the application has not been certified:

Any person claiming to hold native title in relation to land or waters in the area covered by the agreement may wish, in response to this notice, to make a native title determination application or equivalent application under a law of a state or territory in respect of any part of the area. **The application must be made by 27 July 2022.** If that application is registered on the Register of Native Title Claims, the registered native title claimants must be a party to this agreement before it can be registered.

Details of the terms of the agreement are not available from the National Native Title Tribunal.

For assistance and further information about this application, call Sylvia Jagtman on 07 3052 4248 or visit www.nntt.gov.au.

WaterNSW and Natural Resources Access Regulator (NRAR)

WaterNSW and the Natural Resources Access Regulator (NRAR) wish to advise customers and the community about changes to application advertising. Under recent amendments to Clause 26 Section 7 of the Water Management (General) Regulations 2018, applications made to the respective agencies that require advertising will no longer need to be featured in newspapers. From January 2022, these applications will be advertised for the required 28 days on the respective agency's website. For more information and to view a list of current applications, please visit waternsw.com.au/advertised-applications or nrar.nsw.gov.au/public-notice.

Notice of an application to register an area agreement on the Register of Indigenous Land Use Agreements in Queensland

Notification day: 27 April 2022



National
Native Title
Tribunal



QI2021/011 Gaangalu Nation People Rookwood Weir Project ILUA

Description of the agreement area:

The agreement area covers about 26 sq km and is located over parts of the Dawson, Fitzroy and Mackenzie Rivers, part of Gogango Creek and the Duaringa Aboriginal Reserve

Relevant LGAs: Central Highlands Regional Council, Rockhampton Regional Council and Woorabinda Aboriginal Shire Council

The agreement contains the following statements:

[Explanatory notes in brackets inserted by the National Native Title Tribunal]

5.1 The parties consent to the doing of the Agreed Acts to the extent that they are Future Acts.

5.2 *[The parties consent to the validation of any Prior Project Act to the extent it is a Future Act, was done invalidly for the purposes of native title, and can be validated in this agreement];*

"Agreed Acts" *[means all acts necessary to give effect to this agreement including a Project Act and any act undertaken by the State to enable a Project Act for the Rookwood Weir Project; any act undertaken for the State for the management of the Rookwood Weir, including any act required under an environmental Approval to manage the environmental impact of the Rookwood Weir; the grant of any Approval necessary for the management of the Rookwood Weir; the registration of any Public Utility Easement for the operation of the Rookwood Weir; the grant of an Approval and any activity for the opening, closure, maintenance, repair or realignment of any road or water crossing infrastructure for the Rookwood Weir; any variation of this Agreement, including any assignment by a party of its rights under this Agreement];*

"AMTD" means adopted middle thread distance;

"Approval" *[means any approval, authorisation, consent, easement, lease, licence, notice, permit, right, tenure and title granted by a government agency];*

"Foleyvale Crossing" *[means the realignment of Apis Creek Road, the construction of a bridge over the Mackenzie River including the removal of the existing crossing structure];*

"Prior Project Act" *[means a Project Act that was done prior to the agreement being registered];*

"Project Act" *[means any act done in the agreement area for the purposes of the Rookwood Weir Project, including the construction of the Rookwood Weir; road openings, closures, realignment and upgrades, including works in relation to Riverslea Crossing and Foleyvale Crossing; the construction and removal of river crossing infrastructure in connection with the Rookwood Weir, including works in relation to Riverslea Crossing and Foleyvale Crossing; the registration of any Public Utility Easement required for the Rookwood Weir; the construction of the Tartarus Weir Fish Passage; the grant of any Approval and any ancillary activity for any of the things described in this definition];*

"Public Utility Easement" means a public utility easement under the Land Act 1994 (Qld) or the Land Title Act 1994 (Qld);

"Riverslea Crossing" *[means the realignment of Riverslea Road and Rookwood Road, the construction of a bridge over the Fitzroy River and the removal of the existing culvert crossing structure];*

"Rookwood Weir" *[means the ogee crest spillway weir to be located on the Fitzroy River at approx. 265.3 AMTD and includes any Public Utility Easement to facilitate the Rookwood Weir];*

"Rookwood Weir Project" *[means the construction and maintenance of the Rookwood Weir, including works done in connection with Riverslea Crossing and Foleyvale Crossing; the registration of Public Utility Easements for the Rookwood Weir and all incidental activities];*

"Tartarus Weir Fish Passage" *[means works to facilitate fish movement upstream and downstream of the existing weir structure located on the Mackenzie River at approx. 429.5km AMTD and includes the excavation of an upstream inlet and in-river channel downstream of the existing weir structure; the construction of an engineered passage to facilitate fish movement and the occupation of temporary use areas for storing construction materials and site office buildings].*

Parties to the agreement and their contact addresses:

State of Queensland (State)
c/- Department of Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water
PO Box 15216, City East QLD 4002

Gaangalu Nation People
c/- Saylor Legal
PO Box 4017, Vincent QLD 4814

Responses to an application to register an ILUA—where the application has not been certified:

Any person claiming to hold native title in relation to land or waters in the area covered by the agreement may wish, in response to this notice, to make a native title determination application or equivalent application under a law of a state or territory in respect of any part of the area. **The application must be made by 27 July 2022.** If that application is registered on the Register of Native Title Claims, the registered native title claimants must be a party to this agreement before it can be registered.

Details of the terms of the agreement are not available from the National Native Title Tribunal.

For assistance and further information about this application, call Sylvia Jagtman on 07 3052 4248 or visit www.nntt.gov.au.



ARABANA NATIVE TITLE COMMON LAW HOLDERS INFORMATION SESSION

All Arabana People (described below) are invited to attend a Native Title Information Session in relation to the following native title determinations:

- SAD 6025/1998 Arabana No 1
- SAD 38/2013 Arabana No 2 Part 1.

DATES: Saturday and Sunday, the 23rd and 24th April 2022

TIME: Saturday 1pm to 4pm

Sunday 10am to 2pm

PLACE: West Augusta Football Club

13 Gardiner Avenue, Port Augusta West, SA

WHO SHOULD ATTEND THE INFORMATION SESSIONS?

All Arabana People who self-identify as Arabana and who are recognised as being Arabana by other Arabana People based on:

1. affiliation, including by adoption from an Arabana parent or grandparent, or
2. long term co-residence with Arabana People on the Arabana Country;
3. and who satisfy one or more of the following criteria:
 - (a) Being raised in Arabana country and being bound by its system of law and custom;
 - (b) Living and behaving appropriately with Arabana people in accordance with Arabana laws and customs;
 - (c) Having knowledge of Arabana country and its stories and taking appropriate responsibility, under Arabana custom and law, for that knowledge;
 - (d) Having knowledge of Arabana society and the relationships of people within it and seeking to maintain proper relationships amongst Arabana people;
 - (e) Having knowledge of Arabana language;
 - (f) Displaying an active interest and engagement in Arabana affairs.

PURPOSE OF THE INFORMATION SESSIONS



To be informed of the following matters:

Saturday the 23rd of April 2022

1. To hear a presentation by the Arabana Negotiation Team of the progress and plans for an agreement with BHP over their water use from the Great Artesian Basin and their impact on Arabana lands and to provide feedback to the Negotiation Team.

Sunday the 24th of April 2022

2. To hear presentations by representative of Rio Tinto, FMG Resources, Strategic Energy Resources, BHP and Oz Minerals about their plans to undertake mining exploration activities on Arabana land.
3. To hear an explanation of the Part 9B Mining Exploration Agreements that will be negotiated with the above companies by the Arabana Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC on behalf of the common law holders.
4. To discuss the Arabana Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC becoming the Prescribed Body Corporate (PBC) of the Arabana No. 2 Part 1 Claim area as agents for the Native Title Holders (see map below).
5. To discuss the Arabana Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC entering into a Part 9B Mining Exploration Agreement with Rio Tinto in the above area if the appointment as PBC is approved.

A copy of the Consent Orders in the Arabana No 2 Part 1 Claim, a draft of the Part 9B Mining exploration agreement and a copy of a BHP presentation about the type of work they wish to undertake can be obtained from the Arabana Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC website at www.arabana.com.au.

VOTING

Please note, no vote will be taken on the day on any of these proposals. This is an information session only.

A vote on these proposals by postal ballot will be undertaken after this information session. Postal votes will be posted to all members of the Arabana Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC and registered Arabana Common Law Holders.

If you are an Arabana Common Law Holder, but not registered, you may do so by making an application for membership of the Arabana Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC, or registration as an Arabana Common Law Holder by downloading the forms from the above website or requesting the documents from the Arabana office, (ph 08 8641 1583) and returning the completed form to the Arabana office by post to 48 Flinders Terrace, Port Augusta 5700 or PO Box 609 Port Augusta 5700 or via the email below by the 5th of May 2022.

ATTENDANCE BY MS TEAMS

If you are unable to attend in person, you may attend by using Microsoft Teams. If you wish to do this, please contact the Arabana office via the email below and a link will be sent to you. Please note, the meeting will be video recorded.

ASSISTANCE TO ATTEND THE INFORMATION SESSIONS

Some limited travel and accommodation assistance will be available to members at the information session. For further information on assistance please see the Arabana website.

Please remember to be Covid safe and do not attend if you are unwell or a close contact of someone who is. Masks are mandatory at the information session.

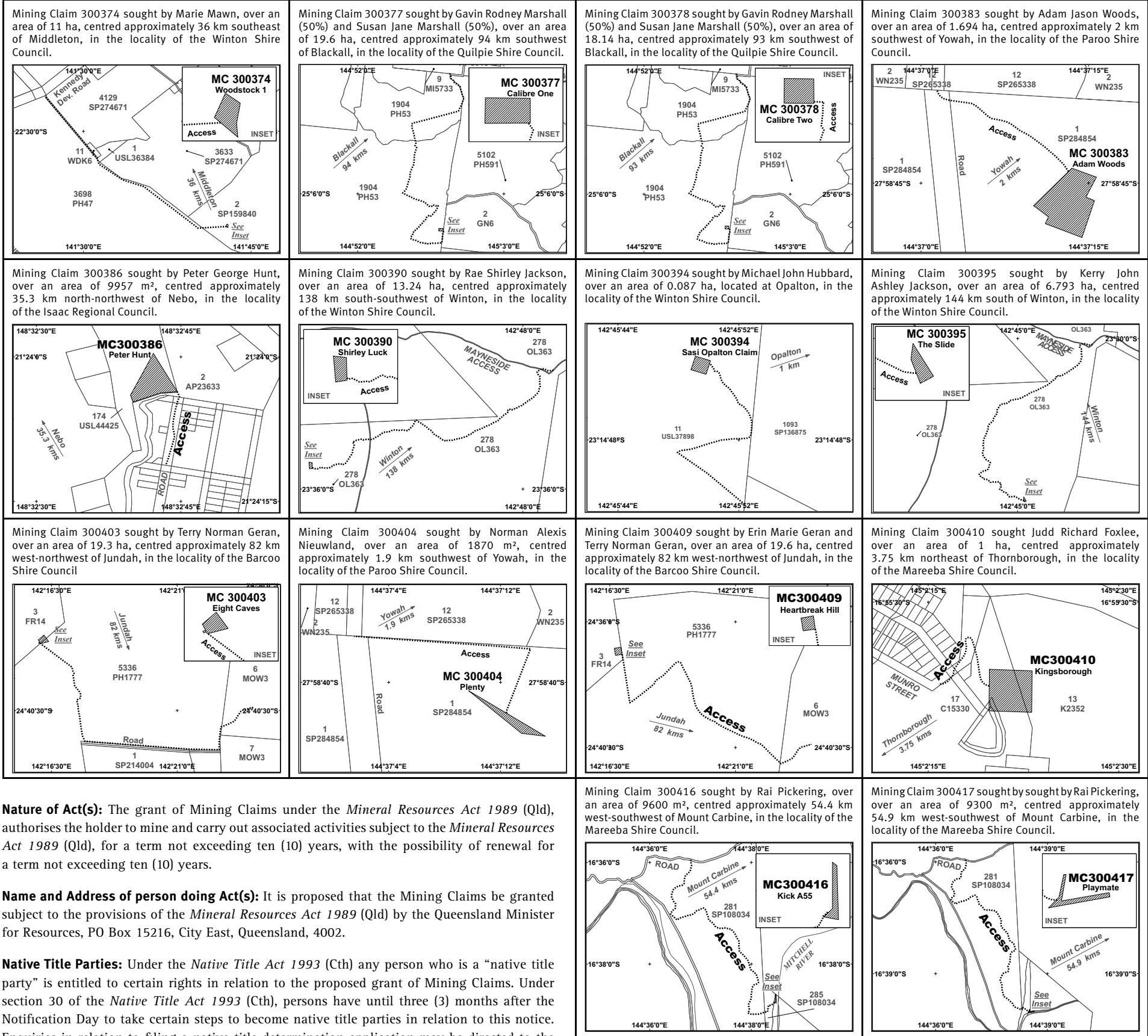
For further information please contact: admin@arabana.com.au.

AUTHORISED BY THE NAMED APPLICANTS OF THE ARABANA NO 2 NATIVE TITLE CLAIM AND THE DIRECTORS OF THE ARABANA ABORIGINAL CORPORATION RNTBC



NOTICE OF PROPOSED GRANT OF MINING CLAIMS
NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

The Queensland Minister for Resources, PO Box 15216, City East, Queensland, 4002, hereby gives notice in accordance with section 29 of the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) of the proposed grant of Mining Claims (MCs) 300374, 300377, 300378, 300383, 300386, 300390, 300394, 300395, 300403, 300404, 300409, 300410, 300416 and 300417, shown below under the Mineral Resources Act 1989 (Qld).



Nature of Act(s): The grant of Mining Claims under the Mineral Resources Act 1989 (Qld), authorises the holder to mine and carry out associated activities subject to the Mineral Resources Act 1989 (Qld), for a term not exceeding ten (10) years, with the possibility of renewal for a term not exceeding ten (10) years.

Name and Address of person doing Act(s): It is proposed that the Mining Claims be granted subject to the provisions of the Mineral Resources Act 1989 (Qld) by the Queensland Minister for Resources, PO Box 15216, City East, Queensland, 4002.

Native Title Parties: Under the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) any person who is a “native title party” is entitled to certain rights in relation to the proposed grant of Mining Claims. Under section 30 of the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth), persons have until three (3) months after the Notification Day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to this notice. Enquiries in relation to filing a native title determination application may be directed to the Federal Court, Brisbane Registry, Level 6, Harry Gibbs Commonwealth Law Courts Building, 119 North Quay, Brisbane, Queensland 4000. Telephone: (07) 3248 1100 or Email: qldreg@fedcourt.gov.au. Enquiries in relation to the registration of a native title determination application may be directed to the National Native Title Tribunal, Brisbane Registry, Level 5, Harry Gibbs Commonwealth Law Courts Building, 119 North Quay, Brisbane, Queensland, 4000. Telephone: (07) 3307 5000 or 1800 640 501.

Further Information: Further information about the proposed grant of Mining Claims, including extract of plans showing the boundaries of the Mining Claim Applications may be obtained from the Department of Resources, Mining Registrar, Mineral Assessment Hub, Level 9, Verde Tower, 445 Flinders Street, Townsville, Queensland, 4810. Telephone: (07) 4447 9230 or Email: MineralHub@resources.qld.gov.au.

Notification Day: 11 May 2022



SPONSOR A PUPPY AND GIVE SOMEONE WITH A DISABILITY A NEW LEASH ON LIFE.

Each puppy takes two years and more than \$27,000 to train. We receive no government funding so rely heavily on the generosity of people like you to carry out this vital work.



Free Call 1800 688 364 Or simply post the attached form Or visit www.assistedogs.org.au

Just fill in this form and post to Assistance Dogs Australia, PO Box 503, Surry Hills, NSW 2010 or fax it to 02 9699 1171

Payment by credit card: Monthly amount \$ (min \$20)

Card type Visa Mastercard Amex Exp. / /

Credit card number

Cardholder's Name

Card holder's Signature

Title First Name(s)

Surname

Address

Suburb Town/City

Postcode Phone

Email

Thank you!

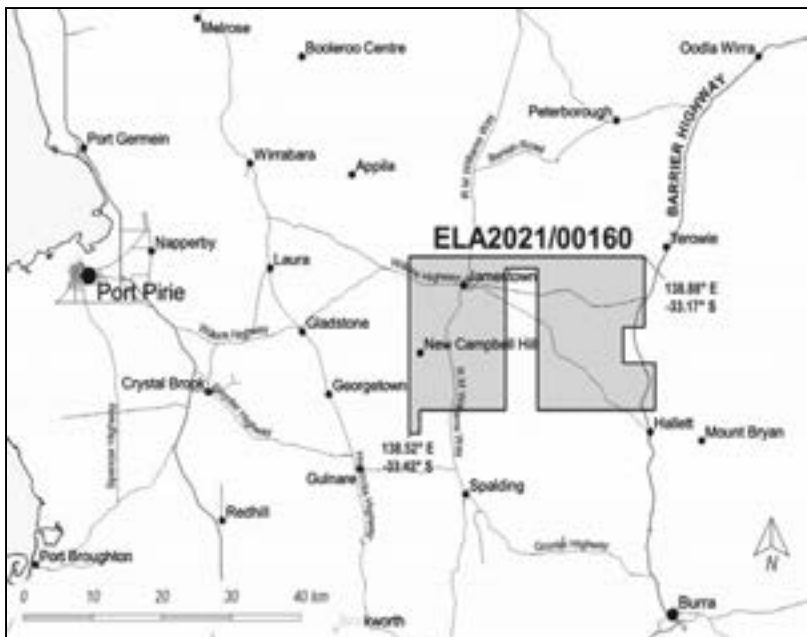


NOTICE INITIATING NEGOTIATIONS WITH NATIVE TITLE PARTIES

MINING ACT 1971 (SA) – SECTION 63M

TAKE NOTICE that Ecostorage Solutions Pty Ltd ACN 653 988 419, registered applicant of Exploration Licence Application 2021/00160, propose to undertake mineral exploration activities in respect of the land within ELA 2021/00160 (the **Land**).

Land



(AREA: approximately 717 square kilometres)

Nature of proposed mineral exploration activities under the Mining Act 1971

Exploration activities may include: reconnaissance; mapping; ground geophysics; surface geochemistry; airborne geophysics; limited clearing for access and drilling; various drilling methods; environmental surveys; rehabilitation; and any other activities permitted under the terms of ELA 2021/00160 (upon grant) or by any provision of the Mining Act 1971 or its regulations.

The proposed activities will be authorised by the following exploration authorities under the Mining Act 1971 (SA):

ELA 2021/00160 (upon grant) of which Ecostorage Solutions Pty Ltd is the registered applicant.

Ecostorage seeks to negotiate a native title mining agreement in respect of the Land and proposed exploration operations with native title parties under Part 9B of the Mining Act 1971 (SA).

Process for approval

Any person who holds or may hold native title in the Land is invited to contact Ecostorage for the purpose of negotiating an agreement in respect of the proposed exploration operations on the Land.

If, four (4) months after this notice is given as required by the Mining Act 1971, there are no persons registered under the law of the State or the Commonwealth as the holders of, or claimants to, native title in the Land, Ecostorage may apply ex parte to the Environment, Resources and Development Court for a summary determination authorising entry to the land for the purpose of carrying out mining operations on the Land, and the conduct of mining operations on the Land.

Contact

Ecostorage can be contacted at:

AMETS

PO Box 563 East Maitland NSW 2323

sa@amets.com.au

NOTICE OF PROPOSED GRANT OF AN EXTRACTIVE MINERAL LEASE

NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

The Honourable Nicole Manison MLA, the Northern Territory Minister for Mining and Industry, C/- Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade, GPO Box 4550 DARWIN NT 0801, hereby gives notice in accordance with section 29 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Commonwealth) of her intent to do an act(s) namely to grant the following extractive mineral lease application.

The application to which this notice applies:

Extractive Mineral Lease 33031 sought by TERRITORY SANDS PTY LTD, ACN 632 797 972 over an area of 100 Hectares depicted below for a term of 10 years, within the WESTERN CREEK locality. Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5466	Extractive Mineral Lease 33032 sought by TERRITORY SANDS PTY LTD, ACN 632 797 972 over an area of 100 Hectares depicted below for a term of 10 years, within the WESTERN CREEK locality. Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5466	Extractive Mineral Lease 33033 sought by TERRITORY SANDS PTY LTD, ACN 632 797 972 over an area of 100 Hectares depicted below for a term of 10 years, within the LARRIMAH locality. Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5566	Extractive Mineral Lease 33034 sought by TERRITORY SANDS PTY LTD, ACN 632 797 972 over an area of 100 Hectares depicted below for a term of 10 years, within the LARRIMAH locality. Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5566
Extractive Mineral Lease 33035 sought by TERRITORY SANDS PTY LTD, ACN 632 797 972 over an area of 100 Hectares depicted below for a term of 10 years, within the LARRIMAH locality. Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5566	Extractive Mineral Lease 33036 sought by TERRITORY SANDS PTY LTD, ACN 632 797 972 over an area of 100 Hectares depicted below for a term of 10 years, within the LARRIMAH locality. Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5566	Extractive Mineral Lease 33037 sought by TERRITORY SANDS PTY LTD, ACN 632 797 972 over an area of 100 Hectares depicted below for a term of 10 years, within the LARRIMAH locality. Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5566	Extractive Mineral Lease 33038 sought by TERRITORY SANDS PTY LTD, ACN 632 797 972 over an area of 97 Hectares depicted below for a term of 10 years, within the LARRIMAH locality. Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5566
Extractive Mineral Lease 33039 sought by TERRITORY SANDS PTY LTD, ACN 632 797 972 over an area of 77 Hectares depicted below for a term of 10 years, within the LARRIMAH locality. Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5566	Extractive Mineral Lease 33040 sought by TERRITORY SANDS PTY LTD, ACN 632 797 972 over an area of 92 Hectares depicted below for a term of 10 years, within the LARRIMAH locality. Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5566	Extractive Mineral Lease 33041 sought by TERRITORY SANDS PTY LTD, ACN 632 797 972 over an area of 98 Hectares depicted below for a term of 10 years, within the LARRIMAH locality. Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5566	Nature of act(s): The grant of an extractive mineral lease under the <i>Mineral Titles Act 2010</i> authorises the holder to extract or remove (whether by quarrying or other means) from, on or below the natural surface of the land, extractive mineral(s) for a term not exceeding 10 years and to seek renewal(s). The term for which it is intended to grant the extractive mineral lease/s referred to in this notice commences from the date of grant. Further information about the act may be obtained from the Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade, GPO Box 4550, Darwin NT 0801 or Centrepoint Building 48-50 Smith Street Darwin NT 0800, telephone (08) 8999 5322.

Native Title Parties: Any person who is, or becomes a "native title party" within the meaning of the *Native Title Act 1993* is entitled to the negotiation and/or procedural rights provided in Part 2, Division 3, Subdivision P of the *Native Title Act 1993*. Under section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993*, persons have until 3 months after the notification day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to this notice. Enquiries concerning becoming a native title party should be directed to the National Native Title Tribunal, GPO Box 9973, Brisbane QLD 4001, or telephone (07) 3307 5000.

Notification Day: 20 April 2022



Above: Brisbane's Tamuri Wigness courtside when the Bullets played the Cairns Taipans in Cairns. Left: The Taipans' Keanu Pinder rebounds under pressure.
Pictures: Christine Howes

Wigness bides his time while Pinder pushes on

By CHRISTINE HOWES
28 February 2022



TORRES Strait Islander Tamuri Wigness bid his time courtside when the Brisbane Bullets trekked north to Cairns to take on home side the Taipans in the NBL.

The Taipans' Keanu Pinder, meanwhile, was a livewire for his team with four points and 10 rebounds in his 21.5 minutes of court time.

"I feel like I helped the team a lot with

offensive rebounding," Pinder said post-match.

"It feels great to finally get a win because there's been so many problems that we've had to try and fix and we're finally on the upward slant of doing that."

Wigness, 19, is a highly touted prospect with experience in the NBA Global Academy across three years and has appeared at Basketball Without Borders Global Camps on two occasions during NBA All-Star weekends.

In 2019, he was named in the All-Tournament side. Wigness also played for Australia at junior levels.

League's history-makers

By KRIS FLANDERS
6 March 2022



A FOOTBALL history-making first – that's what happened at Wollongong Showground in round 2 of the 2021* NRLW premiership season when St George-Illawarra

hosted Parramatta Eels.

The game brought together two Aboriginal rugby league champions head-to-head as coaches – Jamie Soward, in his first role as senior coach, at the Dragons, and Dean Widders, also in his first senior role as coach, at the Eels. Both men each share a long involvement in the game as former players, premiership players and in coaching.

"To go up against 'Sowie' was good," Widders said.

"He was a smart and passionate player and it looks like he brought that to his coaching role.

"He's certainly done a great job in his first year at the Dragons."

For the record, the Dragons defeated the Eels 10-0 in atrocious conditions with rain bucketing down and leaving the stadium surface looking more like small swimming pools.

"It was tough, we were in that game but they got a lucky try that they capitalised on and extended their lead," Widders said.

"You've got to create your own luck and take them when they come your way."

Soward, a 2010 NRL premiership winner



Jamie Soward, St George-Illawarra NRLW coach.

with the Saints, said it was great to get the win.

"It was pretty nerve-wracking really as 'Deano' is such a great leader within the Indigenous community and is a great role model for so many people," Soward said.

"Look, I'm not going to lie, I did enjoy getting the win against him. He's always someone I looked up to but at the end of the day when I look at this elite NRLW competition and see that two of the six



Dean Widders, Parramatta Eels NRLW coach.

teams are head coached by two proud Aboriginal men is pretty cool."

Not only was Widders happy he and Soward were coaching in the elite competition but that there were others doing their bit at NRLW teams throughout the league.

"For me, the best part about this season, is there were Indigenous people on the coaching staff everywhere," he said

"It's the pathways that are starting to be

there. You know, we had Jess Skinner for the Knights as assistant coach. Bo de la Cruz there at the Broncos also as an assistant. Jayden Chadburn was the Titans strength and conditioning coach. We have Mel Dennis as physio at the Roosters. I'm really pleased for that."

The Eels were one of three newcomers to the NRLW this season with Gold Coast and Newcastle also joining the fray.

"I think it was a massive learning curve," Widders said of his debut coaching gig.

"I think the club has taken a lot out of it as well. Parramatta was one of the last teams to get a licence, we started late, COVID affected a lot of our initial set-up operations so we really didn't hit the ground running as much as I would have liked."

The first-time senior coach was also impressed with the standard of rugby league in the NRLW, coverage around the game and the support towards the competition.

"They've been getting healthy crowds at the games and the profiles of the matches is setting the game up for future successes," Widders said.

"Obviously, we have another competition to come, a State of Origin game, a year-ending World Cup – big things to come and there's plenty to be excited about. The profile of the NRLW will definitely grow."

**The recently-completed NRLW season was the postponed 2021 season. The NRLW 2022 season will be played at some point this year.*

Disaster relief for sports orgs



FINANCIAL support is now available for flood affected sporting clubs in Queensland and not-for-profit organisations in New South Wales.

Emergency funding is being jointly funded through the Commonwealth-State disaster recovery funding arrangements and will assist sporting clubs to repair

damaged infrastructure and replace lost equipment.

The recovery of local sporting organisations will be integral to the long-term recovery of flood affected communities.

The Queensland Rural and Industry Development Authority has announced funding of up to \$20,000 for sport and community clubs and associations.

There are also Extraordinary Disaster Assistance Recovery Grants up to \$50,000 which some sporting organisations may be eligible for.

The NSW Government has announced grants of up to \$50,000 for not-for-profit organisations.

More information about the grants can be found at the following:

Sports Australia-Disaster assistance-

Financial support to assist sporting clubs and associations:

sportaus.gov.au/grants

Queensland Rural and Industry Development Authority- for non-profit organisations:

qrda.qld.gov.au/non-profit-organisations

Service NSW- Disaster relief and support for sport and recreation clubs: service.nsw.gov.au

National Aussie softball ch'ships locked in



SOFTBALL Australia has announced its draws for the 2022 national championships.

The release of the draws marks what it says is an important milestone for the championships as it allows states and venues to begin planning for the event in earnest.

"Creating the draws is always a significant logistical undertaking," SA acting national events manager Kyra Cox said.

"It involves feedback from the host venue, the participating states, the officials, and Softball Australia.

"We also need to consider the compressed timeframe,

the COVID environment, and the overall objective to get our members participating in softball at a national level.

"Every effort has been made to accommodate these factors, and we think we've put together draws that will deliver a showcase product at each event."

The draw also attempts to balance double-headers, game breaks, and the opening and final time-slots across the first three days of competition. In some states, daylight conditions also had to be taken into consideration on diamonds, while due to the compressed schedule, some teams may also play three games per day. More information at softball.org.au

– March 10, 2022



● Softball up-and-comer Janice Blackman will feature at the national championships.



Indianna and Jackson King proudly show off their medals they won at the WA State Little Athletics Track & Field Championships.

Future King and Queen of the track



NYOONGAR twins and junior athletes Indianna and Jackson King have dreams of representing their country at the 2032 Brisbane Olympic Games

and if a track meet in Perth is anything to go by, they may well achieve their goal.

The 10-year-olds competed at the 2022 State Little Athletics Track & Field Championships in Perth and recorded a couple of firsts and personal-bests.

Jackson is showing early promise in long-distance. He won both the 200-metre and 400-metre finals and set two state records in both. In the 70-metre and 100-metre finals he placed second. Jackson set PBs in all four of his finals.

Not to be outdone, sister Indianna won the 200-metre and 400-metre finals, placed second in the 100-metre and 800-metre finals and a fourth in the 70-metre final. Like her brother, Indianna recorded PBs in all her finals.

In total, Indianna and Jackson won eight medals, set two new state records and recorded PBs in each final they entered. The twins are mentored by coach Paul Edmiston, a former elite-level athlete who was one part of the 4x100m relay team that set an Australian open club best time of 39.51sec (the Australian record is 38.17sec).

Indianna and Jackson were born 12 weeks premature. Their parents signed them up for Little Athletics as six-year-olds to assist and improve their fine-motors skills of development. The twins' great-grandparents were highly respected Nyoongar Whadjuk Elders within the community, Lorna and Sullivan Patrick Hume, who spent their lives tirelessly promoting Aboriginal rights and Nyoongar culture.

– March 15, 2022

Junior cricketers shine in the sun

By ALF WILSON
March 9, 2022



THERE were more than 60 excited boys and girls at the First Nation Peoples junior cricket carnival in Rockhampton competing across a number of grades.

Team Indigenous Corporation coordinated the carnival which saw three mixed grades, 7s/12s, under 13s/15s, and 16s/18s.

The event's coordinators were Robert Garrett, Trevor Lawton and Richard Sporne.

"Ours was the first Indigenous junior cricket carnival in Queensland," Garrett said.

"The first carnival we held was in 2016 with six men's sides. That increased to 38 teams in mens, womens, masters and junior grades in 2020.

"The focus is not only on Indigenous cricket but also meeting people from other areas.

"This year we had one team from Townsville, the Garbutt Magpies, two sides from the Southwest Indigenous Network, from Toowoomba and two Ipswich teams, and multi-

sides from central Queensland."

Four teams from around Ipswich and Toowoomba areas had to withdraw due to flooding down south.

In the final of the under-13s/15s, local side Dylinda 2/89 (Tyreece Collis 39no) defeated Garbutt Magpies 88 (Tasmin Gandhi 28).

In the 16s division final, Green Tree Frogs from Rockhampton defeated Wangu, also from Rockhampton.

No final was held in the youngest grade which was played under modified rules.

In the 16s/18s division the

Jeff Alberts Award for player of the carnival went to Tasmin Gandhi, while Melcom Mitchell won the award in the 7s-12s division. The 13s-15s best player award went to Tyreece Collis.

Garbutt Magpies players and officials travelled 700km on a small bus from Townsville and head coach Nicole Ross praised organisers for running such a professional carnival.

"It was a great carnival and was well run," she said.

"Players got to meet people and share stories as well."

Organisers plan to run a competition for men and women later in the year.



Canberra Capitals' Abby Cubillo in action against Melbourne Boomers during the WNBL's Indigenous Round of matches.
Pictures: Peter Argent



Shaneice Swain hit the boards for the Capitals against Melbourne Boomers.

Cubillo, Swain represent culture, Capitals with pride



SEASONED campaigner Abby Cubillo and up-and-comer Shaneice Swain represented culture with pride when the Canberra Capitals and Melbourne Boomers played off during the WNBL's Indigenous Round.

Darwin-born and raised Cubillo is in her fifth season in the WNBL and is a

championship winner with the Capitals.

Swain is in her debut season in the WNBL, joining the Capitals after an impressive under-19 World Cup in Hungary with the Aussie Gems, where she averaged 8.5 points, 4.5 rebounds and 1.8 assists, her efforts pushing the national side to a silver medal. — March 22, 2022

"The third-placed Capitals (11-6) later

withdrew from the semi-final play-off series against second-placed Perth Lynx (11-5) after game 1 of the three-game series in Perth, on March 24, which the Lynx won.

Game 2, scheduled for Canberra on March 27, was postponed when the Capitals were hit with a COVID outbreak and the club could not field the required number of seven athletes to play the game. Game 2 was later

re-scheduled to be played in Perth which the Capitals were against.

Despite exploring all avenues to resolve the issue, the club decided to withdraw entirely from the semi-finals with a second trip to Perth adding additional physical and mental stress to the team's load at a vulnerable time. The semi-final series was subsequently awarded to Perth Lynx.

Test bolter Boland back for Vics



AUSSIE Ashes Test hero Scott Boland is expected to bolster the Victorian team for the Sheffield Shield final against Western Australia on his return from the Pakistan tour.

The man who tore the England batting line-up apart over three Tests will join fellow Test player Marcus Harris for the final against the Warriors.

Western Australia will host the Vics in

the Sheffield Shield final at the WACA ground.

WA earned home-ground advantage in their first shield final appearance in seven years when they completed an innings and 51-run triumph over the Vics inside three days at the WACA on Friday (March 18).

The final starting on Thursday (March 31) will be played at the same ground, with WA out to claim their first Shield title since 1998-99.

The home team will head into the

decider full of confidence after skittling Victoria for 114 and 172, while looking far more assured at the crease while posting 337.

But knocking off Victoria in the big one will take some doing, with the Vics having won four of the last seven Shield finals.

WA will be without Mitch Marsh, Cameron Green, Ashton Agar and Josh Inglis who are all remaining in Pakistan for the limited-overs section of the Australia tour.

Victoria will hope they can also find more from luckless Test batter Will Pucovski, who made 22 and 11 on his return from his latest concussion.

— March 23, 2022, with AAP

"Western Australia won the Sheffield Shield title against Victoria at the WACA as the match petered out to a draw on day five. The hosts were 7-400 leading by 480 with Victoria having exhausted all of their front-line bowlers when the players shook hands at lunch.

Murphy the star for Tahs in five-try romp in Super W

By KRIS FLANDERS
March 20, 2022



MAHALIA Murphy's stunning start to the season for NSW Waratahs in Super W rugby went to another level in round 3, proving why she is one of the best attacking weapons in the game.

The fleet-footed fullback scored five tries as the Waratahs smashed rivals Melbourne Rebels 67-10.

"The whole team is doing their job which has allowed me and other backs to do what we do, the time and the space on the field," she said.

"It's crazy, I never thought that I'd get five tries in one game but my team definitely

did. "I got a hat-trick in my first game against the Brumbies and my captain said 'OK, well the next thing is to get four or five tries'. And boom! that happened too."

Murphy is a dual international and has an epic highlight reel in both rugby codes. But the powerful and speedy player says until now she had never scored five tries in one match.

"I've played sevens over in PNG and got a hat-trick and at club level I've scored four tries but I haven't scored five tries and particularly at this level," she said.

"To do it against a side that is quite challenging and that we have a great rivalry with too is always good."

Murphy scored nine tries in the opening three weeks

of the Super W competition. She says her brilliant start to the season is off the back of a tough pre-season and in top condition.

"I think my form comes down to being happy," she said.

"Outside of rugby, my genuine happiness and rediscovering the joy of rugby. I had some really bad hiccups at the start of the year with COVID that affected my health, my heart and lungs and delayed my training with the Wallaroos. I had such a long term recovery with it.

"Once I got back into training with the Waratahs, I was so excited to be with the girls again and get back into it. That and my happiness has had such a huge effect on my rugby."



Mahalia Murphy is in a good vein of form in Super W rugby for Waratahs.

Barty coy on future after tennis retirement



ASH Barty has revealed her tennis retirement plans were set before having "one last crack" and marching to a dominant Australian Open title triumph.

The world No.1 and three-time major champion sensationally announced her retirement at age 25 on Wednesday, March 23.

Speaking alongside coach Craig Tytzer, she revealed a wedding date with fiancé Garry Kissick had been set but remained coy on her next career move.

Winning an Australian Open wasn't essential before making her shock decision though. Barty explained she had

"never been a prisoner" to the profession she had already walked away from previously as a teenage prodigy.

"The Australian public allowed me to be myself. They allowed me to make mistakes. They allowed me to be imperfect," she said.

"It really did make that Australian Open so much more enjoyable for all of us to be able to go 'you know what, this is one last crack, let's see what we can do'.

"It was really cool."

Tytzer admitted he wasn't surprised by Barty's decision, given she had cheekily asked if she could retire after her 2019 French Open victory and he noted that her limp Olympic singles campaign last year had been telling.

"After (winning) Wimbledon that was an obvious goal for us and once she achieved it and once we got to the Olympics, it sort of hit home for me that there wasn't much left in her," he said.

"The motivation wasn't there, except when she played doubles with Storm (Sanders) and mixed with John Peers, her singles really went by the wayside.

"She wasn't fussed, so I felt that she had climbed where she needed to get to and it was going to be a hard slog to keep her involved."

The Queenslander has already played professional cricket and is an accomplished golfer and high-profile fan of AFL club Richmond.

But Barty, who lives nearby

the Brisbane Lions' new AFLW headquarters in Springfield, offered a smile, wink and a "you'll have to wait and see" when asked several times about what might be coming next.

Tytzer said her approach since returning to the sport in 2016 should serve as a lesson for others.

"Hopefully they have seen what Ash has done and understand that you can be yourself ... just be the best version of you," he said.

"And that was really what we were about; it was never about the success.

"It was just trying to find the best that Ash could be, and it turned out that she's the best there is."

– March 24, 2022, AAP



Ash Barty's retirement came as a shock to many in the sports world. Getty Images

Buddy kicks 1000th goal



THE SCG turned into a sea of red-and-white as Sydney superstar Lance Franklin booted his 1000th career goal in the Swans' 30-point AFL victory over Geelong.

The 35-year-old became just the sixth VFL/AFL player to achieve the milestone when he slotted his fourth goal in the round 2 game against the Cats.

The match was stopped with Sydney leading by 38 points and just six minutes remaining as thousands of supporters stormed onto the ground.

Franklin took more than 10 minutes to leave the field as delirious fans mobbed him amid extraordinary scenes that may never happen again in the AFL.

Franklin started the match with 996 goals to his name, but he edged closer to the mark by nailing a set-shot from the pocket just before quarter-time.

He had a quiet second term before being handed a soft free-kick midway through the third quarter that he converted from about 20m out.

Franklin's third was a powerful kick from 50m directly in front, raising his hands in delight to the roaring crowd.

The historic 1000th came late in the last quarter as he put through a set shot after being set-up by young gun Chad Warner.

The game restarted after a 33-minute break as the Swans went to a 2-0 record, running out winners 17.5 (107) to 10.17 (77) in front of 36,578 fans.

"That was one of the most special moments you'd probably get, certainly one I can look back on," Swans coach John Longmire said.

"I just said to the players after the game we were all privileged to (play alongside) and, in my instance, coach Lance. Also the players he has played with over the years, both at Sydney and Hawthorn."

Sydney powered away with a seven-goal second quarter and the Cats could never get close enough to mount a serious challenge.

– March 25, 2022, AAP



The victorious Koonibba Cricket Club after their win in the 2022 Aboriginal Cricket Carnival in Adelaide. Picture: Peter Argent

Koonibba win back-to-back titles



KOONIBBA Cricket Club are the toast of Aboriginal sport after winning back-to-back titles led by the competition's medal winner and a former AFL star.

The KCC took out the March long weekend 2022 Aboriginal Cricket Carnival in the final against Flinders at Karen Rolton Oval in Adelaide.

Eight senior teams converged on

grounds at Narnungga (Gladys Elphick Park) in the Adelaide Parklands with four teams representing the regional Ngarrindjeri, Koonibba, Flinders and Gerard areas and four metro teams representing Kaurana, City, Metro United and Two Strong Warriors.

Three round-robin T20 matches were co-played across the opening two days. The two sides finishing on top of the table, Koonibba and Flinders, turned their focus

to the grand final. Koonibba's Lindsay Thomas, who played for AFL club North Melbourne, showed his all-round sporting abilities and won the Vince Copley Medal as player of the carnival for his contributions including hitting the winning runs in the final.

Koonibba are from the far west of South Australia and have a strong Aboriginal sports history in football and cricket.

– March 31, 2022

Which team can rise and take

Ash Johnson from Halls Creek in WA takes a spectacular mark for Collingwood in the VFL earlier this season.
Picture:
Peter Argent



By PETER ARGENT
March 1, 2022

Adelaide (4)
Ben Davis
Shane McAdam
Wayne Milera
Tariek Newchurch

With the Crows on a rebuild, they will be keen for their marquee man, the smooth-moving Wayne Milera firing after two injury-plagued years on the sidelines. Shane McAdam has proved to be an adequate foil for the Crows' tall as a medium forward and after two seasons, 28 games and 37 goals, Adelaide will be looking for a breakout year from the lad from Halls Creek. In his fifth year on the Crows' list, and with just six games, this is another make or break season for Ben Davis. Spending his first season on the list in the SANFL last year, Tariek Newchurch needs to find more consistency to go with his blistering place to realise more opportunities at AFL level.

Brisbane (6)
Callum Ah Chee
Charlie Cameron
Nakia Cockatoo
Blake Coleman
Keidean Coleman
Cameron Ellis-Yolmen

The premiership window is open for the Lions and they need to take that last step in the major rounds. Once an Eddie Betts understudy at Adelaide, Charlie Cameron has blossomed into an exceptional and crowd-pleasing footballer with Brisbane. He kicked 55 goals last winter and is the club's leading goal-kicker for the past three seasons. Callum Ah Chee has found consistency under Chris Fagan at Brisbane and has become a valuable member of this Lions side. Top 10 draft pick Nakia Cockatoo showed signs of his brilliance in his seven senior games last year. Cam Ellis-Yolmen will enter his 11th year in the AFL system, having played 48 games in total. With grit and determination, Keidean Coleman, the Lions' first Next Generation Academy player, became a regular member of the Brisbane outfit in just his second season. His younger brother Blake was drafted in 2020 but is yet to play at the top level.

Carlton (3)
Jack Martin
Jesse Motlop
Zac Williams

After an impressive first pre-season, another generation of the Motlop clan is looking to make his mark on the AFL – Jesse Motlop, son of 130-game Kangaroos and Port player, Daniel. The Blues are looking for a full and productive season from mercurial 27-year-old Jack Martin, especially with the added support recruited in the Blues midfield. Entering his 10th season in the AFL system, and second with the Blues, Zac Williams, a Carlton supporter in his youth, needs to develop his leadership further now that he's a senior player.

Collingwood (2)
Ash Johnson
Nathan Kreuger

The Magpies added an 'X'-factor to its forward line with the signing of 196cm tall Nathan Kreuger from Geelong. With a strong family heritage in the game, Kreuger previously played at Geelong and is probably at the crossroads. Another lad from Halls Creek, Ash Johnson came through to the AFL via SANFL club Sturt in the 2021 mid-season draft. He is yet to play at the top level but has similar attributes as the Crows' Shane McAdam.

Essendon (4)
Cody Brand
Josh Eyre
Anthony McDonald-Tipungwuti
Tex Wanganeen

Cody Brand grew up idolising Essendon legend Dustin Fletcher; he has since graduated from the club's NGA. Like his idol, Brand is a shutdown defender who competes strongly in the air. He played seven games in the VFL before it was shut down last season. Fellow 2020 draftee Josh Eyre played eight games in the VFL, too. An imposing 198cm tall Eyre is an athletic and versatile proposition for a variety of roles. Fan favourite Anthony McDonald-Tipungwuti, with his rapid speed and forward craft, kicked 34 goals last year. A father-son draftee, Tex Wanganeen, son of Essendon 1993 Brownlow Medallist and premiership player, Gavin, moves from the James Hird Academy, the club's junior development program, into the seniors. He is displaying the same athletic traits as his famous father.

Fremantle (6)
Eric Benning
Joel Hamling
Liam Henry
Alex Pearce
Michael Walters
Nathan Wilson

Fremantle is a side that most expect to climb the ladder in 2022. The Dockers have a balanced outfit with Michael Walters a key pillar who will close in on the 200-game milestone later this season. Youngster Liam Henry displayed glimpses of his individual brilliance during his second season in the AFL and there is plenty of organic growth to come in his game. After winning a premiership at the Bulldogs in 2016 and as a key defender at Freo, Joel Hamling has just played one game in the past two seasons in his three years at the club due to on-going injury concerns. A 10-season servant of the code in the east and west, Nathan Wilson is an integral member of the Dockers' backline. Eric Benning, from the Kimberley region, emerged from the club's NGA program and was selected with pick 54 in the 2021 draft. After some coaching roles in 2020 while recovering from injury key defender Alex Pearce returned to the field and played 10 games in 2021.

Geelong (3)
Quinton Narkle
Brandan Parfitt
Tyson Stengle

An unheralded star at the Cats, Brandan Parfitt has been a consistent contributor since he started in 2017. He should click over to his 100th game early in the season and is a key member of the on-ball rotations. Quinton Narkle added 16 games in 2021 to his 17 across the previous three seasons and is starting to cement his place in Geelong's best 22. With the arrival of Eddie Betts on the coaching staff, SANFL premiership small forward last season Tyson Stengle is on another chance in the AFL at the Cattery, having played two senior games at Richmond and 14 with the Adelaide Crows previously.

Gold Coast (5)
Jy Farrar
Sean Lemmens
Izak Rankine
Malcolm Rosas
Joel Sudar-Jeffrey

Excitement machine Izak Rankine plateaued somewhat in 2021 but is expected to bounce back this year after a big pre-season. Defender Sean Lemmens from Adelaide is now entering his ninth season on the Gold Coast and after a strong 2021 campaign will look to continue as a hard-running option. The son of former St Kilda and Brisbane full-back Russell Jeffrey, Joel received a handful of opportunities last winter and will be looking to build on that. Fellow NT export Malcolm Rosas displayed plenty of his trademark speed in the four games he played last year. Another Halls Creek footballer in the AFL, Jy Farrar, is blessed with exceptional speed for his 190cm frame and adds an 'X'-factor to the squad.

GWS Giants (1)
Ian Hill

After strong results as a small forward last season, both offensively and defensively, Ian Hill played 17 games, laid on 48 tackles and booted 14 goals last year. He now needs to build on this solid base over the next few years.

Hawthorn (3)
Tyler Brockman
Jarman Impey
Chad Wingard

Chad Wingard is one of the AFL's genuine mid-sized game-breakers. He is perched on 194 games and should join the AFL 200-club this year. Jarman Impey played 75 games for Port Adelaide and since his move to the Hawks he has been a consistent contributor across the past four winters there. A 19-year-old excitement machine from WA, Tyler Brockman displayed plenty of elite speed and agility across his 11 games in his debut season where he kicked three goals in the round 23 clash with Richmond.

● Continued next page



Notice Under Section 29 of the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) Exploration Licence Application 6448 (Act 1992)

This notice is given in accordance with the requirements of Section 29 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth).

Description of the nature of the act

The Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional NSW intends to grant an exploration licence under section 22(1)(a) of the *Mining Act 1992* (NSW) on land subject to native title.

Should a licence be granted, the licence holder may apply to renew or transfer the licence prior to it expiring (including partial renewals or partial transfers).

Note: If the licence is granted, the renewal, re grant or re-making (including partial renewals or partial transfers) or extension of the term of the licence may be valid pursuant to section 24MD(1) of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) without further notification, provided the requirements in section 26D(1) are satisfied.

Double Eagle Resources Pty Ltd (ACN 657 511 683) is the applicant for Exploration Licence Application 6448 which, if granted would authorise the prospecting for Group 1 minerals for an initial term of up to six years.

Description of area that may be affected

The entire area of Exploration Licence Application 6448 that covers an area of about 19 units situated approximately 9 kilometres south west of the town of Coonabarabran, in the State of NSW as shown on the diagram below.

Name and postal address of person by whom the act would be done

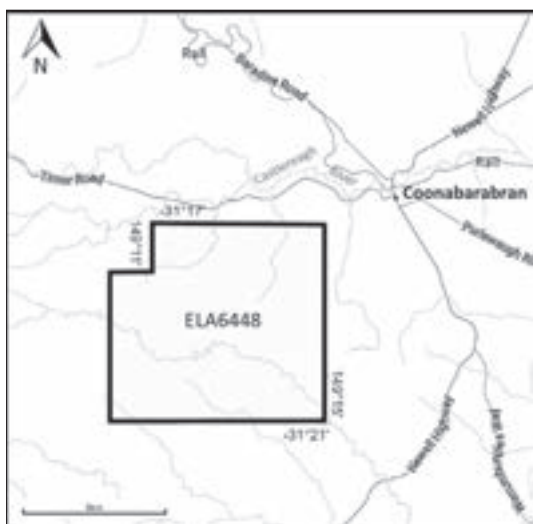
Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional NSW,
PO Box 344, Hunter Region Mail Centre, NSW 2310.

How further information about the act can be obtained

Further information may be obtained from: Assessments and Systems, Regional NSW on (02) 4063 6600 or resource.operations@planning.nsw.gov.au.

Notification Day

For the purposes of Section 29(4) of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) the notification day is 5 May 2022. Under Section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) persons have until 3 months after the notification day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to this notice.



hold of the premiership cup?

● From previous page

Melbourne (4)
Toby Bedford
Steven May
Kysaiah Pickett
Deakyn Smith

Key defender and on-field leader Steven May and small forward Kysaiah Pickett were part of the Demons' breakthrough premiership last year, the club's first flag in 57 years. An elite footballer, May, a former captain at Gold Coast, is up to 171 senior games. After 25 games and 40 goals in his second season, Kysaiah Pickett is expected to get more opportunities through the midfield this season. Toby Bedford, 21, didn't see any senior football in 2021 after a couple of opportunities the season before. With Pickett expected to spend more time in the midfield, Bedford may win more opportunities as a forward. A NGA product at the Demons, Deakyn Smith joined as a pre-season supplemental selection in March 2021. He is a classy outside midfielder with the ability to play forward.

North Melbourne (6)
Jed Anderson
Kyron Hayden
Matthew McGuinness
Jy Simpkin
Phoenix Spicer
Tarryn Thomas

Jy Simpkin won the Syd Barker Medal as club best and fairest last year and is a first-rate midfielder while Tarryn Thomas is developing into an elite medium forward for the fledgling Kangaroos. Jed Anderson is back on track and will add toughness to the on-ball brigade. A noted one-on-one defender, Kyron Hayden, who had an injury-frustrated start to his career, revealed his athleticism and toughness in 12 games in 2021. A foot injury restricted Matt McGuinness to just a pair of appearances at VFL level in 2021. The Tasmanian is an exciting tall defender, who can push forward and hit the scoreboard. Diminutive, fleet-footed wingman Phoenix Spicer got his first AFL opportunity in round 23 last season.

Port Adelaide (6)
Karl Amon
Jase Burgoyne
Jeremy Finlayson
Lachlan Jones
Steven Motlop
Sam Powell-Pepper

Karl Amon had an outstanding 2021 season and was considered unlucky to not win All-Australian honours. Enigmatic pair Steven Motlop and Sam Powell-Pepper had up and down seasons last year and spent some time in the SANFL but were important at the business end of the season. Lachlan Jones arrived into the top level in a blaze of glory but he endured plenty of issues with injury in the second half of his debut season. Jeremy Finlayson comes across to Alberton from the Giants in the prime of his career. Jase Burgoyne, the

second son of 240-game premiership player Peter, is expected to spend the season learning his trade in the SANFL.

Richmond (8)
Shai Bolton
Shane Edwards
Rhyan Mansell
Matthew Parker
Marlion Pickett
Daniel Rioli
Maurice Rioli
Sydney Stack

The competition yardstick over the past five years, Richmond currently have eight Aboriginal players on the club's list. South Australia triple premiership midfielder Shane Edwards has just received AFL life membership. Now entering his 16th season, Edwards needs to play 19 games this year to reach the 300-AFL game landmark. In 2021, along with winning the mark of the year award, Shai Bolton took his game to a new level and he finished fourth in the Jack Dyer medal (club best and fairest). Marlion Pickett, now 30, is expected to play his 50th AFL game this year, injury notwithstanding. Triple-preiership player Daniel Rioli was inconsistent in the first half of 2021 but finished strongly. Now with over 100 AFL games he is entering the prime years of his football life. Natural talent Sydney Stack forced his way back into the Tigers league team late in the season and delivered a handful of strong performances. The son of superstar and 1982 Norm Smith medallist Maurice Rioli, Maurice junior is noted as having the same tackling skills as his late father. He received two opportunities late last year and can build on that in 2022 and beyond. Small defender from Tasmania via the SANFL Eagles, Rhyan Mansell was secured by the Tigers in the 2021 pre-season supplemental period and he was impressive in his debut season at the elite level in his 13 AFL games. Former St Kilda and South Fremantle forward Matthew Parker showed plenty in six games late in the season. He played 19 matches with the Saints in 2019-20.

St Kilda (9)
Jade Gresham
Bradley Hill
Josiah Kyle
Jarrold Lienert
Ben Long
Jack Peris
Patrick Ryder
Nasiah Wanganeen-Milera
Marcus Windhager

The Saints have a club record nine Indigenous players this season and one of them is on the brink of his 100-game milestone, Jade Gresham, who is an important element to St Kilda's on-ball brigade. He has the capacity to become an elite AFL player with an injury-free season. Now in his third season at the Saints, after three with Fremantle, and three flags with Hawthorn, Brad Hill needs 10 more games to follow older brother, retired Docker Stephen Hill, into the AFL's 200-club.

Patrick Ryder is also a three-club footballer and now enters his 17th season in the AFL. He started in the AFL in 2006, has played 269 games and will be managed this year. Hard at the contest, Darwin lad Ben Long has made his mark across half-back over the past two seasons. Adelaide lad and first-round selection last year, Nasiah Wanganeen-Milera is expected to develop in the VFL before being unleashed at the top level. His mentor Terry Milera had three seasons at Moorabbin, too, playing 30 games. Marcus Windhager, Josiah Kyle and Jack Peris, son of Olympic Gold Medal winning hockey player and track athlete, Nova, are in the embryonic stage of their football journey. To compete their squad, the Saints picked underutilized Power running defender Jarrod Lienert, who played in a SANFL premiership with Sturt in 2016.

Sydney (2)
James Bell
Lance Franklin

A local talent, James Bell is continuing to grow under the 'Bloods' system and is in his fourth season, improving on his game's tally each year. Lance Franklin, 35, has played upwards of 300 AFL games, won two flags at Hawthorn and is the sixth-greatest goal-kicker in VFL/AFL history. 'Buddy' still brings patrons through the gates.

West Coast (6)
Jamaine Jones
Tim Kelly
Sam Petrevski-Seton
William Rioli
Liam Ryan
Isiah Winder

Having grown up playing in Halls Creek, and after five seasons and 94 games with Carlton, Sam Petrevski-Seton has returned home and will complement an already potent Eagles midfield. Tim Kelly is now regarded as a premium midfielder in the AFL and at 27 he is a ball-winning magnet. Jamaine Jones played 15 games last year as a small forward and he will be fighting with Tiwi Islander Willie Rioli for a role this year. A premiership player in 2018 Rioli, has missed two seasons of football. Liam Ryan has developed into one of the special players in the competition, capable of both mark and goal of the year. Peel Thunder talent Isiah Winder managed one AFL match and eight WAFL games in 2021.

Western Bulldogs (2)
Arthur Jones
Jamarra Ugle-Hagan

No. 1 draft pick Jamarra Ugle-Hagan got his opportunity in round 17 in 2021. The next week he kicked three goals against the Suns and played five games before the Doggies' finals campaign. Midfielder/forward Arthur Jones, from Western Australia, was selected by the Bulldogs at the 2021 draft.



Darwin's **Brandon Parfitt** has cemented his spot in the strong **Geelong** midfield. **Picture:** **Peter Argent**



Notice Under Section 29 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) Exploration Licence Application 6428 (Act 1992)

This notice is given in accordance with the requirements of Section 29 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth).

Description of the nature of the act

The Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional NSW intends to grant an exploration licence under section 22(1)(a) of the *Mining Act 1992* (NSW) on land subject to native title.

Should a licence be granted, the licence holder may apply to renew or transfer the licence prior to it expiring (including partial renewals or partial transfers).

Note: If the licence is granted, the renewal, re grant or re-making (including partial renewals or partial transfers) or extension of the term of the licence may be valid pursuant to section 24MD(1) of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) without further notification, provided the requirements in section 26D(1) are satisfied.

ACN 646 866 319 PTY LTD C/-Paul Thurstan Smith (ACN 646 866 319) is the applicant for Exploration Licence Application 6428 which, if granted would authorise the prospecting for Group 1 minerals for an initial term of up to six years.

Description of area that may be affected

The entire area of Exploration Licence Application 6428 that covers an area of about 24 units situated approximately 59 kilometres east southeast of the town of Walcha, in the State of NSW as shown on the diagram below.

Name and postal address of person by whom the act would be done

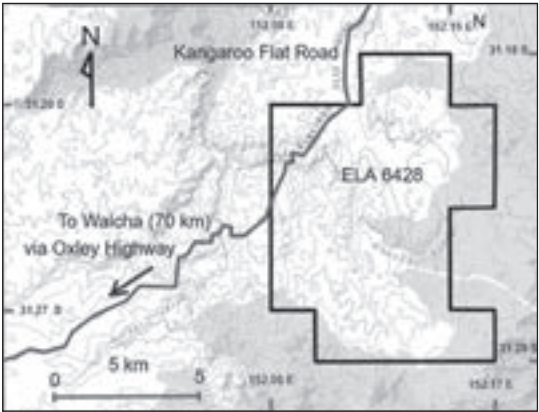
Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional NSW,
 PO Box 344, Hunter Region Mail Centre, NSW 2310.

How further information about the act can be obtained

Further information may be obtained from; Assessments and Systems, Regional NSW on (02) 4063 6600 or resource.operations@planning.nsw.gov.au.

Notification Day

For the purposes of Section 29(4) of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) the notification day is 5 May 2022. Under Section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) persons have until 3 months after the notification day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to this notice.



A new season and fresh faces

By KRIS FLANDERS
March 1, 2022

BRISBANE (5)
Selwyn Cobbo
Ryan James
Albert Kelly
Brenko Lee
Kotoni Staggs

Selwyn Cobbo was a star for Wynnum-Manly in the Queensland Cup last year and won plenty of praise for his performance in the All Stars side in February. He is a gifted fullback with pace and footwork and doesn't shirk the hard yards in returning the ball. He has a huge future in the game and can become a permanent member in the Brisbane 17. Ryan James, at his fourth NRL club, is a true leader on and off the field. He is a handy pick-up for the Broncos' pack, has a big motor and is capable of strong hit-ups and for a prop-forward he is also a prolific try-scorer with 33. Albert Kelly made a successful return to the NRL with eight games last year and the talented five-eighth will be hoping to partner new signing and captain Adam Reynolds in the halves. Brenko Lee comes to Brisbane from Melbourne and the centre/winger will be trying to crack what should be a classy Broncos backline. Lee missed most of 2021 but can add to his 67 appearances and 24 tries. Kotoni Staggs is a top centre who can find the tryline and is a handy goalkicker too. Injury meant he only played four games last year. He has the ability to be a match-winner again this year.

CANBERRA (5)
Adam Elliott
Jamal Fogarty
Sebastian Kris
Xavier Savage
Jack Wighton

Adam Elliott spent six years at Canterbury before leaving the club for Canberra on a one-year deal. He will be doing everything to impress for a longer deal after a number of off-field incidents lowered his value somewhat. When the forward is switched on he can be a passionate, hard worker in attack and defence. After three seasons with the Gold Coast and co-captain last year Jamal Fogarty links with the Raiders and could form a lethal halves combination with Jack Wighton. Fogarty should celebrate 50 NRL games this season. Sebastian Kris, a flyer from the Torres Strait, played 20 games last season and there is no reason why he can't cement a centre position and add to his eight tries. There was lots of like about Xavier Savage's three games before injury cut his season short last year. He has the talent to be one of the Green Machine's wingers. And if Jack Wighton can find his 2020 Dally M form then Canberra can play finals footy. He has all the skills to be a leader and playmaker on the field, and the size to take on the line.

CANTERBURY BULLDOGS (4)
Josh Addo-Carr
Jake Averillo
Braidon Burns
Brent Naden

'Foxx on the run!' – that's what all Doggies fans will be hoping for in 2022 from Josh Addo-Carr. The former Melbourne winger brings much-needed speed and try-scoring specialism to a Canterbury attack that's been pedestrian of late. Jake Averillo is a special talent but he has had the burden of being made a playmaker and kicker but he is more suited to the centres where he could be brilliant in open space. However, he will more likely be called on to partner new signing and premiership winner Matt Burton. Braidon Burns spent five seasons at Souths before making the move to Belmore. The speedy winger has played just 40 games in that time but is more than



That grand grand-final moment when Cody Walker from South Sydney stepped Nathan Cleary from Penrith in last year's premiership decider. Pictures: Getty Images

capable of wearing the number 2 or 5 jersey for the entire season. He can score a try too with 10 to his record. Brent Naden is another new face at the Kennel. This lad is a definite try-scoring machine with 24 from 37 outings. As a centre/winger, Naden can add another tick to an expanding Bulldogs attack.

CRONULLA (6)
Andrew Fifita
Wade Graham
Nicho Hynes
Will Kennedy
Jesse Ramien
Braydon Trindall

Will Kennedy had a breakthrough season in 2021 year where he played 24 games and scored 14 tries which meant an extended stay at the Sharks until the end of 2023 so expect him to rise to another level of confidence and inject himself into the attack more. Jesse Ramien is a powerfully-built centre type who can be lethal in attack with 26 tries from 74 games and is a player who can leave his mark in defence. Braydon Trindall, like Kennedy, had a breakout 2021 where he proved he can handle the playmaker role. He is a handy point-scorer too with 88 last year coming from 36 goals and four tries. Nicho Hynes comes to the Sharks from the Storm and will go from an interchange player into a leading playmaker. Hynes gave a glimpse of what he can produce in the All Stars match and if his kicking game in general play is on then it could be a big season – he is a very good goalkicker too. On his day, Andrew Fifita can be a destructive force and very hard to stop. He is bruising in defence and a real cult hero out Cronulla way. After coping a serious injury to his

throat last season, can Fifita return to his barnstorming best? Yes he can. Wade Graham is an Origin star, an Australian rep and premiership winner. The Cronulla skipper will be looking to remain injury-free after he played just 11 games last year. He has an incredible workrate and is tireless in hitting the ball up and in the tackling department but that also comes with ball skills.

GOLD COAST (6)
Jayden Campbell
David Fifita
Shallin Fuller
Brian Kelly
Will Smith
Corey Thompson

Everyone knows Jayden Campbell is the son of the legendary Preston, but he quickly made a name for himself after his season heroics in 2021. The dynamic fullback played seven games for five tries and can only get better, and with AJ Brimson likely to play five-eighth, Campbell should get first crack at the fullback spot. David Fifita is a human wrecking machine – like his big cousin at Cronulla. Devastating on his day and incredibly hard to stop, as a forward Fifita has amazing try-scoring abilities. He crossed for 30 tries from 66 games with 17 of those coming for the Titans last year. Expect to see more of that. Shallin Fuller is an exciting young prospect who could make his NRL debut this season. He played alongside Campbell in the under-20s competition and later with Burleigh Bears in the Queensland Cup. Playing in the halves, Fuller may have to bide his time but there are plenty of wraps on him from the Titans coaching staff. Brian Kelly is entering his sixth NRL season and is a mainstay now in



North Queensland speedster Hamiso Tabuai-Fidow.



Gold Coast's Jayden Campbell can only get better.

the Gold Coast backline in the centres. 'BK' has scored 41 tries with 12 coming last year, his best season for scoring to date. Will Smith enters his ninth year of league and after five years with Parramatta he heads north of the border to continue his career. A talented utility player, Smith can fill most roles in the backline and has played at hooker. Corey Thompson is one of the most reliable players in the NRL and he rarely plays a bad game. He is a relatively smaller-sized winger but makes up for it with his huge workrate and tough returns with the footy. He will look to add to his 109 appearances.

MANLY (1)
Jason Saab

Just like the high-end sports car that shares his name, Jason Saab can motor. Blessed with unbeatable speed, athleticism and brilliant aerial skills, Saab has it all. And he can score tries too, with one of the best strikers in the NRL: 30 from 34 games. He is simply dynamic and is quickly becoming a cult hero at Brookvale.

MELBOURNE (1)
Reimis Smith

Reimis Smith's first year with the Storm last season was something to remember, and build on. He crossed the tryline 14 times, the most in his five seasons. No doubt Smith will add to his 39 career four-pointers. He has shown enough for master coach Craig Bellamy to start on the wing/centre and is signed until the end of 2024. Smith started the year strongly with a good performance for the Maori All Stars.

● Continued next page

but who takes footy's prize?



St George-Illawarra's Tyrell Fuimaono has played some of his best football during the past two seasons. Pictures: Getty Images

● From previous page

NZ WARRIORS (3)

Josh Curran
Ashley Taylor
Reece Walsh

Josh Curran has 20 NRL games to his name from four seasons with 14 of those coming last season. The hardworking All-Stars second-rower/hooker is a tackling machine and can make decisive runs from dummy-half. It's a new season and a new club for Ash Taylor who comes to the Warriors with 115 NRL games under his belt and 335 points from 130 goals and 18 tries. He has the ability to play both five-eighth and halfback and is a great pick up for the Warriors. Reece Walsh is one of the young rising stars of the NRL and has plenty of big wraps on his shoulders. He played 16 games last season with 21 goals and nine tries. The fullback has slotted in seamlessly in the Warriors attack and already has taken on the leading attacking weapon role.

NEWCASTLE (2)

Dane Gagai
Edrick Lee

Dane Gagai is aiming for a massive return in the red and blue after four years at Souths. Regarded as one of the best centres in the game, Gagai is also one of the most experienced. He's played 226 games and scored 68 tries and will be likely to take one of the two centre spots for the Knights. He is a match-winner on his day. Edrick Lee missed the entire 2021 season through injury so to say that he's fired up

and ready to go for 2022 would be a major understatement. Lee already has 116 games to his name with 59 tries and we mustn't forget how he starred for Queensland in State of Origin in 2020 so, yes the lad can definitely play. Knights fans will be happy to see him on the paddock again.

NORTH QUEENSLAND (4)

Ruben Cotter
Scott Drinkwater
Hamiso Tabuai-Fidow
Jaymayne Taunoa-Brown

Ruben Cotter is an Indigenous All-Star and is aiming for a big 2022 after injury meant he only played six games last year. A busy hooker who gets through a mountain of tackles he will no doubt be eyeing that spot again. Scott Drinkwater played 24 games for the Cowboys last season and was brilliant at fullback and five-eighth during a tough season which saw him sign on until the end of 2023 and is tipped again to be an important part of the Cowboys side. Also, "Stop...it's Hammer time!" Hamiso Tabuai-Fidow has quickly become a fan favourite in North Queensland colours after just 27 games. Blessed with great speed, 'HTF' can play fullback, on the wing or in the centres. He is expected to form part of a crucial backline and will have the fans on their feet again. Jaymayne Taunoa-Brown makes his debut season for North Queensland after playing with the Warriors and an on-loan stint with the Dragons. A tough front-rower who doesn't shy away from making the hard metres or through bruising defence, 'JTB' will be a top addition to the Cowboys pack.



Canberra's Sebastian Kris will be looking to cement his position in the centres.



Manly's Jason Saab is an athletic and brilliant aerialist.

PARRAMATTA (0)

PENRITH (2)

J'maine Hopgood
Chris Smith

J'maine Hopgood made his debut with Penrith last year. He came through the Panthers junior system and is aiming to break into the Panthers pack again. Second-rower/lock Chris Smith made his NRL debut for the Panthers in 2015 and returns to the club after stints at the Roosters and Canterbury. A three-time Indigenous All-Star, Smith is on a one-year deal which should ensure he plays his heart out any chance he gets, which he has done throughout his 33-game career.

SYDNEY ROOSTERS (1)

Connor Watson

Connor Watson returns to his junior club after four seasons with Newcastle. One of the most versatile players in the competition, Watson had slotted into the fullback, hooker, lock and halves roles previously. He is a tough player with a surprising turn of foot when and is also very skilful with the ball in hand. It's been a few years since the Roosters had an Indigenous player at the club and they've got a good one here.

SOUTH SYDNEY (4)

Alex Johnston
Latrell Mitchell
Blake Taaffe
Cody Walker

Alex Johnston can genuinely be

considered as a great of the game in this, his ninth season of NRL football. Can you not find a better try-scoring strike rate than his? 166 games for 136 tries! Top try-scorer from 2021 with 30! There is no reason why he can't be top of the crop again in 2022. Speaking of greats, Latrell Mitchell is a true superstar. A match-winner sometimes, he is just unstoppable. In Adam Reynolds' absence following his move to the Brisbane Broncos, Mitchell will likely take on the goal-kicking duties as he's a capable kicker with 221 career goals. The fullback has a great fend and can be super-aggressive in defence. And what a debut year that was for Blake Taaffe in 2021? The youngster came in for Mitchell when he was suspended and he more than showed he is at home in the rough and tumble of the NRL. He played eight games and kicked six goals during Souths' run to the grand final last year. He is now likely to take on even more responsibility probably at halfback. Cody Walker is one of the game's best five-eighths and on his day he can take the match by the scruff of the neck and win it. He will form a combination with young Taaffe and will need to bring his expertise and experience to that partnership. He should also bring up 150 career games this year.

ST GEORGE-ILLAWARRA (5)

Jack Bird
Tyrell Fuimaono
Josh Kerr
Tyrell Sloan
Jayden Sullivan

Jack Bird made a successful return to the Dragons and rugby league in 2021. The premiership winner and NSW Origin player can only improve from his 22 matches last year. He has all positions in the backline covered but will again start in the centres. Tyrell Fuimaono will spend the first five games of the season on the sidelines after taking the early guilty plea to a grade-three dangerous contact charge in the Saints' trial match against Parramatta. He will be feeling like he's let his club down and will be aiming to come storming back. A tough second-rower, Fuimaono has played his best football in the last two seasons and now has played 60 NRL games. His younger sister, Taliah, played for the Dragons in the NRLW. Josh Kerr played in his fourth Indigenous All-Stars team earlier in the year and the big, tough prop is likely to be a mainstay for the Dragons. After three seasons he will bring up his 50th NRL match. Tyrell Sloan's debut season last year was spectacular. He scored six tries in just his five appearances and also scored a try in this year's All-Stars match. A local Illawarra junior, Sloan is a wonderful fullback and can play a key role for the Saints this year and at just 20 can become a major player for years to come. Another talented local junior for the Saints is Jayden Sullivan at five-eighth. 'Bud' will be aiming to add to his six NRL career games. He is capable of sparking up a great halves combination with teammate Ben Hunt.

WESTS TIGERS (2)

Daine Laurie
Tyrone Peachey

Another rising star of the NRL and after a wonderful 19 games which produced seven tries, Tigers fans would pay the price of an admission ticket alone just to watch Daine Laurie go around and the flashy fullback will only get better. Tyrone Peachey is about to embark on his 10th season of the NRL after playing with Cronulla, Penrith and Gold Coast. With 179 first grade games, he will be one of the most experienced at the Tigers. He is good with the ball in hand and can create opportunities for himself or teammates. He will want to prove that he still has what it takes and this could be a big season for 'The Peach'.

NRLW is on the up, and I'm here for it

HOW good has the NRLW been this season? For mob who have attended the Koori Knockout it is no surprise really. We have always known how talented, tough and skilful the women's game is.

The elite level of the women's game for the first time in existence featured a brand new champion with the powerful Brisbane side knocked out in the semi-finals. That alone was exciting, maybe not for Brisbane fans, but that a new name (Sydney Roosters) is now on the trophy.

There is no shortage of talented Indigenous women playing at the elite level and they've all been integral to their respective clubs' success. The Roosters have Keilee Joseph and Olivia Kernick. Brisbane have one of the best players in the code in fullback Tamika Upton, and Kaitlyn Phillips and multiple premierships winner, Tallisha Harden. New side Gold Coast was represented by Indigenous All-Stars pair, centre Jasmine Peters and second-rower, Shaniah Power. Another newcomer Newcastle Knights had five Indigenous women listed on their squad – captain Caitlin Johnston, the super-talented Kirra Dibb, halfback Bobbi Law, forward Kyrrah Simon and Torres Strait Islander Tahlulah Tillett. The third of the debutant clubs, Parramatta, had western Sydney prop Tommaya Kelly-Sines, who scored the match-winning try in the All-Stars match. St George-Illawarra Dragons, like their Newcastle rivals, also had a strong Indigenous contingent – the hard-working Shaylee Bent, flashy centre Jaime Chapman, one of the best hookers in the game Quincy Dodd, playmaker and five-eighth Taliah Fuimaono and tough prop Janelle Williams.

And two Indigenous head coaches in the NRLW – Jamie Soward at the Dragons and Dean Widders at the Eels. Before taking up coaching, both men were genuine NRL stars. They are role models for our people, too. Widders is respected widely and has been a spokesperson for our mob's involvement at the highest levels in the sport while Soward's debut coaching season speaks for itself and says plenty about what he has to offer. This pair can inspire others and show our mob that there are pathways for our people to follow and aspire to be like.

Also in the NRLW, there are some fan favourites who have quickly gathered a cult following. This is evident with Dragons forward Elsie Albert, the robust prop from Papua New Guinea who has been incredibly hard to stop and a nightmare for her rivals' defence close to the tryline. Rugby league has been the number one sport for many years in PNG and Albert's presence in the NRLW gives hope and inspiration to female rugby league fans and players from PNG.

The best part about the NRLW is that there is more to come. We have a State of Origin clash in Canberra for the first time on June 24. And we get to do it all again with a second NRLW competition later in the year. The competition has expansion plans already in place. On March 15, the NRL and the ARL Commission announced that two new teams will join the fray in 2023. With that number to rise to 10 clubs in 2024, it's all on the up from here.

**Kris Flanders is a proud Gumbaynggirr man who has 25 years' experience working in Indigenous media with ICAM, Living Black and NITV where he was the sports presenter. He is a passionate writer and sportslover.*



Kris Flanders

Griffith joins Newcastle as senior coach



RON Griffith will take the clipboard as coach of the Newcastle Knights' NRLW team for the 2022 season.

The proud Gommeroi man returns to his spiritual home on Awabakal country where he played junior and senior football, along with serving a lengthy coaching apprenticeship, including head coaching positions with Kurri

Kurri, Maitland, and the Greta Branxton rugby league clubs.

Griffiths, a Newcastle Woodberry Warriors junior, brings a wealth of coaching experience to the Knights' second season in the NRLW,



Ron Griffith, Newcastle NRL coach.

three years full-time with premierships-winning coach

which begins in August.

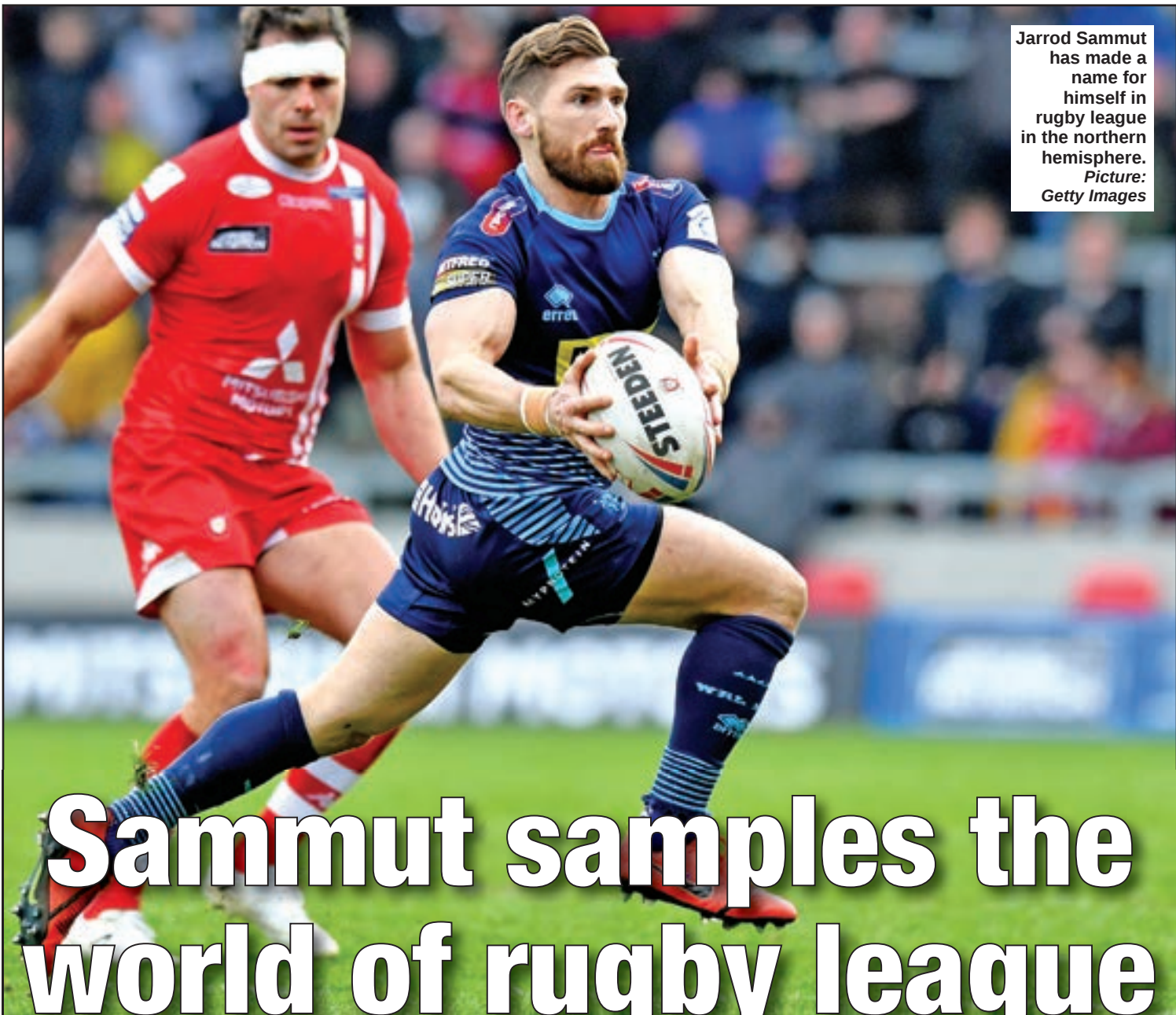
Those credentials include assistant coaching roles in NRL women's and men's Indigenous All-Stars games and

Michael Maguire at Wests Tigers.

The newly appointed head coach was delighted and grateful for the opportunity.

"I'm proud to be appointed Knights NRLW head coach," Griffiths said.

"Newcastle is a renowned blue-collar community; success is built on the back of hard work and to me that's what the Knights really pride themselves on. I intend to uphold those values."



Jarrod Sammut has made a name for himself in rugby league in the northern hemisphere. Picture: Getty Images

Sammut samples the world of rugby league

By TOM LAW in England



IT'S a long way from Blacktown to Barrow, with little beside a passion for rugby league linking Sydney's west with Cumbria in the north of England. But the exploits of Jarrod Sammut, the 35-year-old Indigenous halfback, show that the rugby league world extends far beyond two Australian states.

Sammut moved from Penrith to Crusaders in Wales in 2010, and has played for nine different clubs in the UK since, including former world champions Wigan and Bradford. Having played in the UK for over a decade, sampled clubs from the bottom to the top of the structure, Sammut is well placed to dissect the differences in rugby league between the two hemispheres.

The game in Australia is far more "defence-centred, with emphasis on more agile defenders and lines that are difficult to break down" he said.

In England, defence is focused more on size, with the game in general more attack-orientated, a state of affairs that hands down suits the more hands-on Sammut.

There are differences in structure, too. The system of promotion and relegation, while imperfect, gives greater relevance to lower league sides like Barrow, who were promoted from the third-tier last season. The pyramid allows such clubs to dream and aspire to mix it with the big boys. In fact, 24 separate sides have dined at the top table in 27 years. Indeed, it was helping London secure promotion in 2018 that is "right up at the top" of Sammut's highlights in England.

That dream extends to another quirk of the game in the Northern Hemisphere – the Challenge Cup. It pits smaller sides against full-time Super League clubs in a straight knockout competition. Picture South Sydney visiting Newtown or St George travelling to Mackay to play local sides.

Barrow's cup run was ultimately short-lived, despite a convincing 38-12 win away to Rochdale and a 20-18 win over Workington before a loss to Super League's current third-ranked side Huddersfield.

Speaking to *Koori Mail*, Sammut said that he was "disappointed at the result".

"We were in a good position to progress, and the game was more than winnable," he said.

"We underperformed in the first half, where indiscipline let us down. We're pretty disappointed with how it ended."

At a personal level, the future offers further prospects for Sammut. He is of Maltese heritage on his father's side and has featured for the country multiple times. The country has a fixture against Montenegro on May 14, and despite that coinciding with a league clash, his desire to represent the country is unmistakable.

Sammut is Indigenous on his mother's side and is proud of his dual heritage, speaking of a "close connection" to his "mob back home". He waxed lyrical about the Koori Knockout, speaking fondly of the four-day community event.

"It has grown bigger and bigger over the years, one of the toughest comps I've ever been a part of," he said.

From the Koori Knockout to the Challenge Cup, internationals, transfers, promotions and everything in between, Jarrod Sammut has sampled the rugby league world. And with a play-off push in the offing, he is not done yet.

**In the last result before going to press, a last-minute Jarrod Sammut drop-goal secured a 23-22 away to his former club Bradford, moving the club into third.*

Jacara's new role a first for women's footy



MUTHI Muthi/Gunditjmarra woman Jacara Egan will form one part of a first in Australian Football history as an assistant coach in the AFL and AFLW academy programs.

Egan will join AFLW captains Daisy Pearce (Melbourne) and Alicia Eva (GWS) in what will be an equal representation of men and women coaches across the AFL and AFLW Academy programs. Egan was recently appointed as AFL and AFLW national academy assistant coach alongside Pearce and Eva. Egan had previously coached the Calder Cannons.

Egan and Pearce will join West Australian under-18s head coach Beau McDonald as AFLW Academy assistant coaches. Eva will return for her second year in the program, working alongside Oakleigh Chargers and Vic Metro head coach Jason Davenport and South Australian head coach Tony Bamford as AFL Academy assistant coaches.

Growing up watching her father Phil Egan play for Richmond and Melbourne as a child, Egan is forging her own path in the industry.

She coached the Fitzroy Stars before moving into



Carlton's Next Generation Academy, coaching alongside the likes of Maddy Prespakis and Tayla Harris. A fellow member of the Women's Coaching Academy program, Egan became the first Indigenous woman to coach at NAB League (under-19s) level with the Calder Cannons and is the first Indigenous woman to coach in the AFLW national academy program.

"I'm proud to be selected as one of the NAB AFLW academy assistant coaches this year and be a role model for other women and girls, and particularly Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people," she said.

"Representation is so important, so to have three women involved in this year's academy programs is a great step forward to ensuring the next generation of players learn from coaches of all backgrounds, knowledge, and experiences."

The AFL has several specific coaching programs available for women and girls across the country.

● Football pioneer Jacara Egan is leading the way in coaching. Picture: AFL Photos

Crows a true dynasty after their third flag

THE Adelaide Crows' AFLW team have truly created a dynasty after winning the grand final over Melbourne recently. How could it not, with three premierships now in just six seasons. I'd say a dynasty is the correct term.

And what a win it was. The Crows just looked like they were going to win it from the beginning as they displayed their big-game experience from the start. Towards the end of the second quarter, however, Crows supporters held their collective breath as Melbourne lifted. The Demons were hoping for a football double – a Melbourne Football Club first with an AFLM and AFLW premiership, but it wasn't to be.

I was lucky enough to be at Adelaide Oval for the game. I got to take my Mum, who is a huge Crows fan. It was a joy right from the first moment of walking in to the ground. The crowd was fully invested getting their early and absorbing the festivities and celebrations and staying right to the end to take in the reality of seeing their home side winning their third AFLW grand final.

What was a true revelation for me was that Erin Phillips, a genuine superstar, was not the actual star of this game. She played her role as a true team member and there was no

need for her to save the day as she has so many times before. With speculation high that Erin may leave the Crows to play for Port Adelaide, this must have been a comfort to the team and supporters. Also, her potential move is something we will have to simply wait and watch unfold.

Danielle Ponter was a superstar of the grand final and she is the first player in AFLW history to kick 10 goals in finals, including five in Adelaide's last two premierships. I'm not sure who was louder in the celebrations of her goals, the crowd in general or the 22 members of her family in the stands. Danielle gave it her all. She is a big-game player and one to watch. Congratulations to the Crows and I can't wait to see what the new season will bring.

Hopefully, we might not have to wait that long. There is speculation that the next season may kick off in August. That talk is growing stronger by the day.

This will leave the players with a six-week break from the end of this season until pre-season if season 7 does begin in August. My only hope is that the powers-that-be at AFL House let this be the last date-change so the AFLW can settle in to a solid routine, and truly get this party started with all 18 teams on board.

***Shelley Ware is a proud Yankunytjatjara and Wirangu woman from Adelaide. She appears on AFL.com.au's Colour Of Your Jumper.**



Shelley Ware



Danielle Ponter celebrates the Crows' 2022 AFLW premiership. Getty Images

Trio severs ties with the 'Pies



THREE former players have cut ties with Collingwood in the belief that "nothing has changed" following the report into allegations of racism within the AFL club.

The Magpies vowed to implement all 18 recommendations from the *Do Better* report, leaked in January last year, which included developing a strategy "to address and reconcile past acts of racism".

Leon Davis, Heritier Lumumba, both 2010 premiership players, and Andrew Krakouer have all detailed their own experiences of racism at Collingwood and have engaged with the club since the report was made public.

But Lumumba last week said the trio are not satisfied the necessary steps are being taken



Andrew Krakouer (right) is chased by Lewis Jetta in a Collingwood-Sydney Swans match in 2013. Picture: Getty Images

by the Magpies.

"After 15 months of dialogue to address past incidents of racism at the Collingwood

Football Club, Leon Davis, Andrew Krakouer and I have formally notified the club that we are officially terminating all

communications with CFC," Lumumba posted on Twitter.

"Nothing has changed. It is our firm belief that the Collingwood Football Club has no intention of acting in good faith to achieve a just outcome for past players who have experienced racism at the club."

Former Gold Coast player Joel Wilkinson was racially vilified by Magpies fans during a 2012 game at the MCG and has been outspoken about Collingwood's failings regarding racism.

Last week, Wilkinson said the club had made "zero" contact with him since the *Do Better* report came out.

The move by former teammates Lumumba, Davis and Krakouer to stop communicating with Collingwood came two weeks after the club released a 12-month review of steps taken to address issues raised in *Do Better*. – AAP

Running to America: Squad in for New York



THE Indigenous Marathon Project will finally return to New York with a full squad to choose from after a two-year absence because of the COVID pandemic that swept the world in early 2020.

Twelve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people from across Australia have been selected to join the 2022 IMP squad to train for the 42.2km New York City Marathon in November.

Squad members will come from north-west WA in the Kimberley region, to Maningrida in the Northern Territory, to Sydney, Tasmania and Adelaide to begin training for one of the most challenging and rewarding journeys of their lifetime – from no running to running a marathon in a short six-month period.

The squad will begin training in a few weeks time.

They will be following in the footsteps of the 122 IMP graduates who have undertaken the journey before them.

After a challenging two years at the height of the pandemic with the cancellation of the New York Marathon in 2020 and a ban on international travel, the marathoners will return to the international marathon where it all began.

The 2022 squad members are Roxy Jones, 29, Palawa from Canberra, Jamie Graham, 27, Trawlwoolway, Lumarantana and Plengarmairrenner from Hobart, Hayley Pymont, 27, Wiradjuri from Wollongong, NSW, Chloe Wighton, 29, Wiradjuri from Sydney, Maria Wuruki, 19, Yam Island, Torres Strait from Cairns, Wilfred Reuben, 23,

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ties to Darnley Island and Daly River) from Townsville, Morgan Lane, 30, Arrernte from Alice Springs, Callum Campion-Bohm, 21, Balngarra and Dalabon from Maningrida, Kyle Wagner, 30, Yugambah from Darwin, Seymoure Farrer, 28, Lungka Kija from Halls Creek, Brianne Yarran, 24, Whadjuck, Balladong and Wagyl Kaip from Perth, and Wynston Shovellor-Sesar, 27, Karajarri and Bardi from Broome.

A ticket to New York, however, is not guaranteed.

Squad members will need to commit to their training schedule, continue to lead positively by example within their communities, and complete all educational components before they are offered entry into the New York City Marathon.



Cara Smith and Layne Brown completed the New York City Marathon in 2017. Picture: IMP

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Wallam proves her worth at the Firebirds



THE good news story out of 2022 is Donnell Wallam's recruitment to the Queensland Firebirds in Super Netball. The Nyoongar woman is one of two Indigenous players in the competition. Wallam joins the Firebirds as goal-shooter after a stellar season with Leeds Rhinos in the UK.

Picture: Getty Images



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Deadly Science takes it deadly place on the livery of the McLaren Racing team's two Formula 1 vehicles at the 2022 Formula 1 World Championship race at Albert Park in Melbourne. Picture: McLaren Racing

Deadly and solid as Indigenous science team lands on a winning Formula (1)



SCIENCE is deadly because it can tell us about the world around us and ourselves. Indigenous science is deadly-er because McLaren Racing took it to the world in Melbourne recently. Indigenous non-profit organisation Deadly Science was presented with its widest platform to date when McLaren moved to include the organisation on its two cars during the third round of the

2022 Formula 1 World Championship race at Albert Park. The move by McLaren ties in with Australian Daniel Ricciardo, one of the team's two drivers, along with Brit Lando Norris. Deadly Science was founded by Kamilari man Corey Tutt in 2018. It claimed space on world sport's most prized real estate, that companies pay millions for, which is usually occupied by Smartsheet who were happy to donate all

its media and marketing support to Deadly Science — from logo placement on the car to all their social media posts. Deadly Science's mission is to provide science, technology, engineering and mathematics resources, mentoring and learning opportunities to remote schools in Australia. To date, they've provided more than 20,000 culturally appropriate books on STEM to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students since its founding.

Welcome back, it's been a minute

Y AAMA Yamajis and countrymen far and wide, and welcome back to your favourite sports coverage of our people right across this country and abroad.

If you've come here first, then maybe a refresh is in order as to why we've been gone — water, basically — and biggest mob of it.

Four days after our last edition — February 23 — floodwaters from a nearby river swept right through our town and offices and basically ruined everything. All that was left standing was the building itself; everything in it including equipment, books, doors, you name it, were swallowed whole, along with about 80% of my personal sports book collection that I kept at work for references. Also, my car, but we won't talk about that.

What followed was a six-week clean up and recovery period by an enormous volunteer crew and all was tracking well until a second flooding event hit.

This was not as severe as the first, but we still had to halt the work and wait it out. Once floodwaters subsided, we got back into it. We worked out exactly when was a good time to return to begin work on our next edition, dependent upon work space.

Once that was sorted we had a date locked in, and then we got to work, and he we are.

All the while this was going on, our small but dedicated crew of writers around the country kept up with their own work, covering our people in sport and sports events, some of which are in these pages.

And a lot has happened since we were gone — Ash Barty retired, Scott Boland retained his Test spot for Pakistan, Buddy kicked his one millionth goal, the WNBL, NRLW and AFLW were run and won, the NRL and AFL kicked off, and a lot more besides.

I was happy to see Donnell Wallam win a spot in Super Netball. If anyone deserves reward for hard work, it's that girl. She flew to the other side of the world to take a chance in the English netball competition. She didn't know a soul over there (only the coach) and right in the middle of a global pandemic where she had to quarantine for two weeks upon her arrival. That dedication was rewarded and she is now playing well for the Queensland Firebirds.

In the footys, I was pretty happy for Danielle Porter winning her second AFLW premiership, and Keilee Joseph and Olivia Kernick for the Sydney Roosters winning the NRLW premiership.

Both football leagues are tracking well over the past few months and if/when footy's chiefs can sort out the right financial arrangements for the players, we will see a pretty slick level and standard of football in both.

Speaking of, Kris Flanders and Peter Argent have put together some pretty decent previews of the (current) NRL and AFL seasons, respectively, and all the deadly brother-boys in both leagues. They wrote their season previews before the floods and we've kept it as they wrote it in the time frame of before the seasons started, only because a lot has happened since.

Anyway, there is more to life than sport, but what is life without sport?



Darren Moncrieff

'Darren Moncrieff is a Wadjarli-Thakarli/Yinggarda man from Kuwinyardu (Carnarvon) in Western Australia who started with Yamaji News in 1997. He is sports editor at Koori Mail.

World Cup winner Ash at the top of her game



WORLD Cup winner Ash Gardner has been rewarded for her consistency with a Cricket Australia contract.

All-rounder Gardner was one of 15 cricketers contracted by CA following the team's triumphant return from winning the (50-over) World Cup in New Zealand.

Australia were unbeaten during the Ashes, before being defeated in New Zealand on their way to a seventh World Cup title.

Earlier this year, Gardner became the first Indigenous person to win a major gong at the annual Australian Cricket Awards, taking out the Belinda Clark Award as the country's leading female player. She polled 54 votes to win ahead of Beth Mooney (47), Alyssa Healy (39).

Gardner posted a half-century in all three formats of the game — Tests, 50-overs, T20s — during the voting period, highlighted by her maiden Test 50 against India in October and a match-winning 73no from just 43 balls against New Zealand last March.



Ash Gardner (centre) shares a happy moment with teammates after Australia won the World Cup in New Zealand. Picture: Getty Images

She was Australia's third-highest run-scorer and fifth-highest wicket-taker across the voting period, which excluded the Ashes series against England.

There were some hard-luck stories in the contract talks.

National selector Shawn Flegler admitted there had been some tough decisions after

another widely-successful year.

"Alana King came into the side during the Ashes and hasn't missed a beat. She produced match-winning performances across all three formats and thoroughly deserves her spot on the list," Flegler said.

"After the loss of Georgia Wareham to injury, we were in a fortunate position to be able to

replace her with another outstanding leg spinner in Alana.

"It's a real credit to Alana and the Australian cricket system to have someone of her calibre waiting in the wings ready to go.

"Sophie Molineux is unfortunate to miss out on a contract, she's been an important part of the side over the last couple of years.

"Unfortunately, she's missed a large amount of cricket due to various injuries, but we feel she can continue to play an important role.

"Players such as Stella Campbell, Amanda-Jade Wellington and Grace Harris have all played for Australia and contributed to the team's success recently, and along with Sophie, have the chance to earn upgrades with consistent performances."

CA's contract list

Darcie Brown, Nicola Carey, Ashleigh Gardner, Rachael Haynes, Alyssa Healy, Jessica Jonassen, Alana King, Meg Lanning, Tahila McGrath, Beth Mooney, Ellyse Perry, Megan Schutt, Annabel Sutherland, Tayla Vlaeminck and Georgia Wareham.

Got something to say?
Then say it! Drop us a line:
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FOOTBALL FAIRYTALES



The Sydney Roosters celebrate their NRLW grand final triumph after defeating St George-Illawarra 16-4 at Dolphins Stadium. Circled: The Roosters' and All-Star duo Keilee Joseph (left) and Olivia Kernick (top right in circle) were key contributors to their side's win in the grand final. Picture: Getty Images

Roosters, Crows rule the roost in women's footy



IT was the perfect weekend for neutral fans, sports fans, supporters of women's football or elite women's football came to a climactic end.

The April 9 and 10 grand finals for Australian women's premier football competitions, the NRLW and AFLW, ends a memorable four-month run across the country.

Sydney Roosters pair Keilee Joseph and Olivia Kernick and fellow All-Stars representatives Shaylee Bent, Jamie Chapman, Quincy Dodd and Taliah Fuimaono from the Dragons, and the Crows' Daniëlle Ponter, saw Aboriginal women's football represented on centre-stage on grand final day for their respective codes.

Both football organisations are breathing new life into women's sport with crowds, corporates and code-hoppers enjoying the best that Australian women's sport has to offer.

In the NRLW, the Sydney Roosters have become the first team other than Brisbane to win the premiership in the competition's five-year history after they defeated St George-Illawarra 16-4 in an all-NSW 2021* season grand final in front of almost 8000 fans at Dolphins Stadium in Redcliffe, 30km north of Brisbane.

In the AFLW, the Adelaide Crows have created a dynasty-like reign after defeating Melbourne by 13 points, 4.5 (29) to 2.4 (16), in the 2022 season grand final in front of almost 17,000 fans at Adelaide Oval. The win was the Crows' third

premiership in the league's six-year run.

Ponter booted half of her side's total goals in a dour contest and was close to winning best-on-ground honours were it not for wayward kicking. That honour went to teammate Anne Hatchard.

Roosters dynamo Sarah Togatuki was named the Karyn Murphy Medal as the game's best player.

**The 2021 NRLW Premiership season was last year postponed and pushed back to February this year. The 2022 season will begin later this year.*

● Read our columnists' take on grand finals and women's football – Kris Flanders page 52; Shelley Ware page 53



Adelaide's Daniëlle Ponter shows off her premiership medal after the Crows defeated Melbourne by 13 points in the AFLW grand final at Adelaide Oval. Picture: Peter Argent

Your best Indigenous sports coverage returns!

SPORT and biggest mob of it is the name of our game in these pages and we hope you like what you see in our return from a forced absence that spanned seven weeks and three missed

editions. The Koori Mail has been based in Lismore in northern NSW since its inception 30 years ago and for the majority of that time our offices were located in the heart of the regional centre's

thriving CBD. On Monday, February 28, the Lismore CBD was completely engulfed by floodwaters from the nearby Wilsons River. Our offices were not spared either. So as you flick through this

edition (hopefully from the back page first) you will see 13 pages of Indigenous sport. And in these 13 pages is some of what you may have missed during our absence, from February 24 through to

April 6, so it's sort of like a 'catch-up' of sports news during that time. We hope you like what we've done and we're happy to be back.
– Darren Moncrieff, sports editor