



Koori Mail

The Voice of Indigenous Australia

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Passion ignites their fashion



Picture: Jillian Mundy

*Silk Stockings at the Babel Island Store is more than a fashion runway show – it's an exhibition, a step toward a dream, and a story of kin, culture, country and connection. **Silk Stockings** showcases works from a trio of talented Tasmanian Aboriginal designers - Lillian Wheatley, Michelle Maynard and Takira Simon-Brown. Pictured ready to hit the runway in a collection by Michelle Maynard, modelled by her niece Aneeka Dickinson, her children Ziggy and Mae Ganambarr and cousin Janice Ross.*

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Cricket gears up for the summer

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MY FAMILY

As a family living in the country town of Home Hill we do everything together and we still keep in close contact with other members who live as far away as the Torres Strait and Mackay.

With my partner Donna Savage, we have three children Delphine, 9, Hezekiah, 6, and Annie, 2.

Living close to creeks, beaches and the mighty Burdekin River there are lots of things we enjoy together.

We like camping, fishing, hunting and also rugby league football and we all barrack for the Brisbane Broncos in the NRL.

One of our favourite places is at Wunjunga which is a big beach not far from where we live, and we have a little tinnie boat and catch Barramundi, Mangrove Jack and Coral Trout which are all good eating.

Wunjunga Beach is a 30-minute drive from Home Hill and has 14 km of coastline perfect for four-wheel driving, picnics, fishing and walks along the beach – and is a haven for local wildlife.

Also, we hunt on a cattle property and get some kangaroo which is a good traditional food and when we get holidays, we often visit Mackay, Rockhampton and Townsville where we have extended family.

I am aged 30 and was born on Thursday Island and have Badu descent and my mum and dad

live there and we keep in regular contact on social media and the phone.

It has been a few years since I have been up to the Torres Strait and I am hoping to get back up there soon.

Donna's family is from Kubin Village on Moa Island and she also contacts them regularly so life is great.

Often we drive together across the huge Burdekin Bridge to do some shopping at Home Hill's sister city of Ayr where there are major supermarkets.

Together we just love travelling the 100km north to Townsville to watch big games of football at the huge Queensland Country Bank Stadium.

On October 14, we got to meet and have our pics snapped by your photographer with Kangaroo Test stars Hamiso Tabuai-Fidow, Selwyn Cobbo, Cameron Munster, James Tedesco and Tom Flegler.

We waited two hours for them to leave their hotel and walk to their bus just hours before the Kangaroos beat Samoa and we went to that game.

It was awesome and a real adrenalin rush to see our idols and a few Broncos players.

The previous June we all went to Townsville for the women's State of Origin game which was also wonderful.

Life is so good and it is all because of our close-knit family and watching our three children growing up.

Kuntha Guligo (Home Hill)



Me Kuntha Guligo, left, with my partner Donna Savage and our children Delphine, 9, Hezekiah, 6 and Annie, 2, and NRL star Hamiso Tabuai-Fidow.

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.

OUR CHILDREN



Enjoying the foreshore at Thursday Island in the Torres Strait, El'tricia Charlie, 4, plays with the Dansmore brothers, Wesley, 1, and Donovan, 2, and Ayla Lai Foo, 10 months. The children all take part in the Port Kennedy Association playgroup, called Mura Kaim.

Koori Mail

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Torres Strait Gathering Voices festival celebrates media and arts



Story and pictures,
pages 22-23

Christine Anu and her daughter Zipporah performing at the Inspiring Voices Concert, a feature of the Gathering Voices Media and Arts Festival held on Thursday Island in the Torres Strait. Picture Darren Coyne.

Hundreds rally following death of teen in custody



HUNDREDS of people have rallied in Perth to call for justice after the death of an Indigenous teen who self-harmed in the youth wing at an adult prison.

Officers discovered 16-year-old Cleveland Dodd in the Unit 18 youth detention facility at Perth's Casuarina Prison on October 12, after he contacted them through the intercom.

He was taken to a Perth hospital in critical condition, where he later died, causing outrage and grief in the community.

About 300 people gathered in Perth's CBD last Wednesday to demand the unit be closed amid allegations the justice system had failed the teen.

The crowd chanted "Justice for Cleveland" and held placards accusing the WA government of having blood on its hands.

Cleveland's grandmother Glenda Mippy addressed the rally, saying her grandson's life had been stolen.

"My grandson never took his



Cleveland Dodd (supplied).

own life," she said. "They call it justice but it's not justice ... Look what happened ... He got carried out on a stretcher.

"My grandson is lying in a morgue and why? Because they f**ked up."

Cleveland's other grandmother, Roslyn Sullivan, said her

grandson was in the wrong place at the wrong time.

"He didn't get to be a man but hopefully his passing will make it better for the future," she said.

"I'm going to make it my business to know what they were doing to him."

Social justice advocate Megan Krakouer accused Premier Roger Cook of betraying Aboriginal people.

"Shame on this government," she said.

"To see the pain, the hurt, to see so many tears, is that right?"

She said Cleveland had been unlawfully transferred to Unit 18.

"In terms of this young little fella, there are many questions that need to be asked.

"Why was Cleveland sent to Unit 18?"

Cleveland was the first child to die in WA juvenile detention in the state's history.

The area where he was found, Unit 18, opened in July 2022 to house the most challenging juvenile offenders after major riots at Banksia Hill Juvenile Detention Centre.

Both facilities have been plagued by high rates of self-harm incidents, riots and detainees being placed into prolonged lockdowns.

Cleveland's death is being investigated by the Department of Justice and the coroner while the Corruption and Crime Commission has also begun inquiries following allegations of serious misconduct.

The corrective services commissioner has also been replaced and a prison officer has also been suspended pending the outcome of the investigation into Cleveland's death.

Corrective Services Minister Paul Papalia announced the action last Wednesday.

He also said Corrective Services had been confronted by a series of critical incidents and crises over the past two years and juvenile detention was suffering.

"We need to reset, we need new leadership and we need a focus on cultural change (and) that's what we've done," he said.

Opposition spokesman Peter Collier said corrective services

had been "weaponised" for political purposes to show off the government's "tough on crime rhetoric".

"In the meantime, the lives of inmates, in particular juveniles, are at risk and that's a shame," he said.

"What has gone, what has been lost in this whole ghastly episode is the fact that ... we are actually dealing with lives."

The Australian Greens said replacing the commissioner was a symbolic gesture and the Commonwealth should intervene in WA's justice system to "make sure that children are not being systematically abused".

The party also called on the WA government to close Unit 18 and said international human rights standards must be implemented.

"It is a national shame that a 16-year-old child with an intellectual disability has taken his own life in Unit 18, the first death of a child in custody in WA history," Senator Dorinda Cox said.

— AAP

Unearthed remains to be reburied



THE remains of Aboriginal ancestors found at an Adelaide construction site will be reburied

nearby despite concerns the mass grave is the result of a massacre.

Work at the 12,000-home Riverlea development north of Adelaide was halted in July after the discovery of dozens of ancestral remains; one of the largest finds of its kind in South Australia.

At least 27 remains were exhumed and are in storage while there are concerns more are yet to be uncovered.

Local native title body, the Kaurna Yerta Aboriginal Corporation, has announced it would rebury the remains that have already been dug up at a location nearby the site.

Preferred position

"The community's preferred position was that the ancestors remain in their burial ground and not be removed from Riverlea," chairperson and Kaurna Elder Tim Agius said.

"However, under the circumstances and with the support of Kaurna Elders, we have made the difficult decision to respectfully exhume the



An artist's impression of the 12,000 Home Riverlea development north of Adelaide. A native title body has agreed to remove Aboriginal remains from the development and allow construction to proceed.

— AAP

remains to ensure their protection."

The Kaurna Yerta Aboriginal Corporation will rebury the remains with respect.

Support for the development is far from unanimous, with several community leaders denouncing the "destruction" of their culture and calling for an

independent assessment amid fears it is a massacre site.

Rally

Kaurna actor and community advocate Natasha Wanganeen recently led a rally demanding the government halt the development.

"We've cared for this place

for hundreds of thousands of years," Ms Wanganeen said.

"It is so heartbreaking to watch this go down, to be here alive today to watch the rest of my culture destroyed by these developers and the people that are supporting that."

Premier Peter Malinauskas said an archaeological

assessment of the site had ruled out that it was caused by a massacre.

"Apparently the way that the burial has taken place is consistent with practices well before colonial times," he told ABC radio.

"But that does not change the fact that there is a degree of significance to the burial site."

"This is an important development but the specific area ... is being treated with great respect and caution."

Ms Wanganeen has called for the Riverlea development to be halted.

The Walker Corporation developers will now seek authorisation from the state government to resume work on the site.

Respect

The developer and Kaurna Yerta Aboriginal Corporation said they were working together to ensure that ancestral remains were treated and handled with respect.

The native title body said it was pushing for a memorial garden and reflection centre to be built at Riverlea to honour and respect Kaurna ancestors, in line with community wishes.

— AAP

Koori Mail

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o p i n i o n

Moving forward

Smiling at strangers has been different and somewhat difficult since the referendum and I am working on that. It's not how I want to be moving forward but it will take time. Some of the thoughts I've been having in my mind will take time to flip too and we will need to do this, if only for our own wellbeing.

When they announced that the referendum was a No, from over half the country, I was sitting on *The Point* on NITV in the middle of a live broadcast and all I wanted to do was be at home with my son telling him it will be alright.

Instead, I was blessed to be sitting next to Professor Marcia Langton, one of our most valuable Elders, who has worked tirelessly for our people for decades. Auntie Marcia's strength, vulnerability and passion was palpable and I absorbed it all, as she continued to hold her head high she helped me hold up mine too.

I took from our time together that moving forward, we need to choose our language wisely, choose who and when we give our cultural knowledge to. For too long we have been generous with our Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property (ICIP) and this has to be something we need to take stock of and make sure we are, and our children are, culturally safe. No more helping organisations and corporations get funding for a tick-a-box moment or helping



Shelley Ware

them look good anymore. We all know that's the truth... choose wisely. Choose people who want to connect and have good intentions and strong commitments.

Do your research, ask the tough questions... what have they been doing and what have they achieved with this work? How are their staff or people there responsible for connecting to the beauty and creating their own sense of pride? How are they helping our people? We aren't here to tick boxes for anyone.

In the last few weeks, I've had too many non-Indigenous people tell me what went wrong and all unasked of course, only to find out they voted No to support the Aboriginal people, who said they wanted a No result too. People who stood with the minority of our people, and one can only surmise that this stand held them comfortable in their internalised racism because if they really wanted to do what Aboriginal

people wanted, they would have stood with the majority.

The hurt this result has caused our children, who for the first time have felt the nation's rejection is heart-breaking. At school the racism has been through the roof and too many schools are doing nothing.

This result has given permission for people to be as racist as they please. Anyone who tried to dispute that racism didn't play a role in the result of the referendum isn't Aboriginal! It's that simple. We know it did and if they stopped for a minute instead of saying "I'm not racist but" then maybe they would be able to face the fact this country is built on systemic and institutionalised racism and its effects are felt everyday by our people.

I do believe with all my heart, none of the hard work done by so many has not gone to waste at all. Good will come and good has come as allies know they now need to be accomplices who are active and don't stand complacent, when we need them to speak up and speak loudly in truth-telling. Like I said to my son Taj when I called him after *The Point*: "This was one way and not the only way and we will keep fighting hard for our people to have a better life today and tomorrow."

● Shelley Ware is a proud Yankunytatjara and Wirangu woman from Adelaide

Yunupingu case set for hearing in High Court

The federal government has been granted leave to appeal late Gumatj leader Yunupingu's final case regarding compensation for mining in northeast Arnhem Land.



THE High Court has granted the federal government special leave to appeal the late Gumatj leader

Yunupingu's final court case. In May, a decision by the full bench of the Federal Court paved the way for the Gumatj to potentially receive compensation for bauxite mining at Gove in northeast Arnhem Land.

In 2019, renowned land rights advocate the late Yunupingu, on behalf of the Gumatj clan, made an application for native title for land in the Gove Peninsula.

At the same time he lodged a compensation application for the alleged effects on native title of certain executive and legislative



Gumatj leader and activist Yunupingu's compensation case over bauxite mining is being appealed. Picture: Northern Land Council

acts from 1911-1978.

The case centred around the Commonwealth's decision to allow mining on Gumatj country in 1968 without consent from

traditional owners.

Yunupingu, who died in April, claimed compensation under section 51 of the constitution, which empowers the parliament

to make laws for the acquisition of property on just terms, meaning the Commonwealth can acquire land if the landowner is paid.

Contribution

A spokesperson for Attorney-General Mark Dreyfus said the government recognised the significant contribution Yunupingu made to First Nations land rights in Australia.

"Initiating this landmark case was one of many actions he took to build a better future for his people," the spokesperson said.

"The Gumatj case raised important legal issues including very significant constitutional issues that go beyond the native title context.

"Today's grant of special leave enables important issues

to be settled by the High Court so the native title system continues to operate with clarity."

If the Gumatj succeed, the decision is likely to have implications for other native title claim groups.

The compensation was sought for land from which bauxite had been mined since 1968, when the Australian government entered into a lease with Nabalco.

The mining lease is now held by Swiss Aluminium.

Other Yolngu clan groups, including the Rirratjingu people, have made native title claims on parts of the land in question.

Native title is yet to be determined.

The appeal is likely to be heard next year.

— AAP

Festival celebrates connections



'Place based' is bandied around like a buzzword, but when it comes to the Unconformity Festival in Queenstown, in Lutruwita/Tasmania's west, there is no better description. The festival puts a focus on building genuine connection, collaboration and trust with palawa and Aboriginal people living in Lutruwita from the mainland. The *Koori Mail* will feature JILLIAN MUNDY'S full report and photographs in our next edition.

Airport access improved with new wheelchair lift

By LIINA FLYNN



AT Maningrida airport, the lack of a wheelchair lift has made life hard for residents Stephen Dennis and his wife Elva Gindjerakama – as well as a host of others.

Stephen is in a wheelchair, receives palliative care and is a National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) participant.

Sometimes he needs to travel from the remote community to Darwin for medical treatment, but both he and Elva are unable to walk up the steps into the airport to get a plane out of the remote community.

Elva told the *Koori Mail*: “Very hard to get on plane. My knee, my back. I had accident last couple of years”.

Wheelchair lift

For years, the local community supported by Darwin Community Legal Service (DCLS) has been advocating to have a wheelchair lift installed at the airport.

So, the recent news that the NT government will finally fund the lift has been welcomed by Stephen and Elva as a big step toward creating a more inclusive community.

“My leg, hard to push wheelchair myself,” Stephen said.

“Having lift will make it easy for people with disability and old



Maningrida residents Stephen Dennis and his wife Elva Gindjerakama.

people... for everyone in Maningrida.”

The remote town of Maningrida has a population of about 4,000 residents who are mostly Indigenous.

Dianne Soloman is an NDIS support coordinator who has spent two years advocating for the Maningrida community to get an airport lift.

“There are people of all ages in wheelchairs in Maningrida – from children to older people – and they don’t travel because it’s too hard to walk up the steps,” she said.

“Even though they are in the NDIS and have respite, they often can’t afford to go to Darwin.

“The lack of airport access has been a major issue for those who need to travel for medical treatment.

“They often need to take a Care Flight out or we have to charter planes for them.

“It’s an expensive operation and it’s not easy – especially when they have to lift themselves out of the wheelchair into the plane.”

Dianne said when she first applied to get a lift installed, her idea was turned down.

Then thanks to the help of Children’s Ground coordinator Tiffany Beggs, Felicity Pidgeon-Fong (an occupational therapist) and DCLS senior advocate



NDIS participant and Maningrida resident Kirsty Darcy said: “Very hard for my leg to get on the plane. Having lift makes it easier for me. Lots of other people can use it too”.

Ramnik Walia, the advocacy really kicked off.

“Ramnik came to Maningrida and visited people in the community, asking them if there was need for a disability lift.

“He got 85 signatures on a petition – and after a lot of effort, we will now get a wheelchair lift at Maningrida Airport.

“It’s a significant win for equal accessibility.”

Teamwork

Diane said the work to get the lift was thanks to the teamwork of the DCLS Seniors’ and Disability Rights Service (SDRS), the local community and Maningrida Progress Association.

The DCLS held meetings with the office of the Chief Minister and Minister for Disabilities to



Maningrida resident Nathaniel Fry said “Not get on Air North plane, too many steps. Having lift means can go to Darwin for respite, happy about that”.

highlight the lack of accessibility at Maningrida Airport – and the human rights issues at the heart of it.

The Office of the Chief Minister then approved the funding proposal for a \$63,000 Community Support Grant in September.

Mr Walia said the grant signifies more than just financial support; it represents a victory for inclusivity and equal opportunities.

“We are grateful for the collaborative efforts of the community and the responsiveness of our decision-makers. Together, we are fostering an environment where everyone, regardless of mobility challenges, can navigate public spaces with dignity and independence.”



Have your say on the NSW non-urban water metering rules

The NSW Government is reviewing the non-urban water metering rules to help make it easier for water users to comply and to ensure water take is being measured and managed fairly and sustainably.

The review gives all water users the chance to have their say on how we can improve the way water take is being metered so that everyone is getting their fair share.

We want to hear from you on how the non-urban metering rules can be improved.

Complete our survey by 26 November 2023.



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REPRODUCTION OF ITN ONUS 1991 TRAM NO. 829. PHOTO BY JAMES MORGAN



NASA is a great space for star-struck students

By LIINA FLYNN



AT NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL), Ngarrindjeri man and Monash University student Linden Beaumont, 21, is working on equipment for the International Space Station.

Linden is one of five Indigenous Australian university students who are reaching for the stars through an internship with NASA – as part of the Monash National Indigenous Space Academy.

For ten weeks, the students get to live in Los Angeles, USA, all sharing a house as they bring their skill sets to different NASA projects at JPL.

Linden, a computer science student, told the *Koori Mail* he "always thought space would be interesting" and that he grew up liking *Star Wars*.

"But most of the work with NASA happens on the ground - it's expensive to send people into space," he said.

So, with his feet firmly planted on the earth, Linden works with a NASA mentor as he writes computer code for the operating system, Debian Linux, for a mass spectrometer.

"The Space Atmosphere Monitor (SAM) I'm configuring will be used at the Space Station," he said.

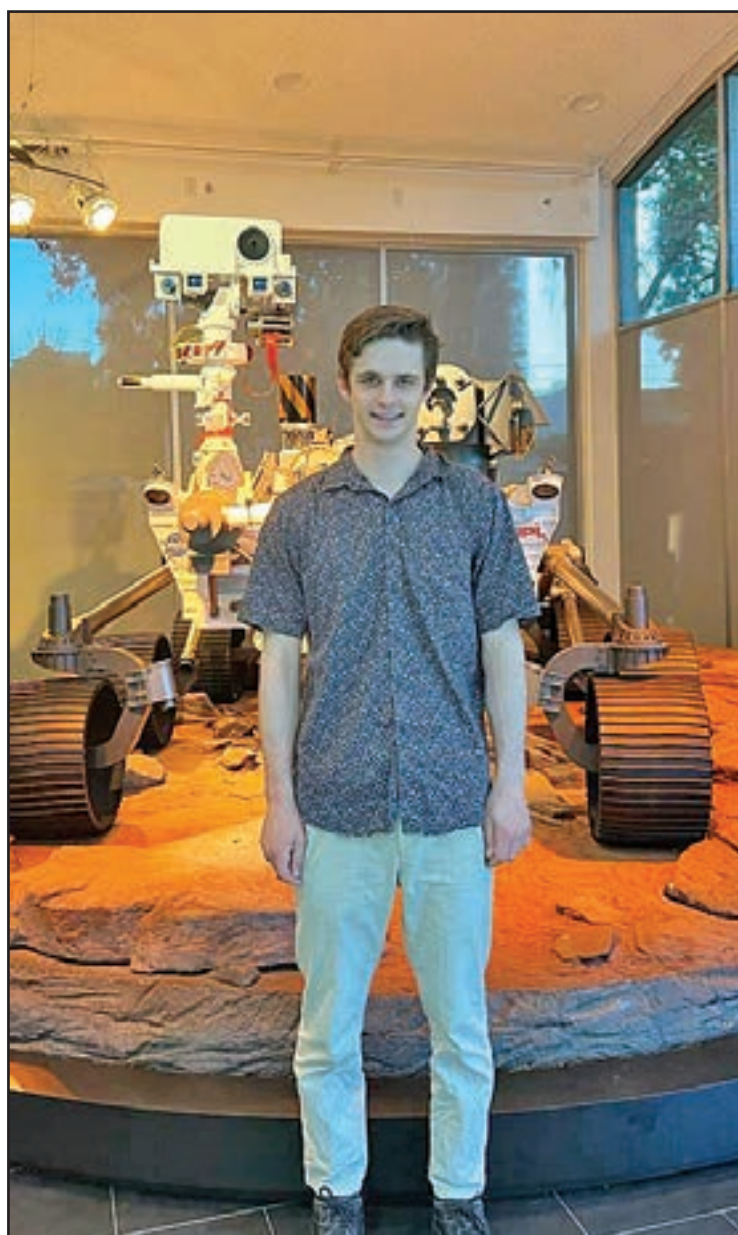
"It uses a mass spectrometer to tell us what the mass to charge ratio of particles of a gas are. We can use this to work out what it's made of."

"Because a lot of NASA's equipment is older, my work making security patches will extend the instrumentation's life by another two years and keep it safe for use with the space station."

Coding

Linden said the low level coding work suits his skill level well.

"I still have one more semester of my computer



Ngarrindjeri man and Monash University student Linden Beaumont in front of a Mars Rover.

science degree to finish," he said. "But when the NASA internship came up, I thought I might as well delay my degree for six months for this opportunity – JPL is the part of NASA responsible for building the Mars Rovers."

While Linden is in the USA, he said his family at home in Melbourne are supportive and "all excited for me".

"They thought it was cool because NASA is one of the most prestigious names to work for," he said. "If I wanted to work with NASA in future, I'd have to get a PhD. That's another five years of study."

"But I am looking at applying to work with other space companies when I graduate."

"For computer scientists there is a lot more opportunity in



There are four other students joining Linden. They are Kamilaroi woman, Cedar Lett (Griffith University), Palawa man, Edward (Ted) Vanderfeen (Western Sydney University), Limilngan and Mudburra man, Lincoln Bourke (University of Sydney) and Gundungurra woman, Tully Mahr (University of Melbourne).

America, especially space related.

"Something with space as the end goal is inspiring."

Right now, for Linden, it's also about the people he meets through his work at JPL.

"People here are all experts in different parts of space, he said.

"One guy told me they used to use earthquakes to measure the core of Mars."

"That inspired my mind and gave me cool ideas."

Students

Linden said his fellow Indigenous interns and housemates were each chosen to participate on a project that suited their skills.

The other four students are Kamilaroi woman, Cedar Lett (Griffith University), Palawa man, Edward (Ted) Vanderfeen (Western Sydney University), Limilngan and Mudburra man, Lincoln Bourke (University of Sydney) and Gundungurra woman, Tully Mahr (University of Melbourne).

"One of the other interns is looking at microbes in space, another is looking at ocean exploration vehicles," he said.

"Tully is conducting experiments to recreate hydrothermal vents in the lab in

order to help understand the origins of life on Earth.

"Lincoln is designing modifications to a vacuum chamber that will be used to study the formation of geological structures on Mars."

"It's great that we all share a house because we can bounce ideas off each other and be helpful."

Message

Linden said he wants to encourage others with dreams of getting internships to not just leave it to chance.

"It's easy to say I got lucky getting this role, but that's missing the point," he said. "Lasting success doesn't come from luck, it comes from hard work. I was really only able to make it here as a culmination of all of my previous efforts."

Wadjak/Ballardong man and Monash University Faculty of IT Associate Dean (Indigenous) Professor Christopher Lawrence said "it is incredible that we are able to empower our Indigenous youth to learn from the best in the world so we can nurture Australian capabilities in space research, and ultimately it would be great to see NASA produce the world's first Aboriginal astronaut."

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'Wild' racism leaves doubt on Indigenous reconciliation



HEARTBROKEN Indigenous communities are questioning if reconciliation is possible in Australia as fallout continues from the failed Voice referendum.

The Central Australian Aboriginal Congress released a blistering statement on Monday, October 23, declaring prominent 'no' figures "gave permission for racism to run wild" through the campaign.

They joined a group of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders in calling out the 'no' campaign's "shameful victory", done so in an unsigned letter released the previous day.

The "saddened and disappointed" congress said the 'no' campaign had turned "previously good-willed people against us", wondering what further progress could still be made.

"Given the result ... and the conduct of the 'no' campaign, there are now serious questions about whether reconciliation is still a viable strategy in Australia," their statement read.

"Nevertheless, one thing remains certain: sooner or later the nation state must deal with the enduring fact of Aboriginal sovereignty ... in the meantime, our struggle for equality, justice and self-determination will continue."

The latest Australian Electoral Commission figures show 60.64 per cent of



An Indigenous body is questioning how viable reconciliation is in Australia after racism "ran wild" through the Voice to Parliament referendum campaign.

voters cast a 'no' ballot.

Deputy Prime Minister Richard Marles encouraged the community not to let the referendum result prevent any other progress, particularly as his government seeks to close a gap in figures such as life expectancy and jail rates.

"(It) was not a vote against reconciliation, nor was it a vote against

taking action on closing the gap," he told reporters.

"Our focus will be very much on practical measures which result in closing the gap."

The statement, which did not name its specific authors, said there was nothing positive to be taken from the nation's refusal to enshrine an Indigenous advisory body into the constitution.

Coalition senators, including Liberal Kerryne Liddle, used a Senate estimates hearing to quiz the government about who wrote the letter.

Those attempts produced minimal results, considering the letter didn't come from the government.

To move forward in the face of such a devastating result, co-chair of Reconciliation Australia Melinda Cilento said the nation needed to address racism.

"(With) the level of racism experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people that was clearly on display through the campaign in the days after the referendum, we really need to start talking about tackling racism," she told ABC radio.

States are grappling with their next steps on Indigenous reconciliation, the Queensland government admitting its path to treaty hit a major snag when the opposition backflipped on its support.

"We went into this with bipartisan support and one party, through lack of leadership ... walks away," Queensland Labor minister Grace Grace told reporters.

"To then see them pack up, walk away and say they are not supporting this anymore ... was truly astounding."

NSW will begin treaty consultations soon, with Premier Chris Minns insisting he will take any major changes to the 2027 election.

— AAP



OFFICIAL VISITORS

Call for Expressions of Interest

ACT Official Visitors is seeking highly motivated, skilled and experienced people for appointment to Official Visitor roles in Canberra, as roles become vacant over the next year.

Official Visitors work with government and non-government agencies to monitor the conditions and quality of services at visitable places and to identify and resolve complaints. Official Visitors also send a report to the relevant Minister every three months.

Visitable places in Canberra include –

- Children and Young People - youth detention facility (Bimberi Youth Justice Centre) and places of residential care for children and young people
- Corrections - adult correctional centre (Alexander Maconochie Centre)
- Disability - supported accommodation for people with disabilities
- Mental Health - mental health facilities (such as Adult Mental Health Unit)/community housing
- Homelessness - homelessness services.

Generally, Official Visitors are appointed to work in only one operational area. For example, a successful applicant could be appointed as *either* a Corrections Official Visitor *or* a Disability Official Visitor.

Applicants must have well-developed liaison and communication skills and the ability to communicate empathetically with people of diverse backgrounds in challenging situations. An understanding of Human Rights in the ACT is highly desirable.

Appointments will be for a period of up to three years. Remuneration is as a Part-time office holder, up to \$590 per day plus superannuation. This role provides networking opportunities and flexible working arrangements.

People of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander descent are strongly encouraged to apply. At least one of the vacancies must be filled by an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person.

How to apply

Please contact Stefan Dzwonnik on 02 6207 0978 or ovs@act.gov.au for a copy of the selection package. The selection package can also be found in the ACT Diversity Register website on www.diversityregister.act.gov.au. Applicants will need to address the selection criteria in the selection package and send their expression of interest documents to ovs@act.gov.au.

Applications close on **26 November 2023**

5933AS_0032



Australian Government

PFAS Independent Review

Call for submissions

Public submissions for the Australian Government's Independent Review of land uses around key Defence bases impacted by per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination will open from 9am AEDT Monday 23 October 2023 until 9pm AEDT Sunday 3 December 2023.

The Review will focus on communities around RAAF Base Williamtown (NSW), Swartz Barracks (formerly known as the Army Aviation Centre Oakey) (QLD) and RAAF Base Tindal (NT). However, other communities affected by Defence's historic use of PFAS are also able to make submissions.

In addition to calling for submissions, public hearings for the three sites will be held on the following dates. Times are in local time zones. The Independent Reviewer will also be available for one-on-one conversations between the public hearing sessions.

**RAAF Base Williamtown
Murrook Cultural Centre**
2163 Nelson Bay Road, Williamtown NSW 2318
Thursday 9 November 2023

Public hearings:
• Session 1: 10am – 1pm
• Session 2: 5:30pm – 8pm

**Swartz Barracks
Oakey Community Centre**
64 Campbell Street, Oakey QLD 4401
Thursday 16 November 2023

Public hearings:
• Session 1: 10am – 1pm
• Session 2: 5:30pm – 8pm

**RAAF Base Tindal
Katherine Town Council Civic Centre**
Lot 1865 Stuart Highway, Katherine NT 0850
Wednesday 22 November 2023

Public hearings:
• Session 1: 10am – 12:30pm
• Session 2: 5:30pm – 8pm (virtual only)

Separate virtual hearings will be conducted to provide an opportunity for other interested parties to appear.

Virtual hearings
Wednesday 29 November 2023
• Session 1: 10am – 1pm
• Session 2: 5:30pm – 8pm



Scan the QR code or visit the website below to learn more about the Review, including how to make a submission. Scanning the code will also provide details to register to speak at a public hearing or attend as an observer.

www.pfasindependentreview.com.au

Contact

1800 879 142 (9am – 5pm, Mon-Fri)
pfas.submissions@defence.gov.au
PO Box Q1084
Queen Victoria Building NSW 1230



Claudette Lovett and her daughter Staycee Charles were told to cover up before casting their vote in the Voice referendum. Picture: Paul Connelly

Dressing drama at voting booth

By PAUL CONNELLY



WHEN respected Gunditjmara Elder and community worker, Claudette Lovett and daughter Staycee

Charles, a Wembe Wembe/Barapa Barapa woman, arrived to vote at the Senior Citizens Centre in Hamilton Victoria in the recent referendum, they were overjoyed.

Not only had they got the only parking spot in front of the polling booth but there wasn't a long line of people waiting to vote. They thought it would be an easy and pleasurable experience, it was 10am and they had an event to attend at 10.30am. Little did they suspect that there would be issues with their clothing choice.

Auntie Claudette told the *Koori Mail*: "As we were waiting in the line we were approached by an AEC (Australian Electoral Commission) worker, an individual I have known personally for many years, at which point she told me I would have to remove my Yes shirt before entering or I would not be able to vote, my daughter Stacey responded by saying, 'We don't have anything on underneath', at

which point the AEC worker said, 'Well, you're a rude little girl'. "Firstly, calling my daughter a rude little girl was very disrespectful and secondly I don't know any woman who wears anything but a bra under a t-shirt."

"She then asked us if we had anything else in the car we could wear. We both said no. The election worker then allegedly told them that people had been complaining at pre-polling."

Claudette said she found the experience very embarrassing.

Only Aboriginals

"We were the only Aboriginal people in the line and because of the sensitivity of the voting being a yes or no position about our people, it would have been more wise to pull us aside and address this issue quietly and respectfully, but the person decided to do this in front of other people in the line, and it was loud enough for everyone else to hear what was going on, especially inside a very narrow hallway," she said.

After some back and forth in the line the AEC worker said they would have to cover up their shirts, and in a twist of irony Auntie Claudette said: "The only thing we had were the How to Vote Yes leaflets, and this was

somehow acceptable".

Once inside they spoke to a male worker concerning the issue and was told they were allowed to wear the shirts, that there was no problem, and no law preventing it. However the original woman interjected and said they did have to continue covering up the shirts, and to avoid any other issues, dramas or delay to their day, they made the decision to cover up the shirts while they voted.

The entire experience weighed heavily on Auntie Claudette during the week, especially with the outcome of the referendum, and ended up with her being rushed to hospital with a suspected heart issue, which was eventually diagnosed as stress and she believes that this all stems from this incident.

Claudette said she would be making a formal complaint about her and her daughter's experience, and when asked what outcome she would like to see from this incident, Auntie Claudette told the *Koori Mail* "I would hope that in the future more time is taken to correctly train those workers in the rights of the voters, as well as appropriate cultural safety training".

The AEC was contacted but did not respond.

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Liberals back away from state treaties after No vote



AS political leaders grapple with the failed Indigenous Voice referendum, the Queensland premier concedes the path to treaty is a long way off.

The NSW coalition has also weighed in, with upper house MPs supporting a motion to rule out a state-based voice.

Queensland vowed to push ahead with its own plans after the national referendum was defeated.

Queensland's political parties are at odds over the path to Treaty.

But Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk said a path to Treaty would require bipartisan support after Liberal National Party leader David Crisafulli walked back on his commitment.

A snap Queensland Labor caucus meeting was being held shortly after the referendum vote over the path to Treaty, following the premier's comments.

Mr Crisafulli said he would no longer support a path to Treaty after "one of the most divisive debates in my life".



Queensland's opposition has backed away from a state Treaty.

With votes still being counted, 69 per cent of Queensland voters opposed the constitutional change – the highest of any state or territory.

David Crisafulli previously backed the path to Treaty.

His call came after voting in May to support a path to Treaty set to examine Queensland's colonial past through a truth-telling inquiry and First Nations Treaty Institute.

"When the LNP originally agreed to enabling legislation for the path to Treaty we did so in good faith as a genuine effort to

promote better outcomes for Indigenous Australians," Mr Crisafulli said in a statement.

"In the days since the referendum as I have travelled throughout the state it has become clear to me the path to treaty will only create further division."

Ms Palaszczuk said a Queensland Treaty was a long way off.

"That would require bipartisan support," the premier said.

"The next stage is truth telling. That's a three-to-four-year process. Effective reconciliation

and path to Treaty would require bipartisan support."

Labor colleagues were reportedly unhappy with her statements.

In NSW, coalition MPs backed a motion calling on the Labor government to rule out a legislated voice to state parliament. Despite having personally supported a federal voice, Opposition Leader Mark Speakman also pulled back from a NSW voice or the pursuit of a treaty.

"A voice to the NSW Parliament is not a policy position of the NSW opposition," he said.

He called instead for practical and urgent delivery of initiatives to close the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people.

NSW Premier Chris Minns said the referendum outcome had not changed his government's mandate to begin the treaty process.

Consultation with Indigenous people is to begin as soon as possible, while the premier also did not close the door on a voice to NSW parliament.

"I don't necessarily believe the

will of the people of Australia is to stop progress (on) reconciliation or closing the gap metrics," Mr Minns said.

In Victoria, statewide Treaty negotiations are expected to begin early next year. Victorian Opposition Leader John Pesutto has declined to commit his party to supporting a Treaty.

In 2022, the Victorian coalition backed legislation to establish a Treaty Authority to oversee negotiations.

Mr Pesutto, who was not in state parliament at the time, flagged it was too soon to declare a party stance on Treaty.

The ACT has already established an elected Indigenous voice to parliament that advises government.

The NT has a Treaty Unit, Tasmania has committed to progressing truth-telling and Treaty and South Australia legislated a state-based voice to parliament early this year.

Western Australia has no Treaty or truth-telling plans but its constitution was altered in 2015 to recognise Indigenous people.

– AAP

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Traditional owners take gas objections to super funds



TRADITIONAL owners from three First Nations have been fighting gas giant Santos for years and now they're asking super funds to act on their objections.

Traditional owners from three First Nations are asking super funds to use their investment power to convince gas giant Santos to drop its Barossa and Narrabri projects.

Tiwi Islanders and Larrakia traditional owners oppose Santos' Barossa gas project, 285km offshore from Darwin.

The Federal Court has found Tiwi traditional owners were not properly consulted when Santos was given approval for drilling.

Gomerioi traditional owners in northwest NSW, meanwhile, have been fighting Santos' proposal to drill more than 850 coal seam gas wells in the Pilliga forest for the Narrabri project.

Traditional owners have joined farmers and climate activists to protest against the project, which has approval from the NSW and federal governments.

The national native title tribunal has previously ruled Santos could



Traditional owners want super funds to convince Santos to ditch two of its gas projects.

continue the project without consent from the Gomerioi people, who have been opposing it under the banner "Gamil means no".

Traditional owners voted 162-2, with four abstentions, to reject a deal with the gas company.

The Federal Court has heard a Gomerioi appeal against the tribunal decision and is yet to rule.

Santos has notified the regulator of its plans to commence pipe laying for the Barossa gas project.

Karra Kinchela, Gomerioi/Gamilaraay traditional owner, said they wouldn't allow the

Pilliga to be damaged to a point where it would not return to its natural state.

"With at least 90 cultural sites, the most abundant wildlife and biodiversity, there is no other place like it in Australia," she said.

Equity Generation Lawyers have released a report saying Australian super funds were failing to prevent human rights impacts arising from their investment in Santos.

"The report finds not a single fund confirmed it would use its stake in Santos to attempt to stop the Barossa and Narrabri projects

that lack consent from Tiwi, Larrakia and Gomerioi traditional owners," they said.

The lawyers said a failure of the funds to disclose details of engagement with Santos and a lack of human rights and grievance policies, suggested they were breaching human rights principles.

"The Juukan Gorge inquiry found that superannuation funds have a responsibility to hold companies accountable for actions expected to harm cultural and spiritual heritage," they said.

"Santos shows no sign of

abandoning either project, which shows that funds are failing their responsibilities to traditional owners."

Traditional owners have joined farmers and climate activists to protest against the Santos project.

Tiwi elder Pirrawayingi Puruntatameri said their connection to sea country had existed since the creation of time.

"We want investors that we've met with to listen and act accordingly, to respect what we say. No money can buy back what we risk losing if this project goes ahead."

Santos said it had been widely consulting on the Barossa project since the start of 2023.

In a report released recently week, Santos said it had completed First Nations underwater cultural heritage assessment required prior to pipe laying at Barossa.

Santos notified the regulator in October of its plans to commence pipe laying for the Barossa gas project.

The company said it was continuing to progress land access agreements and environmental surveys in relation to the Pilliga project, with planning underway for construction. **-AAP**



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news



Danielle Ah Boo is the agency's first Head of its Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Program.

Danielle's aim is to elevate awareness

By JACK WILKIE-JANS



IN a move welcomed by the film industry, Queensland's chief agency, Screen Queensland, has appointed Torres Strait Islander woman, Danielle Ah Boo, as the agency's first Head of its Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Program.

The new leadership role was created from state-wide consultation with First Nations stakeholders to uplift First Nations voices across the state's film and screen industry. This new focus for Screen Queensland will see First Nations narratives and filmmakers receive the recognition and support they deserve—especially along the state's pathway to Treaty and Truth Telling.

Ms Ah Boo said that her primary aspiration in her new

role is to "elevate awareness of the cultural significance of First Nations heritage and open doors to new and exciting opportunities for practitioners."

"I've always had a passion for the screen industry. I've worked on the production side of things in the past and I'm excited to embark on this new journey".

Utterly impressed

Screen Queensland said that the selection panel was "utterly impressed" by Ms Ah Boo's fresh perspectives, leadership qualities and enthusiasm for the role. It's anticipated that she will bring a dynamic and forward-focused approach to the development of the agency's Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander programming.

Screen Queensland board members, Aaron Fa'Aoso and Dean Gibson, said, "this step towards a more holistic strategy will provide a

statewide approach to supporting (our peoples) at all levels of the industry; creating a stronger, more representative sector".

Progress

Screen Queensland's Chief Executive Officer, Jacqui Feeney, said, "Danielle's appointment to the Screen Queensland leadership team will ensure we achieve meaningful progress in how we coordinate, cooperate and collaborate to build more sustainable opportunities and outcomes for First Nations screen stories in our state".

Having a stellar professional history, Ms Ah Boo has previously worked in production for Carbon Creative and more recently as a financial accountant with Arrow Energy. She has also served as Treasurer and Co-chair of Reconciliation Queensland.

www.screenqld.com.au

Building blitz results in 100 homes



ONE hundred homes have been built in one hundred days to help close the gap in housing for Aboriginal people in the Northern Territory.

As a result, families from 20 communities have now moved into brand new homes in communities such as the northeast island of Galiwin'ku, Jilkminggan and Kalkarindji, to Amoonguna in the south.

The homes have been jointly funded by the Northern Territory and federal governments through



New builds at Hermannsburg. the \$2.2 billion Remote Housing Investment Package Our Community. Our Future. Our Homes.

The building blitz has been rolled out with several major construction contracts conducting a pipeline of works in dozens of remote communities.

One of the housing contracts was a \$26.5 million tender recently released in Gunbalanya to build 24 new homes and upgrade another 18. Funding of \$5.2 million will see 11 homes built in Beswick and \$6.8 million for more homes in Maningrida.

Minister for Indigenous Australians Linda Burney said "we are proud to be working with the Northern Territory Government,

local land councils and Aboriginal Housing NT to deliver housing in remote communities".

"Because we know that overcrowding and poor-quality housing are barriers to closing the gap," she said.

MP Marion Scrymgour said "inadequate housing and severe overcrowding is at the heart of Aboriginal disadvantage".

NT chief minister Natasha Fyles said "local decision making was at the core of the planning, designing and construction process.

"This has encouraged remote community residents to be involved

every step of the way from planning and design to allocation," she said.

Minister for Housing and Homelands Selena Uibo said "the ongoing work not only makes a huge difference to the many families who finally have a home to call their own, it has provided local businesses with contracts running several years, and created opportunities for Aboriginal Territorians to complete formal training including certificates and apprenticeships".

"These opportunities benefit everyone and help to create sustainable communities," she said.

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n e w s



Jordon Remfrey holding his son Leo whilst his former boxing mum Robyn has grandson Troy in her arms.

Mother and son are tough as they come

By ALF WILSON



BACK in 2005 proud Aboriginal woman Robyn Remfrey was known as the "Territory Tick" because of her boxing ability and she fought and won a Bad Bitches section of a Toughman Contest while pregnant.

That story appeared in numerous national magazines as well as the *Koori Mail* and when it was revealed after her win that she was three months pregnant carrying her son Jordon Remfrey she received some criticism.

Jordon is now aged 27 and is a super fit sportsman who suffered no ill effects from his beloved mum's Bad Bitches win.

"Look at him now he is a big and fit man, and he didn't know until a while back about my fighting in the ring and since he found out he tells people that a few scars on his head are because mum was a boxer," Robyn said.

I saw Robyn on Sunday night soon after Jordon had won the player of the final award at the Bindal Sharks

Allblacks carnival in Townsville.

Jordon lined up for the winning side Thugerr Warriors and scored a try 30 seconds from fulltime which was converted to give his team a nail biting 20-19 win in the grand final over the Burdekin Delta Dolphins.

Proud Jordon was holding his baby son Leo who is two and a half years old and Robyn had in her arms her granddaughter's son Troy who is aged four months.

We yarned and Robyn took a welcome trip down memory lane and spoke about her days in the ring and how she became dubbed the Territory Tick.

People who saw her fight back then often remarked they had never seen a woman who could throw so many punches.

"I had three fights and never lost any. That win when I was carrying Jordon was at the Townsville Toughman Contest run by Chris Condon. I didn't tell anybody that I was three months pregnant and that came out afterwards when I was asked to have more bouts and mentioned it. I retired straight after that and Jordon was born a healthy baby," she said.

Robyn grew up in Tennant

Creek and later moved to Darwin before arriving at Mount Isa in 1993 where she was trained by Bill Wield and the legendary Glenn Johnson.

Johnson was dubbed the "Fighting Mauler" and won hundreds of bouts including more than 200 when fighting under that name under the big tent for the Fred Brophy Boxing Troupe.

"In Mount Isa one of them said you need a ring name, and they came up with the Territory Tick because I was from the NT," she said.

Now aged 58 Robyn lives a quiet life in Townsville and loves looking after her three grandchildren but she does still follow boxing.

"I have been impressed by Shanell Dargan who recently won the Australian super bantamweight professional title," she said.

Robyn has many golden memories of her fighting days and now just enjoys life to the fullest and supporting her children and watching her grandchildren grow up.

"I was very emotional when Jordon's team won the Allblacks final and have many golden memories of my fighting days as well," she said.

App brings the past to life



STORIES and place belong together. This central concept of First Nations storytelling is at the heart of a new audio app called Yalinguth. Yalinguth means 'yesterday' in Woi-wurrung, and the app is one of the first storytelling sound walks to guide listeners on a real-time audio walk through Melbourne's Gertrude Street, Ngár-go/Fitzroy.

Created by the Yalinguth Working Group, the stories shared through the app are the recollections of 40 local Elders whose lives have intersected with this unique urban landscape. The app recently won the top Award of Excellence for Community Contribution at the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects National Awards for its amplification of First Nations voices and sharing of important stories. The app content was created by

the younger generation who recorded the intimate and powerful stories of their Elders. As Uncle Kevin Russell (in his interview for Yalinguth) said "the more people understand the history and the battles and who we are as people, the more this country will heal". "For too long, the onus has been on Aboriginal people to heal... Yalinguth is an opportunity for our stories to come to life and that truth-telling is educational in itself."

With grant funding from philanthropists and Creative Victoria, the project has grown into a working app and expanded into parts of Melbourne's CBD – with plans to work within regional Victoria. The National Awards Jury said "this remarkable placemaking endeavour stands out as an exemplar of innovative storytelling that brilliantly harnesses digital platforms to honour Indigenous modes of narrative."



Uncle Jack Charles, who passed away last year, is one of the Elders telling stories on the app.

Metropolitan Memorial Parks

Cemeteries and Crematoria Act 2013 (NSW) - Section 61

Cemetery operator to determine interment right holder of Hancock family grave.

Metropolitan Memorial Parks is seeking to locate and contact the interment right holder of interment site GB-FM- B0130 at Eastern Suburbs Memorial Park, which contain the following interments: Florence May Jarvis and baby Margaret Hancock.

The interment right is most recently held by the late Edgar Reuben Hancock (also known as Reuben Edgar Hancock). Notice is hereby given, if an interment right holder is unable to be located and contacted, Metropolitan Memorial Parks intends to make a decision as to the interment right holder under section 61(4) of the *Cemeteries and Crematoria Act 2013 (NSW)* [the Act].

Ken Morrison
Administrator
Metropolitan Memorial Parks
Dated 20 October 2023

ADVERTISEMENT

Share your ideas about Western Australia's federal electoral divisions



Population change means Western Australia is entitled to an additional seat in the House of Representatives. With the number of Western Australian seats increasing from 15 to 16, most of Western Australia's existing federal divisions will need to change to meet electoral laws.

If you have ideas about the names and boundaries of federal electoral divisions in Western Australia, where to locate the new division, or what to call it, now is the time to tell us.

How to share your ideas

Your ideas can be about the names of electoral divisions, where the boundaries should be, or both. You might have ideas about one electoral division or all of them. The only requirement is that your ideas and suggestions are submitted in writing and are received by the Redistribution Committee for Western Australia by **6pm AWST Friday 17 November 2023**.

You can submit your ideas and suggestions:

- **online:** www.aec.gov.au/wa-redistribution
- by **email:** FedRedistribution-WA@aec.gov.au
- by **fax:** 02 6215 9971
- by **post:** Redistribution Committee for Western Australia, Australian Electoral Commission, Locked Bag 4007, Canberra ACT 2601.

For further information and submission guidelines, go to **aec.gov.au/wa-redistribution**

What's next?

All written suggestions received by the deadline will be published on the AEC website on Monday 20 November 2023. You can then tell us, in writing, whether you support or disagree with the suggestions or have a different idea. Written comments on suggestions need to be received by **6pm AWST Friday 1 December 2023**.

The Redistribution Committee will then review all ideas, suggestions and comments received before releasing proposed names and boundaries for Western Australia's federal electoral divisions in the 2nd Quarter of 2024.

Note: For information about the review of Western Australia's state electoral districts visit **www.boundaries.wa.gov.au**

This is a separate process not administered by the AEC and is not related to federal parliament.

aec.gov.au/wa-redistribution

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Water for Country Forum invitation

We're inviting Barapa Barapa and Wamba Wamba First Nations People to attend a Water for Country Forum in mid-November to hear the latest on key Victorian Government and region programs across their Country.

The forum at Barham on 18 and 19 November is designed to present the opportunity to enter two-way conversations about Water for Country, to develop a clear understanding and to map an agreement and process of representation for future engagement of Barapa Barapa and Wamba Wamba First Nations Peoples involvement in three programs:

- Victorian Murray Floodplain Restoration Project Supporting Aboriginal Values and Aspirations.
- North Central CMA's Waterway Strategy and future funding engagement with project co-design and implementation.
- Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action Water is Life, and Victorian Waterway Management Strategy.

If you're interested in coming, contact the North Central CMA on 54487124 or info@nccma.vic.gov.au to secure a seat.

"We have funding to support 100 people to attend, which includes sitting fees, accommodation travel and meals, Extended families and children are also welcome."

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Sharon Finnan-White, Director Co-Founder Finnan-White Consulting Sports, Culture and Leadership Academy **Dr. Uncle Bernie Singleton** Elder & Senior Member Wuunta P/L Kunjur First Nations Men's Collective **Bernard Sabadi** CEO & Founder Kunjur First Nations Men's Collective **QLD Two Kang Kang Youth member** Supported by PCYC Aurukun & NAPCAN **Eliejean Singh** CEO Boordawan William Aboriginal Healing Service **Prof. Joanne Porter** Director Federation University Australia **Mary CORINA Martin** CEO Aboriginal Family Legal Service WA - state-wide (AFLS) **Dawn Thompson** DV Officer Milliya Rumurra Aboriginal Corporation in Broome WA.








Nicholas Johnson Collaborative Evaluation & Research Group (CERG) Federation University Australia **Michael Liddle** (Guest speaker), C4L Founder and Manager, and Aboriginal Male Cultural Lead Advisor, Desert Knowledge Australia, Alice Springs, Northern Territory. **Joanne Westh** Founder 4 Voices Global Limited **Adele Sheridan-Magro** St Vincents Health Network Sydney Manager Domestic and Family Violence Service **Uncle Alan Coe** Aboriginal Elder Warrigunya Incorporated **Marjorie Anderson** National Manager 13YARN.








Dr Amber Logan Health Psychologist Indigenous Development Specialists NZ **Dr Joe Stone** Clinical Psychologist Indigenous Development Specialists USA **Uncle Ara Harathunian** Managing Director Kultchafi QLD **Mark Roberston** Founding Director MPOWER & One Vision Productions NSW **Valentine Nona** Project Co Ordinator Jina Gunday **Lara Biggs** DSDSATSIP Office for Women and Violence Prevention & Department of Justice and Attorney-General National Manager 13YARN **Jill White** PhD Manager Place-Based Initiatives.

For further information
www.icsconferences.org

Phone: (07) 4000 9111 Email: adminics@iinet.net.au

news

Tributes flow for health pioneer



Mookai Rosie Bi-Bayan founder Auntie Rose Richards. (supplied)

QLD

TRIBUTES have poured in from across the country for Mookai Rosie Bi-Bayan founder Auntie Rose Richards, 93, who passed away peacefully at Cairns Base Hospital early last month.

A proud Kuku Yalanji and Tagalaka Elder, Auntie Rose was widely known and well-respected for her work in improving the health and wellbeing of babies, young children and mothers.

She was the first Aboriginal woman to be employed as an Aboriginal Liaison Officer in the early 1970s into a position especially created for her.

There are now Indigenous Liaison Officers in most hospitals around the country.

Auntie was the much-loved wife of Ron Richards (dec), mum to Rosanna (Dawn) and Ron (dec) Archer, Roy (Sonny) and Sandra (Pete) Levers, and Lillian Simpson, grandmother and great grandmother to many.

A celebration of her life was held last Friday in Cairns.

We'll have a full obituary in the *Koori Mail* in the coming weeks.



Children protection
Family Violence Support

Search  **jobs that matter**

Children & Families
Housing & Homelessness

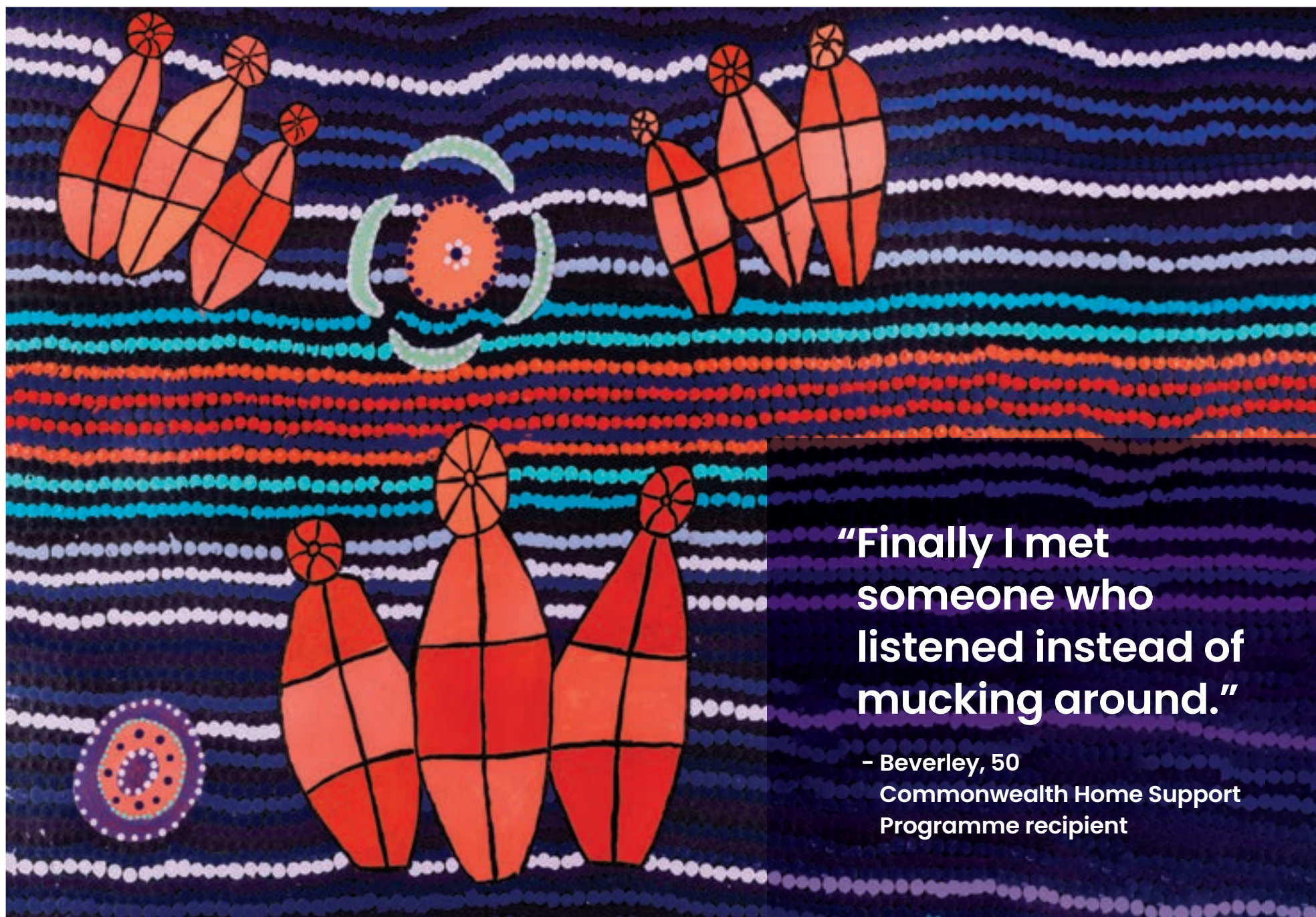
MAKE A DIFFERENCE. DO A JOB THAT MATTERS.

Right now, there are community services jobs available where you can make a difference, helping people who have a disability, families fleeing violence, and children and families who need care and support.

Make a difference.
Visit jobsthatmatter.vic.gov.au



Authorised by the Victorian Government,
1 Treasury Place, Melbourne



**“Finally I met
someone who
listened instead of
mucking around.”**

– Beverley, 50
Commonwealth Home Support
Programme recipient

Artwork by: Dr Mick Adams

Are you Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander over the age of 50?

**Your aged care support service
Free and confidential
Have a yarn with us 1800 700 600**

Do you need help to:

- improve your aged care services
- understand fees and costs
- stay connected to community and Country?
- have a say in your care?

If your answer is yes to any of these questions,
have a yarn with us on **1800 700 600**.

How do we work with you?

We help you speak up for better aged care:

- we will listen and be guided by you
- we won't do or say anything without your permission.

No issue is too big or small.



To find out more visit
opan.org.au/koori
or scan the QR code



An Australian Government Initiative



Chairperson, Regional Development Australia

- Strategic leadership roles in NSW, Victoria, Queensland and the ACT
- Shape regional development and facilitate economic growth
- Long term opportunities to deliver sustained success

The Australian Government is seeking highly-motivated leaders with vision, drive, and a passion for developing their region to volunteer to **Chair the Southern NSW and ACT, Illawarra Shoalhaven, Barwon South West, Gippsland, Greater Whitsundays and Moreton Bay and Sunshine Coast Regional Development Australia (RDA) Committees.**

As Chair, you will lead your RDA, working closely with the Committee, federal, state and local governments, and key business and industry organisations to directly inform, support and promote the growth and development of your region.

Applications are sought from business and community leaders who have strong advocacy and negotiation skills and a proven track record of achieving outcomes in complex environments.

Women, First Nations people, people from culturally diverse backgrounds and people with disability are encouraged to apply.

For more information about the role of RDA Committees and Chairs, regional maps and **how to apply**, please visit www.rda.gov.au/join-your-rda. You can also contact the RDA team via phone 1800 505 938 (Mon–Fri 9am–5pm AEDT) or email rdaapplications@infrastructure.gov.au.

Make a difference in regional Australia!

Applications close at 5pm (AEDT) on 13 November 2023
www.rda.gov.au/join-your-rda

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Department of Primary Industries

Aboriginal Fishing Advisory Council Expressions of Interest for Membership

The NSW Department of Primary Industries is seeking Expressions of Interest from Aboriginal people to fill four coastal and inland regional membership positions on the NSW Aboriginal Fishing Advisory Council (AFAC) and to create a talent pool for other regional vacancies that may arise. The AFAC has been established to provide strategic advice to the Minister for Agriculture on issues affecting Aboriginal fishing.

The Council also plays an important role in the development of cultural fishing policy as well as exploring commercial opportunities for Aboriginal communities associated with fishing activities.

Expressions of interest are invited from Aboriginal persons for the four regional positions (Far Western, North West, Northern, and Far South Coast) and for consideration for the talent pool.

To find out more about membership on the Council, you can join us for an online information session. To register, contact the NSW Department of Primary Industries on **Aboriginal.fishing@dpi.nsw.gov.au**

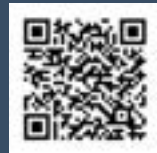
Interested applicants should send a completed expression of interest form and their curriculum vitae to the Department via:

Post: AFAC EOI, LMB 3020, NOWRA NSW, 2541

Email: Aboriginal.fishing@dpi.nsw.gov.au

Expressions of interest must be received by **5pm on 1 December 2023.**

More information on AFAC, including a map of the AFAC regions and general information relevant to Aboriginal fishing, is available on the Department's website:



Aboriginal Fishing
Advisory Council



LPI636



Have your say on how water for domestic household purposes and stock watering should be regulated in NSW

Domestic and stock rights are a basic landholder right under the *Water Management Act 2000* allowing you to take and use water for domestic consumption and non-intensive stock watering without a water access licence or water use approval and in most cases a water supply work approval. These rights do not permit the construction of a dam or water bore without a water supply work approval.

These rights apply if you own or occupy a parcel of land which:

- has river, lake, or estuary frontage, or
- is overlying an aquifer.

Domestic and stock rights are largely unregulated. There is no limit on the volume of water that may be taken or detailed guidelines about how the rights to the water can be used.

The NSW Government has committed to a review of domestic and stock water rights and wants to hear from you on how these rights are currently used and whether they should be further regulated.

Complete our survey: water.nsw.gov.au/domestic-and-stock-rights

550069



CALLING ALL GADIGAL ARTISTS PUBLIC ART EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

Sydney Metro - City & Southwest
Gadigal Station, Sydney CBD
23 October - EOI closes 17 November 2023

Seeking artists and designers to develop a bold, inspiring and robust artwork to create a strong sense of identity and connection to place for locals and visitors alike.

ONE new permanent public commission to recognise the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation as the traditional custodians of the land on which Gadigal Station is sited.

Experienced Gadigal artists / Gadigal led creative teams who reside in Australia are eligible to apply.

All information at

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/arts-and-culture/engage-nsw-arts-and-culture/cultural-infrastructure/sydney-metro-gadigal-recognition-public-art-opportunity>

Image Credit: Mana Ngurang, Charles 'Chicka' Madden, Nicole Monks & UFO, 2014, Redfern Community Centre, Image by Sydney Metro



Leadership summit aims to inspire



INDIGENOUS leaders will converge on Sydney this month when the Indigenous Leadership Summit 2023 brings insights, meaningful dialogues, vision and transformative learning to attendees.

Some of the speakers at the event from November 14 to 17 include singer, author and actress Casey Donovan and Indigenous

Australian author and literary figure Professor Bruce Pascoe.

Organised by The Leadership Institute (TLI), the summit is hailed as more than an event.

"It's a movement," TLI chief executive Dana Lightbody said.

Inspiration

"We aim to create ripples of change, inspiration and collaboration across Australia because if we don't start the movement now the road for equality won't be paved in even

our children's lifetime."

Also speaking at the event is actor Aaron Pedersen. His journey in Australian television and film has not only carved a path for Indigenous actors but also brought authentic indigenous stories to the forefront. His ground-breaking work in *Jack Irish* and as Detective Jay Swan in *Mystery Road* made Indigenous characters front and centre in major productions.

The summit will also feature leaders from diverse sectors who bring with them a wealth of

knowledge, experience, and a commitment to fostering Indigenous leadership.

These include Supply Nation chief executive Kate Russell, Ngali Australia fashion creative Denni Francisco, City of Melbourne chief executive Alison Leighton and Aboriginal Melbourne director Jason Eades.

The summit agenda will focus on not just recounting successes but dissecting challenges, sharing insights, and fostering collaborations.



Aaron Pedersen.

Willem joins music industry charity



MUSIC charity Support Act has appointed Willem Brussen, picture, as its new First Nations Social Worker. A proud Baramadagal/Burramattagal man of Dharug Country with Dutch, German, Irish and English ancestries, Willem has grown up and lives off-country on Wurundjeri Country.

He has a decade of experience across the homelessness, disability and Aboriginal support sectors, including youth specific programs, community outreach programs for people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness, and working with culturally diverse communities. Willem has a strong sense of social justice and values the need for human connection.

Willem will be joining the charity's crisis relief team, reporting to Crisis Relief Team leader, Angela Doolan, as the first point of contact for any First Nations music workers needing crisis relief, mental health or wellbeing support.

He will also be working with First Nations Programs Lead, Will Oui, a proud Meriam man from Zenadth Kes (the Torres Strait Islands) with strong connections to the Samsep peoples from Erub (Darnley Island).

Will Oui said: "It's a great pleasure to welcome Willem, who will be an invaluable resource as we continue to develop our services for First Nations music workers as part of our commitment to being a culturally intelligent organisation. I'd like to thank JB Hi-Fi through their *Helping Hands Workplace Giving* Program for helping to make this possible."

ADVERTISEMENT

Share your ideas about Victoria's federal electoral divisions



Population change means Victoria's entitlement to members of the House of Representatives has decreased. With the number of Victorian seats decreasing from 39 to 38, most of Victoria's existing federal divisions will need to change to meet electoral laws.

If you have ideas about the names and boundaries of federal electoral divisions in Victoria or which electoral division to abolish, now is the time to tell us.

How to share your ideas

Your ideas can be about the names of electoral divisions, where the boundaries should be, or both. You might have ideas about one electoral division or all of them. The only requirement is that your ideas and suggestions are submitted in writing and are received by the Redistribution Committee for Victoria by **6pm AEDT Friday 24 November 2023**.

You can submit your ideas and suggestions:

- **online:** aec.gov.au/vic-redistribution
- by **email:** FedRedistribution-VIC@aec.gov.au
- by **fax:** 02 6215 9970
- by **post:** Redistribution Committee for Victoria, Australian Electoral Commission, Locked Bag 4007, Canberra ACT 2601.

For further information and submission guidelines, go to **aec.gov.au/vic-redistribution**

What's next?

All written suggestions received by the deadline will be published on the AEC website on Monday 27 November 2023. You can then tell us, in writing, whether you support or disagree with the suggestions or have a different idea. Written comments on suggestions need to be received by **6pm AEDT Friday 8 December 2023**.

The Redistribution Committee will then review all ideas, suggestions and comments received before releasing proposed names and boundaries for Victoria's federal electoral divisions in the 2nd Quarter of 2024.

Note: For information about the electoral structure reviews of Victoria's local government (metropolitan, regional, city, and rural shire councils), visit **vec.vic.gov.au/esr**

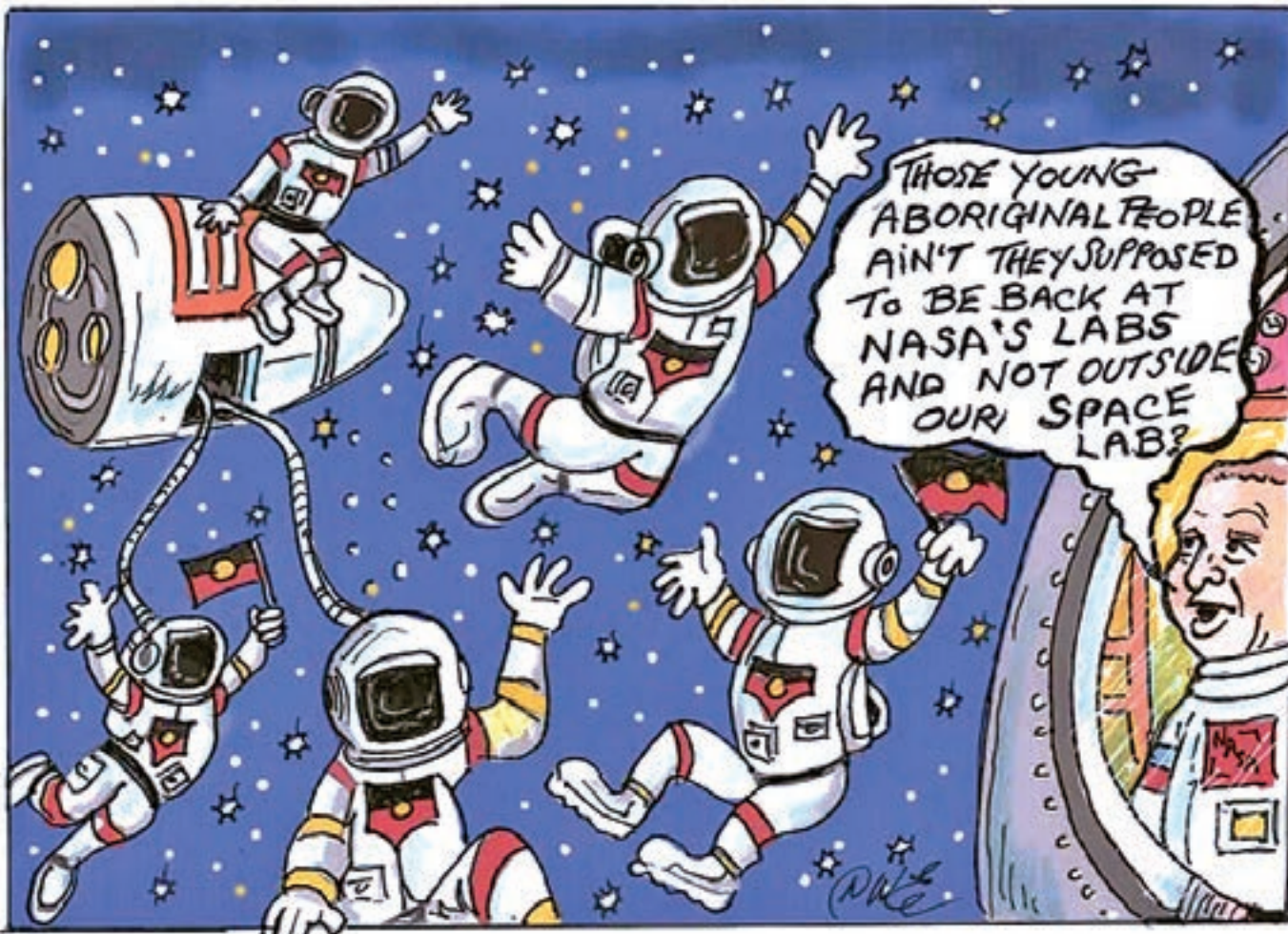
This is a separate process not administered by the AEC and is not related to federal parliament.

aec.gov.au/vic-redistribution

☎ 03 9968 5731

Authorised by the Electoral Commissioner, 10 Mort Street, Canberra, ACT

Danny Eastwood's view



Quote



“There has been a language salvage operation that’s come about as a consequence of us resisting colonisation and trying to maintain a cultural perspective about ourselves and where we belong around the country.”

– Gumbaynggirr and Dunghutti Elder Uncle Ray Kelly speaking about our languages revival.

● See page 21

Unquote

Great result for Maningrida Mob

It’s hard to reconcile the fact that there are billionaires earning millions daily from mining the riches of this country, while remote communities have to lobby to get even the most basic equipment to make life bearable while living on Country.

That’s been the case in Maningrida, a remote community in the Northern Territory which has a population of about 4,000 residents.

Among those, many people of all ages use wheelchairs for various ailments or conditions, yet it has taken years of lobbying by the community, supported by the Darwin Community Legal Service, to finally get a wheelchair lift installed.

Now that might not mean a lot to those rich mining billionaires who no doubt travel by private jet or helicopters between tropical islands and skyscrapers ... but it sure means a lot to the people of Maningrida.

Dianne Soloman, a National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) support coordinator, spent two years advocating for the community to get the airport lift.

Her message was simple. “There are people of all ages in wheelchairs in Maningrida – from children to older people – and they don’t travel because it’s too hard to walk up the steps,” she said.

Thankfully, the community finally had a win and the Office of the Chief Minister approved a funding proposal for a \$63,000 Community Support Grant



in September.

But the question really needs to be asked ... “Why so long?”

Seriously.

Why does it take years to provide the most basic services to remote residents yet mining company employees and executives have nothing but the best when it comes to housing, services, and the ability to fly-in and fly-out.

Because that’s part of the problem.

There is nothing stopping the activities of miners and others making their money making a quick escape from the poverty in surrounding towns and communities.

For remote residents, that lack of proper services means they have no escape ... for respite, for treatment, or simply to get out of town and see somewhere new.

Perhaps if there was a coordinated voice lobbying the politicians and the rich mining executives in a proper, formalised manner, maybe, just maybe, communities such as Maningrida would not have to spend years crying out for help.

Oh, wait a minute

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).

A YARN WITH...



Tara Budarick

Ngarrindjeri – Fleurieu Peninsula, SA

Favourite bush tucker?
Many, but especially seafood and finger limes.

Favourite other food?
Asian.

Favourite music?
I’m not musically orientated.

Favourite sport?
It is certainly basketball.

Favourite read?
The Happiest Man on Earth.

Favourite holiday destination?
Kangaroo Island – that’s where I grew up – love going back to KI.

What are you watching on TV?
Anything on SBS or NITV.

What do you like in life?
The outdoors, I’m into my gardening and naturally family.

What don’t you like in life?
Climate control, treating our environment poorly. I like sustainability – I’m in an op shop currently.

Which Black or Indigenous person would you most like to meet?
Adam Briggs – the Rapper.

Which people would you invite for a night around the campfire?
Patty Mills, Marcia Langton, Adam Goodes.

Who or what inspires you?
People who work hard to leave a legacy.

What is your ultimate goal?
To have a full life and finish with no regrets.

What would you do to better the situation for Indigenous people?
Enshrine a Voice!

Uncle Ray shares his passion for languages

By LIINA FLYNN

WHEN Gumbaynggirr and Dunghutti Elder Uncle Ray Kelly was growing up on an Aboriginal reserve on the New England tablelands, he spoke the Gumbaynggirr and Dunghutti languages at home.

"But we didn't feel it was appropriate to use language in school," he told the *Koori Mail*.

Now, Uncle Ray is a board member of the NSW Aboriginal Languages Trust – the organisation behind the recent inaugural Aboriginal Languages Week.

But "every week is languages week" for Uncle Ray, who is passionate about revitalising Indigenous languages.

Uncle Ray and his wife have taught First Nations languages to their kids and to younger family members – and it's something he wants to see more of all across Australia.

But when it comes to celebrating and learning Aboriginal languages and identifying with your traditional culture, he said the relationships can be complex.

Belonging

"How does one define who they belong to?" he said.

"I am a Gumbaynggirr and Dunghutti man, with Kamillaroi connections on my mother's side in Kempsey and the far south coast on my father's side.

"The tragedy now is that lots of young kids don't have connections to our traditional structures and we need to find ways to help build that.

"Growing up not knowing language is a painful traumatic experience.

"For kids in out of home care, it's a big issue and I'm hopeful we will all experience a reawakening of culture.

"We need to create safe places where we can speak and not be attacked.

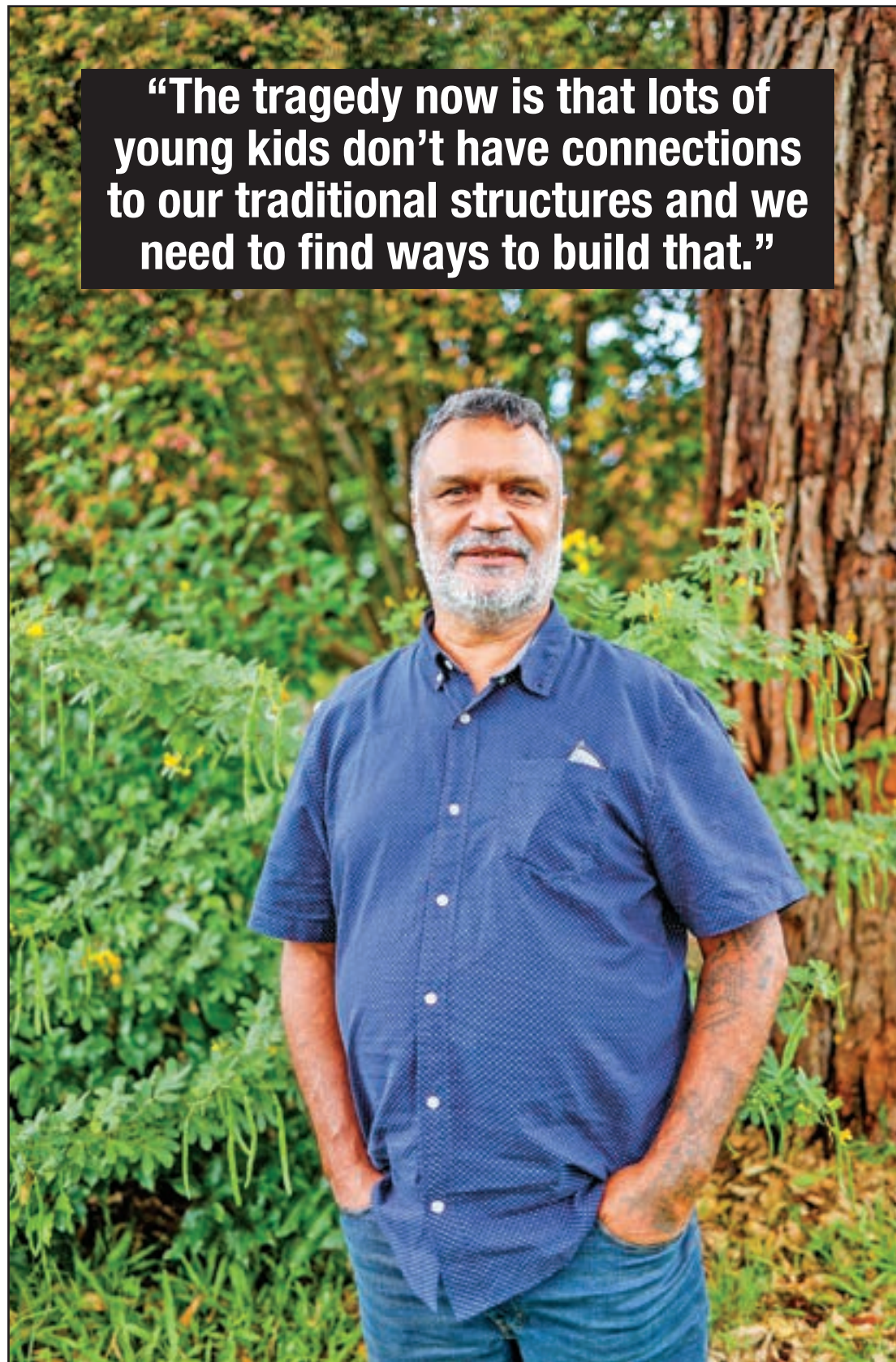
"The renaissance of our language revitalisation needs to be grounded in health and well-being."

Totems

"Your totem is often given by your Uncle or Aunt. It's about identity and how something ties people, land, animals and flora together – so how do you maintain that?

"For me, I have a totem association with honey, swamp wallaby and tailor fish – all given to me by the grandfather and I'll give them to my grandchildren too."

Uncle Ray said when it comes to people who have been displaced from their traditional tribal structures, "some people have to reinvent themselves".



Gumbaynggirr and Dunghutti Elder Uncle Ray Kelly.

"Once you know your place in your own traditions, you can go anywhere in this country and people will tell you how you fit into their traditional structures," he said.

Arrow in the bow

Uncle Ray said celebrating the recent Aboriginal Languages Week is like "the arrow in the bow" when it comes to making change.

"We need to celebrate success and we need to give everyone the opportunity to speak, to have courage to rise

and dance and say 'I'm here'.

"I'm here at the University of Newcastle and I'd love to see more kids come here and widen their horizons.

"This is the pathway forward so we can all achieve excellence."

Languages

Uncle Ray said most of his remembering and learning of traditional languages has come from listening to old recordings of languages.

Some of the recordings he listened to were of the last

storyman in the Nambucca Valley, Tiger Buchanan, who was born in the late 1800s.

"We are great survivors and so are our languages," he said.

"There has been a language salvage operation that's come about as a consequence of us resisting colonisation and trying to maintain a cultural perspective about ourselves and where we belong around the country.

"At first we thought we were being educated about a dying culture. We thought we only had bits and pieces of languages –

but they were actually the core aspects of the language landscape that we've held true to.

"When I look at Gumbaynggirr, Dunghutti, Kamillaroi and Bundjalung languages – lots of words from each are seeping in and out of the cultural landscape.

"When we compare languages, we see the same formal structures. The vowel systems are the same and sometimes we will be speaking a back to front way.

"Then people realise we are not so isolated – that the differences are not big and the language content is aligned closely."

G'day

"I'd like to see us get to the point where no-one has a problem speaking our Koori languages.

"These days, we all talk Aboriginal English and some say it's Aussie.

"The word G'day is from our influence.

"Words are shortened in a similar way to our traditional languages where we squeeze the first word to allow the second word to have room.

"The word for 'here at this place' gyanduggai is something like Gundagai or Gadigal. When we become comfortable with our languages and are not so protective, we can expand our horizons."

The Trust

Uncle Ray said the Aboriginal Languages Trust was established under the NSW Aboriginal Languages Act 2017 – the first legislation of its kind in Australia to acknowledge and advocate for the revitalisation of First Languages.

It was also the year when the NAIDOC theme was 'Our Languages Matter'.

Since then, there has been more government funding for local and regional projects to revive languages, create language dictionaries and online learning resources.

Safe place

Uncle Ray said the saddest part of the current situation was being in a country that wants to celebrate its unique Indigenous culture – but "doesn't want us".

"Often it's only for a Welcome to Country or to colour the tourism train," he said.

"What we need is a safe place where people can have a conversation and celebrate knowledge.

"We have the ability to make this happen – to develop critical thinking and make our language recovery be in the heart as well as the head."

Gathering showcases

By SARAH ROBERTS-FIELD



SUNSHINE lit up the joyful faces of hundreds who echoed laughter and cheers across Anzac Memorial Park

in Waiben (Thursday Island, Torres Strait) last month for the biennial Gathering Voices Media and Arts Festival.

Waiben, around 30 kilometres from the northern tip of Cape York in Queensland, is one of the 200-plus small islands comprising the Torres Strait.

Originally the land of the Kaurareg people, it is now home to a diverse population of around 4,000 people from different cultural backgrounds, including Asian, Japanese, Malay and Indian, who came to the island to work in the lucrative pearling industry in 1884.

Four main seasonal times - Naiger, Koki, Ziai and Sager - are closely associated with the prevailing winds of the land. The cultural celebration of media, music, song, dance, food and film occurred for five days straight during Sager - the dry season, offering cloudless skies and ever-so-blue saltwater.

Workshops

Gathering Voices began with three days of workshops that saw more than 120 school children from the island participating in bead making, listening to a living library, conducting journalistic interviews and film, coconut processing, dance, songwriting, storytelling, music and creating art prints. The workshops were designed to help the children rediscover storytelling traditions.

As festival director Diat Alferink from the Kala Lagaw Ya language group of the Western Torres Strait Islands put it, "It's about having an



Kee'ahn practises some songs with local primary school students for a concert that also featured Christine Anu.

opportunity for our young people and community to re-engage with telling their own stories. "That's the importance of a media association and us having a voice. Our media matters," she said, unable to stop smiling as children ran around gleefully under the cool, vast shade of a tree.

Showcase talent

Alferink told the *Koori Mail* how important it was for these festivals to happen in our regional and remote communities so they can showcase the diverse talent of everyone.

"I love festivals because they bring everyone together. Organisations, young people, and Elders. They allow them to have a go at all things media, arts and

culture - it's important to us."

Film festival

The workshops were followed by a cozy film festival in the park, projecting black-and-white classics under the stars. The next day, 150 attendees were treated to a five-course menu of delicious local food and produce prepared by Torres Strait Islander chef Nornie Bero with her business Mabu Mabu (help yourself).

"It's really great to actually showcase that Indigenous people do have cuisine, and we can do it really well," Nornie said.

The menu included crayfish, croquettes, yam and wild boar with a hibiscus and strawberry gum pavlova for dessert.

Housemade ero (bell fruit) cocktails were served alongside the food, with the chef speaking on the importance of enjoying them slowly and guilt-free.

High note

The festival ended on a high note with the Inspiring Voices Concert, where talented artists Airileke Ingram and Sorong Samurai stole the show, livening everyone's spirits. Powerful vocalists Kee'ahn, with local primary school kids and Christine Anu (joined on stage by daughter Zipporah) also performed, as did local acts Jack Bani, Northern Xposure, Joey Tapau, Lingu Karay Women's Choir, Zenadth Kes Youth Choir, Daniella Williams and Frank and MJ.

Celebrates

Gathering Voices not only celebrates the richness of Torres Strait Islander culture but also helps to support the youth in sharing their knowledge of life on the islands, issues around taking care of Sea Country, rising ocean levels, health and wellbeing, cost of living, and career employment for their future.

With its success, the festival aims to return in 2025, touring for over a month, inspiring, presenting and creating various types of content for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

● Check out our next edition for more stories and pictures from the Torres Strait



Uncle Saila Savage delivered a Welcome to Country.



Diat Alferink, chief executive of Torres Strait Islanders Media Association, with Neville Johnston.



Serai, Jolene and Kaitlyn in front, with Ilaise, Joliah and Rennaer, all students at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart.



Natessie Repu-Ciccione, with grandmother Sylvia Tabua, a presenter with Radio 4MW, which is part of the Torres Strait Islanders Media Association.



Alima Smit, Nancy Pearson, Lazariah Nona and Olive Whap, representing the Mura Kosker Sorority Inc (All Women are Sisters).

arts and media talent



Roseanna Warrior, Hunter Fujii, Louisa Cook, seated, preparing coconuts with some friends looking on.



Nornie Bero speaks about her catering business, Mabu Mabu (help yourself).



Mele Fangupo and Ilaise Tonga.



Betty Mabo, daughter of land rights legend Eddie Mabo.



Getano Bann shares his music.



Stephen Maxwell, Airileke Ingram and Numa Numa, members of the band, Sorong Samarai.



Aunty Rosaline Tomsana held beading workshops for the children. Aunty Rose hails from Kubin Village on Mua Island. She is Kaurareg woman and Kala Lagaw Ya speaker.



Noa Taumafai and Alfred Marib-Joy, students of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, practise their broadcast media skills the Bachelor Institute crew.



Moesha, Kate, Joelle and Sandra enjoying the outing in Anzac Park.

Divided we fall, united we stand tall

Moving forward to a new future, how do we bring forth the pillars of an old, but new way of being in this modern world?

How do we honour all our differences, and find that which brings us together?

It feels as though everywhere I look, everything I hear is entangled with division.

The over-stimulated, over exposed, not trauma-informed information that lands every minute on our screens, in our mouths and then in the pens that we wield, or the keyboards that we type on.

The constant barrage of information which is playing us out and creating deep division. The ultimate way to keep us controlled is to keep us divided. This is not a new concept it's been spoken by many.

The most spiritual teachers in this world have taught us of the power of love and kindness.

The question is can we find it?

I feel it playing out on our own homelands and on the global stage. I hear the pain and cries of those who have felt the heavy hand of oppression and I feel the cries of those who didn't realise their complicity within the oppressive systems.

I feel the heartache of those who have been attacked. I feel the



Ella Noah Bancroft

heartache of those who have been displaced. I feel the deep heartache of those who have never been heard or seen. I feel the heartache of our deep mother as she cries for us to find another way to exist on this planet we all call home. A way that doesn't involve the destruction, rape and torture of our communities and our mother earth.

In times like this I always try to zoom out. I always try my best to see the bigger picture and that bigger picture is its systems that divide us. It's the systems that have been created by those very few on top that divide us – and the

biggest resistance we can maintain to combat this system that fundamentally oppresses so many, is to unite.

Not to unite with governments that continue that system, but to unite with other humans. To unite with our communities.

We have all become casualties to this system that uses divisive techniques in order to maintain the status quo.

I stand now and say the enemy is a system of greed, hate, of destruction, of extraction, of othering and of death and I will try my very best not to partake in the advancement of that system.

At this time, I feel pain. There is so much pain in our people, in the global community and in the land we so heavily rely on.

In a world that is quickening, I feel the need to find healing and also patience. In the quickening I find that the medicine to healing is to be patient in the process.

I find myself in a society that is over-stimulated, in my mind that is filled with chaos so much that I can't keep up with the changing thoughts or the questioning of realities and theories that present themselves to me.

In the chaos I struggle to find the truth. In this process I see there is more than just one truth.

I stop, I pause and I call for patience. I call for my own

patience to really listen to stories, listen to perspectives and only speak or share when I have truly felt the weight of all perspectives.

I am trying to speak about that which is my lived experience and allow others the space to come forth and find their own voice in the sharing of their stories. To not speak the words of others stories, as I will never understand their embodied experience the way they do.

In this complex world of the 24 hour news cycle, we don't allow ourselves the time to grieve. We don't allow ourselves to come together to grieve one thing before we move onto another.

I witnessed and felt this deeply the weekend of the referendum. How the pain was acknowledged and felt, how the keyboard allies went from posting the Yes to posting about Palestine.

The fire has burnt through the old growth forest with great destruction and with that fire, it has cleared the land, it has cleared the land for life to thrive, for native seeds to be burst open, for newness to come and for renewal to take place. This is our time.

In that renewal I take a moment to reflect for our communities and I'm left with this thought. I see great hope in the future of our Indigenous

communities, mostly I see the deep determination, the fire in the belly of our young ones, those who now are safer than ever to practise culture, to reclaim our ancestral songs and tongue.

I see the power in the eyes of those I speak with – and rather than feeling defeated, I feel hopeful. I never wanted to be a part of the Australia dream, the Australia dream relies heavily on a system of oppression, of death and of destruction. The flip-side to the Australia dream, is the Australian nightmare, that has been felt by many Indigenous and our country.

Now is a potent time for us as Mob, some will rest and some will rise. Some will fight for our rights, while others are just trying to survive, some will seek and continue relations while others will remain in isolation and some will seek reciprocity while others continue to give freely and there is no judgment made on the decisions of those who choose to make themselves safe, who choose to make decisions based on their health and wellbeing. No judgment or expectation will take hold when the actions are our own stepping stones to healing.

● **Ella Noah Bancroft is a Bundjalung woman and a regular contributor.**

Our ancestors are watching

Can someone please explain to me how the progressive No campaign was 'progressive'?

Let's do a fact check, something this Mob don't like. They keep preaching that the World Health Organisation and the United Nations want to corporatise Australia, take our birth certificate numbers, and enslave our children.

Now, not all this Mob believe that, but among their camp are such conspiracy theories.

Then there is the claim that the progressive, sovereign campaign had a budget of \$0 which is also not true. Lidia Thorpe and others were not flying around the country at their own expense.

Whether or not this was government funds for Thorpe in her role as a senator, it was still money used towards the campaign.

The sovereign No campaign, whether they say they aligned themselves or not, also wanted the same outcome as the ultra right-wing No conservative supporters, who received funding from not only Australia's most wealthy and influential, but also money from extremist ultra-right groups within the southern, most racist states in America.

Towards the end of the campaign, they were



Woolombi Waters

spending \$15,000 a week trolling social media.

Their support base included mining magnates, much more than just Rio Tinto, which No voters were so happy to claim were part of the Yes campaign...

The referendum outcome has taken us backwards. Not only has there been no change to a racist constitution – written by a handful of white men – that denies our very existence, racists now feel they have an open licence to attack us due to the result.

And where does this leave the progressive no campaign regarding their catch cry, 'Treaty before Voice'?

The states were already in a treaty process prior to the referendum but the Qld

government is now taking treaty off the table because they have lost bipartisan support.

Only last Wednesday – the same day Aboriginal man Laurence Bundi was shot multiple times by police in Logan, Queensland – that state's police union president Ian Leavers wrote in an opinion piece published by News Corp that the Path to Treaty legislation previously passed in Qld Parliament earlier this year was the state's 'version of the Voice 2.0', complete with "a divisive agenda to further segregate our society".

Mr Leavers wrote that this was "woke obsession" and "inner-city latte sippers" who were adding to the ongoing "youth crime crisis".

He also attacked the First Nations truth-telling and a healing inquiry saying it would favour Indigenous people providing a "free pass" to commit more crime.

There are also now calls to see Jacinta Price (who is calling for an 'Invasion Settlers Forgiveness Day', and yet another royal commission into sex abuse in Aboriginal Northern Territory communities) in the lodge running the country.

Now I don't know if that will ever happen but such a thing would never have been suggested before the

referendum was shut down. The other problem I have is the No Mob claiming to be grassroots in their representation of sovereignty.

The claim "We as a Mob did not want it" was not true as over 70% of our Mob in our most traditional communities in Cape York and the Northern territory voted Yes.

Therefore, progressive No, you did not represent these communities.

History will show how the sovereign No purposely sabotaged a Yes campaign that represented the majority of your own people.

And what makes it worse is they just continue to wipe their hands of any responsibility claiming the votes coming out of our remote and traditional communities are not a true indication of how people really wanted to vote.

Labor won the election running on the promise of a referendum in support of Yes. Australia wanted this otherwise Labor wouldn't have won the election – it really is that simple.

Those in favour when Labor got in were 80% of the total Australian population.

Senator Thorpe walked out on the Uluru Statement of the Heart meeting years earlier and having still not changed her position used her influence to sabotage

momentum despite overwhelming support.

Ms Thorpe, as an Australian senator together with Jacinta Price and Warren Mundine, high-jacked what our most vulnerable Mob wanted... to have a voice at the same tables these Mob get to sit on.

They denied a voice heard from our true grassroots Mob living in terrible conditions where they have little to no facilities, inadequate housing, little-to-no education and where two Aboriginal babies are dying every week of rheumatic heart disease – a third world disease in senator Price's own electorate.

You have to ask yourself, why is the media not calling her out on that and where are calls for a royal commission on how this is allowed to happen in a developed western economy?

Then there was the lack of empathy, love and care shown on social media by the sovereign No Mob for those of us who were really hurting after the result.

To then mock your own people when it is undeniable many were grieving and mourning only demonstrates how disconnected many have become from their own community.

Instead, chasing a

socialist white man's agenda as wanna-be Black Panthers. We are not Black Americans descended from slaves from Africa.

We are Black Fellas born here and our voice and strategy has to be vastly different.

It was so upsetting to see people in our own communities calling for a "No After Party," and laughing at the "Black Dots" on social media, and saying the Yes campaign was answering to our "White Slave Masters".

That Mob laughed and mocked others at this time only demonstrates their true heart... and that's not the love I grew up with in my community.

The problem is they were not listening to their own Mob with 70% of our people voting Yes.

They were instead chasing their own political agenda, campaigning and voting along with all the migrants, racists and nazis.

It doesn't matter what you Mob keep telling yourselves when the time came to choose, you chose to stand with them and not with us.

Just remember, our Ngiyaningu maran yaliwunga ngarra-li (ancestors are always watching.)

● **Woolombi Waters is a regular columnist.**

Despite the many setbacks, we are still here

Central Australian Aboriginal Congress is saddened and disappointed that last week's Referendum to alter the Australian Constitution to recognise First Nations people and establish a First Nations Voice to Parliament has been defeated.

A majority of people voted 'No' to the Voice in every State and Territory except the ACT. In the Northern Territory only about 40% of voters said 'Yes'.

However, Aboriginal people overwhelmingly supported the Voice: about 75% of voters in remote areas of the Northern Territory voted 'Yes'. Some Aboriginal communities recorded 'Yes' votes of over 90%.

Congress supported a 'Yes' vote because we know from our own experience that when we have a say in the issues and programs that affect us, the outcomes are better. The Voice would have helped to improve the health of our communities, building upon successes we have already achieved.

It would have made Australia a fairer and more inclusive nation. However, despite the millions of Australians who agreed with us and voted 'Yes', the rejection of the place of First Peoples in the nation's rulebook is a setback for Aboriginal people and for the nation as a whole.

Our peoples have faced many

setbacks before.

But we are still here.

Resilience in the face of adversity is part of who we are.

In the face of this result, Aboriginal people – with the support of our non-Indigenous brothers and sisters – will stand strong and support each other as we have always done.

On behalf of our Board of Directors, Congress would like to thank everyone in Central Australia and across the country who voted 'Yes'. It means a lot to us that so many non-Indigenous people chose to stand with us on this issue. We would also like to express our appreciation and respect for the Aboriginal and

Torres Strait Islander delegates who met at Uluru in 2017 and drafted the Uluru Statement from the Heart which first called for the Voice.

Their invitation to the Australian people to recognise our First Nations in the Constitution and give us a Voice was both wise and generous. Initially that invitation was well-received: a year ago, two-thirds of Australians were in favour of the Voice. However, the deliberate strategy of deception and misinformation adopted by prominent 'No' campaigners turned many previously good-willed people against us.

In doing so, they gave permission for racism to run wild.

Given the result of the Referendum and the conduct of the 'No' campaign, there are now serious questions about whether reconciliation is still a viable strategy in Australia.

Nevertheless, one thing remains certain: sooner or later the nation state must deal with the enduring fact of Aboriginal sovereignty.

In the meantime, our struggle for equality, justice and self-determination will continue.

Statement by Central Australian Aboriginal Congress on the result of the Referendum to alter the Constitution to recognise the First Peoples of Australia.

Yes campaign funders issue joint statement

We are saddened by the result of the Referendum, and our hearts and gratitude go out to the inspiring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who led this campaign for many years, and to the First Nations people, families and communities who are deeply impacted by this result. We are grateful to all the advocates for Yes; to the millions of Australians who voted for an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice. In light of the weekend's wounding Referendum result, we reaffirm our ongoing commitment to supporting and advocating for First Nations peoples to have a greater say in the issues and decisions that affect them.

Our group of more than 30 philanthropic foundations banded together to support Constitutional Recognition through establishing a Voice, and this referendum result will strengthen philanthropy's dedication and commitment to ensure First Nations voices are heard.

Philanthropic foundations will continue to work closely with communities, First Nations-led organisations, governments, and each other to help advance community-led, place-based solutions and systemic change to advance First Nations justice and close the gap.

Quotes from a selection of philanthropic funders:

Georgina Byron, CEO, Snow Foundation

"We honour the invitation by First Nations people through the Uluru Statement from the Heart and the many who worked so tirelessly to develop such a generous invitation to all Australians. The best outcomes are achieved when the voices of those affected are at the table – and in the absence of a constitutionally enshrined Voice, we affirm our commitment to strengthening efforts in working alongside First Nations peoples. Our foundation will continue to listen to First Nations people to advance justice and to advocate for better outcomes including the elimination of rheumatic heart disease, a disease that predominately only affects First Nations communities."

Professor Kristy Muir, CEO, Paul Ramsay Foundation

"I feel incredibly disappointed that as a country we have

chosen not to recognise First Nations people in our constitution or give them a constitutional right to a Voice. I feel pain with those who put everything into asking for, championing and supporting this modest request. Philanthropy's support did not begin with this Referendum, nor will it end with this result. Collectively, philanthropy has funded and worked with First Nations-led organisations and social enterprises for many years and worked alongside communities for better outcomes. We will continue our support and are here for the time that social change takes."

Leonard Vary, CEO, The Myer Foundation and Sidney Myer Fund

"We knew that this was going to be a difficult referendum to win but we went into this because it was the right thing to do, not because we thought it would be easy to win. Even though the proposed Constitutional amendment didn't receive majority support, it has started a critical national conversation about the importance of First Nations peoples having a say in the decisions that impact their communities, culture and land."

Jack Heath, CEO, Philanthropy Australia

"The referendum result is deeply disappointing to all who supported the YES case. How must it be for First Nations peoples, especially those who issued the profoundly generous invitation in the Uluru Statement from the Heart? More than ever before, philanthropy needs to work collaboratively with First Nations peoples and their communities. We need to shift power, mobilise resources, improve granting practices, and do all we can to unite the Australian people in a movement towards a better future. Until then, the national project remains unfinished and our soul torn."

Jill Reichstein, Reichstein Foundation

"As funders we know that social change is not linear and meaningful reform often requires decades of advocacy, campaigns and movement building. We remain unwavering in our commitment to supporting advocacy for First Nations justice, which is fundamental to a fair and equal society."

Maree Sidey, CEO

Australian Communities Foundation

"Self-determination is not won or lost based on the outcome of a vote. Our First Nations peoples continue to extend a gracious, generous and powerful invitation to reconciliation in the Statement From the Heart. Millions of Australians have already accepted that invitation, and the work of allyship, truth telling and justice continues."

Sarah Hardy, CEO The Ross Trust

"While we and millions of Australians are disappointed that this opportunity for Constitutional Recognition with a Voice has been missed, the result only deepens our resolve to ensure First Nations communities and voices are heard. Our thoughts are with all First Nations people during this time, acknowledging resilience is tested again."

Paula McLean, Trustee, McLean Foundation

"Our funding to support the Yes campaign was a privilege for our family foundation. The impact of the referendum campaign, that included over 50,000 volunteers, is that it opened up many thousands of new conversations about the needs of First Nations communities. Many were conversations that households and communities around the country had not had before, and that step alone is both a positive and an opportunity as we continue to work with First Nations people."

Tabitha Lovett, CEO, Besen Family Foundation

"The Referendum was a significant and important opportunity for reflection upon Australia's past and the creation of a new and respectful shared future through consultation and action for positive change. We are deeply disappointed that the invitation in the Uluru Statement From the Heart was not supported by the majority, but we will not stop advocating for positive change and supporting First Nations communities to shape policy and decisions that impact on their lives. The Besen Family Foundation is committed to working with First Nations-led organisations, cultural institutions, groups and First Nations artists to ensure their voices are heard and their vision for their future is supported."



Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment: Invitation to Register Interest

Proposed Penrith stadium refurbishment



On behalf of Infrastructure NSW (the proponent), Curio Projects (heritage consultants) are commencing Aboriginal community consultation for a proposed development located at the Penrith Stadium. The study area is shown below. It is located at Mulgoa Road and Ransley Street within the Penrith City Council LGA.

The NSW Government has committed to the refurbishment of the existing Penrith Stadium to support the growing population of Western Sydney and improve sporting infrastructure. The refurbishment will improve existing facilities within the stadium to better cater for existing NRL matches as well as benefit female matches to support the growth of women's sport. The refurbishment of the existing facilities will take place on the site of the current stadium and improve both the visitor and player experience.

The purpose of community consultation with Aboriginal people is to assist the proposed applicant in the preparation of an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (ACHAR) in accordance with the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974, and to assist the NSW Department of Planning and Environment in their consideration and determination of the application.

Community consultation is being undertaken to assist the assessment of cultural significance of the Penrith Stadium study area. This notification is being undertaken in accordance with Section 4.1.2 of the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) and the Aboriginal cultural heritage requirements for proponents 2010.

Curio Projects invite Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects(s) and/or places in the area to register an interest in a process of community consultation.

The proponent can be contacted via tom@gtkconsulting.com.au but contact via Curio is preferred.

Please note that when you register an interest in this project your details will be forwarded to Heritage NSW and Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council, unless you specify that you would not like your details released.

Please forward registrations to Curio Projects no later than 15 November 2023, via phone, email or mail to:

Flo Hastings, Curio Projects
5 Blackfriars Street, Chippendale NSW 2008
consultation@curioprojects.com.au | (02) 8014 9800

The ganbu marra runway

By ALI MC



A SELECTION of stunning First Nations' fashion wowed audiences at ganbu marra runway as part of the annual Melbourne Fashion Week showcases.

Hosted at The Lume and surrounded by multi-level projections and a pulsing soundscape, designers such as Ginny's Girl Gang, Nungala Creative, Clair Helen and Yarrenyty Arltene Artists presented their new lines of work.

Anastasia Keshan, creative director of ganbu marra, told the *Koori Mail* the show has 16 designers – all First Nations – and 34 First Nations models.

"It's all just black, black, black really!" she said.

The Naarm-based creative, who also works with Ikuntji Artists, was instrumental in transforming The Lume projection space at the Melbourne Convention Centre, which has previously hosted exhibitions of the likes of Van Gogh.

This year, the space features the First Nations' exhibition *Connection*, which was reworked for ganbu marra and included vast projections of images by celebrated photographer Wayne Quilliam and a figure-eight runway.

Keshan describes herself as a "little bit of a late bloomer" in the fashion field and said that First Nations people had previously not been represented in the industry.

However, she said the Black Lives Matter movement was an opportunity for "all Mob to stand up and say, 'you know what, I have to be a part of these things'".

"Our image, our culture, it's part of the fabric of the country," she said.

She also said that First Nations models, artists, designers and producers have faced barriers in their profession, and have fought hard to be represented at the highest levels of the industry.



Aunty Joy Wandin-Murphy gives a Welcome to Country.

"I recall in 2021, I wanted to bring on makeup artist, Kaydee Kyle-Taylor from ITHINKSHEAFREAK. And it just wasn't possible.

"I don't know whether the industry wasn't ready, or they just didn't know how to facilitate our needs, or didn't understand the importance of having the correct tone and foundation," she said.

"Once we showed up and showed out, we got invited back the next year, and suddenly these requests are then fulfilled.

"And Kaydee was my lead last year for ganbu marra which then led her on to grow her brand within Melbourne Fashion Week and Australian Fashion Week.

"And then this year, you look and she's the face of the whole Melbourne Fashion Week."

Originally studying for a law degree, Kaydee Kyle-Taylor said she made the decision to pursue her passion for make-up artistry instead.

However, upon enrolling in her degree, she experienced a "lack of diversity" within her training.

"Within my own studies, we spent two hours for the whole year on how to work with darker complexions," she said.

The Lama Lama, Wakka Wakka, Birri Gubba, Ngati Porou

and Ngati Kahungunu artist said the collective efforts from First Nations industry professionals have prompted changes in the industry.

This means that productions such as ganbu marra runway are now a regular and highly regarded event in the Melbourne Fashion Week calendar.

Yet this success has been the result of many years pushing the envelope.

"I had felt so alone at the start, there weren't a lot of black models, there's probably like three I could have named back then," Kyle-Taylor said.

"There weren't really any black artists that were at the level that I wanted to be at. I think it's changed because we've challenged the industry.

"I wasn't really given a spot at the table. So I just created my own table."

Kyle-Taylor's tenacity for pushing boundaries is now seeing her take on a new challenge – moving to New York to pursue her passion, which is now her profession.

"I plan to now expand to New York City and take on the Big Apple," she said.

Twenty-year-old Sene Maluwapi was one of the models



First Nations designer Lazy Girl Lingerie featured on the ganbu marra runway as part of Melbourne Fashion Week.

who featured not only in ganbu marra, but also in the opening of Melbourne Fashion Week.

A full-time model for the last seven years, the proud Malu Kiwai woman of the Samu and Gaidai Clans said the experience of working alongside other First Nations people in the industry remained a highlight.

"Nothing beats the First Nation shows, walking for my people. And for the culture, it is the most surreal experience being able to be a part of the storytelling we're doing," she said.

Maluwapi said that anyone can have the confidence to become a professional model.

"I would tell all my babies: your beautiful is beautiful," she said. "Regardless of what anyone tells you. Shine – put yourself into that space and you will know when you are there."



First Nations designer Clair Helen featured on the ganbu marra runway.



Emily Kame Ngwarreye artwork displayed in The Lume mirror room.

"I wasn't really given a spot at the table. So I just created my own table." – Makeup artist, Kaydee Kyle-Taylor.



Kaydee Kyle-Taylor from ITHINKSHEAFREAK demonstrating correct techniques for make-up artists backstage at ganbu marra runway.

connects our creatives



Sene Maluwapi has been a full-time model for seven years and encourages anyone to have the confidence to follow her path.



First Nations designer Ihraa Swim was part of the annual showcase.



First Nations model Pearl backstage at ganbu marra.



Designer Kamara Australia also featured at ganbu marra runway.



First Nations designer Wa-ring featured on the runway.



The Lume shows projections of photographer Wayne Quilliam's work.



Elverina Johnson x Taking Shape.



First Nations model Tarik having make-up done before hitting the runway.



Bayikina's fashion on the runway.



Jayla Booths models an outfit designed by her grandmother Lillian Wheatley, from Flinders Island.



Janice Ross (Maynard Lowery) models an outfit by Michelle Maynard. It features an image of the mutton bird shed that both Janice's parents and Janice worked in. "It was a deep connection, it wasn't just about modelling clothes," Janice said.

Silk stockings stir memories

By JILLIAN MUNDY



SILK Stockings at the Babel Island Store is more than a fashion runway show – it's an exhibition, a step toward a dream – and a story of kin, culture, country and connection.

Silk Stockings showcases works from a trio of talented Tasmanian Aboriginal designers: Lillian Wheatley, Michelle Maynard and Takira.

The *Koori Mail* spoke with the Elder of the designers, Lillian Wheatley, from Flinders Island, about the exhibition's curious title.

"Babel Island is a mutton birding island, just off Flinders Island. Back in the sixties, maybe earlier, there were forty odd (mutton bird processing) sheds, enough people to warrant a store," she told the *Koori Mail*.

It stocked haberdashery supplies and silk stockings. Women would buy fabrics to make their gowns for end-of-mutton-bird-season balls and dances, and silk stockings.

Mutton birding

Mutton birding, was a predominantly owned and run Aboriginal industry back then, and fully owned Aboriginal industry now. For those involved the pay packet at the end of the annual season is biggest of the year.

"Catching up after birding, it was a big thing," she said.

"The ladies would look just as beautiful as everyone else.

"It was fairly hard back in those days."

She said assimilation policies were still in full swing. The Interstate Hotel in Whitemark on Flinders Island segregated Aboriginal people into a small cubical known as the snake pit.

"They had to fight their way and make their own clothes, we styled up, that was handed down through my mother," she said.

"I don't remember the store, I remember the stories of the stores and that's where Silk Stockings at the Babel Island Store came from.



The family of Carly Spotswood who made her modelling debut at the Silk Stockings at the Babel Island Store Runway Show.

"It is an honouring of all that our old fellas endured, a celebration of them, a celebration of us, as the dignified exquisite people that we are."
– Michelle Maynard

"Michelle also has that connection to Babel Island, so does Takira.

"It's keeping old stories alive and handing them down through generations."

Michelle, who has studied fashion design, and curated the exhibition with former mentor Michelle Boyd, said the title symbolises that time, not so long ago, for island clans and island life.

"It is an acknowledgment of the joy and the love for community and Country through this very racist and oppressive



Flowers for the designer Lillian Wheatley, pictured with her daughter Nindarra Wheatley and grandchildren Lilyana Booth, Jayla Booth and Clay Maynard, who are modelling her outfits.

time for our people, the white Australia policy that tried to change us, to civilise us, to make us worthy," she said.

Honouring

"It is an honouring of all that our old fellas endured, a celebration of them, a celebration of us, as the dignified exquisite people that we are."

Just as exquisite is the exhibition.

Michelle's collection is made from upcycled textiles and features prints of mutton bird sheds.

Lillian's has a 1960s flavour, inspired by Aunties, and her island life and culture, the fabric features bull kelp, limpets and deconstructed symbols that were carved into rock by ancestors thousands of years ago.

Lillian has been an artist for many years, creating traditional and contemporary works with natural and recycled materials.

She was inspired to turn her focus to fashion design after going to the Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair's Country to Couture runway show in 2018.

She has her sights firmly set



Fiona Green models an outfit by Takira Simon-Brown.

on next year's show.

"I came out of there and I said to my Auntie Vicki – ok, we've got to have a collection in this Country to Couture," she said.

Before long an opportunity came up to do a series of intensive textile printing and fashion design workshops led by Michelle Maynard.

Lillian said it was a 'deep dive' – it included researching sustainability, production and properties of textiles, and pattern making.

Hand-crafted

The Silk Stockings outfits feature hand printed and digitally printed textiles, others upcycled, and all patterns designed by the trio.

Lillian, Michelle and Takira also handcrafted all the accessories and the jewellery.

You could say they made most of the runway show models too – their children and grandchildren – others cousins, nieces or close family.

Ranging from 12 to 50 odd years, this was the first time modelling for every one of them. Carly Spotswood (46) reckons she might end up in Paris or Milan yet. (Watch this space!)

Continued on the next page

Continued from previous page:

"Being able to invite in an additional 13 family and community members to share in this experience that celebrates their story, has supported us to share inter-generationally and in a genuine spirit of self-determination," Michelle said.

Her vision is for a local, sustainable, ethical and social model for producing clothes, inspired by Country and expressing family and identity.

Takira, who designed the active wear collection, often feels conflicted with the issues of sustainability and cultural ethics in her artistic practice.

"Doing projects like this brings my attention to the excess in the world and confirms how I want to contribute to sustainability through my creative practice."

"I want to be able to live

and practise in a way that is more beneficial for our future generations, that is more a world connected and honouring Country, sustaining Country for the future as a priority, over building a new building."

In 2022 Michelle Maynard became Manager of Indigenous Fashion Projects with Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair Foundation. The exhibition, a partnership between Design Tasmania and Walantalaniny Palingina, included mentoring from Michelle Boyde, Lisa Waup and Ingrid Verner.

Silk Stockings is the first time Tasmanian First Nations fashion and textile design has been showcased in a dedicated exhibition.

It is at Design Tasmania, in Launceston until December 3, 2023.



Designers and models – aunties, cousins, nieces and nephews, backstage where a gallery in Design Tasmania was sectioned off, moments before the runway show.



Ready to hit the runway in a collection by Michelle Maynard, modelled by her niece Aneeka Dickinson, her children Ziggy and Mae Ganambarr and cousin Janice Ross.



Model Clay Maynard poses at the show.



The designers: Takira Simon-Brown, Lillian Wheatley and Michelle Maynard.



Collection of active wear by Takira Simon-Brown, modelled by Carly Spotswood, Sky Smith, Eve Plank, Talia Smith and Fiona Green.



Tasmanian Aboriginal Arts leader Sinsa Mansell speaks at the runway show.



Excited to see family, community and friends make their modelling debut – model Eve Plank's grandmother Tahana Rimmer and mother Zoe Rimmer, with Denise Robertson, Nathan Pitchford and Darlene Mansell.



Models Eve Plank and Talia Smith on the Silk Stockings runway.



Models on the runway.



Model on the runway.



Bugan Mungan, 9-metre panorama by Melanie Hava.

Culture is thriving in

The proliferation of exhibitions and art shows around the country is a strong indication that First Nations art and culture is alive and well. From small regional galleries that open opportunities for new and emerging talent to develop their art practice, to Indigenous art centres focussed on supporting and promoting their member artists at every level, and the big state and national galleries that showcase First Nations art and artists to national and international audiences, there are so many spaces where our artists continue to grow culture.

Panoramic work inspired grandmother's Country



ARTIST Melanie Hava was born in Mount Isa, Queensland. After spending time in Austria with her father's family she returned to Cairns to be close to her mother's Country where she feels at home and at one with the spirits of the rainforest.

Showing at the Cairns Art Gallery until early next year, *Bugan Mungan* is Hava's response to tracing stories from her grandmother's Country, Waribarra, which holds many special stories shared with her by her grandmother, Doreen.

"Grandma tells of places of old caves deep in the forest. Some were forbidden and others were a refuge from the wild weather (and) of scaling down perilous cliffs with her brothers and sisters and watching large corroborees through the trees at night time..."

"The rainforests are so quiet now that the old ones are no longer with us..."

For this exhibition, Hava has produced a 9-metre rainforest panorama which presents a seemingly untouched view of the Mamu Country south of Cairns.

"I have known from a very young age that I was going to be an artist," Hava said.

"While also being a bookworm and a piano player, art was a world that I frequently retreated into as I grew up.

"I reckon this is because I was deaf and felt I couldn't join in with groups of people. As a teen and



Melanie Hava in her studio. Pictures: Ana Rogers

along with my sister Joelene, we created art on didgeridoos and canvas".

"I want people to look at my work and feel joy – if they're having a bad day and they happen to see my work, that they'd feel a bit better".

Bugan Mungan is proudly

sponsored by the Cairns RSL Club Artist Fellowship grant.

The exhibition is showing at the Cairns Art Gallery until February 18, 2024.

For more information, please visit cairnsartgallery.com.au/whats-on/exhibitions/melanie-hava



Brolgas 2007 by Jeffrey Samuels. Picture: Sharon Hickey

Boomalli presents a powerful creative



The Power of Creativity: My Horizon Line is a new retrospective exhibition of work by artist Jeffrey Samuels, one of the

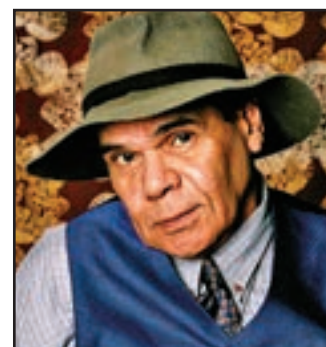
founding members of Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Co-operative.

The exhibition is a celebration of Samuels' artistic practice across four decades, bringing focus to his life as an artist and Stolen Generation member and drawing out what that journey represents, not only for Samuels and his family, but also for the Australian people.

Samuels continues to have an impact on the Aboriginal and Australian art scene, connecting to his culture, mentoring younger artists, staying engaged and active in the LGBTQIA+ community and creating his visual narrative. He demonstrates tenacity in the face of adversity as he works to drive change in this country around racially motivated perceptions and ignorance about what it is to be an Aboriginal artist.

Presented by Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Co-operative and curated by Dr. Bronwyn Bancroft, the exhibition will show key works from major public and private collections including the Art Gallery of NSW, National Art School, City of Sydney, Artbank, Aboriginal Affairs NSW and International Convention Centre Sydney.

The Power of Creativity: My Horizon Line opens at Boomalli in Leichhardt, NSW on Thursday, November 9, and runs until January 27, 2024. For information visit boomalli.com.au



Artist Jeffrey Samuels.



galleries nationwide

Ron Hurley exhibition realises *Wajgan's Return to Country*



A RETROSPECTIVE exhibition of the works of Gooreng Gooreng/Mununjali artist Ron Hurley (1946-2002) is showing at Bundaberg Regional Gallery, on the Country of his matrilineal ancestry – the Bundaberg and Gladstone regions – until November 12.

The exhibition is called *Wajgan's Return* in recognition of Hurley's personal totem Wajgan, the Willy Wag Tail, which Hurley honours in his work along with the totems and stories of the Gooreng Gooreng people, including Gnyala the Owl.

The first Aboriginal person to graduate from the Queensland College of Art, where he studied from 1973 to 1975, Hurley is also recognised as one of the first Aboriginal artists to effectively integrate First Nations and Western art in his practice.

Driven to tell the stories of his family, his people, and his Country, Hurley's passion for producing art resulted in a portfolio of work that demonstrates his talent across media, working in ceramics, painting, sculpture, photography and film. He is also known for his public art, with numerous commissions, lino and screen prints, clothing, jewellery, and even furniture.

Commenting on his art Hurley said, "Traditional Aboriginal art forms have always had their fair share of exposure and promotion. Stereotyping, being what it is,



A retrospective exhibition of the late Gooreng Gooreng/Mununjali artist Ron Hurley is on at Bundaberg Regional Gallery until November 12.



Animal prints by Ron Hurley.

relegated these forms to the realm of kitsch.

"At long last the world is responding in a more positive manner, and traditional art is being looked at in its rightful context. It is the very fibre of our country's imagery.

"The urban Aboriginal situation is the one which captures my imagination, for it is here that one experiences 'limboism', being neither Black or White, so I am told.

"A world of such extreme contrast is the one to which I have learned to respond, survive, and attempt to create in."

Wajgan's Return is curated by Hurley's daughter and champion, Angelina Hurley, and is the first major showing of his work since his passing in 2002.

For more information visit artsbundaberg.com.au/galleries

Exhibitions

The Summer Show

The Summer Show is an annual group exhibition of UMI Arts member artists and is the final exhibition for 2023 in the UMI Arts calendar.

when: November 10, 2023 – February 23, 2024

where: UMI Arts Gallery, Jensen St, Manooro, QLD

information: umiarts.com.au/

Emily Kam Ngwarray: Major Exhibition

when: December 2, 2023 – April 28, 2024.

where: National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, ACT

information: nga.gov.au/whats-on/

Desert Stars

Showing works from a small group of artists from Utopia, a region spanning many thousands of kilometres to the northeast of Alice Springs, as well as artists from the picturesque Harts Range region in the eastern central desert, including Caroline Petrick Ngwarreye, Belinda and Janet Golder, Charmaine Pwerle, Colleen Wallace Nungarrayi and Ada Beasley Pula.

when: Wednesday—Sunday, until Sunday, November 19.

where: Terrace Greenhouse Gallery, South Terrace (Cnr King William St), South Fremantle, WA.

information: artitja.com.au/latest-exhibition/

Yellah Fellah

Curated for OzAsia Festival, this exhibition explores the journey of self-expression by four contemporary artists whose narratives are rooted in their Aboriginal and Chinese heritage and shaped by an Australian upbringing.

when: Oct 19–Nov 5.

where: The Galleries, Festival Theatre Foyer, Adelaide Festival Centre, SA

information: adelaidefestivalcentre.com.au/whats-on/yellah-fellah

48th Katherine Prize

Northern Territory Exhibition and Art Awards Celebrate the artists and works at a reception and awards night on Friday, Nov 3.

when: Nov 3-Dec 22

where: Godinymayin Yijard Rivers Arts and Culture Centre, Katherine, NT

information: gyracc.org.au/whats-on/



Duurunu Miru, Djaadjawan & Gadhu Dancers perform at the Sunset Dance Ceremony, Giiyong Festival 2022. Picture: David Rogers Photography

Yuin Nation welcomes visitors to a celebration



THE Yuin Nation at Jigamy on the NSW south coast is the proud host of the third Giiyong Festival, to be held November 18.

Giiyong means 'come to welcome' in the South Coast languages and the festival welcomes local residents and visitors to join the celebration of traditional and contemporary dance, food and culture, with comedy, music and other activities intended to entertain the entire family.

Comedians Sean Choolburra and Steph Tisdell will MC the event so expect some belly laughs and

rip-roaring yarns.

Festival director Jazz Williams said that the popularity of some of the events in last year's program helped to guide the decisions about this year's talent. "After the massive crowds that came to see Baker Boy and Briggs at previous Giiyong Festivals, it was pretty clear to us that hip-hop and rap really hit a chord on the coast," Williams said.

This year's deadly lineup includes a-listers Radical Son, Emma Donovan, J-MILLA and Eric Avery with local talents Ron Callaghan, Dust 'n' Echoes and the Djinima Yilaga and Mudjingaal Yangamba choirs, along with duo Nikea and Dre, performing across

the day.

Giiyong Festival includes a special speakers program, presentations and demonstrations, as well as the Guganyela Arts & Cultural Market featuring Aboriginal artists and producers from across the state.

Giiyong Festival is supported by South East Arts, Twofold Aboriginal Corporation and Eden Local Aboriginal Land Council.

Tickets are on sale now for this all-ages event. Entry is free to Elders and under-18s – booking for these tickets is recommended as free tickets are limited. Adult tickets are \$35 and are available online along with details of the full program. Visit giiyong.com.au

Circus begets a SON



A NEW show by First Nations-led contemporary circus ensemble Circa Cairns is set to have its world premiere at Queensland Performing Arts Centre's (QPAC) Playhouse this month. *Son* is a bold work about masculinity and the relationships men have.

Ensemble artistic director Harley Mann (Wakka Wakka) Mann said he wanted to make a show that honoured alternative masculinities.

"I've never thought of myself as being masculine but I also don't think I'm not. And this work is about where we inherit masculinity from. How far does the apple fall from the tree?" Mr Mann said.

Inspired by Mann's experiences being raised by a single mother, the show challenges the Western family model. The four male First Nations acrobatic performers combine striking physical feats and tempered cultural dance in a celebration of culture and queerness, while the voices of Central Northern Territory First Nations female quartet, Kardajala Kirridarra, provide a living soundtrack to the show; the women's physical presence on stage providing a balance to the men, serving as a powerful reminder of the connection between Aboriginal women and Country and the importance of women as creators.

Son is co-directed by Mann and award-winning director and lighting designer Alexander Berlage and is showing at QPAC's Playhouse, November 22-25. For bookings and information visit qpac.com.au

Urban BLAKtivation puts culture into Cairns CBD



CAIRNS Indigenous Art Fair's (CIAF) inaugural cultural immersion event Urban Blaktivation drew around 650 people to the Shields Street cultural precinct of Cairns, on

Saturday, October 21. The free, family-friendly event was originally planned for July as a satellite event, signalling the start of the Cairns Indigenous Art Fair festival, but was postponed due to rain.

CIAF's Artistic Director Francoise Lane said the event attracted a good mix of locals and tourists who enjoyed the dance and storytelling performances and artistic illuminations.

"It was also great to see retailers enjoying a boost in trade - many were drawn from their shops to the footpath for a better view of the evening's activities," she said.

"Deaf Indigenous Dance Group (DIDG)

were a big hit with their immersive dance performance, as were the traditional and contemporary dance performances from Gerib Sik Torres Strait Dancers and Miriki Performing Arts.

"A highlight of the Blaktivation program was witnessing the strong audience participation for Meriam's 'sit down dancing' and seeing visitors try some of DIDG's dance moves along with the timely, creative, and culturally responsive poetry by Trinity Clarke.

Urban BLAKtivation provided an engaging and interactive platform for intercultural learning between dance groups and the audience.

Urban BLAKtivation will return next year in July, ahead of CIAF's 15th-anniversary program scheduled for July 25 to 28, 2024.

For more about Urban BLAKtivation and CIAF in 2024 visit ciaf.com.au/



Gerib Sik Torres Strait Dancers' founder and leader Noel Zaro engaged visitors with his storytelling about the myths and legends of Mer (Murray Islands, Torres Strait). Picture: Nathan David Kelly

opinion

Regional artists need to belong

I want to tell you a story that comes from where I belong: Far North Queensland.

In particular, a story about one of the greatest collections of artwork to have come out of our 'renaissance corner' of Queensland, *Belonging/ Stories From Far North Queensland*.

The region's history is rich with pioneers of the Australian and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art movements, including master-ceramicist Dr Thancoupie Gloria Fletcher James AO and artist/story-teller Dick Roughsey, both twentieth-century trailblazers from the north who inspired a new generation of artists. The early ceramic work from Yarrabah also made an impression in the later part of that century.

Since then, for the better part of the past two decades, Far North Queensland has been building on this history to develop a contemporary Indigenous art movement of its own.

Building towards *Belonging*

During this time, the Queensland and Commonwealth governments have made key efforts to grow the artistic and cultural interests of First Nations artists, creative practitioners and lorekeepers.

With the establishment in 2011 of the Indigenous Art Centre Alliance (IACA), the peak body representing and advocating on behalf of Indigenous art centres in the Far North of the state, as well as the Cairns Indigenous Art Fair started in 2009, and with the sector undergoing a vital coming-of-age in its funding and policy space, the movement boomed!

From 2018-2020, IACA leveraged on the extraordinary renown their member art centres and artists had come to enjoy, by rolling out a three-phased series of art workshops and skills development activities across their membership. The strategy was to actively build a body of work towards a major collection, across the art centres. Essentially, IACA and its member art centres spent three years assembling their own survey of artworks and practice, from that point in the history of their movement.

The resulting collection has since been acquired by the National Museum—totalling over 400 pieces. This stands as one of Australia's largest, single acquisitions of art from Queensland, let alone from the state's Far North. This is a major moment in the history of art, but also in the history of Indigenous storytelling; 'decolonising' one of our national institutions. It deserves celebrating!

Due to its immense size, the collection is being shown in three instalments at the National Museum of Australia. The current instalment features works by Aurukun (Wik and Kugu Art Centre), Badu Island (Badu Art Centre), and Cardwell (Girringun Art Centre) artists and is on show until February 2024. So, please, if you do head to Ngunnawal Country



Jack Wilkie-Jans

before then, be sure to visit *Belonging/ Stories From Far North Queensland*.

NGA - watch this space

I recently returned home from a visit to the National Gallery of Australia where I attended their Regional Art Forum. While I was in Canberra, and being from a regional area, it was great to have had the chance to visit the *Belonging* exhibition, having a few months earlier consulted with IACA about a survey I was conducting of their membership's interests and ideas.

At the forum, there was a great deal of discussion about touring the National Collection, which is a key strategy of the Australia Council, newly rebranded as Creative Australia, and our National Cultural Policy. This is coupled with recent moves by the National Gallery of Australia to undergo a process of deaccessioning works from their collection.

How this will influence their Indigenous art collection remains to be seen. The process will be watched closely and could even unearth acquisition methodology and/or provenance records issues, but what I want to point to is the opportunity this represents for regional areas to have artwork currently held by the

My Grandmother's Home by Sheryl May Pamulkan from Wik and Kugu Arts, 2019.

Picture: National Museum of Australia

NGA returned to Country from which it originated or was created. This seems like something that could work, with the gallery saying it is committed to undertaking the deaccessioning process with attention to the integrity of the artists' legacies and the cultural status of works.

This seemingly good news for community art centres and smaller, regional-based museums and galleries may be hard to put into practice, however. Not many spaces have museum-standard conditions, such as temperature control and suitable lighting, and the opportunities for such infrastructure building or upgrading aren't much of a priority in funding streams, current or proposed.

What this means, is that there is an unintended potential for the deaccessioning process of the National Gallery to be inequitable across regional Australia. So too, there may be challenges for touring the *Belonging* exhibition, or any others for that matter, arising from the same issues around infrastructure standards in regional and remote communities. Though, one hopes that the value of touring an exceptional showcase like *Belonging*, nationally or internationally, would draw funding and other support, such that a tour would be feasible.

What can be argued is for more cohesion between strategy and desired outcomes so that when they are achieved, outcomes are tangible and recognisable. And we need more investment in the touring viability of our regional art spaces, so that stories like those of *Belonging* may continue to be told and shared across Australia.

Find out more about *Belonging: Stories From Far North Queensland*, the artists and art centres featured at nma.gov.au/exhibitions/belonging

● Jack Wilkie-Jans is a columnist for the Koori Mail, based in Cairns/Gimuy.



The 2023 Australasian Institute for Maritime Archaeology Photo Competition, Indigenous category, winning photograph, taken by Monero/Yuin Elder Aileen Mongta/Blackburn of Cann River.



Monero/Yuin sisters Aileen Blackburn and Dawn Mongta are keeping their culture is strong.

Winning photo is a sister-act



MONERO/Yuin Elder, Aileen Mongta/Blackburn, of Cann River is the winner of the specialist review panel of the 2023 Australasian Institute for Maritime Archaeology Photo Competition.

Her photograph of Monero/Yuin woman Dawn Mongta's traditional weaving pieces (pictured top) took out the First Nations Maritime Archaeology category in the competition.

The photograph features a natural fibre fishing and prawning net lying alongside a handwoven mat, both created by Aileen's sister Dawn, using traditional weaving techniques.

The pieces show the close ties between water and land, and the salt and freshwater net is a part of 'Dawnies Personal Belongings' exhibition set.

The detail of the photograph shows Dawn's highly practised weaving skill as well as her knowledge of the traditional use of local bush, water reeds and fibres.

Dawn's (and Aileen's) family have long camped, fished, prawned and underwater-dived the eastern coastline, especially for muttonfish, gathering shells and keeping their ocean traditions alive.

Aileen Mongta/Blackburn was presented with a certificate for her winning photograph at the 2023 AIMA-International Conference for Underwater Cultural Heritage, with the theme: 'Connected By Water', in September this year where she was also presenting a session about her fresh-water culture.

event listings

NEW SOUTH WALES

Thelma Plum
(headlining *Rock for Land Rights Concert*)
when: Saturday, Nov 4
where: Parramatta Park, Parramatta
info/bookings:
alc.org.au/rock-for-land-rights-concert/

Naminapu Maymuru-White: Bungul Gäraknura – Dancing in the Sky
and
Marrnyula Mununggurr: Ganybu – Fishtraps of Wandawuy

when: both exhibitions run until Saturday, November 11, 2023.

where: Sullivan+Strumpf Sydney, Elizabeth Street, Zetland

info/bookings:
sullivanstrumpf.com/exhibitions/current

The Power of Creativity: My Horizon Line

A retrospective of work by Jeffrey Samuels

when: Nov 9, 2023 - January 27, 2024

where: Flood St, Leichhardt
info/bookings:
boomalli.com.au/

Miwatj Yolŋu – Sunrise People

Engage with First Nations artists and leaders in the cultural sector at this curated program of talks, workshops and performances.

when: until 11 February, 2024

opening event: Saturday 4 – Sunday 5, November

where: Bundanoon, Shoalhaven.

info/bookings: Bookings are required for some events on the opening weekend.

For info, full program and to book go to bundanon.com.au/miwatj-yolnu

Flow

NORPA Theatre Company

when: Nov 16-17

where: Maclean Showground Yaegl Country

and

when: Nov 23-25

where: The Quad (Lismore), Wadjabul Wia-bul Country

info/booking: free event, bookings essential
norpa.org.au/events/flow-2023/

Cyril Knox Art Prize exhibition

when: from Nov 18–24

where: The Crossing Theatre, Narrabri.

info/bookings:
crossingtheatre.com.au/

Giiyong Festival

when: Nov 18

where: 'Jigamy' between Pambula and Eden

DanceRites

when: Nov 25-26

where: SOH

info/bookings: free event
sydneyoperahouse.com/dancerites

SandSong: Stories from the Great Sandy Desert
Bangarra Dance Theatre

when: Dec 5, 2023, 2023

where: Orange Civic

Theatre,
Wiradjuri Country
and

when: Dec 8-9

where: Glasshouse, Point Macquarie, Birpai Country

info/bookings:
bangarra.com.au

QUEENSLAND

Waru – journey of the small turtle

BangarraDance Theatre

when: Nov 3

where: Cairns Performing Arts Centre, Gimuy Walubara Yidinji.

info/bookings: Tickets selling fast. See details and tickets at bangarra.com.au/products/waru-journey-of-the-small-turtle/

Keely

The proud Gubbi Gubbi, Gooreng Gooreng and South Sea Island woman is one of the acts booked to perform on the Mob Music Stage, at the Clancestry Festival.

when: Saturday, Nov 11 at 6pm.

where: Mob Music Stage, Clancestry Festival, QPAC

info/bookings: for Clancestry Mob Music Stage line-up, visit atqp.ac/MobMusicStage23

Clancestry Festival

when: Nov 8-12

where: Queensland Performing Arts Centre (QPAC),

info/bookings:
qpac.com.au/clancestry

Wajgan's Return: Ron Hurley (1946 - 2002)

Curated by Angelina Hurley.

when: until November 12, daily from 9:30 - 17:00

where: Bundaberg Regional Art Gallery, Barolin Street, Bundaberg

info/bookings: Free entry

SandSong: Stories from the Great Sandy Desert

when: Nov 3-4, 2023

where: HOTA (Home of the Arts), Gold Coast, Kombumerri Country and

when: Nov 8

where: Empire Theatre, Toowoomba, Giabal and Jarowair Country and

when: Nov 22, 2023

where: Townsville Civic Theatre, Gurambilbarra and

when: Nov 29, 2023

where: Pilbeam Theatre, Rockhampton, Darumbal Country

info/bookings:
bangarra.com.au

Son

Circa Cairns (First Nations-led circus)

when: Nov 22-25

where: Playhouse, Queensland Performing Arts Centre (QPAC)

info/bookings:
qpac.com.au/

Mare Amoris/Sea of Love

An exhibition that brings the preciousness of our Sea Country and waterways to the fore.

Showing off in summer



THE Summer Show is the final exhibition for UMI Arts, a peak arts and cultural organisation for Far North Queensland.

Featuring 45 artworks in various mediums including a line of polymer bead jewellery, the exhibition will open with a smoking ceremony and Welcome to Country by Henry Fourmile on Friday, November 10, from 6 pm. UMI Arts' Exhibition Officer Robyne Pacey said *The Summer Show* is a timely exhibition in the lead-up to Christmas, with fine art and giftwares created by the organisation's talented member artists available to purchase.

"The artists who created this vibrant show of works were asked to draw inspiration from the far northern summer and dynamic, electrical energy of the tropics. They have done that wholeheartedly; many have bravely experimented with new techniques and styles," she said.

The Summer Show is an annual event, this year showcasing the work of 19 First Nations artists.

The exhibition is showing at UMI Arts Gallery, Manoora in Queensland from November 10, 2023 until February 23, 2024. For more information visit umiarts.com.au/



Grevillea by Connie Rovina. Picture: Colyn Huber of Lovegreen Photography

when: until Jan 20 2024
where: UQ Art Museum, UQ

St Lucia

info/bookings: art-museum.uq.edu.au/mare-amoris-sea-love

TASMANIA

'Invitation to milaythina kani'

by Jillian Mundy

when: until Dec 9, 2023.

where: FIRST SPACE at Sawtooth ARI Gallery, Launceston

info/bookings:
sawtoothari.com/upcoming

Silk Stockings

A project partnership between Design Tasmania and Walantanalinany Palingina, the first of its kind, the project aims to nurture and promote First Nations design and making in traditional and contemporary contexts.

when: until December 3

where: Babel Island Store, Babel Island

info/bookings:
designtasmania.com.au/programs/silk-stockings

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Yellah Fellah

This exhibition explores the complex journey of self-expression by four distinctive contemporary Indigenous artists, whose work is shaped by their Aboriginal and Chinese heritage and their upbringing in Australia.

when: until Nov 5

where: The Galleries, Festival theatre Foyer

info/bookings: free event
adelaidefestivalcentre.com.au/whats-on/yellah-fellah

Vincent Namatjira: Australia in colour

when: until Jan 2024

where: Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide

info/bookings:
agsa.sa.gov.au/

Tarnanthi Festival

when: until Jan 21, 2024

where: Art Gallery of SA, Adelaide

info/bookings: free entry

agsa.sa.gov.au/whats-on/tarnanthi/tarnanthi-2023/

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

48th Katherine Prize

Northern Territory Exhibition and Art Awards

Celebrate the artists and works at a reception and awards night on Friday, Nov 3.

when: Nov 3-Dec 22

where: Godinymayin Yijard Rivers Arts and Culture Centre, Katherine, NT

information:
gyracc.org.au/whats-on/

Emily Kam Kngwarray

when: Dec 2, 2023 until April 28, 2024

where: National Gallery of Australia, Canberra

info/bookings:
nga.gov.au/exhibitions/emily-kam-kngwarray/

NORTHERN TERRITORY

Courage, Alice Beat 2023

(music)
Showcasing the creativity, passion, teamwork and talent of young people from local and remote schools in the Alice and Barkly regions.

when: Nov 2, 7-8.30pm

where: Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs

info/bookings:
araluenartscentre.nt.gov.au/whats-on/alice-beat-2023

Waru – journey of the small turtle

Bangarra Dance Theatre

when: Nov 9-10

where: Darwin Entertainment Centre, Garramilla.

info/bookings: Tickets selling fast. See details and tickets at bangarra.com.au/production/s/waru-journey-of-the-small-turtle/

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Desert Stars

Showing works from a

small group of artists from Utopia, a region spanning many thousands of kilometres to the northeast of Alice Springs, as well as artists from the picturesque Harts Range region in the eastern central desert, including Caroline Petrick Kngwarreye, Belinda and Janet Golder, Charmaine Pwerle, Colleen Wallace Nungarrayi and Ada Beasley Pula.

when: Wednesday—

Sunday, until Sunday, November 19.

where: Artitja Fine Art Gallery, Terrace Greenhouse Gallery, South Terrace (Cnr King William St), South Fremantle, WA.

info/bookings:
artitja.com.au/latest-exhibition/

First Lights – Kooranup

First Lights, Fremantle Biennale's acclaimed drone light and sound experience, returns in 2023 with *Kooranup*, a sequel to the stories shared through Moombaki in 2021.

The display of light, movement and sound will transform the night sky with 160 drones taking flight over the stage of the bilya (river) and warden (ocean).

when: Friday, Nov 3 and Saturday, Nov 4 at 7.30pm

where: Walyalup (Bathers Beach, Fremantle) and

when: Friday, Nov 10 and Saturday, Nov 11

where: Dyoondalup (Attadale Reserve, Attadale) at 7.30pm

and

when: Friday, Nov 17 and Saturday, Nov 18 at 7.30pm

where: Wadjemup (Army Groyne, Rottne Island) Kooranup at Wadjemup event is free to attend but due to limited capacity, registration is essential.

info/bookings:
fremantlebiennale.com.au/project/first-lights-kooranup/

WOOLAH!

Yirra Yaakin Theatre Company

where: Main Auditorium, Subiaco Arts Centre

when: November 16-19, evening and matinee performances

info/bookings: Recommended for ages 15+, contains coarse language and adult themes.

Tickets selling fast, to book visit yirrayaakin.com.au/production/woolah/

Aboriginal 2023 Performance

Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA)

when: Nov 9-15, 7.30pm

where: Enright Studio, Mount Lawley (WAAPA)

info/bookings: tickets from \$23.

For information phone (08) 6304 6895 or email waapaboxoffice@ecu.edu.au

VICTORIA

A Daylight Connection Double-bill

Whose Gonna Love 'Em? I am that I AM

when: Nov 22- Dec 3

where: Tower, The Malthouse, Southbank

and

Chase

when: Nov 22- Dec 3

where: Beckett Theatre, The Malthouse, Southbank.

info/bookings:
malthousetheatre.com.au

The Soils Project:

A collaboration between TarraWarra Museum of Art, the Van Abbemuseum, and Struggles for Sovereignty.

when: until Nov 12

where: TarraWarra Museum of Art, Wurundjeri Country

info/bookings:
twma.com.au/



Bush mint (*Mentha australis*) growing in the bush foods garden.



Quandong (*Santalum acuminatum*) fruit, cut up ready for cooking to make jam.



Sweet appleberry (*Billardiera cymose*) fruit, tastes like apple and aniseed.



Midyim berry (*Austromyrtus dulcis*) beginning to fruit, a blueberry like fruit.

Bush foods garden grows culture



A BUSH foods garden cultivated in the heart of Barngala Country is hoping to grow cultural

connectedness among young Aboriginal people.

The idea for the garden came from members of the Aboriginal community in Whyalla, who worked with University of South Australia researchers and the South Australian Department for Education.

Together, they will design and deliver a bush foods 'ROOTS' program which will highlight the health benefits of connecting to culture and cultural practices, by using garden-based activities to educate and build knowledge.

The local early childhood and family centre Gabmididi Manoo

and the Aboriginal Women's Yarning Group are current custodians and hosts of the bush foods garden and the ROOTS program.

UniSA Aboriginal allied health and nutrition expert, Michael Watkins said "it's vital that we draw upon the strengths and capacity of the Aboriginal community, Elders, and leaders – they are the experts, they know the answers, and they understand how the project needs to be done".

"By weaving together Aboriginal and Western ways of research we're hoping for impactful outcomes which will not only benefit Aboriginal people but the community as a whole."

The initiative has received a \$500,000 Indigenous Health Research Grant from the Medical



Fresh muntries (*Kunzea pomifera*) fruit tastes like a spicy apple yet delicious.

Research Future Fund to advance the work.

Mr Watkins said "cultural

connectedness is a protective factor for Aboriginal children and young teenagers".

"While bush foods and cultural food knowledges are widely promoted as having a positive impact on Aboriginal health, there is a lack of evidence to support outcomes and feasibility in an urban setting," he said.

"The bush foods garden uses food-based activities to encourage cultural exchanges, nurture traditional knowledge of bush foods, cooking and medicines, and revitalise Aboriginal culture and cultural practices.

"By supporting Aboriginal young people to learn more about traditional practices, we hope to extend their life trajectory by building cultural identity, wellbeing and resilience, and strengthen

their sense of empowerment, connectedness, and engagement with learning."

The program incorporates sharing bush food cultural knowledges in the garden and on Country; exchange between young people, families, Elders, and cultural and language groups; cooking with bush foods; social events, preparing bush medicine; identifying, propagating, planting, and harvesting bush foods; nutrition activities; artworks; and educational resources.

The team is now working with Aboriginal partners and the Hincks Ave Primary School to embed the bush foods garden program into the school curriculum, where it will be delivered by local community members and Elders.

The heart-disease mystery

Our Mob set to tackle why Rheumatic Heart Disease is still a major problem



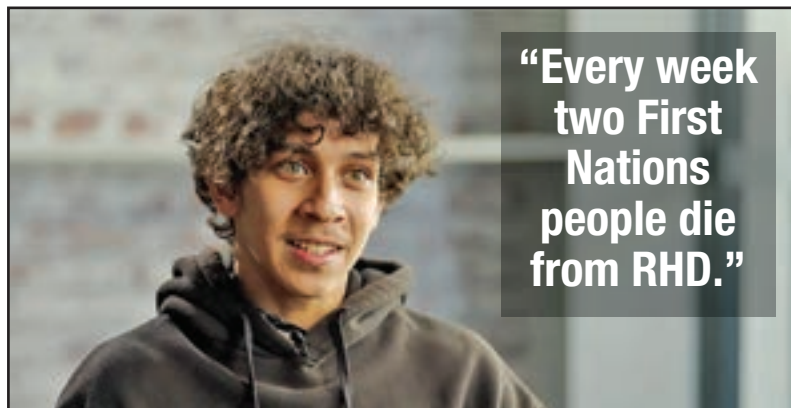
TWO young First Nations people will lead an Australian delegation to the World Congress on Rheumatic Heart Disease (RHD) next month. Kenya McAdam, 27, and Henrique Thomas, 20, are Heart Foundation Champions4Change hope to improve awareness of the disease and its shocking impact on young First Nations peoples.

Champions4Change is a program led by the Heart Foundation's First Nations Heart Health team which aims to empower First Nations people with lived experience of RHD to raise awareness, educate, inform and inspire action on RHD.

RHD is a condition that damages heart valves and can lead to premature death if left untreated. Tragically in Australia, three out of four diagnoses of RHD and the rheumatic fever which causes it are among First Nations peoples. And every week two First Nations people die from RHD.

Kenya and Henrique are being sponsored by the Heart Foundation and two philanthropic organisations, the Snow Foundation and Red Dawn, to attend the World Heart Federation's World Congress on Rheumatic Heart Disease in Abu Dhabi from November 1 to 5.

They will be leading a delegation of 78 Australian RHD and First Nations experts



"Every week two First Nations people die from RHD."



Henrique Thomas and Kenya McAdam are headed to the World Congress on RHD as Heart Foundation Champions4Change.

with the goal of raising awareness of how RHD – despite being wiped out in urban areas – continues to be a challenge in remote First Nations communities.

The pair – who have not left Australia before – are passionate about sharing their personal stories of living with RHD and making a case for the support needed to help community-led efforts end RHD in Australia.

"Most Australians believe heart disease is something that gets you in old age," said First Nations Health Lead and Noongar woman, Vicki Wade.

"But as our young champions will tell you,

rheumatic heart disease is tragically a serious health concern for First Nations people including those at much younger ages. Our children are being diagnosed as early as three years old."

Heart Foundation CEO David Lloyd commended the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation (NACCHO) for its recent appointment as the lead agency of Australia's rheumatic fever strategy.

He said community-led efforts were the key, and in many cases were already having an impact.

"RHD needs more attention from

Australians because the rheumatic fever strategy has the answers, we just need to generate a better understanding of what it is, why it exists, and how easy it is to solve – if we wish," Mr Lloyd said.

"We are rapt at the Heart Foundation to be working closely with NACCHO to improve the heart health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

"It is our hope that through this strong approach to self-determination that Australia finally achieves its goal of eradicating RHD in Australia by 2031.

"The well-being of future generations depends on it."

The Goolum Goolum Mob do the Strength and Connection Walk at the recent HAND UP event.



Our Mob talks mental health



WHEN the Goolum Goolum Aboriginal Co-operative held the HAND UP event at Horsham Soundshell recently, it was an extraordinary display of cultural resilience and unity.

With the theme of 'Healthy Mind, Healthy Body', 200 community members came together to inspire and uplift each other.

Attendees were treated to a day of speakers, engaging workshops and performances.

Goolum Goolum general manager Johnny Gorton said he was elated at the overwhelming success of the event.

"This has been a remarkable celebration of cultural resilience, unity, and the essential connection between a healthy mind and a healthy body," he said.

"Seeing people come together to support one another and share their stories was truly inspiring. It's a testament to the strength that resides within our community."

The event featured a lineup of



Pictured left: The Chunky Move dancers at HAND UP. Pictured right: Didgeridoo Player Farren Branson plays at the HAND UP event.



exceptional speakers and activities, including emcee Kevin Kropinyeri who had the crowd in stitches with his comedic talent, as he promoted the vital connection between humour and mental well-being.

Aunty Titta Secombe led a hands-on workshop on making Marngrook (game ball), promoting physical activity and reconnecting attendees with traditional Aboriginal

games as part of a healthy lifestyle.

The event showcased performances by Chunky Move Dancers, Ngangkari Healers, Indigenous Suicide Postvention Advocate Dennis Atkinson, and Jamie and Kim's Mobile Zoo, highlighting the holistic nature of health and wellness.

Barengi Gadjin Land Council opened the event with a traditional

Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony, setting the tone for the day and emphasising the importance of a healthy connection to the land and culture.

The Hand Up event succeeded in its mission to raise awareness about mental health and the interconnectedness of mental well-being and physical health within the Aboriginal and Torres Strait

Islander community.

It provided a safe space for individuals to share their experiences and seek support when needed.

"We are immensely proud of the success of the Hand Up Event and we look forward to building on this momentum and continuing to inspire hope and positive change," Johnny said.

John kicks the durries

By ALF WILSON



JOHN Barsa has a new lease of life since he's given up smoking. Now, at age 59, he said he has never felt healthier in his life.

From his teens to his forties, John said he smoked heavily and started to feel very unhealthy on a regular basis.

So in 2011, the proud Torres Strait Islander man of Mer descent decided to quit and hasn't had a smoke since.

"It has been 12 years since I had a smoke and I feel so much better and am living life to the fullest," John said.

John looks forward to celebrating his 60th birthday next year. He has lived in Townsville for 30 years and now wants to educate youngsters and adults that smoking is not good for your health in

the long term.

"Not only has my lifestyle improved but I have saved heaps of money over the years – it's a lot of money as smokes cost heaps and the price is going up all the time," he said.

Not only has John quit the durries, but he also doesn't drink alcohol – even though he regularly goes to the Kirwan Sports Club near where he lives.

"I drink soft drink or water, but still enjoy going down the club and meeting lots of people," he said.

The *Koori Mail* caught up with John when he was doing some shopping at Woolworths Parkside supermarket.

On his head was a cap with a screen-printed Torres Strait Islander flag.

When asked if he ever felt like a cigarette when people near him were having a puff (and the smoke was around him) he answered:

"No I never feel like a smoke these days and I am so happy".

John is a football follower and was preparing for the upcoming grand final between the Penrith Panthers and Brisbane Broncos.

"I think Penrith will win because they have many players who have experienced grand finals whilst the Broncos only have a couple," he said.

He was right because the Panthers won a cliffhanger final 26-24.

Quietly spoken John also is part of a vibrant Mer Island community in Townsville.

"I keep in touch with relatives on Mer and around the Torres Strait a lot on the phone and get up there regularly. I hope to get back up there soon," he said.

To keep up with what is going on up in the TSI, John likes to read the *Koori Mail* and Torres Strait newspapers.





Future First Nations lawyers graduate from the new program.

Graduates step into law



A NSW program to increase the number of Aboriginal people working in the law has seen its first students graduate.

In the Aboriginal Legal Career Pathways Program, 18 students recently graduated after completing both a legal services qualification and work experience at Legal Aid NSW.

The program is a partnership between Legal Aid NSW, TAFE NSW, and Macquarie University, in which students take a path from TAFE study to a law degree while working in a support role at Legal Aid NSW.

Legal Aid NSW child executive Monique

Hitter said the program would improve the legal sector for First Nations people, including for the 23% of Legal Aid clients who are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

"I cannot overstate the potential this has for us to better serve our Aboriginal clients and to elevate Aboriginal voices in the justice system," she said.

After graduating, participants can continue to a Graduate Certificate of Law at Macquarie University, followed by a Juris Doctor degree if they choose, supported by a full scholarship from the Macquarie University Law School.

Program graduate and Gadigal woman Simone Roberts, 41, is planning to continue through the program pathway to become a solicitor.

"Many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have been in trouble with the law and if I can prevent that and help by defending them and helping them know their rights then that's really great," she said.

The program, recently named a finalist in the Premier's Awards, is aimed at addressing Aboriginal under-representation in the sector, with research suggesting only 0.8% of solicitors in Australia identified as First Nations.

Yuin and Bidjigal woman Kimberley Wilson is a director at Aboriginal Services, Legal Aid NSW. She said the program is about supporting Aboriginal career opportunities.

"The program empowers Indigenous

people to access employment pathways, education and training, that aligns with their aspirations... this is a key priority as part of Closing the Gap," she said.

TAFE NSW chief delivery officer Janet Schorer said the program was customised so it was accessible and relevant to learners.

"It's inspiring to see this cohort are one step closer to reaching their goals and making a difference in the legal sector and the community," Ms Schorer said.

"Initiatives like the Aboriginal Legal Career Pathways program are a great way to transition from education and training into employment, and tailor graduate's skills and experience to meet employer's needs."

Hawkesbury kids learn our culture



IT was all about culture for more than 100 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students at the recent

Hawkesbury Immersion Day – when Uncle Brendan Moore taught them about bush tucker, traditional dance and plants.

"This is something Aboriginal people have been doing for thousands of years," Uncle Brendan said.

"Our culture isn't alive unless we're practising it and passing it on," he said. "So what we witnessed today is our younger generation going through a smoking ceremony and understanding the reasons why they do it."

"They took control of that by grabbing a leaf, putting it in for smoking and welcoming themselves. It's a very powerful thing to do that culturally, but also within themselves."

The students were from four Catholic Schools Parramatta Diocese (CSPD) schools and had come together at Bede Polding College, Windsor, in Sydney.

Primary students from St Monica's Primary Richmond, Chisholm Catholic Primary, Bligh



Indigenous students unite for Hawkesbury Immersion Day and together learn about traditional culture.

Park and St Matthew's Primary, Winsor took part in cultural activities including art, dance, weaving, storytelling from the Dreaming along with a bush tucker and didgeridoo presentation.

Every student contributed to four large canvas murals based on the common theme of The Dyarubbin (the Nepean/Hawkesbury River system) and each school took ownership of one

of the artworks to take back to their communities. The workshops were led by Jarara Cultural Centre, including youth officers Ayoola Shogunle and Taleishah Councillor. Year 12 student Maddison

Rodwell said "to have this experience in the Hawkesbury is so amazing, including a smoking ceremony with Uncle John (Hunter)".

"All the Uncles and Aunties passing on their knowledge through the generations has been really beautiful," she said.

Chisholm Catholic Primary student Corben Taylor said "we have had so much fun".

"I'm so glad that I get to share my culture with other students from different schools," Corben said. "Today was the best day of my life."

St Monica's student Nicholas Suter said "I liked hearing about all the Aboriginal spirits and symbols which Auntie Julie told us about. And the bush tucker and dancing with Uncle Brendan was also great".

Bede Polding principal Mark Compton said cultural immersion as a learning activity provides students with the opportunity to experience another culture in a safe and accessible way and that he was proud to see the cluster of Hawkesbury schools supporting young Indigenous people.

"To see young people and the joy and enthusiasm with which they're embracing the day is heartwarming," he said.

New seltzers fizz into life

By PETER ARGENT



RIGBY Barnes is a proud Guugu Yimithirr and Birri Gubba man with family connections to Eastern and Central Arrernte peoples. Based in South Australia, Rigby has a Masters of Business Administration (MBA) and is launching the second of his own brands.

To compliment his business Gangurru Apparel, Barnes will be launching the Gangurru Seltzer "ready to drink" brand.

The "ready to drink" seltzer market – alcoholic or hard seltzers as they are known – are a large part of the current beverage market both in Australia and overseas. The drink category has exploded locally in the past three years, boosted by consumers' desire to try new flavours.

The brand name "Gangurru" has a strong family connection, and comes from the Guugu Yimithirr word for kangaroo.

This language was one of Australia's first recorded, and it's also the language of Rigby's grandfather Hans Pearson and his uncle, prominent Indigenous leader Noel Pearson.

As a clan Elder, Pearson gave Rigby permission for the use of the name.

Barnes has many of his grandfather's traits including a want to see the best opportunities for his people.

Pearson is noted for his fight against the Queensland Government for the reparation of decades of unpaid wages to First Nations people.

The government settled the case in 2019, saying it was an



Rigby Barnes is ready to launch his new Gangurru Seltzer "ready to drink" brand.

"important day in rebuilding the relationship with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders".

Barnes is a man of many talents, a family man, a father with his strong work ethic, having just completed his MBA, along with being an accomplished sportsman, who played SANFL league football with South Adelaide and donned the red, gold and blue for his state at representative country level.

Having launched his dynamic clothing brand back in 2020, while still busily working on his MBA, Rigby Barnes saw an opportunity in the Australian

seltzer market, and he's keen to use it to increase opportunities for the Indigenous community and food producers.

"My larger vision is to offer a range of different beverages, including seltzer, utilising Australian native plants to build opportunities for Aboriginal people and for me to do more work in economic development," Barnes explained.

"What I'd like to do, and especially what I've been endeavouring to do with the apparel, is build up the businesses to where I can employ more Aboriginal people.

"The three years running

Gangurru Apparel put me in good stead for the seltzer business.

"I've seen the growth and development of the apparel business, especially over the last 18 months, and the size it has reached in such a short time.

"For the past year I've been planning these seltzers, with the native river mint and watermelon and the native lime and strawberry as the first two flavours."

Getting his degree has played a role in his business life and confidence to attack new opportunities.

"The MBA has been a positive

impact on my personal and business growth since 2019," he continued. "I honestly believe the sky's the limit."

Barnes' initial plan was to sell exclusively online before moving into a small selection of retailers. His sights are set on the events and festivals market as well, looking to tap into them and connect with consumers interstate and overseas.

Barnes has been working with First Nations communities since 2008.

For the past three years, Barnes has been working with the Tjindu Foundation delivering cultural awareness training.

This included presenting to government bodies, NGOs and corporates, such as mining companies, along with being involved in the foundation's Aboriginal AFL Academy.

Initially accepted into the Adelaide Business School's Executive MBA program on the back of his professional experience, he explained the teachings in micro and macroeconomics, along with the finance and accounting courses, were very beneficial.

"It's nice to have a degree behind you, a bit of paper, but I feel the commitment and the knowledge that I got from the course served to substantiate what I thought," he said.

"When you're doing group assignments or discussions, everyone is bringing their own perspective, so it's always positive.

"There were other Aboriginal students who I studied with, and I found that really positive.

"We're trying to build up our community to have significantly more opportunities, agency and successes in future generations."

New partnership program creates more opportunities



ABORIGINAL businesses and organisations will have new opportunities to develop economic and employment opportunities, through the \$14.6 million Regional Aboriginal Partnerships Program (RAPP).

The Department of Regional NSW is supporting the program, which is delivered by a network of Aboriginal staff living and working on Country with community.

The program will employ Aboriginal Partnership Managers to connect communities with training programs and potential employers.

It will also provide Aboriginal businesses and organisations across regional NSW with advice about expanding and growing their operations, new employment and training pathways, as well as establishing economic independence

in a culturally strong and safe way.

The program will also work with young people, schools and organisations to support more meaningful, stable training and employment outcomes.

Initiatives within the program are planned and co-designed through community consultation, collaboration and partnership with both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal organisations to align with community aspirations for securing their own prosperity toward economic self-determination.

RAPP is the lead regional-focused program to support outcomes under the NSW Closing the Gap Priority Reform 5, which seeks to empower Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people within NSW to access pathways through education, training, employment and business support to reach their aspirations.

For more information about the RAPP, visit nsw.gov.au/RAPP

Ironbark set to soar



IN this year's Executive of the Year Awards, the chief executive of Ironbark Aboriginal Corporation is holding his head up proud.

Shaun Pearce was selected as a finalist in the Not-For-Profit category of the annual awards which recognise exceptional managers who have demonstrated inspirational leadership and made significant contributions to their respective industries during the past year.

Pearce has served as the chief executive of Ironbark Aboriginal Corporation for an impressive eight years, during which he has exhibited unwavering dedication to the organisation's mission of improving lives and transforming Aboriginal communities through employment, advocacy and economic opportunities.

His commitment to positive change has earned him a place among the distinguished finalists from various sectors around Australia.

The 2023 Executive of the Year Awards will take place on November 16, at The Star in Sydney, featuring TV personality Larry Emdur as the Master of Ceremonies.

The awards ceremony offers finalists and attendees the opportunity to celebrate excellence in leadership, network with industry luminaries and gain inspiration from accomplished keynote speakers.

Mr Pearce said "I am honoured to be named



Ironbark Aboriginal Corporation chief executive Shaun Pearce.

a finalist in the 2023 Executive of the Year Awards".

"Its recognition reflects the incredible dedication of the Ironbark Aboriginal Corporation team and our vision of changing lives one story at a time," he said.

Notably, this nomination follows Pearce's recognition as a finalist in the 2022 Executive of the Year Awards, highlighting his consistent and unwavering commitment to driving positive change within the Not-For-Profit sector.

Employment

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Junior rangers to grow



NEW Learning on Country and Junior Ranger programs will support young people in Central

Australian communities to stay engaged with education and training, as part of the Australian Government's \$250 million plan for A Better, Safer Future for Central Australia.

Students in Ti Tree, Santa Teresa, Papunya and surrounding areas, where school attendance is low, will be offered opportunities to connect with Country and culture, while learning valuable skills from local Indigenous Rangers.

On-Country, culturally-led learning aims to better engage and retain young people at school and help Close the Gap in education, employment and life outcomes.

From cultural and heritage camps, to traditional medicine and native wildlife programs; Aboriginal students will learn traditional ways to care for Country from local Indigenous rangers.

The programs will not only encourage First Nations young people to finish school – there's also potential for vocational training and pathways to real jobs.

The Government's \$3.6 million investment in prioritising students in Ti Tree, Santa Teresa, Papunya and surrounds is based on advice from community stakeholders, the Northern Territory Government, the Office of the Central Australian Regional Controller and the recently-established Central Australia Plan Aboriginal Leadership Group.

In all three communities, consultations are underway with First Nations families, leaders, community groups, schools and young people to ensure Central Australia's first Junior Ranger and on-Country programs achieve the best possible results.

Federal Minister for Indigenous Australians Linda Burney said the program was about supporting Indigenous students to thrive, with culturally-



Remote community members picking up vital skills to care for Country in Kakadu National Park, Northern Territory.

led and locally-designed on-Country learning activities, taught by Indigenous Ranger groups.

"Ti Tree, Santa Teresa and Papunya and surrounding areas were selected based on advice from First Nations communities in Central Australia to make sure this \$3.6 million investment is delivered where it's needed most," she said.

"By integrating culture and Country into the school curriculum, First Nations students in Central Australia will be more engaged at school and get the opportunity to reach their full potential."

Member for Lingiari, Marion Scrymgour also welcomed

the program.

"When I travel around my electorate the number one issue people have raised with me is employment and creating a future for our young people. The status quo is not working for our remote communities," she said.

"Junior Rangers are an important employment pathway for young people – but they also play a critical role in keeping young people in school, getting people out on Country to learn, protecting and managing our environment and help develop important vocation skills.

"These new ranger programs highlight our commitment to getting jobs back into remote communities and helping to

support our young people in remote communities."

Papunya Community Leader Terrence Abbott said the program would help young people.

"For our young people here, they need motivation because when it comes to school – they go and then they don't go. We want our kids to go to school and we need help getting kids to class, not just for one day or one week," he said.

"I know the Junior Rangers program will help us here in Papunya, because our kids and our young Mob, they respond to learning on Country. They come back with energy. They feel more connected with our culture,

our community.

"We have some bush programs for the young ones. I've seen them go out and come back a few days later – positive and keen to learn more. Lots of them want to become rangers.

"Our kids and all the young people need to learn about bush medicine. Where our hidden water sources are. The girls need to know how to look after the women's sites and make their women's bush medicines. The boys have the men's sites to care for.

"In my community of Papunya, we're so positive about what's coming. It's giving all of us a lot of hope."

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

*Koori Mail – Our ABC audit means our readership is guaranteed.
No other newspaper aimed at the Indigenous market can offer this!*

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Fulham Correctional Centre

Fulham Correctional Centre is part of The GEO Group Australia Pty Ltd (GEO). GEO is the leading provider of privately managed correctional services in NSW and Victoria.

The **Aboriginal Wellbeing Officer (AWO)** is responsible for the provision of pre and post-release services that support and promote health, wellbeing, traditional needs and 'healing' of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander prisoners, their families and the broader Aboriginal community.

The AWO also provides individual support to Aboriginal prisoners at times of crisis, provides education in relation to cultural heritage and identity, and support prisoners with issues related to family reconnection and community reintegration.

The AWO will identify as an Aboriginal Australian and ideally have a background in social work, welfare or community services.

For any enquiries, please contact the Human Resources Team on (03) 5142 3830 or via email FulhamHR@geogroup.com.au

Applicants must apply via the below website.

Applications close: Midnight, Wednesday 22nd November 2023

To apply, visit us via our careers website
www.geogroup.com.au
Equal Opportunity Employer



Broken Hill Local Aboriginal Land Council

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (Aboriginal Identified Position)

Full-time

Salary range \$100k-\$120K
(Dependent on qualifications and experience) plus superannuation,
Relocation reimbursement & PBI salary packaging available.
4 Weeks leave plus additional paid leave over the Christmas period.

The Broken Hill Local Aboriginal Land Council (BHLALC) Chief Executive Officer (CEO) position is vacant and are seeking a highly committed, motivated, and values-based leader who has high level management experience in a similar sized or a not-for-profit organisation that can deliver a range of services to our community.

The CEO will be based fulltime in the Broken Hill office and will be responsible for managing the day-to-day operations of the BHLALC under the direction of the Board and the NSW Aboriginal Land Rights Act, managing a small team delivering a Local Social Housing and Regional Beyond Linking Program.

We are looking for someone who can identify and deliver new programs including land acquisition, management and use opportunities in accordance with the ALRA and the Community Land & Business Plan. The applicant must have experience working, maintaining, and building relationships with stakeholders and can translate strategy into tangible cultural appropriate outcomes are considered essential attributes for this position.

To obtain a copy of the position description which includes the selection criteria and how to apply, please email your request to chairperson@bhlalc.org.au

Aboriginality is a genuine occupational qualification as authorised by Part 2, division 2, Section 14(d) of the Anti-Discrimination Act, 1977.

Applications close Wednesday 29th November 2023 at 5.00pm.

The pre-employment checks will form part of the application process and include: NSW Working with Children check, and a National Criminal History Check.

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Murra Mia AC

Sustaining Aboriginal Tenancy Program

Caseworkers x 2 Full-Time

Location- Batemans Bay

Overview of Position: The Sustaining Aboriginal Tenancy Project will provide tenancy support through local strategies to Aboriginal people with complex needs whose tenancies are at risk of failure. Support includes case management, advocacy, community outreach services and assisted referrals to other specialist support services to sustain new or existing tenancies.

The caseworker will work as part of a team to provide practical supportive and specialist intervention to those who seek assistance from the project.

This is an identified position under Section 9A of the NSW Anti-Discrimination Act 1977. Male applicants are encouraged to apply.

Enquires: Michelle Craig on 0457 798 647 or email: michelle.craig@aru.org.au

Closing date: 5.00pm 22 November 2023

**Sunshine Coast
Hospital and Health Service**



Social Worker - Senior

An exciting opportunity exists for a Social Worker - Senior within the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Directorate of the SCHHS to provide high quality care and support to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients and their families, as well as cultural education and training for Sunshine Coast Hospital Service staff. The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Directorate supports a collaborative approach to care by growing partnerships with community, health service providers and broader social services to support improved health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

A Support Worker – Senior with First Nations background is preferable as this new position will be providing support directly in the community to First Nations. -
<https://smartjobs.qld.gov.au/jobs/QLD-SC520431>



Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Environmental Health Officer Trainee

Location: Bathurst Regional Council, Bathurst NSW
Classification: Environmental Health Officer Trainee
Employment Type: Six-year fixed term contract – full time
Salary: \$46,379.13 per annum, with annual progression, plus superannuation
Enquiries: Sally-Anne Donahue on (02) 6333 6275 or via email at Sally-Anne.Donahue@bathurst.nsw.gov.au
Closing Date: Sunday 19th November 2023 at 11:30pm

This is an Identified Aboriginal/ Torres Strait Islander Position. Applicants for this position must be of Aboriginal descent through parentage, identify as being Aboriginal and be accepted in the community as such. Exemption is claimed under Section 14 of the Anti Discrimination Act 1977.

For further information or to apply, please visit <https://applynow.net.au/jobs/BRC417>

For further information and a link on how to apply see our ad on the Koori Mail website under
JOBS & GENERAL WEB ADS

Legal Aid
NEW SOUTH WALES

Aboriginal Targeted Role Solicitor – Community Legal Education

- Package up to \$140K
- Flexible working options available

We are looking for a lawyer with experience in developing and delivering targeted community legal education programs, for an ongoing position in our Community Legal Education Branch in Central Sydney.

A strong collaborator with excellent relationship building, communication and presentation skills.

For more information and to apply, please visit iworkfor.nsw.gov.au and search **Ref. No. 0000A2N5**
Closing Date: Thursday, 16 November 2023 11:59pm
Enquiries: Emma Langton-French on (02) 9213 5296

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**CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE
OF MELBOURNE**

Expression of Interest – Aboriginal Catholic Ministry Victoria (ACMV) Coordinator

- Make a difference.
- Create your own pathways.
- Work in a culturally safe space with beautiful and sacred Aboriginal art expression located in Thornbury with onsite carparking.

Can you see yourself stepping into a role where you can create a new tomorrow, where you can inspire and have input to conversations with an Aboriginal lens and viewpoint?

Are you passionate about social justice?

Do you share our Catholic faith?

This role celebrates Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage and culture and Catholic beliefs and traditions.

If you are a First Nations person with a vision and a passion for educating the community about the spiritual gifts that we have to offer the people of Australia while sharing your culture with the wider community and, you are interested in learning more about this role please let us know by registering below. We have a few questions we'd like to ask you and then Sherry who has been working as the Coordinator for the last 20 years will contact you for a yarn to let you know why she loves the role as she prepares to hand over and start her next life chapter...retirement.

How to register your interest

Please email your cv & cover letter to hr.recruitment@cam.org.au, you will then be sent a few questions so we can get to know a bit more about you.

This role will also need background checks which include a National Police Check, Working with Children Check and Reference Checks.

Aboriginal Catholic Ministry Information

If you would like to find out more about us, please go to <https://www.cam1.org.au/acmv>

Please note: The Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults. It is a requirement across our organisation that all clergy, employees, and volunteers have a valid Police and Working with Children Check

Join our First Nations education advisory group

250 national, paid opportunities

www.edresearch.edu.au/first-nations-expert-reference-group



Nurse Navigator

An exciting opportunity exists for a Nurse Navigator, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (Identified) who is required to lead and deliver expert clinical leadership in the provision and coordination of contemporary, person-centred care delivered within a dynamic health environment at an advanced level based on the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia Registered Nurse Standards of Practice.

The Sunshine Coast Persistent Pain Management Service Community Liaison project will provide innovative new persistent pain services closer to home. It will include a comprehensive, multifaceted, community liaison service to local general practices, Local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Services, and inpatient units of Sunshine Coast University Hospital. It includes out-reach multidisciplinary clinics, a GP advice line, an inpatient consultation service to facilitate discharge into and care in the community, community education and development programs.

Link - <https://smartjobs.qld.gov.au/jobs/QLD-SC521932>

Crisis Support.
Suicide Prevention.

13 11 14

Indigenous Community Facilitator - Clarence Valley

Location: Clarence Valley, New South Wales
Employment type: Part-time, fraction (0.6)
Duration: 2-year fixed-term appointment
Remuneration: Pro-rata of \$100,173 - \$109,871 pa + 17% super

The Opportunity
 The purpose of the Indigenous Community Facilitator role is to work in close partnership to organise and facilitate meetings, workshops and gatherings of community members. The primary goal is to ensure local perspectives and knowledge are leading resilience and community capacity building activities in the delivery of the Fire to Flourish program.

The position will be responsible for managing and establishing relationships with key Indigenous stakeholders that will be inclusive of Traditional Owners, community Elders, adults and young people, Land Councils and other relevant Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations.

The position will see you:

- Foster informal relationships with the view to building and deepening connections within the community
- Give voice to the community by enhancing opportunities for a diversity of community perspectives, values and aspirations through meaningful participation
- Ensuring that resilience building activities are inclusive of Indigenous, Non-Indigenous, young people, seniors, LGBTQBTI+, CALD and people with disabilities
- Working as a highly effective member of a team of community facilitators while maintaining a strong community-led focus

This position will involve travel to remote locations on a daily basis, some of which are not easily accessible via public transport.

We encourage applications from Indigenous Australians.

Enquiries
 Ms Roxanne Smith, Community Lead - Fire to Flourish, +61 400 573 873

Closing Date: Wednesday 15 November 2023, 11:55pm AEDT

To view the position description and instruction on how to apply see our ad on the Koori Mail website under JOBS & GENERAL WEB ADS

NEW SOUTH WALES

ABORIGINAL CASEWORKER - YOUNG ADULTS

- Full time contract to 30/6/24 - based from Parramatta
- Current Driver's Licence | able to travel to Western Sydney, Nepean, Blue Mts
- \$44 - \$49 per hour + super + leave loading + salary packaging benefits

About Relationships Australia
 Relationships Australia NSW (RANSW) provides a safe, judgement-free environment where individuals, couples and families can address the critical matters impacting their relationships, and their lives.

What you'll do
 You'll provide support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people and adults aged 16 to 24 who have been in out-of-home care for more than 3 months. This includes providing leaving care and aftercare services; case coordination, connection to community and therapeutic case work. Critical to your success will be your ability to build trusting relationships with young people who have experienced trauma. You'll visit clients face-to-face. **This is an identified position. Being Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander is a genuine occupational requirement of this position under NSW Anti-Discrimination Act 1977.**

What you'll bring

- Relevant tertiary qualifications (e.g., Degree in Social Work, Psychology, or other relevant disciplines), supported by relevant experience
- Experience working with young people who have experienced trauma, the child protection system, foster care or out of home care
- Experience of providing advocacy to access Aboriginal and mainstream services such as housing, health and income maintenance is desirable
- Relevant case management and clinical expertise
- Ability to balance the practical, emotional, psychological and safety needs of your client
- Current C NSW Drivers licence is essential**

Next Steps
 Interested? Apply today as we want to move quickly with this recruitment.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND A LINK TO APPLY, SEE OUR WEB AD ON THE KOORI MAIL WEBSITE UNDER JOBS & GENERAL WEB ADS

Aboriginal Homelessness Case Manager Tweed Heads

Would you like to make a real difference in people's lives? If so, come and join the team at Momentum Collective.

You will case manage First Nations people who are homeless or are at risk of becoming homeless.

Here at Momentum we are known to provide a culturally safe environment and provide career development and mentoring opportunities for our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees.

Momentum Collective is committed to creating social change and inclusive opportunities for everyone. We promote diversity when recruiting our team and are guided by our core values of trust and respect, wellbeing, innovation, working well together and being gracious. We respect the special place our nation's first people hold in our communities and value the differences in everyone.

To apply: please call Jason on 0452 066 331 or email recruitment@mymomentum.org.au

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Exciting Job Opportunities at NSWALC

Temporary Fulltime roles based in Parramatta with flexibility to work from home

NSWALC are currently seeking experienced professionals to join our team for the following positions:

These positions are hosted by the NSW Aboriginal Land Council (NSWALC), the peak body for Aboriginal Land Rights in NSW and a member of NSW CAPO and will work in a project team with staff hosted in the Department of Environment and Planning and NTSCORP, the Native Title Service Provider for Aboriginal Traditional Owners in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory.

Project Officer - Comprehensive Reform - Contract until January 2026 - \$94,590 Base salary

The Project Officer will undertake project management and support activities in line with the project scope, encompassing the interactions between Native Title and Land Rights, and potential options for comprehensive and holistic reform of Native Title and Land Rights systems.

Project Officer - Land Transfer Support - Contract until January 2026 - \$94,590 Base salary

The Project Officer undertakes project management and support activities in line with the project scope, encompassing land activation pathways, risks, gaps and blockages to land activation and models for unlocking the full economic and cultural potential of land that has been transferred back to Aboriginal communities, in line with the project scope.

Senior Policy Officer - Comprehensive Reform Project Team - Contract until January 2026 - \$103,600 Base Salary

The Senior Policy Officer undertakes in-depth policy analysis and provides high level policy and advocacy advice on the interactions between Native Title and Land Rights, and potential options for comprehensive and holistic reform of Native Title and Land Rights systems. The Senior Policy Officer develops and implements strategies to ensure that NSWALC, as a member of NSW CAPO, NTSCORP and the Department of Environment and Planning work in genuine partnership and will develop detailed and strategic policy, provide expert advice and recommendations and support consultation and community engagement processes.

Project Manager - Land Ownership Models - Contract until January 2025 - \$131,530 Base Salary Aboriginal Identified

The Project Manager manages and coordinates the development, implementation and evaluation of research encompassing economic considerations for supporting increased land ownership and land management by Aboriginal communities, including land transfers and land management arrangements. This includes leading the delivery of expert advice and recommendations, based on rigorous research, and facilitating consultation and community engagement processes. The Project Manager ensures that NSWALC, as a member of NSW CAPO, NTSCORP and the Department of Environment and Planning are working in genuine partnership throughout the project.

Project Manager - Comprehensive Reform - Contract until June 2026 - \$131,530 Base Salary Aboriginal Identified

The Project Manager manages and coordinates the development, implementation and evaluation of research encompassing interactions between Native Title and Land Rights, and potential options for comprehensive and holistic reform of Native Title and Land Rights systems, in line with the project scope. This includes leading the delivery of expert advice and recommendations, based on rigorous research, and facilitating consultation and community engagement processes. The Project Manager ensures that NSWALC, as a member of NSW CAPO, NTSCORP and the Department of Environment and Planning are working in genuine partnership throughout the project.

The ideal candidates for these roles must have a strong commitment to promoting Aboriginal rights and interests and possess the requisite skills and experience required to be successful in each role. On offer will be the base salary plus 12% superannuation, a 70-hour fortnight, NFP salary packaging and generous leave options.

To apply:
 Please contact recruitment@alc.org.au to obtain a copy of the role description and forward your up-to-date resume together with a cover letter of no more than 2 Pages outlining why you should be considered for the position. All applications can be forwarded to recruitment@alc.org.au by the closing date of 16 November 2023. Please mention name of the job you are applying for in the title of the file name.

NOTICE INITIATING NEGOTIATIONS WITH NATIVE TITLE PARTIES
MINING ACT 1971 (SA) — SECTION 63M

TAKE NOTICE that:
Havilah Resources Limited ACN 077 435 520 of 107 Rundle Street, Kent Town SA 5067 (Havilah) is the registered holder of South Australian Exploration Licence (EL) numbers 5951 being the land described as follows:

EL5951
JACKS FIND AREA – Approximately 140 km northeast of Olary, which incorporates the following areas:
Commencing at a point being the intersection of latitude 31°00'S and longitude 140°34'E, then east to longitude 140°41'E, south to latitude 31°05'S, west to longitude 140°34'E, and north to the point of commencement. AREA: 103 km2 approximately.

All the within latitudes and longitudes are geodetic and expressed in terms of the Australian Geodetic Datum as defined on p. 4984 of Commonwealth Gazette number 84 dated October 6, 1966 (AGD66) (the **Land**).

Havilah propose to carry out mining operations on the relevant Land. The general nature of the proposed mining operations that are to be carried out on the Land is as follows:

General nature of proposed mining operations

Exploratory operations to determine the geological structure of the land and presence of economic mineralization and/or water and without limiting the foregoing, such operations may include any of the following: Geophysical surveys including airborne and ground surveys of magnetics, gravity, electrical and seismic methods. Geochemical sampling including radon surveys, soil, rock chip and drainage. Shallow trenching and various drilling methods including auger, rotary mud, reverse circulation, aircore and diamond drilling. Havilah seeks to negotiate a native title mining agreement in respect of that part of the Land not already the subject of agreement(s) and the proposed mining operations with native title parties (if any) as provided for by Part 9B of the *Mining Act 1971*.

The proposed operations are authorised by the following tenements under the Mining Act 1971: Exploration Licence number 5951.

In this notice a reference to an exploration licence includes that tenement and any extensions, renewals, transfers, assignments, re-grants, or other dealings with that tenement. A reference to Havilah includes its successors and assigns. If, four 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 Commonwealth as the holders of, or claimants to, native title in the Land, the relevant mining operator may apply ex parte to the Environment, Resources and Development Court for a summary determination authorising entry to the relevant Land for the purpose of carrying out mining operations on that Land, and the conduct of mining operations on that Land.

Any person who holds or may hold native title in the Land is invited to contact Havilah in respect of Land relating to the Havilah ELs for the purpose of

- 1. negotiating an agreement in respect of the proposed mining operations on the relevant Land; or
- 2. requesting further information about this notice.

Havilah can be contacted at PO Box 3 Fullarton SA 5063 or by email or telephone.

Email: chris.giles@havilah-resources.com.au . Telephone: 0428 610 557. Contact: Chris Giles

KOKATHA ABORIGINAL CORPORATION RNTBC ICN 8093



NOTICE OF KOKATHA COMMON LAW
HOLDERS' MEETING

This notice is to advise that a Kokatha Common Law Holders Meeting will take place as follows:

Date: Sunday 19 November 2023
Time: 10.00 am to 4.00 pm Kokatha Common Law Holders Meeting
Registration commencing from 8:30am
Place: Central Augusta Football Club, 3 Hannagan Street Port Augusta, SA 5700

Please note that to attend this meeting you must be a Kokatha Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC (KAC) member OR a Registered Kokatha Common Law Holder. If you are not a KAC member or Registered Kokatha Common Law Holder you will not be allowed in the meeting.

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING:

The purpose of the meeting is the following agenda items:

1. **CHAIRPERSON'S WELCOME, ATTENDEES AND APOLOGIES**
2. **CONFIRM MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**
3. **GENERAL TRUST UPDATE AND RESOLUTIONS**
Trust Advisory Committee appointments, remuneration and proposed new sub fund
4. **BHP GENERAL UPDATE**
5. **NATIVE TITLE MINING EXPLORATION AGREEMENTS – AUTHORISATION TO ADD LICENCES**

Petratherm Limited Exploration Licences

To authorise the Kokatha Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC adding Exploration Licences 6854 and 6918 held by Petratherm Limited to the Part 9B Native Title Mining Agreement entered into with Petratherm Limited on 21 June 2022.

Gawler Resources Pty Ltd Exploration Licences

To authorise the Kokatha Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC adding Exploration Licences 6402 (whole), 6754 (part), 6853 (part) held by Gawler Resources Pty Ltd to the Part 9B Native Title Mining Agreement entered into with Gawler Resources Pty Ltd in December 2016 (registered 6 March 2017).

CLOSE

The previous minutes, further information about the Petratherm Limited Exploration licences and Gawler Resources Pty Ltd licences, and nomination forms for the six (6) Trustee Advisory Committee positions is available at <https://kokatha.com.au/important-agm-clhm-information/> or by contacting the KAC office on (08) 8642 2068.

Travel assistance

To assist Registered KAC Common Law Holders attending the meeting, KAC will provide a \$200 gift card and fuel payment. **Please note you must be a Registered Common Law Holder to get this assistance.** For fuel assistance please contact Khatija Thomas at SANTs on 1800 010 360 or email KhatijaT@nativetitlesa.org

NOTE: No proxies permitted for Common Law Holder meetings. If you are not a KAC member or a Registered Common Law Holder you will not be admitted to the meeting.

Geographical Names Act 1966

The Geographical Names Board is seeking public comment on a proposal to dual name the full length of the Macdonald River as **Ganangdayi**.

Macdonald river commences on the eastern slopes of Mellong Range about 9 km Northwest by West of Kindarun Mountain. It flows generally East by South then South for approximately 120 km into the Hawkesbury River at Wisemans Ferry.

Community feedback is sought on the proposed name, spelling and extent.

The proposal can be viewed, and submissions lodged on the Geographical Names Board website at gnb.nsw.gov.au from 1 November 2023 to 1 December 2023. Alternatively, written submissions can be mailed to the Secretary, Geographical Names Board, 346 Panorama Avenue, Bathurst, NSW 2795.

In accordance with Section 9 of the *Geographical Names Act 1966*, all submissions lodged may be subject to a Government Information (Public Access) application and may be viewed by a third party to assist the Board in considering this proposal.

Narelle Underwood
Chair

For more information:
visit gnb.nsw.gov.au
346 Panorama Ave
BATHURST NSW 2795



Notice of an application to register an area agreement
on the Register of Indigenous Land Use Agreements in
Queensland
Notification day: 8 November 2023



National
Native Title
Tribunal



Q12023/005 Southern Kaantju People Biosecurity Centre ILUA

Description of the agreement area:

The agreement area covers about 32 ha over Lot 1 on SP337297 and part of the Peninsula Developmental Road and is located about 20 km north of Coen (Moomba) in the vicinity of the Coen Aerodrome

Relevant LGA: Cook Shire Council

The agreement contains the following statements:

[Explanatory notes in brackets inserted by the National Native Title Tribunal]

5 Consents

5.1 The parties: (a) consent to the doing of the Agreed Acts to the extent that they are Future Acts; and (b) agree to the validating of any of the Agreed Acts, which are also Future Acts, done prior to Registration.

5.2 The parties consent to the validation of any Future Acts done prior to the Execution Date by the State in the Agreement Area to the extent they were done invalidly for the purposes of Native Title and can be validated in this Agreement.

5.3 The consent at clause 5.2 includes but is not limited to:

(a) the construction, operation, use and maintenance of the Cape York Biosecurity Centre and supporting infrastructure, including access to and use of the areas surrounding the facility; and

(b) the construction, use and maintenance of the water pipeline and pump on Lot 11 on SP171860.

5.4 Clause 5.1 is a statement for the purposes of section 24EB(1)(b) of the NTA and clauses 5.2 and 5.3 are statements for the purposes of section 24EB(1)(a) of the NTA.

5.5 To the extent that any of the Agreed Acts are Future Acts, the parties acknowledge that the Non-Extinguishment Principle applies.

7. New Road

[The State is to use its best endeavours to arrange for the dedication of the New Road]

7.2 For the purposes of Native Title, the parties consent to the dedication of the New Road.

“Agreed Acts” means all acts necessary to give effect to this Agreement including but not limited to any acts done as part of, or in relation to, the acts specified in Schedule 3.

“Cape York Biosecurity Facility” means the facility and any associated infrastructure operated by the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries located on the Agreement Area.

“Future Act” has the meaning given in the NTA.

“New Road” means the area identified and delineated by stations 50-52-51-50 on plan SP337297 attached at Schedule 2.

“Non-Extinguishment Principle” has the meaning given in the NTA.

Parties to the agreement and their contact addresses:

State of Queensland through the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries c/- Crown Law GPO Box 5221, Brisbane QLD 4001	Southern Kaantju Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC ICN 9755 c/- Cape York Land Council 32 Florence Street, Cairns QLD 4870	Sylvester Blanco and Wayne Butcher on their own behalf and on behalf of the Cape York United #1 Native Title Claim Group c/- Cape York Land Council 32 Florence Street, Cairns QLD 4870
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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 8 February 2024.** 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 Leona Yapali-Purcival on 07 4257 5738 or visit www.nntt.gov.au.

POWER THE HAPPY
FOR SICK KIDS LIKE NED



Since being diagnosed with leukaemia at age two, hospital has been Ned's life. But thanks to Captain Starlight, the fun of being a kid hasn't stopped. And it shouldn't.
Because a healthy dose of fun and happiness is essential to the health of sick kids like Ned. Donate this Starlight Day to help more sick kids like Ned discover the power of happy.

DONATE NOW
starlight.org.au



NOTICE OF AN AUTHORISATION MEETING OF THE NGEMBA, NGIYAMPAA, WANGAAYPUWAN AND WAYILWAN PEOPLE NATIVE TITLE CLAIM GROUP (NSD 38/2019)



When: Friday 24 November 2023
9:00am to 9.30am – Meeting registration*
9:30am – Meeting opened
5:00pm – Meeting closed

Where: In person: Cobar Bowling and Golf Club,
Bloxham St, Cobar NSW 2835

Remote Access: Contact NTSCORP to attend by
videoconference or telephone
(by 17 November 2023 at the latest)

*Note: To attend in person, registration will be open to members anytime throughout the meeting, but members are encouraged to register each day between 9.00am to 9.30am to allow adequate time for all business to be addressed. To attend by videoconference/telephone you must register by **Friday 17 November 2023**.

Who should attend: The meeting is open to all members of the native title claim group in the Ngemba, Ngiyampaa, Wangaaypuwan and Wayilwan native title determination application (NSD38/2019) ('NNWW Claim Group', 'the Claim Group' and 'NNWW Claim' respectively), being all the descendants of the following apical ancestors:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Caroline Hilt (who was born on the Barwon River around 1847); | 24. Maggie Redtank (who was born in Keewong in 1868); |
| 2. Thomas Sullivan (who was born in Brewarrina around 1860); | 25. Ada Arnott (who was born in Nyngan in 1865); |
| 3. Nellie Colless (who was born in Brewarrina around 1868); | 26. Moses Divine; |
| 4. Billy Coleman (who was born in Cobar in 1840); | 27. Jack Smith (who was born in Mossgiel in 1869); |
| 5. Mary Ann Allen (who was born in 1844); | 28. Ellen Sprowl also known as Ellen McHughes (who was born in Brewarrina in 1867); |
| 6. Moses Biggs (who was born in 1837); | 29. Fanny Hippi also known as Fanny Williams; |
| 7. Polly Parkes (who was born in 1846); | 30. Millie Wells also known as Millie Shearer (who was born in Brewarrina in 1874); |
| 8. Anne Brandy (who was born in Colane in 1874); | 31. Pluto Williams (who was born in Trida/Mossgiel in 1873); |
| 9. Caroline Brandy (who was born on Duck Creek in 1869); | 32. Steve Shaw (who was born in Coronga Peak in 1855); |
| 10. Wadna Boe (who was born in 1848) | 33. Fanny Brown also known as |
| 11. Richard King (who was born in 1827); | 34. Tiltagara Fanny (who was born in Hillston in 1862); |
| 12. Jimmy Keewong (who was born in 1849); | 35. David Brown (who was born on the Macquarie River in 1850); |
| 13. Kitty Narrangie; | 36. Janey Brown (who was born on the Macquarie River in 1853); |
| 14. Tom Dennis (who was born in Brewarrina in 1864); | 37. Betsy Gwen (who was born in Haddon Rigg near Warren in 1849); |
| 15. Winnie Pierce (who was born in Brewarrina in 1878); | 38. Louise Hinton (who was born on the Macquarie River in 1843); |
| 16. Jack Dennis (who was born on the Barwon River in around 1855); | 39. Cissy Lee (who was born in 1852); |
| 17. Kate Baker (who was born in Boorooma in 1874); | 40. Boorooma Murphy (who was born in Boorooma in 1832); |
| 18. Francis "Tracker" Williams (who was born in Gundabooka in 1883); | 41. Harry Murphy (who was born in Brewarrina around 1871); |
| 19. William Johnson (who was born in Big Willandra in 1876); | 42. Thomas Nixon (who was born in Buttabone in 1843); |
| 20. Henry Parkes (who was born in 1863); | 43. Colaine Lumpy (who was born in 1864); |
| 21. Topsy Harris also known as Topsy Scotty (who was born in Marfield in 1866); | 44. Charlotte Wilson; |
| 22. Jack Redtank; | 45. Tilly Riley (who was born in 1863); |
| 23. Thomas Williams also known as Thomas Broughton (who was born in Roto); | and |
| | Geordie Murray (who was born in 1851 in Ivanhoe). |

Background

The area that is the subject of the NNWW Claim is bounded by the towns of Brewarrina, Bourke, Coonamble, Gulargambone, Warren, Nyngan, Hillston, Mossgiel and Ivanhoe, approximately from the Barwon River in the north, to the Lachlan River in the south, the Castlereagh River in the east and Ivanhoe in the west.

Agenda for the Meeting

Friday 24 November 2023

1. Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country.
2. Confirm the process of decision-making for the purposes of authorising the making of the native title determination application and dealing with matters arising in relation to it.
3. Discussion of amendments to the NNWW Claim Group description:
 - (a) Discussion in relation to the proposed amended NNWW Claim Group description as outlined at Attachment A;
 - (b) Advice and information regarding the legal process for amending the NNWW Claim Group description;
 - (c) Discussion in relation to the process for making amendments to the NNWW Claim Group description; and
 - (d) Following this discussion, the NNWW Claim Group will consider and make a decision regarding any changes to be made to the NNWW Claim Group description.
4. Any other business.

Attending the Meeting

The NNWW Claim Group meeting will be held in-person and there will also be the option to participate remotely by telephone or videoconference.

Attending in person

If you wish to attend the NNWW Claim Group meeting in person, please contact NTSCORP by no later than **Friday 17 November 2023**, so that all relevant arrangements can be made.

Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea will be provided at the venue.

For those attending the NNWW Claim Group meeting in person, mileage assistance and accommodation may be available in accordance with NTSCORP's meeting assistance policies, as reasonably adjusted to account for COVID-19 related variations. If you require accommodation **you will need to provide NTSCORP with a completed meeting registration form, or telephone NTSCORP with confirmed details, by no later than Friday 17 November 2023**.

Please note if you do not contact NTSCORP by **Friday 17 November 2023** to confirm your request for mileage and accommodation assistance, NTSCORP cannot guarantee we will be able to assist with travel and accommodation arrangements — although you would still be more than welcome to attend the meeting.

Attending remotely

You may also choose to attend the NNWW Claim Group meeting by videoconference or telephone.

You will still be able to listen, ask questions, and participate in making decisions if you attend remotely.

In order to attend the NNWW Claim Group meeting by videoconference or telephone, members must:

1. REGISTER - Call or email NTSCORP to register your attendance

Please contact NTSCORP as soon as possible by calling the below number, or sending an email to the email address below. We request that you register to attend remotely by **5pm on Friday 17 November 2023**.

2. MEETING ACCESS

Once you have registered, NTSCORP will send out details of how to attend the meeting by videoconference or telephone. For those attending the meeting remotely, assistance for telephone or data credit may be available in accordance with NTSCORP's meeting assistance policies. Please contact NTSCORP to discuss.

NTSCORP's contact details: Freecall 1800 111 844 or (02) 9310 3188

Post: P.O. Box 2105, Strawberry Hills, NSW 2012

Email: CFC@ntscorp.com.au

Attachment A

The proposed amended Ngemba, Ngiyampaa, Wangaaypuwan, Wayilwan People native title claim group description is outlined below:

The Ngemba, Ngiyampaa, Wangaaypuwan and Wayilwan People native title claim group comprises those Aboriginal persons who:

- (a) are the descendants of the following apical ancestors:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Caroline Hilt (who was born on the Barwon River around 1847); | 33. Fanny Brown also known as Tiltagara Fanny (who was born in Hillston in 1862); |
| 2. Thomas Sullivan (who was born in Brewarrina around 1860); | 34. David Brown (who was born on the Macquarie River in 1850); |
| 3. Nellie Colless (who was born in Brewarrina around 1868); | 35. Janey Brown (who was born on the Macquarie River in 1853); |
| 4. Billy Coleman (who was born in Cobar in 1840); | 36. Betsy Gwen (who was born in Haddon Rigg near Warren in 1849); |
| 5. Mary Ann Allen (who was born in 1844); | 37. Louise Hinton (who was born on the Macquarie River in 1843); |
| 6. Moses Biggs (who was born in 1837); | 38. Cissy Lee (who was born in 1852); |
| 7. Polly Parkes (who was born in 1846); | 39. Boorooma Murphy (who was born in Boorooma in 1832); |
| 8. Anne Brandy (who was born in Colane in 1874); | 40. Harry Murphy (who was born in Brewarrina around 1871); |
| 9. Caroline Brandy (who was born on Duck Creek in 1869); | 41. Thomas Nixon (who was born in Buttabone in 1843); |
| 10. Wadna Boe (who was born in 1848) | 42. Colaine Lumpy (who was born in 1864); |
| 11. Richard King (who was born in 1827); | 43. Charlotte Wilson; |
| 12. Jimmy Keewong (who was born in 1849); | 44. Tilly Riley (who was born in 1863); |
| 13. Kitty Narrangie; | and |
| 14. Tom Dennis (who was born in Brewarrina in 1864); | 45. Geordie Murray (who was born in 1851 in Ivanhoe); |
| 15. Winnie Pierce (who was born in Brewarrina in 1878); | 46. George Murray, born at Gundabooka Station, died 1927 at Nyngan; |
| 16. Jack Dennis (who was born on the Barwon River in around 1855); | 47. Amy Monica Murray nee Murphy, wife of George Murray, born in Brewarrina, died 1954 at Nyngan; |
| 17. Kate Baker (who was born in Boorooma in 1874); | 48. Edward Murphy, born in Cobar, died 1960 at Walgett; |
| 18. Francis "Tracker" Williams (who was born in Gundabooka in 1883); | 49. Maggie Warraweena nee Murphy, born at Charlton Station on the Bogan River, died 1907 at Brewarrina; |
| 19. William Johnson (who was born in Big Willandra in 1876); | 50. Eliza Wilson nee Williams, also known as Eliza Governor, born near Cobar, died 1908 at Byrock; |
| 20. Henry Parkes (who was born in 1863); | 51. Charlie Kelly, husband of Laura Kelly nee Murray, born 1858; |
| 21. Topsy Harris also known as Topsy Scotty (who was born in Marfield in 1866); | 52. Laura Kelly nee Murray, also known as Norah Murray and Laura Boy, wife of Charlie Kelly, died 1918 at Corinya Station; |
| 22. Jack Redtank; | 53. Jack Shepherd, also known as John Shepherd and Jack Sheppard, born 1855 in Cobar; |
| 23. Thomas Williams also known as Thomas Broughton (who was born in Roto); | 54. Harry Shepherd, also known as Harry Sheppard, died 1911 in Brewarrina; |
| 24. Maggie Redtank (who was born in Keewong in 1868); | 55. Harry Brandy, brother of Caroline Brandy and Anne Brandy, born circa 1869; |
| 25. Ada Arnott (who was born in Nyngan in 1865); | 56. Jack Simpson, also known as Jack 'Smart Gui' Simpson, died 1974 at Brewarrina; and |
| 26. Moses Divine; | 57. Billy Boney, also known as William Boney and George Boney, born 1852 in Ginghet; and |
| 27. Jack Smith (who was born in Mossgiel in 1869); | |
| 28. Ellen Sprowl also known as Ellen McHughes (who was born in Brewarrina in 1867); | |
| 29. Fanny Hippi also known as Fanny Williams; | |
| 30. Millie Wells also known as Millie Shearer (who was born in Brewarrina in 1874); | |
| 31. Pluto Williams (who was born in Trida/Mossgiel in 1873); | |
| 32. Steve Shaw (who was born in Coronga Peak in 1855); | |

- (b) identify as a Ngemba, Ngiyampaa, Wangaaypuwan or Wayilwan person; and

- (c) are recognised as a Ngemba, Ngiyampaa, Wangaaypuwan or Wayilwan person by Ngemba, Ngiyampaa, Wangaaypuwan and Wayilwan People in accordance with their traditional law and custom.

NOTICE OF AN AUTHORISATION MEETING FOR THE NGEMBA, NGIYAMPAA, WANGAAYPUWAN AND WAYILWAN PEOPLE NATIVE TITLE CLAIM GROUP (NSD 38/2019)

When: Saturday 25 November 2023
9:00am to 9.30am – Meeting registration*
9:30am – Meeting opened
5:00pm – Meeting closed
Sunday 26 November 2023
9:00am to 9.30am – Meeting registration*
9:30am – Meeting opened
5:00pm – Meeting closed

Where: In person: Saturday 25 November 2023
Cobar Anglican Church
35 Barton Street Cobar NSW
Sunday 26 November 2023
Cobar Bowling and Golf Club,
Bloxham St, Cobar NSW 2835

Remote Access: Contact NTSCORP to attend by videoconference or telephone (by 17 November 2023 at the latest).

Who should attend: The meeting is open to all members of the native title claim group in the Ngemba, Ngiyampaa, Wangaaypuwan and Wayilwan native title determination application (NSD38/2019), being those Aboriginal persons who:

(a) are the descendants of the following apical ancestor

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Caroline Hilt (who was born on the Barwon River around 1847); | 25. Ada Arnott (who was born in Nyngan in 1865); |
| 2. Thomas Sullivan (who was born in Brewarrina around 1860); | 26. Moses Divine; |
| 3. Nellie Colless (who was born in Brewarrina around 1868); | 27. Jack Smith (who was born in Mossiel in 1869); |
| 4. Billy Coleman (who was born in Cobar in 1840); | 28. Ellen Sprowl also known as Ellen McHughes (who was born in Brewarrina in 1867); |
| 5. Mary Ann Allen (who was born in 1844); | 29. Fanny Hippi also known as Fanny Williams; |
| 6. Moses Biggs (who was born in 1837); | 30. Millie Wells also known as Millie Shearer (who was born in Brewarrina in 1874); |
| 7. Polly Parkes (who was born in 1846); | 31. Pluto Williams (who was born in Trida/Mossiel in 1873); |
| 8. Anne Brandy (who was born in Colane in 1874); | 32. Steve Shaw (who was born in Coronga Peak in 1855); |
| 9. Caroline Brandy (who was born on Duck Creek in 1869); | 33. Fanny Brown also known as Tiltagara Fanny (who was born in Hillston in 1862); |
| 10. Wadna Boe (who was born in 1848) | 34. David Brown (who was born on the Macquarie River in 1850); |
| 11. Richard King (who was born in 1827); | 35. Janey Brown (who was born on the Macquarie River in 1853); |
| 12. Jimmy Keewong (who was born in 1849); | 36. Betsy Gwen (who was born in Haddon Rigg near Warren in 1849); |
| 13. Kitty Narrangie; | 37. Louise Hinton (who was born on the Macquarie River in 1843); |
| 14. Tom Dennis (who was born in Brewarrina in 1864); | 38. Cissy Lee (who was born in 1852); |
| 15. Winnie Pierce (who was born in Brewarrina in 1878); | 39. Boorooma Murphy (who was born in Boorooma in 1832); |
| 16. Jack Dennis (who was born on the Barwon River in around 1855); | 40. Harry Murphy (who was born in Brewarrina around 1871); |
| 17. Kate Baker (who was born in Boorooma in 1874); | 41. Thomas Nixon (who was born in Buttabone in 1843); |
| 18. Francis "Tracker" Williams (who was born in Gundabooka in 1883); | 42. Colaine Lumpy (who was born in 1864); |
| 19. William Johnson (who was born in Big Willandra in 1876); | 43. Charlotte Wilson; |
| 20. Henry Parkes (who was born in 1863); | 44. Tilly Riley (who was born in 1863); |
| 21. Topsy Harris also known as Topsy Scotty (who was born in Marfield in 1866); | 45. and |
| 22. Jack Redtank; | Geordie Murray (who was born in 1851 in Ivanhoe). |
| 23. Thomas Williams also known as Thomas Broughton (who was born in Roto); | |
| 24. Maggie Redtank (who was born in Keewong in 1868); | |

AND all the descendants of the following additional apical ancestors:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 46. George Murray, born at Gundabooka Station, died 1927 at Nyngan; | of Charlie Kelly, died 1918 at Corinya Station; |
| 47. Amy Monica Murray nee Murphy, wife of George Murray, born in Brewarrina, died 1954 at Nyngan; | 53. Jack Shepherd, also known as John Shepherd and Jack Sheppard, born 1855 in Cobar; |
| 48. Edward Murphy, born in Cobar, died 1960 at Walgett; | 54. Harry Shepherd, also known as Harry Sheppard, died 1911 in Brewarrina; |
| 49. Maggie Warraweena nee Murphy, born at Charlton Station on the Bogan River, died 1907 at Brewarrina; | 55. Harry Brandy, brother of Caroline Brandy and Anne Brandy, born circa 1869; |
| 50. Eliza Wilson nee Williams, also known as Eliza Governor, born near Cobar, died 1908 at Byrock; | 56. Jack Simpson, also known as Jack 'Smart Gui' Simpson, died 1974 at Brewarrina; and |
| 51. Charlie Kelly, husband of Laura Kelly nee Murray, born 1858; | 57. Billy Boney, also known as William Boney and George Boney, born 1852 in Ginghet, |
| 52. Laura Kelly nee Murray, also known as Norah Murray and Laura Boy, wife | |

and

(b) identify as a Ngemba, Ngiyampaa, Wangaaypuwan or Wayilwan person; and

(c) are recognised as a Ngemba, Ngiyampaa, Wangaaypuwan or Wayilwan person by Ngemba, Ngiyampaa, Wangaaypuwan and Wayilwan People in accordance with their traditional law and custom.

AND any other Aboriginal person who asserts native title rights and interests in the area of the Ngemba, Ngiyampaa, Wangaaypuwan, Wayilwan native title determination application.

Background

The area that is the subject of the Ngemba, Ngiyampaa, Wangaaypuwan and Wayilwan People native title determination application is bounded by the towns of Brewarrina, Bourke, Coonamble, Gulargambone, Warren, Nyngan, Hillston, Mossiel and Ivanhoe, approximately from the Barwon River in the north, to the Lachlan River in the south, the Castlereagh River in the east and Ivanhoe in the west.

Agenda for the Meeting

Saturday 25 November 2023

1. Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country.
2. Confirm the process of decision-making for the purposes of authorising the making of the

*Note: To attend in person, registration will be open to members anytime throughout the meeting, but members are encouraged to register each day between 9.00am to 9.30am to allow adequate time for all business to be addressed. To attend by videoconference/telephone you **must** register by Friday 17 November 2023.



native title determination application and dealing with matters arising in relation to it.
3. Discussion of amendments to the Ngemba, Ngiyampaa, Wangaaypuwan and Wayilwan People native title claim group description and the identity of the native title claim group on whose behalf the native title determination application is made.

(a) Discussion in relation to the amended native title claim group description, as provided below:

The Ngemba, Ngiyampaa, Wangaaypuwan and Wayilwan People native title claim group comprises those Aboriginal persons who:
(a) are the descendants of the following apical ancestors:
[INSERT list of apical ancestors (being those listed at [1] to [57] above)], and
(b) identify as a Ngemba, Ngiyampaa, Wangaaypuwan or Wayilwan person; and
(c) are recognised as a Ngemba, Ngiyampaa, Wangaaypuwan or Wayilwan person by Ngemba, Ngiyampaa, Wangaaypuwan and Wayilwan People in accordance with their traditional laws and customs.

- (b) Advice and information regarding the legal process for the Applicant to make amendments to the native title claim group description in the application; and
(c) Discussion in relation to the process for making amendments to the native title claim group description.

4. Authorise one or more members of the native title claim group to make the amended native title determination application, and to deal with matters arising in relation to it:

- (a) The native title claim group will be asked to consider resolutions and make decisions to authorise an Applicant to make the native title determination application and deal with matters arising in relation to it, including making an application to the Federal Court for an order under section 66B of the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) that the new Applicant replace the current Applicant;
(b) The native title claim group will be asked to consider resolutions and make decisions about placing conditions on the powers of the Applicant including in relation to the Applicant's ability to enter into commercial and other agreements which may affect native title rights and interests;
(c) The native title claim group will be asked to consider and make decisions about the processes the Applicant must undertake in making its decisions. For example, whether or not the Applicant can make decisions by majority, and whether the Applicant can execute documents by majority; and
(d) The native title claim group will be asked to consider and authorise the Applicant to make amendments to the native title determination application (Form 1) in accordance with decisions made at this native title claim group meeting.

Sunday 26 November 2023

5. To provide an update on the NNWW Claim.

6. Application of sections 47A and 47B of the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)

- (a) Discuss the responses received from the NSW Aboriginal Land Council and Local Aboriginal Land Councils and their proposed tenure settlements/ compromises; and
(b) Following this discussion, the claim group will be asked to make decisions in relation to the application of ss 47A and 47B of the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) in the claim area for the purposes of a Consent Determination.

7. To provide a briefing and discuss with the native title claim group the proposed Brewarrina LALC Indigenous Land Use Agreement.

8. Any other business.

Attending the Meeting

The Authorisation Meeting will be held in-person and there will also be the option to participate remotely by telephone or videoconference.

Attending in person

If you wish to attend the Authorisation Meeting in person, please contact NTSCORP by no later than Friday 17 November 2023, so that all relevant arrangements can be made.

Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea will be provided at the venue.

For those attending the Authorisation Meeting in person, mileage assistance and accommodation may be available in accordance with NTSCORP's meeting assistance policies, as reasonably adjusted to account for COVID-19 related variations. If you require accommodation **you will need to provide NTSCORP with a completed meeting registration form, or telephone NTSCORP with confirmed details, by no later than Friday 17 November 2023.**

Please note if you do not contact NTSCORP by Friday 17 November 2023 to confirm your request for accommodation assistance, NTSCORP cannot guarantee we will be able to assist with travel and accommodation arrangements — although you would still be more than welcome to attend the meeting.

Attending remotely

You may also choose to attend the Authorisation Meeting by videoconference or telephone. You will still be able to listen, ask questions, and participate in making decisions if you attend remotely. In order to attend the Authorisation Meeting by videoconference or telephone, members must:

1. REGISTER - Call or email NTSCORP to register your attendance

Please contact NTSCORP as soon as possible by calling the below number, or sending an email to the email address below. We request that you register to attend remotely by 5pm on Friday 17 November 2023.

2. MEETING ACCESS

Once you have registered, NTSCORP will send out details of how to attend the meeting by videoconference or telephone. For those attending the meeting remotely, assistance for telephone or data credit may be available in accordance with NTSCORP's meeting assistance policies. Please contact NTSCORP to discuss.

NTSCORP's contact details:

Freecall 1800 111 844 or (02) 9310 3188
Post: P.O. Box 2105, Strawberry Hills, NSW 2012
Email: CFC@ntscorp.com.au

Renotification of a non-claimant application for determination of native title in New South Wales

Notification day: 15 November 2023

Important note: This notice replaces a previous notice which identified a notification date of 1 November 2023

A 'non-claimant' application has been made to the Federal Court of Australia (Federal Court) seeking a determination that native title does not exist in the area described below. The Applicant has a non-native title interest in the area, which is set out in their application and summarised below.

Under the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth), there can be only one determination of native title for an area. Unless there is a relevant native title claim, as defined in section 24FE, over the area described below on or before 14 February 2024, the area may be subject to protection under section 24FA and **acts may be done which extinguish or otherwise affect native title.**

A person who claims to hold native title rights and interests in this area may wish to file a native title claimant application or become a party to this non-claimant application. These may be the only opportunities to have those rights and interests taken into account in the Federal Court's determination. Any other person may also wish to become a party.

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 14 February 2024**. Further information regarding how to file a Form 5 is available from www.fedcourt.gov.au. After 14 February 2024, you will need to seek leave from the Federal Court to become a party.



Applicant's name: Mindaribba Local Aboriginal Land Council
Federal Court File No: NSD945/2023

Non-native title interest: The applicant is the registered proprietor of an estate in fee simple of the whole of the area covered by the application, but pursuant to section 36(9) of the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983* (NSW), the applicant's interest is subject to any native title rights and interests that existed in relation to the lands immediately before the area was transferred to the applicant

Order sought by Applicant: The applicant seeks a determination that native title does not exist

Description: The application area covers about 1 hectare and is located over Lot 14, Section 26 on DP758374, located in the suburb of East Maitland

Relevant LGA: Maitland City Council

For assistance and further information about this application, call Megan Harris on 07 3052 4921 or visit www.nntt.gov.au.



S4, 3 Johnston Crescent Horsley Park
Aboriginal Cultural Heritage
Assessment
– Community Consultation Stage 1

Urbis has been commissioned by NEXTDC Limited (the Proponent) to conduct an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for their site at 3 Johnston Crescent, Horsley Park, proposed Lot 305 in an approved (unregistered) subdivision of Lot 302 in Deposited Plan (DP) 1244594, within Fairfield Local Government Area (LGA) (the 'subject area'). This ACHA has been prepared to support a State Significant Development Application (SSDA) for the redevelopment of the subject area for the construction of a data centre with ancillary office and innovation space.

The proponent can be contacted directly via:

John Turner
Head of Site Development
John.Turner@nextdc.com

In accordance with Section 4.1.3 of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (DECCW, 2010) and Clause 80C of the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Regulation 2009, the Proponent is seeking the registration of Aboriginal persons or groups who may hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal object(s) and/or place(s) that may be present in the subject area.

The purpose of community consultation with Aboriginal people is to assist the Proponent in the preparation of the ACHA and the assessment of the cultural heritage significance of the subject area.

Please register your interest in writing to the contact details provided below by 5.00pm 15th November 2023.

Owen Barrett
Consultant
Urbis Pty Ltd
obarrett@urbis.com.au
Level 8, 123 Pitt Street, Sydney, 2000.

Please be advised that the Proponent is required to forward the names of Aboriginal persons and groups who register an interest to The Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Regulation Branch- Heritage NSW and the Deerubbin Local Aboriginal Land Council; unless the person or group specifies that they do not want their details released.

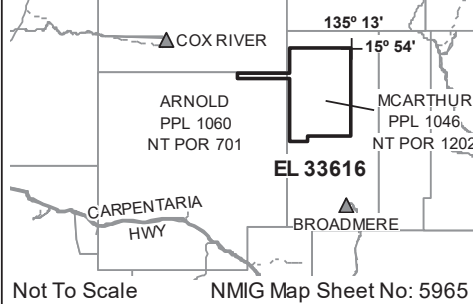
NOTICE OF PROPOSED GRANT OF EXPLORATION LICENCES

NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

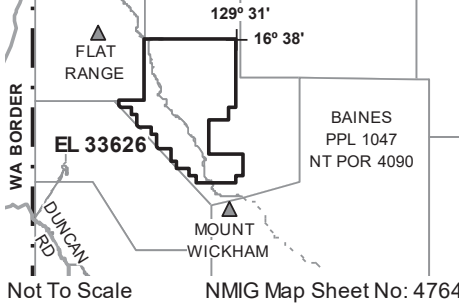
The Honourable Nicole Manison MLA, the Northern Territory Minister for Mining and Industry, C/- Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade, GPO Box 4550 DARWIN NT 0801, hereby gives notice in accordance with section 29 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Commonwealth) of her intent to do an act, namely to grant the following exploration licence applications.

Applications to which this notice applies:

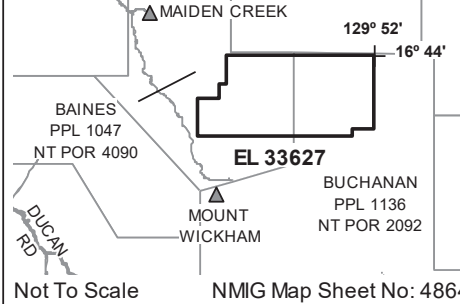
Exploration Licence 33616 sought by BAUDIN RESOURCES PTY LTD, ACN 618 455 593 over an area of 249 Blocks (822 km²) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the BAUHINIA DOWNS locality.



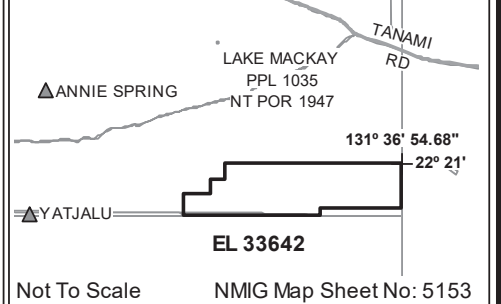
Exploration Licence 33626 sought by BAUDIN RESOURCES PTY LTD, ACN 618 455 593 over an area of 250 Blocks (821 km²) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the WATERLOO locality.



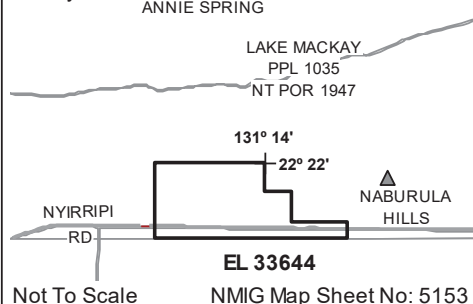
Exploration Licence 33627 sought by BAUDIN RESOURCES PTY LTD, ACN 618 455 593 over an area of 250 Blocks (822 km²) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the KIMON locality.



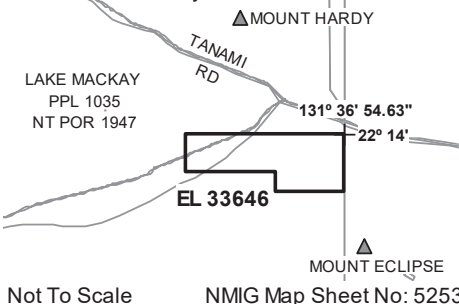
Exploration Licence 33642 sought by CHALCO RESOURCES PTY LTD, ACN 648 662 346 over an area of 53 Blocks (152 km²) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the DOREEN locality.



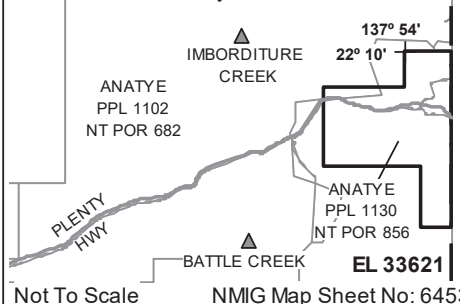
Exploration Licence 33644 sought by CHALCO RESOURCES PTY LTD, ACN 648 662 346 over an area of 16 Blocks (41 km²) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the DOREEN locality.



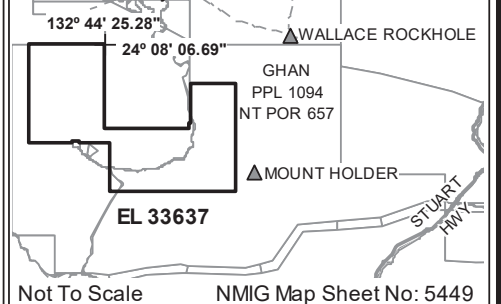
Exploration Licence 33646 sought by CHALCO RESOURCES PTY LTD, ACN 648 662 346 over an area of 22 Blocks (70 km²) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the YUENDUMU locality.



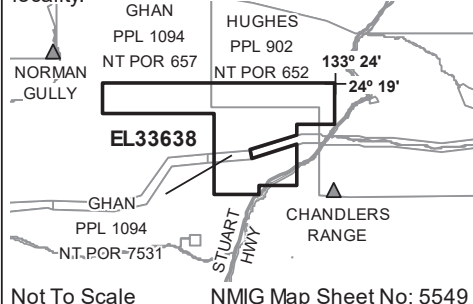
Exploration Licence 33621 sought by GEMPART (NT) PTY LTD, ACN 081 859 896 over an area of 196 Blocks (615 km²) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the TOBERMORY locality.



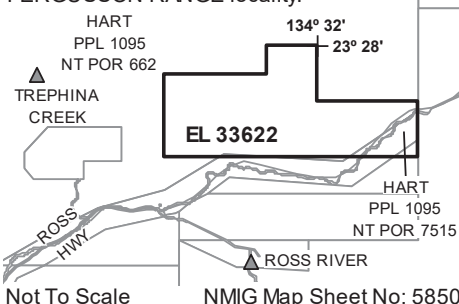
Exploration Licence 33637 sought by GEMPART (NT) PTY LTD, ACN 081 859 896 over an area of 208 Blocks (0 km²) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the PALM VALLEY locality.



Exploration Licence 33638 sought by GEMPART (NT) PTY LTD, ACN 081 859 896 over an area of 147 Blocks (446 km²) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the JAMES locality.



Exploration Licence 33622 sought by RED DINGO CORP PTY LTD, ACN 161 366 081 over an area of 28 Blocks (88 km²) depicted below for a term of years, within the FERGUSON RANGE locality.



Nature of act(s): The grant of an exploration licence under the *Mineral Titles Act 2010* authorises the holder to conduct activities in connection with exploration for minerals for a term not exceeding 6 years and to seek renewal(s). The term for which it is intended to grant the mineral exploration licences 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 Centrepont 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.

Expedited Procedure: The Northern Territory Government considers that the acts are acts attracting the expedited procedure as defined in section 237 of the *Native Title Act 1993*. The exploration licences referred to in this notice may be granted unless an objection is made by a native title party to the statement that the act is one which attracts the expedited procedure. Such an objection must be made to the National Native Title Tribunal within 4 months of the notification day.

Notification Day: 1 November 2023



NEXTDC S5 Data Centre
Aboriginal Cultural Heritage
Assessment – Community
Consultation Stage 1

Urbis has been commissioned by NEXTDC (the Proponent) to conduct an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for the construction of a new data centre in Macquarie Park, NSW, within the Ryde Local Government Area (LGA) and within the boundaries of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (the subject area). This ACHA is being prepared to support an SSDA (SSD-63168959) for the demolition of existing structures, site preparation works and construction and operation of a new Data Centre and Innovation Hub with an urban plaza and the delivery of new roads.

The subject area is located within the block bounded by Lane Cove Road to the north-west, Waterloo Road to the north-east, Epping Road to the south-west and Wicks Road to the south-east. The subject area is legally referred to as Lot 3 in DP1129811.

The proponent can be contacted directly via:

John Turner
NEXTDC
John.Turner@nextdc.com

In accordance with Section 4.1.3 of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (DECCW, 2010) and Clause 80C of the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Regulation 2009, the Proponent is seeking the registration of Aboriginal persons or groups who may hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal object(s) and/or place(s) that may be present in the subject area.

The purpose of community consultation with Aboriginal people is to assist the Proponent in the preparation of the ACHA and the assessment of the cultural heritage significance of the subject area.

Please register your interest in writing to the contact details provided below by 5.00pm 15 November 2023.

Owen Barrett
Consultant Urbis
Level 8, 123 Pitt Street
Sydney, NSW, 2000
E: obarrett@urbis.com.au

Please be advised that the Proponent is required to forward the names of Aboriginal persons and groups who register an interest to The Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Regulation Branch- Heritage NSW
- Department of Planning and Environment and the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council; unless the person or group specifies that they do not want their details released.



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ANY QUESTIONS?
Attend a webinar, drop-in session
or community forum running
through the exhibition period.

Public exhibition closes at 5pm (AEDT) on Wednesday 13 December 2023.



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NOTICE TO GRANT MINING TENEMENTS
NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

The State of Western Australia HEREBY GIVES NOTICE that the Minister for Mines and Petroleum, C/- Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004 may grant the following tenement applications under the *Mining Act 1978*:

Tenement Type	No.	Applicant	Area*	Locality	Centroid	Shire
Exploration Licence	15/1947	REDSCOPE ENTERPRISES PTY LTD	43BL	54.9km E'ly of Marvel Loch	Lat: 31° 31' S: Long: 120° 3' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE, YILGARN SHIRE
Exploration Licence	15/1972	AMERY HOLDINGS PTY LTD	3BL	14.4km N'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 30° 49' S: Long: 121° 11' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	15/2022	DESTINY LITHIUM PTY LTD	41BL	78.2km SW'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 31° 26' S: Long: 120° 34' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	28/3329	LAMBOO OPERATIONS PTY LTD	21BL	74.5km SE'ly of Edjudina	Lat: 30° 16' S: Long: 122° 55' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	28/3330	LAMBOO OPERATIONS PTY LTD	3BL	71.9km SE'ly of Edjudina	Lat: 30° 17' S: Long: 122° 51' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	28/3366	GTT METALS GROUP PTY LTD	1BL	84.6km S'ly of Edjudina	Lat: 30° 34' S: Long: 122° 25' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	29/1192	REGENT RESOURCES PTY LTD	4BL	97.8km W'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 48' S: Long: 120° 20' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	29/1193	REGENT RESOURCES PTY LTD	2BL	94.2km W'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 50' S: Long: 120° 22' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	29/1247	STUBBS, Gregory Wayne	1BL	25.4km NE'ly of Menzies	Lat: 29° 35' S: Long: 121° 16' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	29/1248	STUBBS, Gregory Wayne	1BL	24.8km NE'ly of Menzies	Lat: 29° 34' S: Long: 121° 15' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	39/2394	MONUMENT EXPLORATION PTY LTD	70BL	43km W'ly of Laverton	Lat: 28° 30' S: Long: 121° 58' E	LAVERTON SHIRE, LEONORA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	39/2422	GALEA, Michael	2BL	68.2km S'ly of Laverton	Lat: 29° 11' S: Long: 122° 8' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	39/2423	GALEA, Michael	1BL	64.2km S'ly of Laverton	Lat: 29° 11' S: Long: 122° 16' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	39/2424	GALEA, Michael	3BL	64.4km N'ly of Edjudina	Lat: 29° 14' S: Long: 122° 16' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	45/6122	FIRST WESTERN GOLD PTY LTD	67BL	47.1km E'ly of Goldsworthy	Lat: 20° 29' S: Long: 119° 56' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	45/6638	FMG PILBARA PTY LTD	38BL	66.3km NE'ly of Nullagine	Lat: 21° 32' S: Long: 120° 38' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	45/6661	WEST AUSTRALIAN PROSPECTORS PTY LTD	8BL	63km NE'ly of Nullagine	Lat: 21° 35' S: Long: 120° 37' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	57/1236	ROX (MURCHISON) PTY LTD	7BL	57.4km SW'ly of Sandstone	Lat: 28° 22' S: Long: 118° 54' E	SANDSTONE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	57/1237	ROX (MURCHISON) PTY LTD	2BL	76.9km SW'ly of Sandstone	Lat: 28° 31' S: Long: 118° 48' E	SANDSTONE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	59/2831	YALGOO EXPLORATION PTY LTD	40BL	13km NW'ly of Yalgoo	Lat: 28° 14' S: Long: 116° 36' E	YALGOO SHIRE
Exploration Licence	59/2832	YALGOO EXPLORATION PTY LTD	52BL	32km N'ly of Yalgoo	Lat: 28° 3' S: Long: 116° 45' E	YALGOO SHIRE
Exploration Licence	70/6515	MOLLERIN MINERALS PTY LTD	45BL	82.6km NW'ly of Mukinbudin	Lat: 30° 20' S: Long: 117° 38' E	KOORDA SHIRE, MOUNT MARSHALL SHIRE
Exploration Licence	77/2876	CRATONIX PTY LTD	7BL	131.6km N'ly of Southern Cross	Lat: 30° 2' S: Long: 119° 13' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Exploration Licence	77/2945	GOLDZONE INVESTMENTS PTY LTD	28BL	104.1km N'ly of Southern Cross	Lat: 30° 17' S: Long: 119° 17' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Exploration Licence	77/3116	KULA GOLD LIMITED	60BL	18.5km NE'ly of Southern Cross	Lat: 31° 6' S: Long: 119° 27' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Exploration Licence	77/3125	GOLDZONE INVESTMENTS PTY LTD	4BL	116.3km N'ly of Southern Cross	Lat: 30° 11' S: Long: 119° 8' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	24/5683-5685	MCAULIFFE, Bernard James	586.29HA	11.8km SW'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 25' S: Long: 120° 57' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	24/5691-5693	STEHN, Anthony Paterson	575.79HA	5.9km NE'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 24' S: Long: 121° 21' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	26/4710-4711	NORTHERN STAR RESOURCES LTD	203.50HA	26km S'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 58' S: Long: 121° 31' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	28/1408	BASTOW, Anthony Brian	3.89HA	75.6km E'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 30' S: Long: 122° 12' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	45/3189-3190	STREAM, Kevin Ross	19.64HA	48.5km SE'ly of Marble Bar	Lat: 21° 25' S: Long: 120° 7' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE

Nature of the act: Grant of prospecting licences which authorises the applicant to prospect for minerals for a term of 4 years from date of grant. Grant of exploration licences, which authorises the applicant to explore for minerals for a term of 5 years from the date of grant.

Notification day: 1 November 2023

Native title parties: 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 applications. The 3 month period closes on **1 February 2024**. Any person who is, or becomes a native title party, is entitled to the negotiation and/or procedural rights provided in Part 2 Division 3 Subdivision P of *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*. Enquiries in relation to filing a native title determination application to become a native title party should be directed to the Federal Court of Australia, 1 Victoria Avenue, Perth WA 6000, telephone (08) 9268 7100.

Expedited procedure: The State of Western Australia considers that these acts are acts attracting the expedited procedure. Each licence may be granted unless, within the period of 4 months after the notification day (i.e. **1 March 2024**), a native title party lodges an objection with the National Native Title Tribunal against the inclusion of the statement that the State considers the grant of the licence is an act attracting the expedited procedure. Enquiries in relation to lodging an objection should be directed to the National Native Title Tribunal, Level 5, 1 Victoria Avenue, Perth, or GPO Box 9973, Perth, WA 6848, telephone (08) 9425 1000.

For further information about the act (including extracts of plans showing the boundaries of the applications), contact the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004, or telephone (08) 9222 3518.

* - 1 Graticular Block = 2.8 km²

DMIRS 18477

Knights, Panthers, Upton rule

BACK-to-back premierships, player of the year Dally M Medal, Karyn Murphy Medal as best-on for the grand final and another season building on the season before – the 2023 NRLW season had it all. Here, Koori Mail Sports' resident rugby league writer KRIS FLANDERS takes a look at the Indigenous players across the competition...

Brisbane (2) Narikah Orchard Keisha-Leigh Coolwell

Brisbane pair Narikah Orchard (prop) and Keisha-Leigh Coolwell (centre) joined the Broncos from the Brisbane Tigers club but must cool their heels until season 2024 to make their respective debuts. **Coach: Scott Prince**

Canberra (3) Ahlivia Ingram Tommaya Kelly-Sines Shakiah Tungai

Ahlivia Ingram made her debut in round 5 after making her way through the Raiders pathways. She played two games for the 'Green Machine' and more may come in 2024. The prop also played for the Indigenous All-Stars earlier this year and capped it off with an appearance for the Australian PM's XIII against PNG in September. Tommaya Kelly-Sines returned to the NRLW for just her second time after making her debut with Parramatta in 2021. She played seven games and showed why she's suited in the big league with over 470m made and over 80 tackles. Speedy winger Shakiah Tungai played in her fifth NRLW season in which she made nine appearances.

Cronulla (3) Rhianon Byers Quincy Dodd Jada Taylor

Rhianon Byers joined the Sharks after switching from rugby union where she played for Australia. However, a wrist injury ruled her out for most of the 2023 season. The experienced Quincy Dodd played in her fifth NRLW season and was at her busy best making the hooker spot her own. She played all nine matches and scored three tries with over 650m made and was a workhorse in defence with over 230 tackles. Dodd was also skipper for the Indigenous All-Stars in February. Jada Taylor linked up with the Sharks from the Roosters to play six games. Despite missing three games through injury, the talented fullback scored two tries and made over 620m in attack.

Gold Coast (5) Shaylee Bent Jaime Chapman Taliah Fuimaono Kaitlyn Phillips Brooke Saddler

Shaylee Bent played in all 11 matches for the Gold Coast in which the hard-working second-rower scored a couple of tries, carried the ball up for over 1160m and tackled her heart out with over 235 made. In a big year, she represented the Indigenous All-Stars, NSW and Australia. Jaime Chapman was another shining



Above: Taneka Todhunter;
Right: Olivia Kernick. Getty Images

light for the Titans in their trek to the grand final, in which she scored a hat-trick. She crossed nine times in the nine games she played. The strong and quick centre ran for over 1130m and broke the line on 11 occasions. Like Bent, Chapman also played for the All-Stars, NSW and Australia. Taliah Fuimaono played just once for the Titans this season after an ankle injury sidelined her for most of the season and the five-eight was unable to break back into the side. Kaitlyn Phillips played three games off the interchange bench and the forward is sure to add more next year. Brooke Saddler may need to wait until 2024 to make her NRLW debut after sustaining an horrific injury during a trial match where she broke her fibula and tibia which required surgery.

Newcastle (4) Caitlin Moran Caitlan Johnston Tazmyne Luschwitz Tamika Upton

Newcastle won 10 of their 11 games, including the all-important premiership-decider. Caitlin Moran played three matches for the Knights and was also a winner with the Newcastle Yowies at the Koori Knockout. Caitlan Johnston played in 10 matches and scored that memorable try in the semi-final against Brisbane. Always hard to contain, Johnston was at her unstoppable best making 1270m in hit-ups and nearly 200 tackles. She was also in the thick of the representative action for the All-Stars, NSW and Australia. A crowd favourite in the Hunter region. Tazmyne Luschwitz is a local footballer and played most of the season for the Knights in their NSWRL Women's Premiership side. The gifted hooker will be aiming to make her NRLW debut in 2024. What more can be said about Tamika Upton? Her performance in the Knights' grand final win was unforgettable. Her 11 appearances netted seven tries but she also made 12 line-breaks and had 10 try assists to her name. Upton made her long



awaited debut in Aussie colours during the Pacific Championships. Not surprisingly, Newcastle, have her signed up until the end of 2027. **Coach: Ron Griffiths**

North Queensland (10) Essay Banu Bree Chester Kirra Dibb Tallisha Harden Shaylee Joseph Sareka Mooka Mia Middleton Shaniah Power Jasmine Peters Tahlulah Tillett

Essay Banu played for the All-Stars in February and made her NRLW debut in round 4. She represented the other side of her heritage when she played for PNG at the Pacific Championships. Bree Chester made her NRLW debut at second-row, playing eight matches for two tries, over 630m gained and 247 tackles. Kirra Dibb was co-captain of the Cowboys and the five-eighth didn't disappoint, playing in all nine matches with a try and 18 goals for a tally of 40 points. She also had five try-assists and five line breaks. Tallisha Harden has done it all in the sport. The veteran premiership winner played all nine matches for the Cowboys and showed she still has all the skills and grunt to be in the forwards at the elite level. Harden carried the ball up for over 740m and over 130 tackles. Shaylee Joseph is coming along well and should make her NRLW debut next season. Sareka Mooka got her

first taste of NRLW footy this year. The big, bustling forward played six matches collecting one try. Mia Middleton was another first-time Cowboy. She played four matches and would have been more if not for a two-week suspension. Shaniah Power played in her fourth NRLW season and made five appearances for the Cowboys. The second-rower isn't just a yard-maker – with over 600m to her name – she also has handy ball skills with seven off-loads and three line-breaks. Jasmine Peters entered her third NRLW season with just eight games over two years. She eclipsed that by playing in all nine games for the club. The classy centre crossed for three tries and made over 860m with 92 tackles. Tahlulah Tillett missed the first three weeks but played the final six games. Her kicking game stepped up another level as she took the reins at halfback. She forced two drop-outs and averaged over 124m in kicks. Tillett also showed her playmaking skills with five try-assists and four-line breaks. The halfback didn't mind the rough stuff either making 123 tackles.

Parramatta (7) Tallara Bamblett Nakia Davis-Welsh Monique Donovan Kimberley Hunt Mahalia Murphy Kyra Simon Taneka Todhunter

The Eels had a tough season after making last year's decider.

Coach Dean Widders has stepped down from his role as head coach and they finished with the dreaded wooden-spoon with just the single victory. Tallara Bamblett was a development list player for Parra this season but will have to bide her time for an NRLW debut in 2024. Nakiah Davis-Welsh made her long-awaited NRLW debut and played two games for the Eels off the interchange bench. Monique Donovan made a classy NRLW debut. Described as athletic, with great speed and a good finisher, Donovan crossed for three tries in six games at centre and wing. Kimberley Hunt made a dashing NRLW debut as the flashy centre/wing from where she scored five tries in her seven matches. Hunt ran for over 620m and was rewarded for a big season by being named in the PM's XIII in September. Dual league and union international Mahalia Murphy returned to the NRLW and scored three tries in nine matches. With the ability to play in the backs and the forwards, Murphy appeared in the centres and in the second-row. With her size and speed, she carved out over 1060m and made over 115 tackles. Kyra Simon played three games for the Eels from the bench and the prop showed plenty of promise. Taneka Todhunter was another making her NRLW debut and she made a real go of it. She was explosive off the bench and was rewarded with an PM's XIII jersey to cap off a good year. **Coach: Dean Widders**

St George-Illawarra (2) Cheynoah Amone Bobbi Law

Cheynoah Amone made her NRLW debut and wore the 'Red V' on three occasions. She was also part of the Newcastle Yowies that won the Koori Knockout. She was impressive with Canterbury in the NRLW Women's Premiership. Bobbi Law won a premiership with Newcastle before signing with the Saints where she played five matches for the Dragons before a season-ending hamstring injury stopped her progress. In those five matches she scored twice and made over 750m. **Coach: Jamie Soward**

Sydney Roosters (2) Keilee Joseph Olivia Kernick

Keilee Joseph is a powerful lock for the Roosters. She didn't miss a match all season, playing in all her club's 10 matches. The rugged forward made over 1050m with the ball in hand and crushed the opposition through 271 tackles. She made her Queensland State of Origin debut and was named player of the match. Joseph was also an Indigenous All-Star. Joining a tough Roosters forward pack was Olivia Kernick. The second-rower also never missed a game, playing 10 times for one try. Her workrate was consistent, carting the ball up for over 930m and making 260 tackles in defence. Kernick was rewarded with a recall into the NSW Blues side for Game II.

Wests Tigers (0)

in a big season to remember

A THREE-PEAT, a once-in-a-generation player who orchestrated it and a compelling State of Origin series highlighted a sensational 2023 season. Here, KRIS FLANDERS runs his eye over the Indigenous contingent who were right in the thick of it...

Brisbane (4) Selwyn Cobbo Ezra Mam Kotoni Staggs Reece Walsh

Selwyn Cobbo was sublime in 2023 and was at home in the Origin arena for Queensland and ended the year in Australian colours. Ezra Mam had one hand on the NRL trophy and in the other hand was the Clive Churchill Medal – that was until Penrith's Nathan Cleary produced his magic in the grand final. Mam stepped up for Brisbane as the season progressed; he will be a lynchpin for the Broncos in the future. Kotoni Staggs brought up his 100th game and the strike centre finished the year with Australian rep honours. Reece Walsh was dynamite for Brisbane at fullback this season, particularly in attack and helped the Maroons to win the Origin series.

Canberra (4) Jamal Fogarty Sebastian Kris Xavier Savage Jack Wighton

Jamal Fogarty enjoyed a good season for the 'Green Machine' with his general play and attack under the guidance of coach and former great Ricky Stuart. Fogarty played 24 games and his kicking game was on-point. Sebastian Kris played his 50th game and scored seven tries in 21 games. Xavier Savage had a rough start to the season after fracturing his jaw in the Raiders opening trial match. He returned to action in round 10 for his only game in top-grade. Jack Wighton's final year with Canberra before he moves on to play with South Sydney showed why he will be sorely missed in the nation's capital. The talented five-eighth also stepped down from rep duties and NSW would have loved his services. However, he will miss the opening three rounds in the new year through suspension.

Canterbury Bulldogs (2) Josh Addo-Carr Braidon Burns

Josh Addo-Carr returned to the Origin arena for NSW this year and the fan fave appeared 15 times for 11 tries at the 'Kennel'. Injury kept him on the sidelines for six weeks. He was ruled out for playing for Australia in the Pacific Championships after copping a two-match ban for his role in a brawl at the Koori Knockout.

Braidon Burns had a mixed bag this year in which he played eight games for two tries. Injury prevented the centre/winger from adding more. His performance against the Saints in round 9 showed plenty of guts where he basically played the match on one leg. He missed the next seven weeks but returned to

play six further games.

Cronulla (5) Wade Graham Nicho Hynes William Kennedy Jesse Ramien Braydon Trindall

Club captain and veteran forward Wade Graham led from the front this season – the only way he knows how. He played 20 games and is now just three short of the magical 300-game milestone which will come next season. Nicho Hynes was dropped from the NSW team mid-season but ended the year in Australian colours. William Kennedy extended his time at the club by penning a two-year deal in April. That's great news for Cronulla fans given the livewire fullback scored 14 tries in just 19 games. He ran for nearly 2500m and had seven try-assists. Jesse Ramien was again reliable in the centres for the Sharks. From 25 games he crossed for 11 tries. Featuring speed and strength, Ramien went for over 3500m and was tough in defence with 319 tackles. Braydon Trindall played most of his 13 games in the halves including two semi-final matches. He finished the season on 51 NRL career games.

(The) Dolphins (5) Trai Fuller Josh Kerr Brenko Lee Edrick Lee Brayden McGrady

Trai Fuller had his dreams come true when he scored in his debut game in round 25. Fuller played most of the season for the Redcliffe Dolphins in the Queensland Cup where he scored 14 tries in 17 games. Prop Josh Kerr played 22 games this year – 14 with St George-Illawarra before making a late-season switch to play with the Dolphins where he played eight games. Brenko Lee played 13 games this year for his new club. Unfortunately, his cousin Edrick Lee played only one game in round 5. Brayden McGrady made his NRL debut this season at 26.

Gold Coast (4) Jayden Campbell David Fifita Brian Kelly Treyman Spry

Jayden Campbell is making a name for himself and not just as a son-of-a-gun. The youngster scored five tries and kicked five goals in his 22 appearances. David Fifita played 22 games and the forward knows exactly where the tryline is, and he made over 3200m and placed over 580 tackles in defence. Brian Kelly played 21 games which netted six tries. He finished the season on 146 NRL career games and will pass that next big milestone early next year. Treyman Spry couldn't crack a spot in the Titans top 17 this season and played for the Tweed Seagulls in the Queensland Cup where he scored 13 tries in 18 games.

Manly (2) Zac Fulton Jason Saab

Zac Fulton bears one of the

greatest surnames in rugby league. He's the grandson of the late, great Immortal Bob Fulton. Zac is embarking on making his own name at Manly. After his NRL debut in 2022, Fulton found it hard to crack the top 17 this season and played most of 2023 for the Sea-Eagles' NSW Cup side. Jason Saab is a pure speed machine and again was in the thick of the try-scoring action. He crossed for 14 tries in his 19 games and made over 2350m for the year. It was his fifth season in the NRL.

Melbourne (1)

Reimis Smith
Reimis Smith played 22 times for the Storm this year and celebrated his 100th NRL career game. This was his seventh season in top-grade in which he scored five tries. The centre is an integral part of coach Craig Bellamy's backline.

Newcastle (3) Bradman Best Dane Gagai Adam Elliott

What a stellar year Bradman Best had – 25 games for the Knights, 13 tries, 16 try-assists, 11 linebreaks and 56 busted tackles. He was unstoppable and was rewarded with NSW Origin rep honours where he scored twice and celebrated one of those with a 'shake-a-leg' dance alongside Josh Addo-Carr. After playing 22 matches Dane Gagai, passed the 250-game milestone. Adam Elliott played 18 games at lock where he ran for 1928m and racked up 592 tackles. Elliott is now just seven games shy from the 150-game milestone.

North Queensland (4) Reuben Cotter Scott Drinkwater Gehemat Shibusaki Jamayne Taunoa-Brown

Reuben Cotter has the biggest engine in the game – 20 games for four tries, 2230m made and over 600 tackles. Scott Drinkwater played 21 games at fullback and was the biggest playmakers; he was a Dally M contender for most of the season. Gehemat Shibusaki had a hamstring injury which cruelled his season to just two games. 'JTB' played 17 games in the forward pack in which he came off the interchange bench.

Parramatta (1) J'Maine Hopgood

The hardworking lock J'Maine



West Tigers' Jahream Bula was a revelation this season in the NRL. Picture: Getty Images

Hopgood made the spot his own as he turned out 24 times for the Eels – the most he's played in the elite level since he first started in 2021. Getting through a ton of work, Hopgood, made over 2970m and an incredible 956 tackles and his first try in the NRL.

Penrith (2) Chris Smith Tyrone Peachey

Chris Smith was unable to crack the red-hot Penrith forward pack this season and played 23 matches for the club's NSW Cup side in which he scored two tries. Tyrone Peachey was in and out of the top 17 throughout the entire season. 'The Peach' came off the interchange bench for the winning semi-final clash against the Warriors but was left out of the side that beat Melbourne (prelim final) and Brisbane (grand final). He brought up 200 career games during the season.

South Sydney (6) Alex Johnston Latrell Mitchell Shaq Mitchell Blake Taaffe Isaiah Taas Cody Walker

Alex Johnston is one of the game's best try-scorers and this season kept up his lethal strikerate with 21 from 23 games. 'AJ' also had PNG rep honours at season's end. Another big name Latrell Mitchell scored nine tries from his 16 games and ran for over 2035m. Brother Shaq played 11 games and will continue to hunt for more NRL games. Blake

Taaffe signed with Canterbury mid-season. The versatile back played 10 games. Isaiah Tass was brilliant and always solid for the Bunnies. In his 23 appearances, he crossed for nine tries and with over 2860m. Cody Walker returned to the Origin arena for a famous win for the Blues. The crafty five-eight is approaching 200 appearances and 100 tries.

St George-Illawarra (5)

Jack Bird Tyrell Fuimaono Josh Kerr Tyrell Sloan Jayden Sullivan

Jack Bird completed his eight season of top eight football in which he played 14 games and scored two tries. Tyrell Fuimaono only played two games early in the season. Josh Kerr played the majority of the season with the Saints before defecting to the Dolphins. Tyrell Sloan is a local junior who played 23 games and is one of the hottest prospects at the club. Another promising young talent at the club Jayden Sullivan played 12 games for three tries and three goals and will play for the Saints till the end of 2025.

Sydney Roosters (1) Connor Watson

This was a year to forget for Connor Watson. The versatile player didn't play any football at all in 2023 after suffering a patella tendon injury at training in January from which the 26-year-old required surgery.

NZ Warriors (1) Josh Curran

One of the most recognised players on the field due to his deadly Indigenous painted headgear. But Curran is tough as they come, is a consistent hard worker and a fan fave amongst the Warriors faithful. This year he played 23 games and scored four tries and brought up 50 NRL matches. The lock/second-rower mainly played off the interchange bench including the three matches in the Warriors finals campaign.

Wests Tigers (4) Jahream Bula Daine Laurie Brent Naden Triston Reilly

Jahream Bula's dream debut season was simply brilliant. His first game was in round 8 and ended the year with 18 games. The fullback is blessed with speed and footwork and scored five tries, and made over 2850m with the ball. He won the club's Kelly-Barnes Medal as Tigers Player of the Year and extended his stay at the club to 2027, Daine Laurie appeared on 11 occasions for the Tigers and scored twice during the season. He will return to Penrith next season, the club he started with, on a one-year deal. Brent Naden suffered an AC joint injury to the shoulder which restricted him to eight games. Triston Reilly came to league after a long stint with rugby union. The outside back played three games for a single try in his NRL debut.



Tamika Upton has carried her stellar NRLW form in the Pacific Championships for the Jillaroos. Picture: AAP

Upton on fire in Pac Ch'ships



SUPERSTAR fullback Tamika Upton has carried her stellar form from the 2023 season into the Pacific Championships for the Australian Jillaroos.

Newcastle Knights' Upton was called up to the Australian squad following her NRLW Dally M Medal-winning season that also saw her with the Karen Murphy Medal as best-on-ground in the grand final in which she scored a double on the way to the Knights' second premiership. On international debut for Australia, Upton scored a double in a narrow 16-10 win over a gallant New Zealand in Townsville.

Upton was a constant threat and her speed and game sense proved the difference in the tight Pacific Championships opener.

Upton, who missed last year's World Cup with a calf injury, lit up proceedings with a try from a set play from a scrum where she drifted across field before accelerating through the defence to score with ease and give the hosts a 16-4 lead at halftime.

Upton had the most decisive influence in the match with her 214m, three line breaks and two crucial tries world class.

"She has been the form fullback," coach Brad Donald said prior to the championships.

"There's a couple of fullbacks in there but she has had an outstanding year; she's a special player."

Along with Upton, the Jillaroos contain a number of Indigenous players and All-Star representatives, including Jaime Chapman, Olivia Kernick, Caitlan Johnston, Shaylee Bent, Keilee Joseph, with Jess Skinner as assistant coach. – with AAP

Knights coach savours back-to-back NRLW titles

By KRIS FLANDERS



HAVING guided the Newcastle Knights to twin NRLW titles, coach

Ron Griffiths still has much more he wants to accomplish.

The Gommeroi man, one of four Indigenous men senior coaches in the NRLW this past season, steered the Knights to back-to-back premierships when they defeated a gallant Gold Coast 24-18 in the 2023 grand final in Sydney.

The 2023 Indigenous All-Stars coach knows that if he is still at the helm of the women's side next season, he knows what he wants to do.

"For me going back-to-back as a coach solidifies my visions and what I've wanted for this club and to help the players with," he said.

"I want the players to know and feel like they're a special part of a club that I'm coaching at.

"It's also given me the chance to look at what we still need to grow and work on, both defensively and in our attack."

Griffiths knows all too well what is ahead for his

side. The Knights are from the NSW Hunter region and will again be the hunted in the next NRLW season as they strive to emulate the great Brisbane Broncos side of 2018-2020 which won three consecutive premierships.

Griffiths said the goal at the beginning of the season was always to keep their crown but knew the rest of the competition would be gunning for the champions throughout the year.

"We were in a unique situation at the start of the contracting year where all of our players were not officially signed," he said.

"There were four new teams introduced to the competition, we'd won last year and a lot of the other teams were looking to sign our players. We also lost a few big names, but we put together a very strong side and we turned up each week for each other.

"We only dropped one game during the year and that's a testament to the strength and the desire they have."

Griffiths' Knights showed why they're the best in the business in the grand final.

"I think the first 25 minutes of the match set us to get the win to be

Two-time NRLW Premiership-winning coach, Ron Griffiths.



honest," he said.

"If you look at both halves they were pretty similar, we defended for long periods of time and the Titans had the majority of possession and field position. Our resolve to keep turning up defensively set us up to keep in touch and allowed us to finish over the top of them."

The win was made all the more sweeter with Griffiths' family present.

"The game was good

from my perspective," he said.

"I got to have my mum and wife and kids and sisters down there for support. I felt good. It was a roller-coaster of a game for sure. Our confidence in our abilities and what we could create gave us the opportunity to always be in the contest."

Griffiths heaped plenty of praise upon Tamika Upton who turned the match in favour of Newcastle. Upton's was a

match-winning performance and won the Karyn Murphy Medal as player of the match.

"A great compliment for a player is they make other players around them better and that's what Tamika does," Griffiths said.

"She does that through her performances and how she mentors younger players. All the personal accolades she's achieved, she deserves fully. She has success wherever she goes; she's a football tragic who loves and studies the game and that come out every week. Tamika definitely knows her craft."

Griffiths had sparkling statements about his robust prop-forward and Indigenous All-Star Caitlan Johnston. The ball-playing front-rower was consistently one of the Knights best performers all season.

Johnston was hard to stop for opposition defence and scored a cracking try in Newcastle's semi-final victory against Brisbane. She is one of the club's true leaders.

"The group love her, playing alongside her, in the sheds getting ready the team feels confident that she will deliver something special," the coach said.

"Caitlan is the leader of the pack, extremely skilful, in both defence and attack.

"When you look at that grand final, the hot and adverse weather conditions, all the other forwards on that day were gassed (but) she played the entire first half without a break, that's phenomenal."

"She's tough, mentally – she means a lot to this side."

The NRLW squad played in front of big home crowds throughout the 2023 season, including a parochial attendance for their semi-final against Brisbane where over 12,600 fans screamed the house down.

"All through the year we played in front of great crowds," Griffiths said.

"A few times we were lucky enough to play before our men's side."

"We played a stand-alone semi-final against Brisbane at home and broke the crowd record for an NRLW game. That speaks volumes to our fans and our players are invested in the community, we understand our role in the club and our role in the community to inspire."



Newcastle's Tamika Upton (left) and Caitlan Johnston celebrate a Knights try in the 2023 NRLW grand final in Sydney. The Knights won the premiership after defeating Gold Coast 24-18. Picture: Getty Images

An interesting – and welcome – take by the Dockers for Pride Round

THE AFLW's annual Pride Round in round 10 is a real conversation starter, and personally I'm loving that and the 18 guernsey designs. It is so good to see teams getting behind this round, it means so much to so many players, their family and the community.

I love the story behind Fremantle' jumper, designed by vice-captain Ange Stannett. It has a powerful message behind it – on the back is a representation of statistics that reveal the hardship still felt within the LGBTIQIA+ community.

Ange wanted to go further than

just celebrating the awesome contribution of the Queer community in the AFLW by highlighting statistics that include 74.8% of the LGBTI people over aged 18 had considered attempting suicide at some point in their lives, and only 6% of LGBTIQIA+ youth are involved in a team sport in comparison to the



Shelley Ware

70% of non-LGBTIQIA+ youth. There are other statistics and I encourage you to check it out, and take a look at the other jumpers and their stories too.

Pride Round will also be the final round of this current season before the finals.

Also, around this time, \$1 million will be awarded to one of the clubs from the AFL Commission – this prize is for the combined result for both the men's and women's competition.

Currently, there are about 13 (of 18) teams that can make the finals. The final round will answer that question. There is some

exciting football ahead. I think it is safe to say Brisbane, Melbourne, Adelaide and Richmond will be there, but time will tell.

Star Brisbane Lions player Ally Anderson also played her 75th game last weekend – incredibly she is the first AFLW player to reach this milestone. She is one of four Lions (and AFLW) foundation players still at the club, with Kate Lukins, Shannon Campbell and Bre Koenen the others. Both Shannon and Bre have played their entire AFLW and junior football with Ally. That's pretty special.

Ally has had a brilliant career –

a premiership, the AFLW Award and a two-time Brisbane Lions best-and-fairest winner. From all reports Ally is as humble in life as she is brilliant in football. Congratulations Ally!

Lastly, next year for Sir Doug Nicholls Round I think clubs could follow an educational path. Education is the one thing needed more than ever nowadays. I'll talk about this in another column.

**Shelley Ware is a proud Yankunytjatjara and Wirangu woman from Adelaide. She appears on AFL.com.au's Colour Of Your Jumper.*



Former Melbourne Demons defender Neville Jetta will play for Fitzroy Stars in the 2024 season. Pictures: Fitzroy Stars

Fitzroy Stars land Jetta

By JACKSON CLARKE



FITZROY Stars Football Club have executed a massive recruiting coup with the signing of former AFL star defender Neville Jetta for the 2024 season.

The Stars play in the Melbourne metropolitan Northern Football League.

Jetta played out 13 seasons at the elite level with Melbourne. After his AFL retirement, Jetta has played for Collingwood's VFL team and is the Magpies' AFL team development coach.

The Stars announced the big

signing last week.

"Having represented the Stars previously in the 2022 and 2023 VACSAL Koorie football and netball carnivals, we have seen closely the impact he has made on the field and with our group," the club said in a statement.

"We can't be any more excited to have him join us for

the journey of 2024."

Jetta had previously played for Bundoora in the Melbourne NFL's Division 1 competition.

In Darwin in the Northern Territory Football League, he played with Palmerston where he linked up with fellow ex-AFL stars Eddie Betts (Carlton, Adelaide) and Travis Varcoe (Geelong, Collingwood).

Club legend Proctor ready for another run

By JACKSON CLARKE



THE Stars compete in Division 3 in the NFL. This year they finished the season in seventh position after five wins from 16 games.

Sign-on

It shapes as a busy off-season for the club with many re-signings posted to social media across the past week.

Stars champion Jai Burns has recommitted for 2024 on the back of an excellent season this year.

Burns was named in the



Lionel Proctor.

Stars' best players 14 times from 16 games, won the club's best-

and-fairest and placed top-five in the league's best-and-fairest.

He has played 147 games for the Stars and next season is set to become just the fourth Stars player to reach the 150-game milestone.

The club also announced the reappointment of Stars legend Lionel Proctor as coach for 2024.

Regarded by many as the most decorated player in the club's history, Proctor is a five-time best-and-fairest winner at the Stars and won the Northern Football League Division 2 best-and-fairest on two occasions.

He has had a lifelong association with the club having grown up watching his father,

Uncles and other relatives play at the club.

A talented junior, Proctor was drafted to Richmond and spent a handful of seasons on the Tigers' list culminating in 20 AFL games.

After playing for a couple of local clubs, Proctor returned to the Stars as captain in 2008 and eventually became the first player in club history to play 200 senior games.

Remarkably, the 43-year-old continues to pull the boots on and played 13 games in the 2023 season.

"We look forward to walking together with this club legend in our 17th season together," the club said.

Your club's trades, gains and losses



THE AFL trade period was as busy as ever this off-season with players requesting moves or being

moved on. Here's a look at the Indigenous players who will be wearing new colours in 2024...

• **Essendon:** Snapped up Jade Gresham from St Kilda as a free agents.

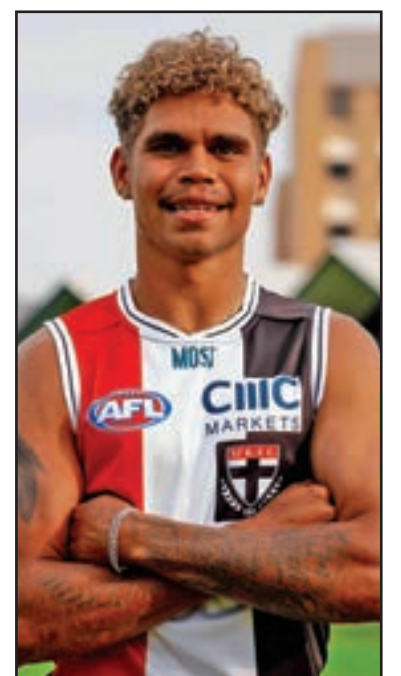
• **Fremantle:** Lost Liam Henry (St Kilda) and Joel Hamling (Sydney) but drastically improved their draft hand for next year, including two additional first-round picks.

• **Hawthorn:** Traded out Tyler Brockman (West Coast).

• **St Kilda:** Snared Liam Henry on the final day, and an end-of-first-round draft pick as compensation for Jade Gresham.

• **Sydney:** Got busy early and snapped up Joel Hamling as an unrestricted free agent.

• **West Coast:** Kept hold of the No.1 pick, for now at least, while adding Hawks forward Tyler Brockman via trade. – AAP



Liam Henry joins St Kilda ahead of the 2024 premiership season after requesting a trade away from Fremantle. Picture: St Kilda

ALW must build on Matildas' rise



WITH memories still fresh from the Matildas' stunning World Cup run toward the semi-final stage, the time is right for the A-League to maintain momentum and take the league to another level.

The unprecedented boost of the Women's World Cup could also mean this is crunch-time for the A-League Women.

Australia's top domestic women's competition has now expanded to 12 teams, with the Central Coast Mariners returning to the ALW for its first season after the record-breaking tournament on home soil that saw Australia reach the semi-final and play against England for a spot in the final, but lost 2-0.

For the first time, the ALW will contest a 22-round home-and-away season, with a top-six finish guaranteeing a finals spot.

Several Matildas have returned to the league, while World Cup shootout hero Cortnee Vine turned down offers from elsewhere to stay at Sydney FC.

After the World Cup drew sellout crowds and the Matildas smashed TV ratings, players and administrators are adamant it is time for the ALW to get its time in the sun.

Matildas star Kyah Simon has joined Central Coast Mariners for the new ALW season.

"It's perfect timing for the league to strike while the iron is hot and basically continue that momentum through the season," she said.

"Hopefully it's not 'one and done' and women's football is here to stay this season and beyond."

The players are prepared to do their part. The World Cup delivered a shot in the arm

for women's football but league bosses understand that surge of interest guarantees nothing.

The presence of Matildas including Simon, Melbourne Victory's Lydia Williams and Sydney FC's Cortnee Vine will boost the A-League Women.

"Sustaining that type of thing is never possible," Danny Townsend, chief executive of the Australian Professional Leagues, said.

"What we're going to see is a nice bounce – our job is to try and maintain that for as long as we can.

"We'll continue to build on it as the seasons go by, particularly in the women's game.

"(The women's competition is) relatively nascent in its professionalism, we've invested heavily in it."

Ensuring top-quality pitches and fan-friendly kick-off times will be crucial to garnering interest, while every game is already streamed live and free via broadcast partners Channel Ten and Paramount.

"More teams, more matches have broadcast coverage so that's going to yield better results over time," Townsend said.

"The way we're going about it, ensuring that everything's free (to watch) from a female perspective last year was an important step for us." – **with AAP**



ALM kicks off a new season



ALL of a sudden, the A-League Men title race feels wide open. After an off-season of upheaval, the league got a shot in the arm

when the APL reversed the drastically unpopular decision to sell the grand final hosting rights to NSW.

Now it needs the on-field action to deliver - and its next stars to emerge.

Powerhouse Melbourne City overhauled their squad following their humiliating 6-1 grand final loss to Central Coast.

Champions Central Coast lost Jason Cummings, Nectar Triantis, Sammy Silvera and coach Nick Montgomery, and will be up against it to defend their title.

Melbourne Victory are attempting to bounce back after last season's disastrous campaign, headlined by the derby pitch invasion.

The Wanderers were beaten in last season's ALM finals by rivals Sydney FC, while rejuvenated Sydney FC will attempt to kick on from their Australia Cup triumph.

Brisbane and Perth will be clubs to watch after appointing Ross Aloisi and Alen Stajcic respectively as their new coaches.

Adelaide United have farewelled talismanic captain Craig Goodwin, while Western United have turned to youth. – **AAP**

● **Tate Russell is back in the red and black of Western Sydney Wanderers for the 2024 A-League Men season. All picture: Getty Images**

Shay Evans

Central Coast Mariners



Jada Mathysen-Whyman

Sydney FC



Kyah Simon

Central Coast Mariners



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There is plenty more in sport besides the big football codes

ONCE the new Pacific Championships tournament ends, it means the rugby league season is actually over for 2023.

But for those true sports nuts, you will relish the fact that ahead of us is a huge summer of cricket. The 50-over World Cup is currently underway, and that's just the start. Pakistan comes to Australia for a three-Test match series with games in Perth, Melbourne and Sydney. Then it's the return of the "Calypso Kings" when the West Indies play two Tests in Adelaide and Brisbane, before three ODIs and Twenty20 games. Let's hope Scott Boland

can get back into the Test team and repeat some of his Test heroics from previous summers.

Our Aussie women cricketers will be in action too. They'll play a series of matches against South Africa in Canberra and Hobart. A standalone Test match between the two powerhouse teams will be played in Perth. That means we get to see the brilliant Ash Gardner in



Kris Flanders

action again. The all-rounder has cemented herself as one of the game's best and one of Australia's key figures in all forms of the game with both bat and ball.

The cricket season also sees the BBL and WBBL tournaments for those who like the crash, bash and smash version of the game. And not forgetting the Sheffield Shield for the traditionalists who love the longer format of the game.

With the mercury rising and the summer heat really setting in around late December early January, it means it's time for tennis – the Hopman Cup in

Perth, the Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide internationals, and the iconic Australian Open. The Grand Slam tournament has been the home to tennis royalty, and homegrown winners like Evonne Goolagong-Cawley and Ash Barty – Aboriginal women and former world No.1s. The question surrounding the Aussie world of tennis here is, can Novak Djokovic win another Australian Open title? He's won 10 of them, what's one more? And will Aryna Sabalenka win back-to-back?

Revheads will get their last smell of gas and the last screech of rubber on track when the Supercars wrap up for 2023 in

Adelaide with the final race of the season in late November.

For those who love nothing more than hitting a tiny white ball around well-manicured lawns and moved greens, the summer will deliver golf's Australian Open and the PGA Championship. Swinging the clubs and hearing that perfect sound is music for the ears.

So yes there's plenty of sport to keep you entertained.

**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.*



Above: Frank Reys salutes the crowd after taking Gala Supreme first past the post in the famous 1973 Melbourne Cup at Flemington.

Left: Frank Reys with daughter Shelley and a replica of the Melbourne Cup he won aboard Gala Supreme in 1973.

Reys' 1973 Melbourne Cup win celebrated at Flemington

By KRIS FLANDERS



MELBOURNE Cup-winning jockey Frank Reys' family will be special guests at Flemington next week when the VRC honours his famous 1973 victory.

"The family were thrilled that the VRC invited us to be at the track and happy that they're honouring him," daughter Shelley Reys said.

"It's nice to know that it's not just important to the family but also important to the racing industry.

"There's a short film, lots of write-ups, Dad's silks and whip, and the Melbourne Cup will all be on display.

"We celebrate Melbourne Cup every year for Dad.

"It's a time when we all pause for him and celebrate him, his life and his achievements. This year is obviously going to be extra special given it's the 50th anniversary."

Shelley said Frank would have loved to

have seen just how much the Melbourne Cup has grown today – the international attention, crowds, media presence, prizemoney, sponsorship and the spectacle that goes hand-in-hand with the prestigious race.

"When Dad won the race in 1973," she said, "it was a different time.

"Aboriginal culture and identity wasn't celebrated as well as it is today. The race at that time wasn't televised on TV, you had to listen to it on the radio. The glitz and glamour of today's Melbourne Cup carnival is something else.

"We think Dad earned about \$5000 for winning the race and you compare that with the millions on offer today, the racing industry is massive. I think Dad would be a little embarrassed with all the attention because he was a very humble man from very humble beginnings. But the family are all very confident that he would be very proud and we are happy to talk about him and showcase what he did in racing."

Shelley was just six-years-old in 1973 and wasn't allowed to be trackside at

Flemington for the big day. However, she can recall how the afternoon unfolded and remembers the day fondly.

"The racetrack on Melbourne Cup day wasn't really a place for a small child so while the family were at the track I was at the neighbours' house," she said.

"We listened to the race on the radio and when they announced that Dad won, my friends family went completely bananas. I was getting thrown up in the air and being told 'Your Dad just won the Melbourne Cup!' It was very exciting and even more so when the family got home."

Among the thousands on track were some of Frank's family members, some from as far away as Cairns, there to celebrate and witness the Melbourne Cup, and Frank's superior ride in the big race.

Photographers snapped heartwarming pictures of Frank with his miniature Melbourne Cup trophy and embracing his mob in the crowd.

"There was not a great deal of support around him from the racing industry, except the love and support from his family,"

Shelley said.

"People talk about resilience a lot, there's no better word to describe my father but as resilient. He was incredibly strong-willed despite having a soft and generous nature; he was a tough man when it came to getting in the saddle and getting the job done with the horses."

While winning the Melbourne Cup was Frank Reys' biggest victory, he was a successful jockey well before. He became an apprentice jockey in far north Queensland when he was 16 and during a 27-year racing career he saluted with over 1320 wins.

He rode against and beat the best in Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne. He also served as president of the Victorian Jockeys' Association for two years and came close to winning the Melbourne jockey's premiership.

Shelley said his story was inspiring then and inspiring today. She hopes his story encourages a new generation of young people in the racing industry and in the Indigenous communities.

Cricket all-in for summer ahead



A TRAINING camp, a game at the MCG and a series of related initiatives by Cricket Australia highlight a busy summer ahead of

Indigenous cricketers.

Cricket Australia last week released the dates of some of the significant initiatives this summer season that centre the organisation in the middle of Indigenous sport.

The match at the MCG was played over five days between two teams of players chosen from the National Indigenous Cricket Championships earlier this year. The players trained at and played on the MCG from a partnership between CA and the Melbourne Cricket Club Foundation, 3.

The MCC Foundation is an official inclusion partner of the NICC and the camp included Twenty20 matches between Indigenous men's and women's squads and an MCC XI on the MCG from Wednesday, November 1.

CA said the partnership with the MCC Foundation and the camp was its commitment to increase the representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander players and inspire Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders to love and play cricket.

The Big Bash Leagues will reaffirm their commitment to deepening meaningful connections with Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples through dedicated matches celebrating the First Nations and Traditional Owners of the land on which we live, work and play cricket.

WBBL First Nations matches



Grace Abdee is a picture of technique in this textbook square-cut for Queensland at the 2023 National Indigenous Cricket Championships against the NT at Albrecht Oval in Mparntwe-Alice Springs earlier this year. *Picture: Getty Images*

will occur on various dates between November 5-24 with games played in venues nationwide and all clubs hosting at least one match. The BBL will also feature First Nations matches, with details to be confirmed closer to the start of BBL.

Throughout First Nations matches, the WBBL and clubs will showcase Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and ceremony. Along with the barefoot circle, Welcome to Country and

incorporation of local languages, immersive experiences for fans will be created through music and art.

Additionally, players will be dressed in uniforms designed by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists, each with their own unique stories connected to the traditional lands of each club.

The National Indigenous Cricket Championships will be contested in Mparntwe (Alice Springs) from February 22-27.

The NICC will again celebrate

and showcase cricket's connection with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and inspire Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to play cricket at all levels.

The championships have also become an important showcase for our best Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cricketers as they progress through the Australian Cricket pathways and provides opportunities such as selection to attend the MCG training camp.

Nick Hockley, Cricket Australia chief executive, said:

"CA reaffirms its commitment to the ongoing journey of reconciliation and to ensuring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are included and represented in all aspects of cricket.

"Initiatives including the WBBL First Nations matches, the National Indigenous Cricket Championships and the MCG training camp are just some of the practical initiatives that will create ways for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous Australians to find common ground and connect through cricket.

"We are grateful to our partners the MCC Foundation, the NT Government, CommBank, Weber and KFC for their support in bringing these initiatives to life."

MCG camp

Men's squad

Cruz Baker (Qld.), Hayden Collins (WA), Max Farmer (NSW), Cody Hoffmeister (WA), Max Ireland (WA), Brandon Kopper (Tas), Brock Larance (WA), Josh Nanson (Vic), Kobe Ross (NSW), Lesley Smith (NSW), Blake Smith (NSW), Ben Spinks (TAS), Bailey Toseland (Vic), Jacob Turner (Qld.).

Women's squad

Grace Abdee (Qld.), Callee Black (NSW), Kameryn Bray (Qld.), Dharmini Chauhan (NSW), Christina Coulson (Qld.), Rikki Garlett (WA), Lara Graham (NSW), Merinda Hale (VIC), Piper Hooke (NSW), Veronica Keen (WA), Destiny Mippy (WA), Aimee Ravot (NSW), Clodah Ryall (Qld.), Charlotte Toohey (WA).

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Bayles builds on career at Illawarra



BIWALI Bayles is making steady headway into his basketball career

after racking up the minutes for Illawarra in the new 2023-24 NBL season.

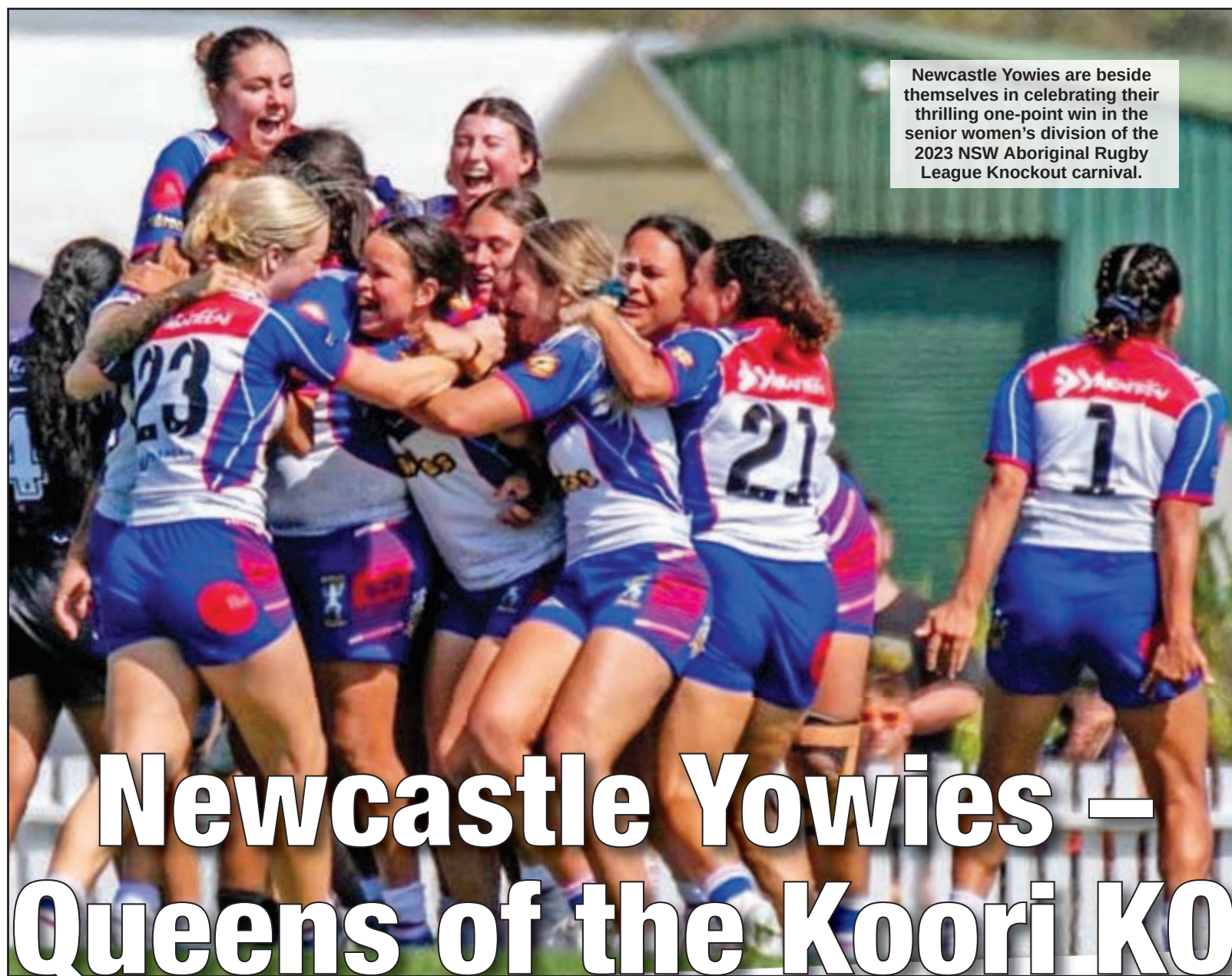
The explosive point-guard is at his second NBL club, joining the Hawks as a development player in the off-season after starting his career at the Sydney Kings where he spent the 2021-22 and 2022-23 seasons.

Bayles joined North Gold Coast Seahawks for the 2023 NBL1 North season where he put up 15.6 points, 6.1 assists and 5.7 rebounds a game.

Bayles is joined at Illawarra by another Indigenous player, William Hickey.



Illawarra Hawks' Biwali Bayles. *Getty Images*



Newcastle Yowies are beside themselves in celebrating their thrilling one-point win in the senior women's division of the 2023 NSW Aboriginal Rugby League Knockout carnival.

Newcastle Yowies – Queens of the Koori KO

By KRIS FLANDERS



AMONG the many great games of the entire NSW Koori Knockout weekend – and there were many – the greatest can be said belonged to the women, specifically, the final between the Redfern All Blacks and Newcastle Yowies.

The red, white and blue of Newcastle was flying a little higher when, after an incredible contest, a golden-point extra-time thriller delivered the Novocastrians a 13-12 victory over their worthy opponents the All Blacks.

NRLW champion Caitlin Moran kicked the field goal that won the match for Newcastle; weeks later, the excitement is still in the air for those involved. Incredibly, she only just made it to the game on time.

Yowies committee member Kasey Tahu played a big hand in building the women's side and said the game will long live in the memories of the players, coaching staff and fans. The team was coached by her husband, dual international Timana Tahu.

"A win like that always brings out different emotions, we were happy and we were relieved," she said.

"The quality of league is next level, such a close contest, both sides were amazing. The win was a little bit sweeter as it was our 10th year anniversary in the Knockout, (it was) an overwhelming feeling and we just felt very grateful."

The Yowies' defence was never broken and they piled on 66 points on the way to the final. They defeated Wellington Wedgetails 8-0, Ngullinga Doobs United 24-0 and Darkinjung Waters 34-0.

Former Yowies captain/coach and committee member Lehetta Lane-Porter said it was a weekend to savour.

"I was always confident going into that weekend and the final, there was just something different for the squad and we had the confidence to create something big," she said.

"We had some older girls return to the side and that was a boost. Ten years in the making and you couldn't have written a better script."

Moran has just about done it all in rugby league – playing for the Jillaroos, NSW and an



Happy team at the Yowies with (from left) Rikka Lamb, Caitlin Moran and Lehetta Lane-Porter.

NRLW title with Newcastle Knights in 2022. Nobody was surprised when the 26-year-old stepped up to execute the winning play.

"She's been with us for 10 years, started when she was just 16-years-old, she's always been a great talent," Tahu said.

"Caitlin got to the 'KO' grand final just moments before the game started; she was with the Newcastle Knights (2023 premiers) the night before and then she delivers a performance like that."

It was some wise words from the team's former captain/coach when scores were tied.

"Before the start of that extra-time," Lehetta Lane-Porter said, "I basically said to Caitlin three words: 'We need you'. Then she goes and does that."

The Yowies were expertly coached by former NRL star, Timana Tahu and the team called on his experience and knowledge. He was another vital piece of the puzzle and the success of the Newcastle side.

"He's always been there and supported the women's teams," Kasey said.

"He's always coached the men but this year he took on the women and he just enjoyed

every bit of it. For him, it was about giving back to the community and developing those players, giving them the opportunity to shine and show what they're capable of."

Lane-Porter had extra reason to be happy when the Yowies' under-15 girls side won their KO age-group competition. It added to a memorable weekend for the red, white and blues.

"I've got two daughters in that team," she said, "and we made sure that we passed onto them what it means to pull on that Yowies jersey."

"We trained for about six or seven weeks beforehand leading into the KO; we did cultural camps to empower the young girls and putting pride into what being a Yowie means."

The Yowies are known as the family club – they play for one another.

"The family part is the foundation of this club," Tahu said.

"There's an old saying that goes, 'Blood makes you related, but loyalty makes you family'. It's not just on the field but off it as well, and it's not just the players but the people who help behind the scenes."

"Everyone chips in."

The women's and under-15s' victories was particularly special for the Wright family with the late great Jimmy Wright having formed the Yowies over two decades ago. It was his dream to have successful female Yowies teams and he would have looked down at the KO with fondness and a smile.

His wife Gwen is a Yowies legend too and she was on the sidelines to witness the wins and cheer on her girls.

"He (Jimmy Wright) would be so proud," Tahu said.

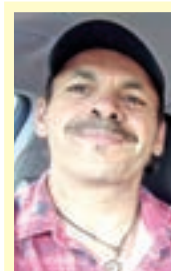
"He always supported our girls playing footy. When the men won the KO he came to us girls and said it's time to put in a women's side. Nan, too, there on the sideline – she's always had our back, she loves us all and was just so happy and content."

Lane-Porter: "To have his initials, 'EJW' on the jersey, for me, it brings a tear to my eye, to put that jumper on. I owe him so much, to Nan and Pop both, a special moment."

"We shed lots of tears after the game because this is what they created, such a legacy."

Equalising pay scales is a big win for all

It occurs to me that women athletes are more multi-dimensional in their skillset than their male counterparts. While there are subtle differences with the way they play the traditionally male-dominated sports, i.e. rugby league, cricket, Aussie rules, basketball, etc – it is more their sporting background that is a major point of difference to how they play these games right now than the men playing those same games.



Darren Moncrieff

As an example, find me a former soccer-football national captain currently in the 'Ms' of the NRL and AFL (Jess Waterhouse), or a championship player in the WNBL and WNBA who also is a premiership player in the AFLW (Erin Phillips), perhaps a one-time touch football representative and rugby sevens international now in the AFLW (Brooke Walker), even a rugby union Wallaroos key-position player now dominating in the NRLW (Mahalia Murphy)... I could go on. The point is, you will not find professional male athletes with as a diverse sporting backgrounds as these.

So I think sports administrators ought to have a good look at not only what the current crop of female players are bringing to their respective leagues and competitions but from where they've come from in taking those games to another level. Not necessarily for back-pay – but, I mean, who doesn't love a good back-pay payday – but in what these athletes bring to their games. Does that make any former athlete of one sport of more value to a particular code when they make the switch than someone who has only played the one sport from a young age? No.

What I'm saying is that women's sport and the women who play them must be on a pay level commensurate with their male counterparts because they are taking the games once dominated by men to another kind of entertainment, and therefore its value, than what has been before.

**Darren Moncrieff is a Wadjarli-Thakarli/Yinggarda man from Kuwinyardu (Carnarvon) in Western Australia who started with Yamaji News in 1997 and freelanced in WA's Kimberley region and in the Northern Territory. He is Koori Mail sports editor*

Got something to say? Then say it! Drop us a line: sport@koorimail.com



● Keanu Pinder looks more super-hero than professional basketballer with his protective eye-wear but the Aboriginal man from Derby in WA put in a super-hero effort in this slam dunk for the Perth Wildcats in a recent match during the 2023-24 NBL Season.

Picture:
Peter Argent

Frank Reys' dream run in 1973 Melbourne Cup victory

By KRIS FLANDERS



THE Melbourne Cup seemed like an elusive dream for jockey Frank Reys because in eight previous attempts in the great race, his best result was a third-placing on Welltown in 1964.

But on that first Tuesday in November at the famous Flemington track in 1973, the Aboriginal man and experienced jockey was legged aboard Gala Supreme for trainer Ray Hutchins.

The then 41-year-old guided Gala Supreme into a great spot near the rails early despite drawing the widest barrier. Reys rode his mount brilliantly into the straight and, to the thrill of the big crowd, connections and Reys himself, nabbed the favourite Glengowan right on the finish line.

Reys, a Djiribul man, from near Cairns in far north Queensland, said after the race what the much sought-after victory meant to him.

"I kept picking myself up off the ground and hoping I would win a Melbourne Cup," he told the throng of reporters at the time.

"It's something that every Australian jockey dreams about. I still can't believe it, I don't know what to believe. It's the greatest thing that's happened to me (in my career)."

Frank Reys passed away in 1984. Next week, on Tuesday, his family will come together trackside at this year's Melbourne Cup as special guests of the Victorian Racing Club to commemorate and celebrate Frank's historic win 50 years ago.

● Continued, page 53



● Aboriginal man Frank Reys rode Gala Supreme first past the post at the 1973 Melbourne Cup at Flemington. His feats will be celebrated at the great race next week.

Cricket all-in for a packed summer

CRICKET has positioned itself centre-stage this summer with a packed calendar for Indigenous players that begins at the MCG this week.

Two Twenty20 games between men's and women's teams at the MCG this week is one of a series of initiatives by Cricket Australia that highlight a busy summer

ahead for Indigenous cricketers. Included in the packed calendar include training camps for men and women, the National Indigenous Cricket

Championships, the Imparja Cup and First Nations Round in both the BBL and WBBL.

● Full story, page 54