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Wadeye locals get their groove on



Yung Milla with Wadeye locals Tiddera, Grace, Maria, Rosemary, Yunosha and singer Kootsie Don, DJ Charly and J-Milla at the DJ workshop.



THE moment hip hopper J-Milla arrived at Wadeye (pronounced Wad-air)

community store, he was mobbed by the Mob. The 25 year old muso with a big heart has become a superstar in the remote NT Aboriginal community – and everyone wanted a selfie with him.

J had arrived by charter plane from Darwin, just as he had the year before for the first concert he'd played at the remote community. The concert had brought the eyes of the world to Wadeye through the power of social media – and with it, peace and lasting change had descended on an under-resourced and stigmatised community that had been plagued by infighting.

This year, the concert was set to be even bigger. This time, J had brought his younger brother, Yung Milla (20), emerging hip hop artist Kootsie Don, DJ Charly and the legendary Radical Son and his band.

Together with some of Australia's AFL stars, they were bringing their energy and love to the largest Aboriginal community in Australia – through Yidiyi – a two-day festival of music, sport and wellbeing.

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Residents win fight for compensation



FIRST Nations people living in remote dilapidated housing are entitled to compensation for

distress or disappointment, the High Court has ruled.

The court has handed down its decision in the long-running battle between Aboriginal residents of Ltyentye Apurte (Santa Teresa),

85km southeast of Alice Springs, and the Northern Territory housing authority, which began in 2016.

Class action

Meanwhile, thousands of

Indigenous tenants living in "substandard" public housing in remote Western Australian communities could be financially compensated.

Lawyers are exploring the

potential for a class action that could also seek to have the dilapidated homes repaired and improved.

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Joey loves sharing culture

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Williams takes on special role

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MY FAMILY

Jaylani Pryor-Murray, Bindal



I am aged 19 and live in Townsville where family is so important to me and it was great to catch up with many at an Elders Dinner last Saturday night.

My great, great grandmother Bessie Robertson was brought to Palm Island in chains from the Wenlock River area of Cape York many years ago and culture is also a big part of my life.

I am related to a large number of people on Palm Island and have heaps of relatives also living at my home of Townsville and in the regions around.

At the Elders event the *Koori Mail* took my photo with my mother Viaella Pryor, my brothers Tremaine Pryor-Murray, aged 15, and Pablo Pryor-Murray, 10, and my grandmother Jenny Pryor.

Also in the picture were Jenny's sons Leon and Kenneth Pryor and they are brothers of Viaella and my cousin Roscoe Pryor, aged five.

I love sport which I reckon is a character builder and am employed as a Sports and Recreation Officer for Bindal Sharks in Townsville where nan Jenny is a genuine mentor.

Jenny has taught me a lot about life and culture and I continue to learn every day

and she has been such an important part of my upbringing as has my beloved mum Viaella who worked with Bindal for 19 years after which she moved to another career supporting our First Nations peoples.

Nan Jenny told me we are related to about three quarters of the Palm Island population from many families.

Last month I helped with the running of the 37th Bindal Sharks Allblacks carnival at the Townsville Sports Reserve at which 24 men's and eight women's teams competed.

So many extended family members from out of town were there and it was good to see many, some for the first time in a year or so.

Attending the Elders night was such a highlight for me and lots more of our family were there and I just admire these people so much and they are wonderful and give me strength.

We enjoyed each other's company, watched some great dancing groups and loved the food, which was served up by a local Indigenous catering team.

The night went too quickly and it didn't finish until about 11.30pm and I just loved it.

Family is the most important thing in life to me and is my inspiration.

Back Row: Leon Pryor, 43, Kenneth Pryor, 39, Tremaine Pryor-Murray, 15, **Middle Row:** Jenny Pryor, 65, Jaylani Pryor-Murray, 19, Viaella Pryor, 41, Roscoe Pryor, 5, **Front Row:** Pablo Pryor-Murray, 10.

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



Annie Monks, Gumbaynggirr/Yaegl woman Talah Laurie and Jalu (1). This photo was taken at the Yes rally in Lismore before the Referendum. It was baby Jalu's first rally and the Lismore Mob had come out to show that the fight for recognition will keep going, no matter what the future brings.

Koori Mail

Postal Address
PO Box 117, Lismore, NSW, 2480

Street Address
11 Molesworth Street, Lismore, 2480
Telephone (02) 66 222 666
www.koorimail.com

STAFF

CEO: Naomi Moran – ceo@koorimail.com

Editor: Darren Coyne – editor@koorimail.com

Newspaper Advertising: advertising@koorimail.com

Job Web Advertising: stuart@koorimail.com

Accounts: accounts@koorimail.com

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Yamatji descendant Mark Atkins leads the call on his didge accompanied by bugle player James Morrison on the sails of the Sydney Opera House. Picture: Garuwa

Spirits of healing are blowing in the wind

By LIINA FLYNN



ON top of the Sydney Opera House sail at dawn, the haunting sounds of the didgeridoo and bugle playing *The Last Post* echo across the harbour.

Standing proud, Yamatji descendant Mark Atkins leads the call on his didge, followed by bugle player James Morrison, who echoes the mournful notes.

Traditionally played on the bugle to mark the end of a day's military activities, the song has been given a new arrangement by Mark as a way of "putting to rest the old people who died in action".

Made in the spirit of reconciliation, the new recording has been made available to freely download for use at community events, including Remembrance Day and Anzac Day ceremonies.

Anzac Day

Mark, a talented musician and didge virtuoso, said he remembers when he was growing up in the 1960s in a time when he was called racist names and regularly got into fights over it.

"I remember the police hassling his family for something they weren't allowed to do," Mark told the *Koori Mail*.

"I realised they were talking about Anzac Day.



Picture: Daniel Dray

Chelsy Atkins, Mark Atkins, James Morrison and Ricky Bloomfield.

"My uncles went to war. I have relatives who fought in the first and second world wars, and some were Anzac diggers.

Mark remembers his mum "had a little card and nobody was allowed to cross Boundary Street".

It was an era of widespread racism when Aboriginal Australians did not have the same rights as white Australians. This included Indigenous soldiers who fought in war, only to return home without the same honour and recognition as was given to the white soldiers.

"It wasn't until 20 years later that I was asked to play didge at Anzac Day," Mark said. "Then,

they raised the flag, did the ceremony and gave me a few bob.

"I thought this is not really cool. Rather than just being a token, I wanted to bring the whole Mob back in.

"I've been a musician for 60 years and I knew I had a statement to make – and the Opera House was where I wanted to do it."

And so *The Last Post (Winds of Change)* First Nations inclusion project was born.

The Last Post

So, Mark enlisted the help of jazz virtuoso James Morrison, who was only too happy to be

part of the project.

"Then I approached the Opera House and they said 'how can we help?'," Mark said.

"And here we are.

"This is the mother of all reconciliations and I can't think of anything bigger that's gonna bring us together."

The song and the film

Getting to the top of the Sydney Opera House for the filming of the song's video was not such an easy feat.

"I'm not really good on heights and neither was James," Mark laughed.

"James lay down at first.

"We were wearing harnesses but I had to lean out for a better shot. It took me a while to get used to it... but it was great.

"I remember being up on the other sail 25 years ago for the 25 year celebrations – now I've been on top of both sails."

Winds of Change

The Last Post (Winds of Change) was released to coincide with Remembrance Day (November 11).

Mark hopes that the bringing together of the ancient sound of the didge with the bugle will be the start of a new way for all Australians to work together – especially after the recent failed referendum.

"I hope that the generations of children to come will always be able to see the efforts made by Indigenous soldiers," he said.

"They shouldn't forget that. Now is the time and working together is a better way to fix things.

"I've played this to the old fellas in the RSL clubs and 80% of them all ended up in tears.

"It makes me think about why it hasn't happened already.

"All the aunties and uncles that came back and had nothing but venom, but it was okay to fight alongside their comrades and die.

"This is not a band aid – it's a healing thing."

The new song has been project managed by Mark's daughter Chelsy Atkins.

Chelsy said the song was an important way to create a new tradition, by acknowledging First Nations soldiers, without taking away from the old ceremony.

For Mark, who has been a storyteller, internationally-touring rock musician, drummer and guitarist for as long as he has been a didge player, creating the new song has been a labour of love.

Now based near Tamworth, Mark said he will be inducted into the Tamworth Music Hall of Fame next year.

"They have my guitar and my first didge," he said.

The Last Post (Winds of Change) is available to download at www.thelastpost.au

It was arranged and produced by Chelsy Atkins (Garrijimanh) and Ricky Bloomfield (Bear Mountain Productions).

Sports awards honour our stars



Yvonne and Benny Mills were happy recipients of the National Sports Competition of the Year award. They and their son, NBA star Patty Mills', National Indigenous Basketball Tournament player, won this particular category at the 2023 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sports Awards in Naarm-Melbourne last weekend.
Picture: T J Garvie Photography

See Sports section for all the winners

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opinion

Share your truth

Truth-telling is what this country needs. For too long people have been able to sit in their lies and privilege and feel comfortable at the expense of others. No more! I encourage everyone to take all opportunities that present themselves to you and share your truth, share your stories, as they are the key to change in this country.

I have the privilege of being able to share my stories and life experiences of our people in many keynotes around the country. In the last weeks I have been to NSW where I spoke in front of 650 primary school principals, then to Rye Primary where I spoke to the whole staff about their role in embedding our history and cultures into their school. A quick trip to Alice Springs where I spoke to as many early years educators at the Connected Beginnings conference run by SNAICC about empowering our children to live the life they want and what their role is in making that happen.

Over my 25 years as a primary school teacher, I have gained knowledge, lived and observed many experiences that I share with people in the hope it inspires and empowers them, to carry these stories with them and create the kind of change that will make sure that our children aren't repeating



Shelley Ware

these stories, in keynotes in another 25 year's time.

The education system, as all systems in this country, is built on systemic and institutionalised racism, forms of racism that can be invisible to the privileged and comfortable, racism that holds our people in a place and one that lowers expectations of our children. It helps no one but the oppressor. Or does it? We all know the beauty they are missing out on, from not making a connection to the beauty and knowledge in our cultures. Fool them!

A question I asked them all and often ask people listening to me talk about racism and its effects as I share my thoughts is – Why don't you speed? What was your answer?

Because most people won't say, because it could hurt someone, they will say they don't want a fine or to lose the points. These consequences have created change.

I believe that we need racists in this country to feel the consequences of their racism, and if that stops them as a whole from spewing their racism over us, then so be it. The Anti-Discrimination laws that protect us from racism, need to no longer be ignored, they need to be enforced and people need to make formal complaints to the appropriate authority and stand against racism.

Racists need to no longer sit safe in their poison, I don't care if in the future when I ask them – Why aren't you racist? They say "I don't want to pay the \$300,000 plus fine or go to jail." I simply don't care, as long as they are not harming my people.

What I then hope happens through this change, is they will start to connect to the beauty and the wisdom of the oldest living surviving culture in the world and we will thrive. Until that day consequences should be felt and we should no longer suffer at the poison tongue and actions of racists in this country anymore.

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

Remote residents win fight for compensation



FIRST Nations people living in remote dilapidated housing are entitled to compensation for distress or disappointment, the High Court has ruled.

The Court handed down its decision in the long-running battle between Aboriginal residents of Ltyentye Apurte (Santa Teresa), 85km southeast of Alice Springs, and the Northern Territory housing authority, which began in 2016.

The lead appellant's case concerned the NT housing authority's failure to provide a door to her premises for more than five years.

Dan Kelly said the two Aboriginal litigants showed incredible strength in the case until they died.

More than 70 other households in the same community brought claims for a range of issues, including leaking sewage, unstable electricity and no air conditioning.

Australian Lawyers for Remote Aboriginal Rights solicitor Dan Kelly, who has been representing the residents, said the general view had been this type of compensation was only available for contracts that were for enjoyment, such as holidays and cruises.

Mr Kelly said the case expanded the ability of tenants to receive compensation when their housing was inadequate and they felt distress and disappointment as a result.

"What this case does is it shows that the common law will actually extend this type of compensation to other types of contracts, where the state of mind and what's actually been bargained for is some form of enjoyment or relaxation or protection," he said.

While the decision was welcomed by remote residents, it came too late for the two elderly Aboriginal people who brought it, Kwementyaye Young and Mr Conway.

"Ms Young and Mr Conway both showed incredible strength all through these proceedings up until they both passed away, they were really inspiring people," Mr Kelly said.

"It was a pleasure and an honour to know them and to be able to represent them in the court and I only wish that they were here to see this big win today."

The High Court made no decision regarding the amount of compensation, which will be decided when the case returns to the Northern Territory Court of Appeal.

Over 70 other households made claims for issues, including leaking sewage and no air conditioning.

"What it means is that when we go back to the Court of Appeal, we can argue that the many years that they were left living in these conditions and the psychological impacts that had on them, is worthy of compensation and the Northern Territory government should be held to account for that," Mr Kelly said.

He said the fact that the only course of remedy for his clients was to fight all the way to High Court for a decent standard of housing highlighted decades of neglect by governments.

"I think it's as simple as that: these people deserve what every other Australian citizen takes for granted and it's currently not being provided," he said.

"And until justice is done, we'll continue to fight on their behalf."

The case could have ramifications for all Australian renters.

"Our clients have never been motivated by compensation, they want better housing," Mr Kelly said.

The fight for better housing conditions began in 2015 when tenants from about 70 remote homes gave the NT government a list of more than 600 repairs and asked for them to be fixed.

"The NT government's neglect of remote housing impacts communities across the territory, and today's decision sets an important precedent for all 72 other remote communities, and all tenants across the country," Mr Kelly said.

Grata Fund, which has been supporting the residents during the court processes, said the decision comes after the government introduced a new rent calculation method in February, which hiked rents by up to 200 per cent for two thirds of remote Aboriginal tenants in the NT, no matter the dilapidated state or location of the house.

-AAP



The Aboriginal flag in front of the High Court of Australia.

Class action probe into Indigenous public housing



THOUSANDS of Indigenous tenants living in "substandard" public housing in remote West

Australian communities could be financially compensated.

Lawyers are exploring the

potential for a class action that could also seek to have the dilapidated homes repaired and improved.

"Site visits to several remote communities have confirmed tenants have been living in substandard housing," Gemma Leigh-Dodds of law firm Slater and Gordon said last week.

Investigators found houses that lacked safe drinking water and working showers, toilets and cooking facilities.

Others had broken windows, blocked pipes, security issues, and many of the houses had no working air-conditioning.

Tenants' repeated requests for repairs were also often

ignored by authorities.

Ms Leigh-Dodds said Aboriginal tenants were entitled to significantly better treatment and might be entitled to compensation under Australian law. The proposed claim could provide redress for alleged breaches of contract, including repayment of rent where the

property was not reasonably comfortable or safe.

Claimants may also seek damages for the inconvenience experienced while dealing with housing issues, any money spent rectifying housing problems, and the disappointment and distress caused by the defects.

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Daniel & Matthew
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Going with the *Flow*

By LIINA FLYNN



ON Bundjalung Country, old connections to Country and water take on a modern twist when Yaegl Bundjalung man Mitch King brings poetry, rap and movement to a free, outdoor theatre performance called *Flow*.

Joined by sound artist Blake Rhodes, the pair celebrate kinship, culture and connection as they journey to find identity in music, urban culture and nature.

The community event is a Northern Rivers Performing Arts (Norpa) production, inspired by the first native title claim on a body of water. It's not the first time this show has been performed but it is the first time it's been performed outside on Country, complete with video projections.

"*Flow* was first performed in 2021 when Covid was here," Mitch said. "Even though the indoor theatre was filled to half capacity, the energy was still awesome. At the time, I was still learning how to be in the art world and tell a story through theatre."

Nervous

"I was nervous before every show. Even though making music, rhyming and getting on stage comes naturally to me, doing a theatre show every night was nerve wracking."

"Now, I'm excited to do this work again. It's more developed now and offering it as a free outdoor performance is our way of supporting community."



Yaegl Bundjalung man Mitch King and sound artist Blake Rhodes during a production of *Flow*.

Mitch said the heart of *Flow* is "about our connection, disconnection and reconnection with culture".

For Mitch, acknowledging Country, water and the storytelling of the ancestors really began when his daughter wanted to learn the history of the Yaegl Mob for a school history

assessment.

"I said you need to sit down with nana and learn," he said. "When I was going through school, I never got an opportunity to do that."

History

"As a student, I wasn't able to tap into my own history and identity, so I used music and dance – and later poetry and theatre. Ultimately this show is about that."

"It's about when I was a kid, listening to stories, then disconnecting and coming back to hip hop, then reconnecting for myself and connecting my daughter to that."

"Now, we are two different streams connecting back to stories of ancestors."

Mitch said his love of hip hop allows him to acknowledge the old stories through modern story telling.

"When I tell stories through rap, I touch the heart of the morals and ideals underlying the old stories," he said.

"I don't tell the Elders' stories for them, but I am influenced by them."

"I listen to Uncle Bill and have a yarn

with him, then a few weeks later his influence can come through when I'm making music or creating with movement and sound."

"I might do a rap about living in Lismore living in a flood stricken area. Growing up in a flood-plain area changes how you view rain – especially after the big flood."

"Water is powerful and when we don't look after these places the repercussions are felt. We acknowledge the life that water gives and the devastation it creates."

Water is life

"There's no right or wrong - water is life, and we are all made of water."

Flow will be performed at two locations. On Yaegl Country at Maclean Showground on November 16 and 17 and on Wadjabul Wia-bul Country at Lismore Quad, from November 23 to 25.

Gates open at 6.15pm and the show starts at 8pm. Bring a picnic blanket and food will be available. *Flow* is a free event, but bookings are required at norpa.org.au/events/flow-2023/



Mitch King in action.



Heritage Act 1977

Update regarding the 6 December 2022 notice of intention to consider listing Ravensworth Homestead Complex and its Setting on the State Heritage Register.

It has come to the attention of the Heritage Council of NSW that, due to an administrative error, its resolution of 12 April 2023 (Resolution 2023-15), was not a valid exercise of power under section 33(1)(d) of the *Heritage Act 1977*.

As a result, the Heritage Council's duty to make a decision on the 6 December 2022 notice of intention to consider listing remains unperformed.

The Heritage Council will now be considering the matter again on 21 November 2023. Once it has considered all relevant matters, the Heritage Council will decide whether to recommend to the Minister that Ravensworth Homestead Complex and its Setting be listed in accordance with section 33(1)(d) of the *Heritage Act 1977*.

Enquiries to Judith Coombes on (02) 9873 8522.

Digging into family

By SARAH ROBERTS-FIELD



FOUR diverse and well-known Aboriginal artists: Penny Evans, Ben McKeown, Maree Clarke and Blak Douglas, are telling their story of family history and its connection to their creative cultural practice in the new film Dig Deeper.

Directed by Mark Street, the title is Dhuwidha Dhurraaya in Gamilaraay language and stemmed from Evans' mind while she was using digging sticks to harvest native arrowroots. The Gamilaraay/Gomeri ceramicist said in the film, "I went out on Country to a cultural gathering and we ended up digging for native arrowroot, a starch that they (Ancestors) used to make bread.

"There was a voice in my head while I was doing it, a boss woman saying to me 'dig deeper', 'dig deeper'," she said.

Confronting

Dig Deeper delves into the confronting and challenging experience these First Nations artists navigate with one side of their family being colonisers, responsible for the displacement of the other side of their family, Aboriginals.

The film premiered in NSW at the Palace Cinema in Byron Bay on Thursday, November 9. The audience were engaged with the cathartic experiences and the unravelling of the artists' contemporary approach. A Q&A session with director Mark Street, artist Penny Evans, Wadjabul Wiyabal arts executive Rhoda Roberts AO and journalist Digby Hildreth, took place afterwards.

The documentary opens with each giving a short personal account of what it's like being called an artist, followed by digging further into the history of the Indigenous contemporary art movement.

It shows each artist's journey through some of their installations, the meaning behind the work and story of their dual history. It also highlights the feelings and questions they posed to themselves during the process and how they investigated their family lines.

Dhungatti man Blak Douglas is about to win the Archibald Prize.

Maree Clarke, a Mutti Mutti, Yorta Yorta, BoonWurrung/Wemba Wemba woman, is working on the biggest urban art installation in Australia, the Melbourne Metro Tunnel Project.

Penny Evans has her major work opening at the National Gallery of Australia, and Ben McKeown attempts a comeback at the \$25,000 Selzer prize after suffering from a heart attack.

Ben McKeown, from the South



Artist Penny Evans with Rhoda Roberts AO.



I Wonder by Ben McKeown.



Archibald 2022 winner, Moby Dickens by Blak Douglas.

Australian Wirangu Language Group, created an acrylic on canvas in 1998 titled I Wonder, which Street said was going to be the original title of the film.

"Ben's work is what inspired me to start thinking about it because I hadn't thought about the idea of one side of the family coming in as colonisers and being a part of the opposing other side of the family," Street said at the NSW premiere.

Starting point

"The dual heritage and how artists use that in their work was the main starting point and so that was his work and that was the title," he said.

The powerful text-based work poses a series of questions such as 'I wonder how



Eel trap installation by Maree Clarke.

my fathers family felt having fresh water to drink' and 'I wonder how my mothers family felt having their water holes poisoned'.

Going deeper

"As we got through the film, it wasn't until the end when we shot with Penny in Shepparton for her installation Dig Deeper that we began to understand the title of the work there. We realised that each artist was literally digging. And that idea of us going deeper than you would normally see in a lot of films or a lot of articles, suddenly it was like a light went on and that's it, that's the film," Street said.

The film's vision for the future is to develop it into a four-part series

highlighting each creative story, to be broadcast on SBS and NITV.

"Several of the art galleries around Australia would like to screen it as well, hopefully the artists in each state, wherever they are, can be involved," Street said.

"And then film festivals, it's been overseas. It's just finished Berlin last week, Georgia and California.

"There's a range of them, which is great that this art is being seen and appreciated elsewhere," he said.

Tonight, Wednesday, November 15, a screening of the film will take place at Palace Nova Eastend Cinemas in Adelaide, SA. A Q&A follows by artist Troy-Anthony Baylis, joined by director Mark Street and artist Ben McKeown.

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Identity theft anger

By JILLIAN MUNDY



SARAH Wilcox feels violated, furious and despaired.

Someone has faked her identity to lodge a detailed submission on the draft Aboriginal Lands Amendment Bill, with views extremely different from hers.

The pakana communications and engagement consultant from southern Lutruwita/Tasmania had no idea about it until a government employee called asking why she had lodged two opposing submissions just days apart.

"The writer obviously knows who I am, where my stance is, because the email opens with - further to my previous stance, I have decided to think for myself and I have changed my opinion on what amendments should be made to the Aboriginal Lands Act," she told the *Koori Mail* last week.

Based on the language, claims and figures in the fake, and similarities with submissions previously published online, she has suspicions who might be behind it.

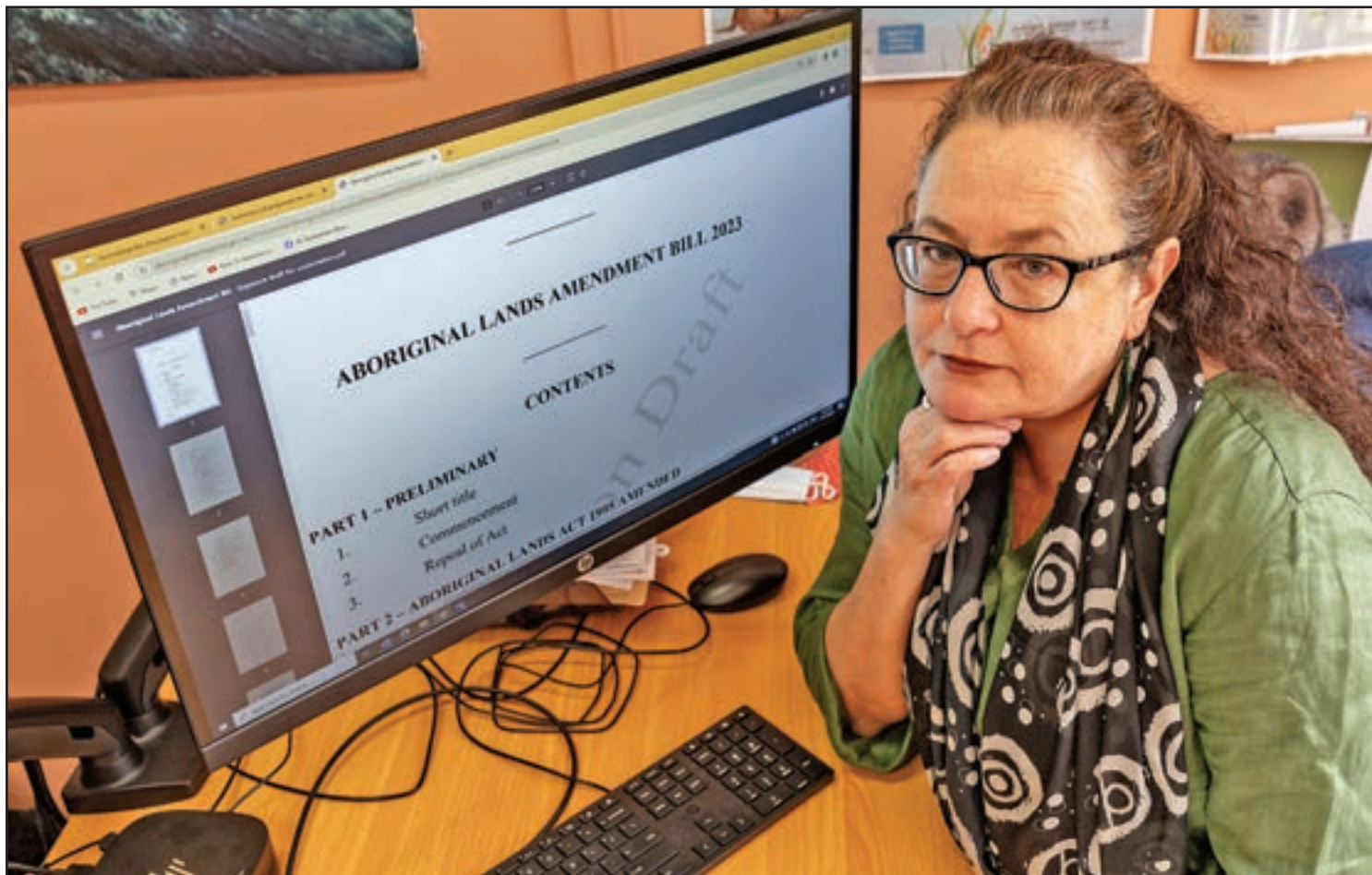
Wilcox understands the government email system caught five suspicious emails generated through what is called a 'spoofing' service that resides in the Czech Republic - email addresses are cloned appearing to come from the owner of the email address.

"Because [the government employee] recognised my email, they thought it was mine, so allowed it to come through," she explained.

Wilcox fears the damage it would have done to her employment and reputation had it not been intercepted.

"They've [attempted to] tarnish the reputation of the Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre, who at the time was my employer."

She understands the other fakes had similar content - proposing to move management decisions about Aboriginal returned land away from the Aboriginal community and



Sarah Wilcox was outraged to find that her identity had been stolen.

loosening Aboriginality proof requirements.

Amendments to the Aboriginal Lands Act 1995 have been in the pipeline since mid 2022.

While some proposed changes such as making it simpler for the government to return land have widespread support, other proposals have drawn condemnation, including from the Aboriginal Land Council of Tasmania (ALCT).

"The community is exhausted by this process, people are on the battle lines feeling like we are going to lose these rights that our Elders fought for," said ALCT manager Bec Digney.

"We've only had these rights since 1995."

The rights she is talking about include the return of 15 parcels of land, less than 1% of Lutruwita/Tasmania, and rigorous Aboriginality eligibility process for the ALCT election.

ALCT is a statutory body that

holds the (western) legal title of returned lands for Aboriginal people in Tasmania in perpetuity.

Elections held every three years, run by the Tasmanian Electoral Commission, have sometimes been delayed by objections to claims of Aboriginality of some enrolled voters.

Controversial

One of the most controversial amendments is removing ALCT's right to determine who manages returned land.

Another is replacing the eligibility objection process with a government appointed advisory panel, and confirmation from any registered Aboriginal organisation being accepted.

However, the Office of the Register of Indigenous Corporations (ORIC), does not have a legislated process for determining Aboriginality, it is determined in the rulebook of each corporation.

ORIC and several Aboriginal organisations have been criticised for their lack of rigour when it comes to this. Some organisations have been accused of fraud.

It is an attempt to fall into line with the Tasmanian Liberal government's 2016 'reset the relationship with Tasmanian Aboriginal communities' agenda, where 'a new approach to Aboriginal eligibility' is top of the list.

The lands amendment bill's entry into parliament has been postponed to next year, amid turmoil in the Tasmanian parliament.

If the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs Roger Jaensch has his way, ALCT elections due first half of 2024, will also be delayed until the lands act has been amended.

Late last week Wilcox reported the fake submission matter to Tasmania Police and the National Cyber Support

Agency's IDCare.

"How do you fight people that will stoop to such levels to steal a whole community's identity," she questioned.

"It is pretty heartbreaking, I'm someone whose family deals with intergenerational trauma, it's never easy and I didn't grow up in the community because of that. I've been welcomed back into the community with open arms, they know where I come from, I'm still finding my place."

"I hope it is someone I don't know personally, that would be devastating."

"Aboriginal people have fought for their identity and fought for recognition, particularly Tasmanian Aboriginal people who the United Nations have only just clarified are not an extinct race of people."

"How hard has our community fought for our identity? And here they are trying to play with it again."



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Guards watching movies when teen self-harmed in jail



PRISON officers were watching movies and relaxing when an Indigenous teenager fatally self-harmed in youth detention.

Officers discovered 16-year-old Cleveland Dodd unresponsive in a cell at the Unit 18 facility at Perth's Casuarina Prison in the early hours of October 12, after he twice contacted them through the intercom.

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

West Australian Corrective Services Minister Paul Papalia on Friday released the interim report of an internal investigation which he said had uncovered significant failures.

"Operational procedures were not followed on the night," he told reporters.

"Record keeping was poor



Cleveland Dodd

and not up to standard."

Mr Papalia said Cleveland was not placed under observation despite making self-harm threats and staff checking inmates were not carrying radios.

"Two of the five staff

required to wear body-worn cameras on the night did not sign out their devices," he said.

Mr Papalia said it was also found that "staff were resting or watching movies at the time Cleveland self-harmed".

"None of these things are acceptable," he said.

"Collectively, they are disturbing and confirm the need for significant cultural change."

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

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

Mr Papalia said Unit 18 would close as soon as a suitable replacement facility could be provided but declined to put a timeline on the closure.

-AAP

Govt to pay decades of lost wages



THOUSANDS of Indigenous workers who were paid little or no wages for almost four decades will be compensated

after the West Australian government settled a class action.

Premier Roger Cook says the decision recognises the injustice suffered by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workers and their families between 1936 and 1972 under WA laws.

"We hope this agreement can contribute to healing for those impacted," he said.

Legal action

Senior Gooniyandi Elder Mervyn Street launched legal action in the Federal Court in 2020 on behalf of the surviving workers and their relatives.

The WA government agreed to pay up to \$180.4 million to eligible Aboriginal workers or their surviving spouses and children, with each claimant eligible to receive \$16,500.

A public acknowledgement and apology will be issued in state

parliament to the surviving and deceased workers on November 28.

The settlement is yet to be approved by the Federal Court, which will happen after eligible workers and their families are registered.

The court will also decide the exact amount payable to each worker or their family.

Mr Street intends to ask that a greater amount be paid to people who worked the longest under the legislation.

Many of those were in the Kimberley region on pastoral stations and in institutions and missions.

Lawyer Vicky Antzoulatos said the agreement was a victory for the workers and their descendants who suffered intergenerational disadvantage because of the laws.

"It doesn't correct the past but offers a way forward," she said.

"Hopefully, greater understanding of the experiences of Aboriginal people in WA during this sad earlier time in history is also a lasting legacy of this class action."

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NSW Aboriginal Land Council Election of 9 Councillors

On Tuesday 21 November 2023, the NSW Electoral Commission will publish a notice of election in relation to the NSW Aboriginal Land Council election of Councillors on its website elections.nsw.gov.au/NSWALC24. This notice will provide details on the following topics:

- Who can vote in the election
- Information about Local Aboriginal Land Council membership rolls
- Information regarding nominations
- Key dates for the election

This notice will also be published on the Koori Mail website on Tuesday 21 November 2023 at: koorimail.com

To stay up-to date on the election events and key dates please continue to check the Electoral Commission's website: elections.nsw.gov.au/NSWALC24

Information regarding the election can also be found on the NSW Aboriginal Land Council website: alc.org.au

John Schmidt
Electoral Commissioner for NSW
Returning Officer

The NSW Electoral Commission is providing electoral services for the conduct for the 2024 Election of Councillors for the NSW Aboriginal Land Council.



Two boys die in car



POLICE have launched an investigation after two young boys were found dead inside an unused vehicle in a remote

Indigenous community in Queensland.

Officers said a two-year-old boy was found inside a parked car in the backyard of a house on

Richardson Street, Woorabinda, 170km southwest of Rockhampton, about 6.15pm last Friday.

The toddler was rushed to the local hospital by his parents but was declared dead.

Police attended the same address in Woorabinda about three hours later and found the unresponsive body of a three-year-old boy inside the same car.

Central Region Crime Co-ordinator Darrin Shadlow said the older boy had not been found with the two-year-old because he was initially hidden from view.

Second child

"The second child was lying down in the rear footwell of the vehicle and wasn't seen by the residents when they located the first child," he told reporters in

Rockhampton on Saturday.

Police said the boys were related but were not siblings – one lived in Woorabinda and the other was visiting with relatives.

They said the car the boys were found inside was in the backyard of a family home and had not been driven for an extended period.

"It appears it is a tragic accident with the children, who

have somehow gotten into the vehicle and have been there for some time," Det Sup Shadlow said.

While it was too early to confirm a cause of death, he said it appeared heatstroke was a factor.

"It would appear from early investigations that there was heat-related stress," he said.

—AAP

Private prison deal ditched



THE Aboriginal Legal Service has welcomed news that one of the largest prisons in NSW will be returned to public ownership after 30 years as the state government unwinds privatisation

of the facilities. June Correctional Centre, in the state's Riverina region, has been run by the US-owned GEO Group since it opened in 1993, but the company's contract will not be renewed when it expires in 2025.

Corrective Services NSW will take over the operation of the prison, a mixed-security facility that houses more than 1,000 male inmates.

No decision has been made on

unwinding agreements for the state's two remaining privately operated prisons, Clarence Correctional Centre near Grafton and Parklea Correctional Centre in Sydney.

The contract for Parklea's operation also expires in 2025.

Dangerous

Aboriginal Legal Service NSW/ACT chief executive Karly Warner said prisons were inherently harmful and dangerous places, especially for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

"Private corporations have profited from our suffering for too many years. When prisons are run for profit, there will always be a focus on the bottom line that competes with the wellbeing and safety of imprisoned

people," Ms Warner said.

"Public prisons are also overcrowded and fail to provide adequate basic healthcare, let alone access to specialist treatment, disability support services, and culturally safe healthcare for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people," Ms Warner said.

"The NSW Government must take action to address the recognisable gap in the level of healthcare and disability supports received by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in prisons and youth detention centres. This means investing in culturally safe, wrap-around, continuous healthcare and disability supports which promote strength, connection to culture and community, and healing," Ms Warner said.

Inmate dies in custody



AN Indigenous inmate has died in a Western Australian prison.

Corrective services officers found the unresponsive 41-year-old in his cell at Hakea Prison on Monday morning, November 6.

Prison officers and medical staff attempted to revive the man but they were unsuccessful and he was declared dead at the scene.

Preliminary reports indicate the man suffered a medical episode.

Police will prepare a mandatory report for the coroner.



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Leadership for good

The essence of Kirli's art

By NICK PATON



A NEW book by acclaimed Gunai author and artist Kirli Saunders (OAM) is a visual feast for the senses, fusing poetry and visual art with contemporary themes of decolonisation, self-determination, First Nations patriarchy, queerness, justice, love, liberation, and truth-telling.

Published by Magabala books and officially launched last week at the Better Read Than Dead bookshop in Sydney, *Returning* is where 'words and art intertwine, weaving a narrative of resilience, identity, and the human spirit'.

"*Returning* speaks to the essence of decolonisation, self-determination, and the power of truth-telling, as we navigate a world shaped by both upheaval and hope," Ms Saunders said.

"For each poem, I have created an artwork either in response, or as the foundation of that work, against the backdrop of a world marked by natural disasters, the COVID pandemic, and the Black Lives Matter movement," she said.

"It's been a really big time of upheaval in our Blak world, and so I sat down and I got to writing and I just explored."

Ms Saunders said she spent time on Country with her community and family and by doing this, was reminded of the importance of going back, paring back, and making life more simple.



Gunai author and artist Kirli Saunders.

"I needed to be engaged in culture in order to feel really strong and grounded – and to cope and to move through these big things happening in our world," she said.

Kirli's multi-disciplinary artworks span across a range of mediums and displays, including water colour, ink on hand-dyed silk, synthesising digital imagery with text, and installations of hand-crafted possum skin cloaks and weavings.

The stunning artworks and visual poems in *Returning* were originally shown at an exhibition at the SHAC Gallery, on Gundungurra

Country in 2021 under the same name.

"Each poem has been informed by academics and by cultural liaison with Elders and custodians from community," Ms Saunders said.

Blak feminism

"I have worked really hard with community to create these works that respond to ideas of patriarchy and feminism – our kind of feminism: our Blak Feminism – and matriarchal women-centric communities, and how to be led by those women and how become

those women in our mobs."

Ms Saunders (OAM) is an accomplished international writer, artist, and cultural consultant.

Her impactful contributions span poetry, plays, picture books, and more. She has received numerous awards and accolades, including being named the NSW Aboriginal Woman of the Year in 2020.

In 2022, she was awarded an Order of Australia Medal for her contribution to the arts, particularly literature.

She's partnered with global organisations, Google, Vogue, Fender, Qantas and Aesop to

celebrate stories and cultivate change.

She is currently writing her novel, *Yaraman*.

Ms Saunders said one of the most important aspects of creating *Returning* was that it was developed with consultation and guidance from First Nations Elders, custodians, academics and artists.

"I was blessed with the best for this one, working again with the dream team at Magabala Books, and with industry leaders Rachel Bin Salleh, Grace Lucas-Pennington, Melena Cole-Manolis, Anna Moulton, Xenica Ayling, Gene Eaton and Kate Rendell," Ms Saunders said.

"Along with the many others mentioned in the book, I would like to heartily acknowledge and offer my sea-deep thanks to Adrian Webster, Dr Lilly Brown, Genevieve Grieves, Aunty Loretta Parsley, Aunty Sharralyn (Shas) Robinson, Stephanie Beaupark, Kylie Caldwell, David Cragg, Aunty Velma Mulcahy, and Aunty Sharyn Halls for their shaping of the poems and artworks."

"With *Returning* I wanted to create works that are truly thinking about decolonisation and challenging these systems of oppression that we've existed in for the last 250 years, and going back and returning to something before that, and imagining something beyond that."

● Art featured in *Returning* is available for purchase at: www.kirlisaunders/shop

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Making music inspires



Picture: Jacinta Keefe

By PAUL CONNELLY



This Is For Us, by Maylene Yinarr, is the final release from the Archie Roach Foundation's, inaugural Singing Our Futures EP.

Maylene is a proud Kamilaroi, Wiradjuri, Kuku Djungan and Nywaigi woman from the Kulin Nation and was first attracted to music in year ten at high school.

Maylene told the *Koori Mail* that her love of music developed thanks to the incredible music teachers she had at high school.

"We had very good music teachers teachers, Claudia Mamel, Sonny King Ismail and Peter Jones. They were already in a band playing together and they used to tell us all the best stories of their experiences. They taught me the formula of music, which I still to this day, draw on for my creativity, in fact I still carry the same music folder."

"They also inspired me to use music as a tool for healing, and I already had that influence in my community growing up in Melbourne with the 'Vic Mob', we grew up with Uncle Archie



and Auntie Ruby, Uncle Dave and Uncle Kutcha, so we had all these influences of Victorian Aboriginal Musicians, in fact my dad would go out to Charcoal Lane on a Friday night and catch up with everybody."

After graduating high school, Maylene applied to the Centre for Aboriginal Studies in Music (CASM) in Adelaide, where so many others had gone before such as Uncle Bart Willoughby, Uncle Bunna Lawrie, Uncle Archie. CASM is the only Aboriginal Music course at the Academic level in the country.

Successfully graduating, Maylene returned to Naarm and found that she had become more confident as a singer/performer.

"I had a few more original songs and I started to perform in my community, and my first solo performance was in 2014 at the 20th anniversary of the Victorian Aboriginal Health Service. I was really nervous, but it ended up being really fun, and I think that was because it was part of the mob."

From there she continued to grow and become more entrenched within the Victorian Indigenous music scene, following a path others had trailblazed before her.

"I joined the Skin Choir, and then found myself volunteering at many festivals, and I have been involved with Share the Spirit for the last 12 years in some capacity; in some way, shape or form, just annoying everyone," she said.

"I was approached by Candice Loraee in early 2022, to become part of the singing our futures mentor program. I had already met her and Krystal from the Merindas when they moved to Naarm and had watched them go from strength, so I was excited to be invited to become part of this amazing and deadly program."

● Continued next page



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Maylene to new levels

● From previous page

"For *This Is For Us*, the amazing Candice Lorrae was my mentor and she is a fierce, talented and powerful woman."

"We've taken my music to a whole new level – within the program to my other tracks that will be released in 2024. I've also worked closely with Linc Yow Yeh (The Deans of Soul), I've met one of my idols, Gina Williams and Shellie Morris, Uncle Kutcha Edwards, and, as a community, I still have my mentors, Uncle Robert Bundle, Uncle Brad Brown (Kool Mist), Uncle Dave Arden and of course, my Mum, Sharon Slater and my Dad, Mel Burns.

"Singing Our Futures is so heart-warming and community driven. It's been a beautiful road. My journey in the project was a heartbreaking start with the loss of my twin sister, Marjorie, so our family was in deep Sorry Business. When I joined the project, it was an exciting secret that I didn't get to tell her before we lost her. I've drawn strength from that - I'll keep going and living out

my dream of music. She was my biggest fan. She would have been right here with me on this journey. Everything that I do, I do for my family and my community."

A stirring and polished ballad, *This Is For Us* draws on Yinarr's captivating knack for weaving creations that are equally haunting, uplifting and thought-provoking, while also seeking to inspire conversations about identity and vulnerability. Mentored by the Singing Our Futures leader and fellow artist Candice Lorrae to bring *This Is For Us* to life, Yinarr balances diverse inspiration alongside a poignant tribute to First Peoples native to any land, as she explains,

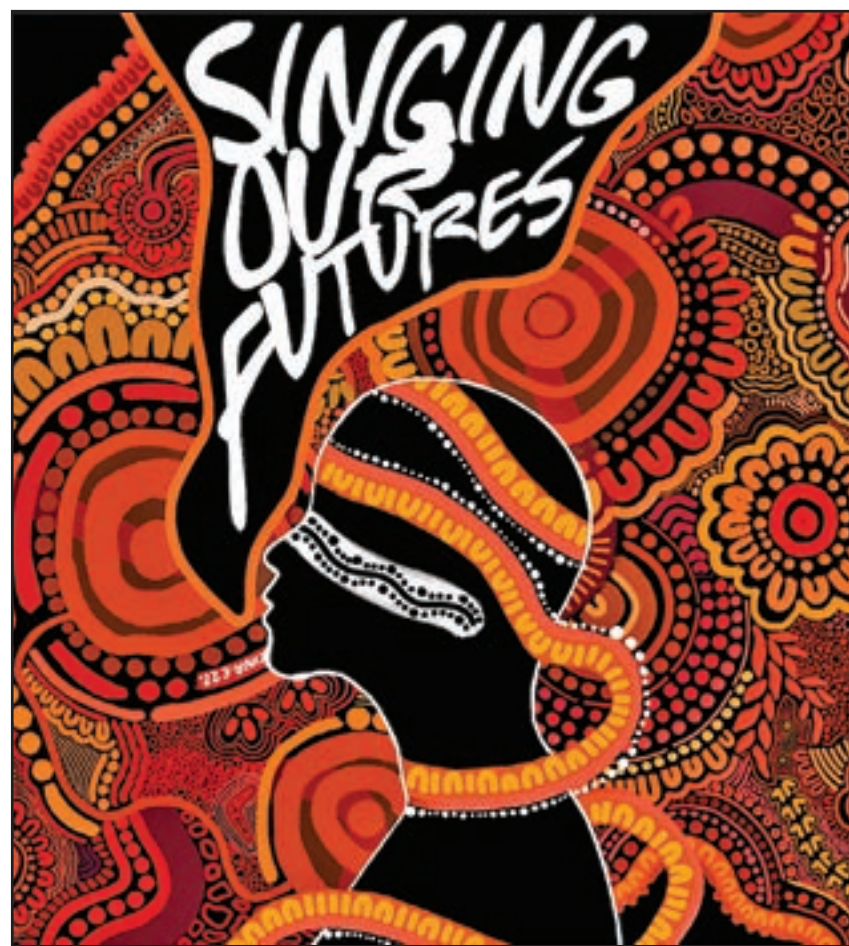
"This song is a tribute to the frontier wars on the soil that is now known as 'Australia'. The war that existed between the Aboriginal warriors, hunters and gatherers of many nations at the time of Invasion, colonisation and European settlement. We are their children. I am their daughter.

Speaking to the *Koori Mail* Candice Lorrae told us, "It's been a journey and a

memorable experience producing the Singing Our Futures program, there's nothing else quite like it. It's meaningful and we get to share our stories through music. This program was born from Uncle Archie's legacy. We feel him and our ancestors standing with us throughout this journey. Working with Maylene as a mentor taught me so much about the power of healing through music. I knew that music was healing from the start, but Maylene Yinarr has proven it to me through her songs, kindness, strength and wisdom."

"I feel this is a good way to land the EP release with Maylene's song as the feature," Lorrae concludes. "*This Is For Us*, it's all for us. Uncle Archie has really paved a way for us all and I'm extremely honoured continuing his legacy by running the Singing Our Futures program."

Maylene Yinarr's *This Is For Us* single and the Singing Our Futures EP are both out this Friday the 17th of November via Cooking Vinyl Australia.



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Sam's heartfelt message

By CHRISTINE HOWES



FORMER NRL great Sam Backo thought he was "reasonably fit" when he went into hospital to have a bilateral knee reconstruction.

Now, at three centimetres taller and 20 kilograms lighter, he has been described by his doctor as a having had a 'miraculous' recovery from a major heart attack.

"I came in to get my knees done and, as I said, three days later, I had the heart attack and I had no idea," Sam said.

"Next thing I knew I was in the ICU coming 12 days out of a coma.

Quadruple bypass

"The doctors put in three stents to keep me going until I was well enough to get out to Brisbane for a quadruple bypass."

Cairns Base Hospital Clinical Director of Cardiology Dr Ram said Sam had endured a close call.

"Sam was really, really sick, he's a legend," he said.

"He didn't have an inkling of



Sam Backo and Cairns Base Hospital Clinical Director of Cardiology Dr Ram.

what was happening at the time, he nearly died on the table.

"We were able to get him back to life, but it took him nearly a month to get back on his feet and go.

"I was amazed at how much narrowing there was in the blood supply to the heart, and it slowly crept on."

Sam said the support he had from the hospital had been amazing.

"I can't say enough about the doctors and the nurses, in my opinion, they're all angels because they do a mighty job, and if it wasn't for them, I wouldn't be here.

"They said, I only had five

percent capacity of my the heart at the time, so I wouldn't have made it to the end of the year."

He said he was shocked.

"I was a bit shocked at the time, and I was a bit angry because I thought I'm having these health checks every year," he said.

Health checks

"They check your weight, your height, your diabetes, your cholesterol, and if you're lucky, you get a blood check.

"If you haven't got a sore chest or say, 'I've got chest pain', nothing gets done.

"They send you a bowel check when you're 50 – no point if the ticker ain't working.

"Had I known that I could have had the heart checked, I would have got it done much earlier.

"I've had family and friends, more than 10, that have passed on since I've had my episode earlier in the year."

He said he was fortunate to have had support in Brisbane where he thought most of the heart patients were from all over Queensland.

"From my rugby league days, I've got a pretty big network of family and friends, but it is hard

for people to move away from where their support bases are," he said.

"Unfortunately, when I was in both here and in Brisbane, I noticed a lot more Indigenous people than non-Indigenous, so I thought we were well over-represented in those heart units.

"And it is hard, especially if you're coming from communities where your support network is, and you end up in Brisbane where you've got nobody with you.

"So I just encourage all of our Mob out there – get out and get your heart checked.

"I know as an Indigenous person, our lifespan is 10 years less than non-Indigenous, and I'd been consistently going for my health checks every year, but there was never ever mention of having my heart checked.

"I can't reiterate enough how important it is.

"We all want to be here a bit longer.

"I went to the other side, and then I think my mother said to me 'what am I doing there?' and then next thing I'm back here.

"I just encourage all of our Mob out there – get out and get your heart checked."



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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 opened 9am AEDT Monday 23 October 2023 and close 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 are being held at the three sites, details for remaining hearings are below. Times are in local time zones. The Independent Reviewer will also be available for one on one conversations between the public hearing sessions.

Learn more about the public hearings on our website.

Upcoming public hearings:

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

Funds to research violence against women



INDIGENOUS-led research into domestic and family violence is being funded as part of a national strategy aimed at ending violence against First Nations women and children.

Social Services Minister Amanda Rishworth announced \$15 million funding over five years as the next stage of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Action Plan under the National Plan to End Violence against Women and Children 2022-32.

But an independent Aboriginal community-controlled legal service is calling for direct investment in organisations that specialise in preventing violence in Indigenous communities.

Indigenous women and children are disproportionately impacted by family and domestic violence.

First Nations women are 34 times more likely to be hospitalised due to violence than non-Indigenous women and six times more likely to die as a result of family violence.

The funding announced last week aims to develop a data set

that can show a national picture for First Nations women and children, which includes culturally-sensitive data collection and reporting practices.

"An improved evidence framework will also allow the government to better track progress," Ms Rishworth said.

"This not only means that we can gain a much stronger picture of the nature and extent of family violence, but that First Nations people have sovereignty over the research and resulting data that will help shape solutions and strategies to end violence against First

Nations women and children," she said.

"With community-led data, we can take effective action to end family, domestic, and sexual violence for First Nations women and children, better measure our progress against Closing the Gap targets and take significant strides towards a safer Australia."

Aboriginal Family Legal Service Western Australia chief executive Corina Martin welcomed the funding but said more research into family violence in Aboriginal communities was unlikely to reveal anything new.

"The money would be better spent directly with Family Violence Prevention Legal Service (FVPLS) units across Australia, which provide Indigenous-controlled specialist legal and social assistance to Aboriginal victims of family and domestic violence," she said.

"Those units, which are well connected to their local communities, know all too well the challenges that Aboriginal families are facing, and best practices for how to prevent, intervene and respond when violence occurs," she said.

-AAP



Aboriginal Heritage Mamre Road Upgrade

Transport for NSW invites Aboriginal people and Aboriginal groups who hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and places, to register for consultation on the Mamre Road upgrade between Erskine Park Road, Erskine Park and Kerrs Road, Kemps Creek.

The Mamre Road upgrade from Erskine Park Road, Erskine Park to Kerrs Road, Kemps Creek is a 6.1 kilometre upgrade.

Key features of the project include:

- Two new signalised intersections
- Upgrades to two intersections at James Erskine Drive and Bakers Lane
- Road widening: six lanes (three in each direction)
- Active transport provisions on both sides of the carriageway.



For more information please visit: nswroads.work/mamreroadupgradeS2

The proposal may result in the Transport for NSW:

- Applying for an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) under Part 6 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*, and/or
- Undertaking investigations in accordance with the Code of practice for *archaeological investigations in NSW 2010*, and/or
- Undertaking an environmental impact assessment under the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979*.

To register your interest, please contact:

Noni Ross, Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Officer on 0476 813 136 or noni.ross@transport.nsw.gov.au

Registrations must be received by phone or email by 29 November 2023.

SB1155

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Cowboys encourage kids to go to school everyday

By ALF WILSON



TORRES Strait Island Cowboys NRLW star back Tahlulah Tillett was a genuine role model for students when she visited Palm Island community as part of a program in which the youngsters can win prizes for excellent school attendance.

Of Moa Island descent, Tahlulah visited St Michael's Catholic and Bwgcolman State Community schools in her role as a Cowboys Community Ambassador, as part of the Club's 'Try for 5!' program.

Last week, Tahlulah travelled to the island to present prizes to students, staff and parents at St Michael's school during their assembly and also took time connecting with students at Bwgcolman Community School,

revealing the end-of-year prize up for grabs for the best performing class.

Sharing with students the importance of a good education and coming to school to learn, making friends and having the chance to play footy is proving a strong connection point for the rugby league-mad community.

"Visiting Palm Island is one of the highlights of every school term," Tahlulah said.

"It's important for young kids to ensure they're getting a good education but also knowing school's a safe place, they can go there to make friends and have fun is just as important.

"Through 'Try for 5!' we have the opportunity to visit the students once every term and also send them prizes. This program is excellent for motivating the children to attend school every day, with the added incentive of receiving rewards.



These deadly students on Palm Island know how many days they need to go to school to learn, with encouragement from Cowboys Community Ambassador Tahlulah Tillett – also pictured below with kids on Palm Island. Picture: NQ Cowboys

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"The staff have been amazing at both schools; they've really driven the program and the community have gotten behind it as well.

"When you hear people say hello and they know you're here for 'Try for 5!' I think that's really special," Tahlulah said.

25-year-old Tahlulah was one of the first players signed by the Cowboys for their 2023 debut season in the NRLW and is a genuine role model for youngsters.

As the drive to go to school continues right up to the end of the year, it's the buy-in from staff who, on 'Try for 5!' days can be found adorned in the program's striking shirts, along with support

from parents and the wider Palm Island community, which is making the program a resounding success.

"This program is excellent for motivating the children to attend school every day, with the added incentive of receiving rewards."

For St Michael's school teacher Jonathan Marquez, it means kids are spending less time on the streets getting into trouble, and more time in the classroom learning skills for life.

"Taking this program on board this year as a school, we have noticed the excitement in the community and at school, as well

as boosting students' attendance," he said.

"We needed a program that would attract students' attention and encourage them to attend school on a daily basis with the reward of getting a good education, plus the added bonus of winning a weekly or end-of-term prize.

"Staff alike have really hopped aboard and likewise have enjoyed having this program for our students – it has definitely made a difference this year and has improved behaviour on a whole new level."

'Try for 5!' program is supported by Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council and the Queensland Government.

Climate case underway



TORRES Strait Islander Elders are fighting for their lands, culture and existence in the first climate class action brought by Australia's First Nations people.

With rising sea levels and other effects of climate change threatening their islands and way of life, Elders Pabai Pabai and Paul Kabai launched a Federal Court case against the federal government in October 2021.

The Elders are arguing the Commonwealth owes a duty of care to Torres Strait Islanders to take reasonable steps to protect them from the harms caused by climate change.

On-Country

The court held on-Country hearings on Badu, Boigu and Saibai islands in June, and Cairns in July, and it moved to Melbourne last Wednesday.

Experts gave evidence on the impacts of climate change and sea level rise experienced in the Torres Strait.

Torres Strait Islander witnesses shared cultural and personal stories at the on-



A view from the shore on Thursday Island in the Torres Strait.

Country hearings earlier this year, explaining how climate change was impacting the island way of life.

Mr Kabai said that during his lifetime he had already seen the seasons change – and with them opportunities for hunting and fishing.

"We have these big inundations during monsoon season, which mean our water system, the island wells and everything is contaminated by salt," he said.

He said he has a responsibility to protect his homelands, community and

culture from climate change.

"Our message to the Australian government is that we can't wait any more years for climate action," Mr Kabai said.

"If all they do is continue to talk and not listen to the scientists, our communities will disappear and lose everything."

Mr Pabai said if the government continues to fail his people, they will be forced to leave their homelands.

"On Boigu, the land is being eroded, our soil is being ruined by salt and the storms are becoming worse," he said.

"From the land, to the sky, to the seas – we are the people of the culture."

"If we are forced to leave our homelands, we will lose everything, our identity, our culture – everything."

The court will hear from a range of experts in climate science, health and marine biology.

Boigu and Saibai are flat, low-lying islands, about one and a half metres above sea level, meaning they are particularly vulnerable to rising seas.

Both islands are now frequently flooded by sea water, particularly during king tides, which is already affecting housing, infrastructure, cultural sites and gardens where people grow vegetables.

Further hearings in the case will be held in Cairns in April with a decision anticipated later in 2024.

–AAP



Aboriginal Affairs

November 2023

Aboriginal Business Taskforce



As part of the NSW Roadmap for Aboriginal Business Growth, an Aboriginal Business Taskforce is being created and we're looking for expressions of interests from individuals with relevant experience who would like to be on the Taskforce.

The Taskforce will report directly to the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty and will provide independent advice, develop strategic approaches and coordinate and drive initiatives under Priority Reform Five.

This group will help create a new generation of entrepreneurs growing their own business knowledge, networks, assets and wealth.

Role of the Taskforce

The Taskforce will provide informed and timely advice to the NSW Government. This includes:

- providing strategic insights and advice to the Minister to ensure the program of work in the Roadmap delivers expected outcomes,
- communicating the vision of the Roadmap to key stakeholders,
- advising on current trends, challenges and opportunities in the market that Aboriginal businesses are experiencing,
- identifying and addressing information on potential and emerging issues, risks, challenges, opportunities relating to the delivery of Priority Reform Five outcomes,
- engaging with key sector stakeholders regarding the progress and direction of Priority Reform Five.

Interested in Applying?

For more information, please check the AANSW Website: Aboriginal Affairs NSW - Aboriginal Business Taskforce

To apply, please fill out the EOI at NSW Aboriginal Business Taskforce Expression of Interest Application (office.com) and email an up to date CV to aboriginalbusinesstaskforce@aboriginalaffairs.nsw.gov.au by **5pm, 30 November, 2023**.

The application should address how you meet each of the criteria, plus any other information you believe is relevant.

Award night recognises

By ALF WILSON



ELDERS past and present were celebrated and honoured at an awards night and dinner held at

Townsville's Ignatius Park College Hall on Saturday, October 4.

Presented by the ABIS Community Cooperative Society and Corporation for Women on behalf of the Townsville Council of Elders, the event celebrated and recognised the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders in attendance, as well as recognising those who have passed.

Guests were treated to entertainment by the band Bula, fine food and lots of yarnning, as well as guest speakers.

The feast was prepared by Ziggy's Café and Catering, led by renowned connoisseur of fine food Naianga Mabo, of Mer descent.

The dress code for the event was *Stylin' Up* and *Too Deadly*, which added to the atmosphere.

The audience enjoyed entertainment by Komet (Mer) and Poenipan Thithui (Boigu and St Paul's) groups.

The success of the event was borne out by the long queue of guests waiting to be seated at 5pm, and the packed carpark nearby.

Albert Abdul Rahman won the major award for his work within the Indigenous community and with youth. Other award winners were Mabel Ross, Jenny Pryor, Bimbo Smallwood, the late Margaret Mullins (nee Tallis), Mary Horope, Linda Janetski and former international rugby league player Colin Scott.

Aunty Florence Onus spoke about healing and Lee Smallwood spoke to the audience about the role



Winner of the major award, Albert Abdul-Rahman, left, and Potepa Captain, at the event honouring the contributions of local Elders.



The girls from Ziggy's Café and Catering who served up the food.



Jenny Pryor was recognised with an award at the event.

Indigenous men and women had played in the Armed Services.

"Albert was given a standing ovation by the large audience when he got his award," said Angie Akee one of the organisers.

They may have been Elders, but the night's celebrations continued on until 11.30pm and organisers were still there, burning the midnight oil, until past 3am.



The Poenipan Thithui Boigu and St Paul's dancers, ready to perform.



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.



Department of Health

Board chair and director opportunities in the Victorian Public Health Sector

The Minister for Health and the Minister for Ambulance Services, the Hon. Mary-Anne Thomas MP, is pleased to invite applications for part time board chair and board director positions on Victorian government hospital boards. The positions start on 1 July 2024 and appointments are for two to three years.

These positions provide an exciting opportunity for Victorians to contribute to the health and wellbeing of our communities. Applicants are selected for their capabilities, including personal and professional attributes, experience, knowledge, and skills that contribute to the strategic leadership and oversight of health care for the Victorian community.

The Victorian Government is committed to ensuring boards reflect the rich diversity of the Victorian community. Applications are welcomed from people of all ages, Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people, people with disability, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and from lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, gender diverse, intersex and queer people.

Safe and high quality healthcare for all Victorians is a priority of the Victorian Government. Applicants must be able to demonstrate and provide evidence in support of the capabilities they identify in their applications.

Applications close at **Midnight Sunday 19 November 2023.**

Further information about Victorian health service boards and how to apply, please go to the following website: www.health.vic.gov.au/board-applications



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Elders with heart



Des Illin with 14-month-old great-granddaughter, Seriana Tapim.



Shenane Corporal, left, and Rachel Cummins.



Vicki Saylor and Francis Tapim.



David Smallwood, left, and Ben Gertz.



Security Officer Ana Patterson.

Voice No vote confirmed



THE final results of the voice referendum have been formally confirmed, after Australians emphatically rejected the proposal for an Indigenous advisory board.

Australians in October voted on whether an Indigenous advisory group should be enshrined in the constitution.

Nearly 16 million Australians cast their vote with 60 per cent voting 'yes', 40 per cent voting 'no' and 155,545 submitting informal ballots.

The only jurisdiction that voted 'yes' was the ACT, where 61 per cent – 176,022 people – supported the voice.

But the ACT and the NT are not considered states and do not count towards the double majority.

In the NT, the jurisdiction with the highest proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, 40 per cent of its population voted in favour of the voice, while 60 per cent voted against it.

Queensland was the state most opposed to the proposal with just 32 per cent, or 1,010,416 people, voting 'yes' and more than twice as many voting 'no' at 68 per cent.

South Australia was not far behind with 64 per cent against the voice and 36 per cent in support, followed by Western Australia with 63 per cent voting 'yes' and 37 per cent voting 'no'.

Tasmania and NSW showed remarkably similar results with 59 per cent opposed to the voice and 41 per cent in favour in both states.

With 46 per cent voting 'yes' and 54 per cent voting 'no', Victoria had the closest result of any state.

Apicultural Industry Advisory Committee (AIAC) Chairperson and Committee Members

The AIAC is a statutory ministerial advisory committee whose primary role and function is to advise the Victorian Minister for Agriculture on expenditure from the Honey Bee Compensation and Industry Development Fund and related matters concerning Victoria's honey bee industry.

Expressions of interest are sought for the role of chairperson and up to eight committee members for a three year term.

Applicants must be able to demonstrate knowledge and expertise in one or more of the following areas:

- the apicultural and allied industries, including across the supply chain
- biosecurity or market access
- quality assurance and food safety
- finance, legal practice or business management
- agricultural, animal or veterinary science
- public policy

Other desirable experience includes:

- board, committee and/or industry leadership
- research investment expertise

Applications will be assessed by an independent selection panel for nomination to the Minister for Agriculture.

Applicants are requested to submit an Expression of Interest form together with a CV via Join a Public Board at boards.vic.gov.au

A Position Description is available at Join a Public Board or request it via biosecurity.governance@agriculture.vic.gov.au

The Victorian Government is committed to ensuring that government boards and committees reflect the rich diversity of the Victorian community.



Apply at boards.vic.gov.au
and search for AIAC
Closing date for applications
is 27 November 2023

Authorised by the Victorian Government,
1 Treasury Place, Melbourne

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Committees of the Psychology Board of Australia

Are you passionate about healthcare and public safety?

We are seeking applications from psychologists and community applicants for vacancies on the committees of the Psychology Board of Australia (the Board):

- Immediate Action Committee
- Notifications and Compliance Committees
- Notifications Committee: Assessment
- Registration and Compliance Committee

The committees work in partnership with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (Ahpra) to make registration and notification (complaint) decisions about individual psychologists, based on national policies and standards set by the Board.

Practitioners will bring sound experience in the psychology profession and community members will have strong community connections to bring a public/lay perspective.

To apply and find out more about the committees visit: <https://statutoryappointments.ahpra.gov.au/nb/en/listing> or email statutoryappointments@ahpra.gov.au.

The National Scheme has an important role in ensuring the development of a culturally safe and respectful health workforce that is responsive to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples health and contributes to the elimination of racism in the provision of health services.

We have committed to increasing Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander leadership and voices and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples are warmly invited to apply, as are people from rural or regional areas.

If you are an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander candidate and would like to talk about this opportunity, please contact Stephen Corporal, Senior Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Engagement Officer at mobvoices@ahpra.gov.au.

Applications close: **Sunday 31 December 2023 at 11.55pm AEDT**

Employees and contractors for Ahpra are not eligible for these positions.

0233KH_4458

Danny Eastwood's view



A YARN WITH...



Leonora Adidi

Linguist from
Bamaga, Far
North
Queensland

Favourite bush tucker?
Ad (maggie goose)

Favourite other food?
Seafood laksa

Favourite drink?
Mango juice.

Favourite music?
R&B & Reggae.

Favourite sport?
I love to play hockey.

Favourite read?
Mystery novels.

Favourite holiday destination?
Long bucket list, but the Maldives.

What are you watching on TV?
I don't watch TV, I watch ABC and SBS online.

What do you like in life?
I'm a global citizen, I like travel, culture and different people.

What don't you like in life?
Violence. War. Racism.

Which Black or Indigenous person would you most like to meet?
Barack Obama.

Which people would you invite for a night around the campfire?
The Obamas, Nelson Mandela, Oprah Winfrey, Idris Elba and Ernie Dingo (to make us laugh).

Who or what inspires you?
Young people who make a difference in the world.

What is your ultimate goal?
The revitalisation of Indigenous languages in Australia.

What would you do to better the situation for Indigenous people?
I'd like to get more support and involvement from our people in revitalising our culture and languages.

Quote



"We want to build these kids up so that they can continue the legacy and the traditions that we will leave behind. And the best way to do this is to give these kids a sense of responsibility, so that they feel in charge, and so that they feel empowered."

– Torres Strait islander
Joey Faifoo

● See page 30-31

Unquote

High Court paves way for compo

Well done to all of those involved in fighting for justice for remote housing residents.

The High Court of Australia's ruling that First Nations people living in remote, dilapidated housing are entitled to compensation for distress and disappointment is a stunning victory.

Sadly, the two leading Aboriginal litigants who showed incredible strength in bringing the case to court, died before learning of their victory.

But their actions will live on.

And while the High Court made no decision regarding the amount of compensation (that will be decided when the case returns to the Northern Territory Court of Appeal), the victory will bring hope to others living in poor conditions.

The fight for better housing conditions began in 2015 when tenants from about 70 remote homes gave the NT government a list of more than 600 repairs and asked for them to be fixed.

The decision last week means that government's can no longer ignore the pleas of such tenants, despite how remote they are.

The out-of-sight, out-of-mind mentality with Aboriginal housing has had its day.

In fact, the High Court's decision has already prompted others to potentially seek compensation.

As reported on page 5, thousands of Indigenous tenants in substandard public housing in Western Australian communities might also be eligible for



compensation. Lawyers in that state have already begun visiting remote communities to begin documenting the poor state of housing.

They are finding a lack of safe drinking water, broken toilets and cooking facilities, and no working air-conditioners.

And they are hearing that the repeated requests from residents for repairs were being ignored.

Well that's just not good enough.

Surely in a country as rich as Australia, public housing should be considered a priority, along with excellent health services and education.

So much wealth is generated from Aboriginal land, whether by mining or pastoral activities, yet the First Nations people of this country are often left to live in abject poverty.

This is not to say that governments do not allocate billions of dollars towards remote area housing ... the problem appears to be that too many millions are frittered away on consultants, inflated material costs, or greedy construction companies.

Until governments get serious about providing good quality, affordable housing, the court actions will continue.

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).

Preston plans to revive languages in schools

By SARAH ROBERTS-FIELD

Some of the most memorable times of our lives are spent at school.

When we're young, our minds are a sponge, absorbing everything because we are learning and growing in a new world.

For many, the majority of our knowledge comes from our education experience in schools, and one of the most common sayings heard when it comes to Indigenous knowledge is "We were never taught this at school".

Changing that sad truth is leading language educator Preston Parter, a Birri Gubba and Darumbal man from Queensland. A school principal and teacher for 16 years, he began with a principal's position at Lochington, a cattle station school near Emerald in the Central Highlands of Queensland. He lives a role that requires immense compassion, strength, bravery, and determination to make a difference, while making it all look easy.

Mr Parter for the last seven years has been guiding traditional language revival classes, dedicating himself to keeping cultural knowledge alive and continuous through the oral tradition of storytelling.

In the North Burnett region of Queensland at Eidsvold State School, Mr Parter was asked to be part of a language revival journey with the Wakka Wakka people. He worked on the project for many years, having to go through a lengthy process in order for it to be recognised genuinely by the department.

"You can't just pick up a language and say, we're going to teach this one and then drop whatever is already in place. So what we did was we dropped Mandarin, Chinese and began putting into place the Wakka Wakka language," Mr Parter told the *Koori Mail*.



Birri Gubba man Preston Parter.

"A language offering is a curriculum requirement, so you have to have a legitimate language program to replace it.

"We worked so hard to get it recognised as legitimate," he said.

Revival work often means there are no speakers of the language left, so much of the work that Mr Parter took part in involved recordings, working with linguists and written resources.

"Their advice might have been learning about bush tucker or plants, then we would design our curriculum to what the community were telling us and that worked really well."

The children and community's response was one of enjoyment and excitement.

"It was amazing. When we first introduced it to students, we said, we're going to teach you the language of the Country that you're on, and we're learning it at the same time, so you guys are going to be the experts," he said.

"What's really enjoyable is that you get to go out on Country a lot, you get to have these amazing experiences, and it's not just going to be in the classroom. We're going to be doing a lot of learning on Country, and you're going to meet heaps of new cool people."

Years kindy to 10 have classes every week at the school; each morning begins with a 15-minute Yumbin language class and has Wakka as another offering. "They're better speakers than most of us. Some will move away for boarding school and other reasons this year, but their knowledge of language and cultural practice is something they'll never lose," Mr Parter said.

In late September, he successfully applied for a founding principal position at soon-to-be-built Nullu Badi Ngudyubay Academy (NBNA), an independent non-state school that looks to provide secondary education within the Rockhampton and Livingstone regions.

Nullu Badi Ngudyubay in Darumbal language means 'we grow learning'.

"The school will work closely to fill the need of culturally appropriate education for our students. Central Queensland Indigenous Development (CQID), have been working on this amazing project for a number of years and I feel really blessed to be involved.

"In the central Queensland region, a lot of data suggests that students are really disengaged and that is leading to bigger problems such as retention, attendance, future studies and aspirations," Mr Parter said.

The academy will be an environment focused on knowledge sharing, fostering students' aspirations and encouraging them to follow their interests.

Respect, inclusivity and celebration of culture will drive the NBNA community.

To nurture and raise kids with an understanding of Country and knowledge proves many benefits for the children, the parents, peers and teachers, the community and broader.

With the knowledge and forethought of Country and how to look after it, actions are taken with care and appreciation for the land.



Concept drawings of the NBNA by watercolour artist, Greg Mulheran from Fulton Trotter Architects. Potential sites for the school include Yeppoon and Emu Park in Queensland.

He was learning along the way and wanted it to be community-led, so he spent much time with Elders and the community to help establish a language advisory group.

"We said to the group, this is what we need to be doing for our students; what advice can you give, what would you like to see us teach, and what's important to the community?" Mr Parter said.





The Welcome to Country involved all three ceremonial groups of the Wadeye community. Yung Milla, Traditional Owner Steven Bundock and J-Milla in Wadeye.

Love arrives in Wadeye

By LIINA FLYNN



THE moment hip hopper J-Milla arrived at Wadeye (pronounced Wad-air) community store, he was mobbed by the Mob. The 25-year-old muso with a big heart has become a superstar in the remote NT Aboriginal community – and everyone wanted a selfie with him.

J had arrived by charter plane from Darwin, just as he had the year before for the first concert he'd played at the remote community. The concert had brought the eyes of the world to Wadeye through the power of social media – and with it, peace and lasting change had descended on an under-resourced and stigmatised community that had been plagued by infighting.

This year, the concert was set to be even bigger. This time, J had brought his younger brother, Yung Milla (20), emerging hip hop artist Kootsie Don, DJ Charly and the legendary Radical Son and his band.

Together with some of Australia's AFL stars, they were bringing their energy and love to the largest Aboriginal community in Australia – through Yidiyi – a two-day festival of music, sport and wellbeing.

Comfortable place

J told the *Koori Mail* that Yidiyi means "to be in a comfortable place".

"It's the first time we gave this celebration a name," J said. "It's good to come to Wadeye and feel comfortable around people who are feeling comfortable as well."

"They would be a little bit lost outside their homes... it's hard for them to go out and change, because it's so remote. So, if we want to see the community change, we need to come here in these motivational support roles and make a difference."

Welcomed

The musos were welcomed to Country outside the store, by two of the local Kardu Diminin Traditional Owners, Steve and Bunduck (Milky Way) and



The Wadeye Mob show their love for J-Milla and Yung Milla.

Margaret Perdjee. The Mob sang and clapped and danced and there were smiles all round for the superstars who'd come to their Country.

In the dry heat of pre-wet season, the local kids ran through the red dust to jump in a nearby blow up castle. The concrete skate ramps lay forgotten – J-milla and his brother Yunga Milla were in town and the rest of the world hadn't forgotten the children of Wadeye.

As the day hotted up, J and his brother Yung Milla (Levi) were full of energy, as they ran and played games with the kids. It was the same energy the pair took to the stage that evening as they rapped, danced and flipped though the air onstage to the hundreds of adoring, smiling, brown faces in the audience.

The day before, AFL players Shane McAdam (Melbourne Demons), Jy Farrar (Gold Coast Suns) and Ash Johnson (Collingwood) had taken the kids through an AFL footy clinic, building championship-level health, skill, fitness and positivity.

DJ Charly

As the Milla brothers connected with the kids, DJ Charly set up his DJ decks and taught the kids how to be a DJ.

DJ Charly has spent years working in remote communities

and as a mentor to youth in Darwin. Everywhere he goes, he teaches young people DJ skills and then employs them to play at gigs.

He's been a professional DJ who has toured the world, playing with big names like Snoop Dog – but said he wanted to do more. "I want to help," he said. "At one stage of my life I was like these kids, needing guidance, now I travel the world and I want to give it back."

The smiles on the faces of the Wadeye kids said it all, as they donned headphones, mixed and scratched their own music.

The concert

As the day cooled and the red sun began to sink on the horizon, the 2,500 strong Mob of the Wadeye community gathered in groups near the ceremonial dancing ground in front of the concert stage. Dancers performed traditional ceremonial dances, while singers sang the accompanying songs.

Elder and TO Steven Bunduck sang along, and said "this is the dance where we say sorry for all the dreaming people".

"The song before was the dance for the left handed people – where are you all? Come and dance with us here," he smiled.

First up on the concert stage was Radical Son. Fronted by



The crowd livestreams J-Milla and Yung Milla to social media feeds.



AFL players Ash Johnson (Collingwood), Jy Farrar (Gold Coast Suns), Shane McAdam (Melbourne Demons) learned how to bring a community together, how to heal and spread the love.

Kamillaroi and Tongan singer David Leha, the band kicked off their set with a song in language, building up to their latest release *Until you call my name*. The song with a powerful message has just had a video clip released.

(See next edition of the *Koori Mail* for more about Radical Son and Wadeye).

Larakia rapper Kootsie Don then bounced around the stage, singing her brand of self empowered hip hop and the Wadeye kids surged closer to the barricade to be near her bubbly energy.

When the Milla brothers took to the community stage together, it was clear why a barrier had been erected. Hundreds of adoring fans with big smiles on sweaty faces all held up their mobile phones and livestreamed the concert to the rest of the world.

The Milla brothers gave them their all – sweat, energy and their

choreographed dancing. When they sang J-Milla's latest track *Gammin*, the audience enthusiastically joined in.

"When I say gammin, you say gammin", J called out. "Gammin", he sang. "Gammin" they responded.

The concert finished with local crowd favourites, the Sunset Band. As the ageing rockers played their electric guitars, they swayed and sang in language as their long white hair blew behind them in the stage fan breeze.

Social media

J said social media was integral to the success of the event. In June this year, he did a TikTok concert with the people of Wadeye too.

"These kids have access to social media and they have seen all of our faces on different platforms, like TikTok, Instagram, Youtube and Facebook," he said.

Continued on next page:



Sunset Band.



Radical Son.

Continued from previous page:

"These Mob are watching us at home, then to see us come to their community and put on a show is a new experience for them as well – they wouldn't believe they would ever see us in their own backyard three times.

Love

After the concert, J said it had been his favourite concert at Wadeye so far.

"Last night and the reactions of the kids was something special," he said. "This community is the largest in Australia and it's 70% youth – it's younger fellas who just want to have fun. So I come out and do what I can.

"The love we get brings nothing but motivation – not only for giving back to the Mob, but it changes my perspective on things I go through every day in life as well.

"I think it's changed me to be more grateful and appreciate what I have at home. Having a child now has made me more family-orientated and coming out to communities like this, you can see how much family means to this Mob as well."

J said he wants to see an end to the stigma that surrounds Wadeye and the stereotypes given to people in the community.

"It's a place full of amazing people who just need the opportunity to be known and respected and given some time and energy," he said.

"I went out after my show last night and walked around, meeting the young Mob who are so desperate for resources and entertainment – things I have access to at home, but here they don't because it's so remote."

Next Yidiyi

The big heart of J-Milla has opened the way for change to blow through the unique remote NT community of Wadeye. Now he's calling out to others who want to get involved with next year's Yidiyi event, to bring opportunities, music, sport and mentoring to the kids of Wadeye.

So put your hand up to get involved and let J know.



Wadeye Elders Anne-Marie and Catherine enjoy the concert.



Up and coming Darwin rapper Kootsie Don owned the stage as the Wadeye kids cheered her on.



Wadeye locals come out for the Yidiyi concert.



Jade learns to DJ.



Bro x Bro show with J-Milla and Yung Milla.



Ceremonial dancers kick off the concert on sunset.



John and Mitchell learn to DJ with DJ Charly.



Accountability, we all have a part to play

How does the micro impact the macro? We are currently feeling lots of conflict and pain for the global political landscape right now. We also for the first time in history are seeing how social media plays a part in exposing truths in war.

Never in our history have we seen the mainstream media and social media be so polarising in their portrayal of the same events and reasons for it. It has allowed for me to understand the war through the lens of those impacted, both Palestine and Israel. For the first time in war, we get real life stories of the death and destruction and my hope is that it does not desensitise us to war and violence but rather awakens us to ask more questions.

As the war unfolds in the Middle East, I am reminded that Afghanistan, Central African Republic, Ethiopia, Libya, Mali, Somalia, South Sudan and Syria are all currently experiencing civil wars, resulting in significant casualties and displacement.

What I believe is being called on by us right now is that we need to redirect the blame to ourselves.

Let us not incite division but to see how we all take place and have a part in this global



Ella Noah Bancroft

destruction.

It's important to reflect that most wars that start all over the world start because of race, resources or religion. So how do everyday people living in so-called Australia contribute to that?

We have just spent the whole year trying to convince the Australian government to take accountability and responsibility for their impacts on our First Nations communities. Well now I feel it important that we change

the landscape, not make others take accountability but lead by example by taking some form of responsibility and accountability in the way our own lives impact not only our communities but those on a global scale.

Have you stopped to ask yourself how you contribute to inequality? How you contribute to race, religion or resource war?

How do you unknowingly uphold conflict and war?

The current war that is taking place in Middle East isn't just about race or religion, it's about resources. It's about the United States, UK and Australia having financial interests in the resources that exist underneath the war torn buildings and bodies of Palestine.

There are large deposits of natural resources beneath the Palestine region.

According to the United Nations Trade and Development Agency, Palestine accounts for 122 trillion cubic feet of natural gas and 17,000 barrels of oil. So how do we all play a part in this war?

Well our current systems, the "first world" systems require large amounts of finite resources to sustain itself, it also requires large amounts of finite resources for the sustainable energy green new

deal. Basically we have and uphold a fundamentally unequal system, one that relies on extraction and greed to thrive. One that relies on the death and destruction of other people's homes, families, lands and lives in order for us to turn on the lights, or have hot water.

In order for us to drive to the shops rather than walk, in order for us to live in a so called "first world", a world that sucks and extracts resources from around the world and sends them to countries like US, UK and Australia.

So when we start to understand the motivations behind war, we can start to see how we contribute as societies and communities to those wars. We also start to see how our politicians are reflections of our communities and so if we truly want to invest in the future of our world, then action and demand change through email or phone calls to our local, state and federal to voice our concern over the lives of thousands of babies who are dying as a result of us being able to be in our "privilege state".

It's important to get a big picture on the situation and rather than just call people, countries or entire groups out, why don't we all

stop to reflect on how we all contribute in our own way. The world is calling for us to take accountability, really properly reflect on how our lives cause harm to others, in an unseen way, how our "first world" country is only first because it has taken resources from other people, communities and countries to get to that point. I have been trying to be still and take my own accountability during this time.

I am lighting candles, using less electricity, walking when I can and ultimately attempting to lessen my reliance on resources from afar. It is hard when our entire society is operating off all these resources, but it is essential we stop and reflect on all the conflict and chaos to think, how am I contributing to this war and all the wars across the world.

How does capitalism and the colony feed the war machine? Let us move from blaming to curiosity to accountability. I'm ready to take responsibility, to understand my own actions and how they impact others. I am ready to be moved into something grander than what has come before and I'm ready for growth.

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

Understanding conflict in Gaza

Every issue I try and provide a balanced approach towards topics which are important to our communities, and I just can't ignore the grieving, mourning and despair currently in trying to understand, support and give reason towards what is happening in Gaza.

I state up front, this article is written as my opinion, not that of the *Koori Mail*, or as a representative of Gomeroi. I also have to state up front, there is no justification for the slaughter of women and children whether Israeli or Palestinian no matter what side you stand on. Personally, I do not stand with cold blooded killers of any side.

I have spent much time researching, looking for truth among the hate, anger and misinformation being shared by both sides. It's not uncommon for violence to break out between Israel and Hamas militants in Gaza. It typically begins with an attack from Hamas then a devastating and brutal response by Israel.

The most recent attack that started this latest conflict was by Hamas back in October 7, 2023, exactly one month ago as I write this article. The resulting massacre was unprecedented in its scale, coordination and its killing of innocent Israeli civilians. Dozens of Hamas militants crossed from Gaza and opened fire on about 4,000 young Israelis who were attending a music festival to



Woolombi Waters

celebrate the Jewish holiday of Sukkot.

Hamas also took dozens of hostages, including women, children and elderly, killing at least 1200 people. Israel's President Isaac Herzog, said, "not since the Holocaust (when over six million Jews were killed by the Nazis) have so many Jews been killed on one day." Israeli opposition leader Yair Lapid termed it the "worst day since Holocaust".

My first question then, why has there been so little attention and protest within many Blackfella social media sites against this initial attack by a Palestine Terrorist group killing innocent people – and just how many of our Mob are taking sides without fully understanding both the modern and ancient history behind the conflict, relying instead on TikTok and social media for their information.

There is no right side to stand when innocent civilians women and children are dying. As protestors around the world use the slogan, "From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free" do people know the history behind the slogan calling for Israel's complete destruction as a form of genocide through violent means?

Could you imagine as a Jewish holocaust survivor living in Australia today witnessing people take to the streets screaming for the end of your ancestral lands (before anyone takes offence, please read below further information taken from research). The grief so profound it prompted more than 100 survivors to publish an unprecedented statement calling on Australians to denounce anti-semitism and hatred.

This leads to my next point, where again social media and protestors align the conflict of Gaza with colonisation which is why so many of our Mob have jumped on board. The simple truth, though very long ago, is that the Jews are the Indigenous people of the area not the Palestinians, with the Jews having first been forcibly removed back in 1,200 BCE (seriously noone has heard of Moses and the Jews taken to Egypt as slaves).

As the oldest living culture in the world dating back at least 80,000 years, we of all people should understand connection to country, no matter how

many thousands of years have passed – or do you accept that over two hundred years ago we too were invaded and our connection to Country, like the Jews no longer exists. Because that's what you're saying if you continue to state the 15th of May 1948, as a date of Jewish colonisation and choose to ignore the other 5,000 years of history.

Truth telling... the words "Palestine" or "Filastin" do not appear in the Qur'an which for Muslims stands as the definitive word of Allah (God) spoken to the prophet Muhammad by the angel Gabriel. "Palestine" is also not mentioned in the Old or New Testament. The word "Palestine" is believed to be derived from the Egyptian and Hebrew word Peleshet, which appears in the Old or New Testament no fewer than 250 times. Roughly translated it means rolling migratory and/or colonisers, the term was used to describe the inhabitants of the land to the northeast of Egypt who became the modern day Palestinians.

The Jews are recorded historically already living in their holy lands prior to the Peleshet (modern day Palestine) colonisation into the area. The Jews were conquered by Arabia living within the Mediterranean coastal plain that is now Israel and Gaza in the 12th Century BCE. The first time the Peleshet appear in historical records is in Egyptian writings from the 12th century BCE. It

records that the group of Sea People attacked Egypt by land and sea and were defeated.

Pharaoh Rameses III took them as slaves and settled many in outlying cities on Egypt's northern border. This is how they came to be in southwest Canaan, specifically Gaza, Ashkelon and Ashdod. Linguistically, since their arrival historical records at the time (not TikTok) show they brought with them war and destruction to the region. Peleshet then first became Philistine in English which literally means "invaders" or "foreigners" according to Hebrew and Egyptian sources.

Before being conquered by Arabia, the Egyptians called what is now Israel, Syria and Lebanon Retenu. The term Canaan appeared in the fifteenth century BCE and was subsequently referred to as Eretz Bnei Yisrael, the "Land of the Children of Israel" after the Jewish return from Egypt.

The name "Israel" was first used in the tenth century BCE to refer to the northern Jewish kingdom following the division of Solomon's kingdom. Therefore, the date 15th of May 1948, is not the beginning of a colonisation over Indigenous lands as many protestors claim, it is indeed the return of the original Indigenous peoples back to their holy lands after 3,000 years.

Since the 7th of October massacre there have been more than 8,000 rockets

fired at Israel, most have been intercepted by the Iron Dome — Israel's sophisticated missile defence system. It uses radar to track rockets and can differentiate between those that are likely to hit built-up areas and those that are not. Interceptor missiles are only fired at rockets expected to strike populated areas.

One of the most sophisticated defence systems in the world, Israel has the technology that could track the origins of the missiles fired and fire back, but instead the system is built for defence not counter attack. Israeli military spokesman Lt Col Jonathan Conricus said: "The number of Israelis killed and wounded since the 7th of October massacre would be far higher if it had not been for the Iron Dome system."

It is frustrating to see Mob on social media denying news reports saying they are disputed because Hamas denies photo and video evidence. This is why I have chosen to write this article... I understand this will lose me many friends and even some family, but as Indigenous Mob ourselves we have to question what is our motivation in believing one statement over the other – and are these opinions based on fact, or racism and fear, which would make us no better than our own oppressors.

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

Swine Industry Projects Advisory Committee (SIPAC)
Chairperson and Committee Members

The SIPAC is a statutory ministerial advisory committee whose primary role and function is to advise the Victorian Minister for Agriculture on expenditure from the Swine Compensation Fund and related matters concerning Victoria's swine industry.

Expressions of interest are sought for the role of chairperson and two committee members for a three year term.

Applicants must be able to demonstrate knowledge and expertise in one or more of the following areas:

- the pig and pork and allied industries
- biosecurity or market access
- quality assurance and food safety
- finance, legal practice or business management
- agricultural, animal or veterinary science
- public policy

Other desirable experience includes:

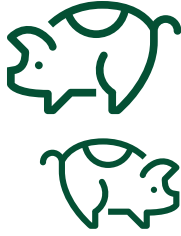
- board, committee and/or industry leadership
- research investment expertise

Applications will be assessed by an independent selection panel for nomination to the Minister for Agriculture.

Applicants are requested to submit an Expression of Interest form together with a CV via Join a Public Board at boards.vic.gov.au

A Position Description is available at Join a Public Board or request it via biosecurity.governance@agriculture.vic.gov.au

The Victorian Government is committed to ensuring that government boards and committees reflect the rich diversity of the Victorian community.



Apply at boards.vic.gov.au
and search for SIPAC
Closing date for applications
is 20 November 2023

Authorised by the Victorian Government,
1 Treasury Place, Melbourne

AGRICULTURE VICTORIA

Department of Primary Industries

Marine Estate Expert Knowledge Panel
Expressions of Interest for Aboriginal
Expert in Sea Country Management

The NSW Department of Primary Industries is seeking Expressions of Interest from Aboriginal people to fill the Aboriginal expert in Sea Country management position on the NSW Marine Estate Expert Knowledge Panel (the Knowledge Panel) and to create a talent pool. The Knowledge Panel has been established to provide strategic advice to the Marine Estate Management Authority (the Authority) on matters affecting the NSW marine estate.

The Knowledge Panel also has representatives that cover social science, ecology, marine biology, and economics to provide strategic insights to the Authority.

The EOI process is aiming to attract Aboriginal persons with diverse knowledge and experience to address the varied NSW marine estate management related matters that will need focus. This includes best practice management of the marine estate for Sea Country outcomes, improved management of culturally significant species, social and cultural significance of cultural fishing, enhanced opportunities to share cultural knowledge and training and job opportunities.

Expressions of interest are invited from Aboriginal persons for the Aboriginal expert in Sea Country management position on the NSW Marine Estate Expert Knowledge Panel and for consideration for the talent pool.

More information on the Knowledge Panel is available on the Authority's website: marine.nsw.gov.au/advisory-bodies/marine-estate-expert-knowledge-panel

To find out more about membership on the Knowledge Panel you can contact us at:

Heath Folpp, Director Marine Estate Management
NSW Department of Primary Industries – Fisheries
0438 042 278 | heath.folpp@dpi.nsw.gov.au

Interested applicants should send a completed expression of interest form and their curriculum vitae to the Department via:
Email: marine.secretariat@dpi.nsw.gov.au

Expressions of interest must be received by
midnight 10th December 2023.



Community consultation on the draft replacement plan for
the NSW Border Rivers Unregulated River Water Sources

The NSW Government has developed the draft replacement Water Sharing Plan for the NSW Border Rivers Unregulated River Water Sources 2024.

The draft plan and supporting documentation are available for viewing on the Department of Planning and Environment website from Monday 6 November to Sunday 17 December 2023.

Join us at one of the information sessions listed below to learn more about:

- the draft replacement plan
- how to make a submission.

Date	Location	Event time
21 November	Live webinar	12.00 pm – 1.00 pm
28 November	Gateway to training, 15-21 Russell Street, Goondiwindi QLD 4390	10.00 am – 12.00 pm NSW Time
28 November	Tenterfield Golf Club, 288 Pelham Street, Tenterfield NSW 2372	4.00 pm – 6.00 pm
29 November	Inverell RSM Club, 68-76 Evans Street, Inverell NSW 2360	11.00 am – 1.00 pm

From 4 December to 8 December 2023 staff from the Department of Planning and Environment will also be available for 30 minute booked phone interviews.

To find out more information, including how to make a submission, register and book a call please visit: water.nsw.gov.au/nsw-border-rivers-water-sharing-plan or email borderrivers.wsp@dpi.nsw.gov.au

Submissions close at 11.59 pm on Sunday 17 December 2023.

o b i t u a r y

Farewell Aunty Gwen

Aunty Gwen was someone I hold with enormous heartfelt gratitude. She taught us so much and engaged so warmly with us all. We have lost one of our nation's leading lights, a cultural knowledge holder and advisor.

Aunty was more than just a member of the community across the Northern Rivers, guiding us on so many levels – she carried that age-old humility, her smile lit up her eyes, but they would also ensure you were listening and at times she was formidable and commanding, especially ensuring you understood the need and desire of those who went before and how important that education was.

I remember being terrified as I was to visit her in Sydney. I pulled out the old recorder – my pen and my first journalist notepad – I was working for Radio Redfern. Ready, sitting patiently, she encouraged me to ask any question – and then she held my hand, told me to put my pen and note pad down and said it's best if you just listen – I want to tell you my story – and so I gazed up putting all my trust in that old recorder and then she painted a picture of her life – from her time as young girl in Coraki, the big move to Sydney and she informed me of her desires, dreams and honestly she made it sound like anything was possible.

She was a trailblazer in the education system, working and developing the North Coast



Gwen Williams-Hickling

Aboriginal Education Consultative Group (AECG). Like her approach as one of our great weavers, education was knowledge – you need to know the land, work it out and look , listen to that flow of the waterways, as it trickles there will be growth and you will find the right stems of lomandra to wiggle and pull. Her passion was teaching out in the open and with every step, there was a little drop of education. She sat on so many committees, was a member of the Bundjalung Elders Group and Namatjira Haven. She generously mapped the Country for us and through her weaving she talked of cultural integrity, and the philosophy and ecology that connects us to birthrights. It helped us enormously in navigating our place and value as Bundjalung women.

Always available for a talk and always at the festivals – there was a pride and dare I say a cheekiness, which was

incredibly unique. There were invitations, always the calls – I'm doing a workshop come in and have a sit-down and listen – continuously guided by her passion and deep thoughts on the importance of the future maintenance of culture. So, so generously she encouraged visitors to experience a taste of the ancientness, sharing how important the Bundjalung knowledge system was and is, the song and stories were for the future care of Country and the environment of all our homelands.

Aunty Gwen was like a great professor carrying tradition and wisdom. She trusted our curatorial work and in return imparted layers of her life, it was like she was always gifting us a little parcel of the earth on every visit. It was with such joy when her story was featured in *BURUUGAA BULAN GII (we weave together)*. I saw a glimpse of the artist and her story of Country light up – as her tears welled with such pride. She cupped her hands to her mouth and called out across the water – in language to our ancestors, announcing our arrival. We say a heartfelt thanks to a wisdom woman who advocated for education, cultural heritage, language and with a two-way thinking that made us all feel so very welcomed and embraced. She will remain in my heart as our dignified matriarch. Rest In Peace Aunty.

– Rhoda Roberts AO

Festival breaks with

By JILLIAN MUNDY



IT'S easy to write 'place-based' off as a buzzword, but when it comes to Unconformity Festival in Queenstown, in

Lutruwita/Tasmania's west, there is no better description.

Queenstown is best known for mining and the destruction it has left – the scarred land is often described as a moonscape and the region as the Wild West. Of course, this only represents a fraction of the region's story.

The biannual festival promotes and educates visitors and celebrates the unique town, its people, history, environment and landscape.

There is still mining activity in the region, but for Queenstown, once considered the richest mining town in the world, the boom may be over.

When the miners arrived in the late 1800s, colonisation had already decimated the Aboriginal population of Lutruwita.

Miners found mountains covered in forest and crystal clear rivers running in the valleys – and gold. In no time towns were hastily erected, mountains literally blown apart to extract copper, silver and gold, forests felled to fire smelters, sulphuric fumes and heavy rain washed most of the exposed soil away. Open-cut and underground mining operated for over a century.

What remains is a population a quarter of the size it was in its heyday; nearby ghost towns, empty shops and derelict buildings in the town's centre, mountain ranges so exploited, eroded and poisoned that barely a plant grows, the Queen River that flows through the town so poisoned that, once clear water, it is an opaque yellow-brown with no aquatic life, although bacteria has been discovered recently.

It is estimated that 100 million



Looking up Queenstown's main street (Orr Street) toward Mt Owen. The street was transformed into the festival hub 'Crib Road'. The sirens mounted to the edge of the pictured structure that once signalled waking hours, shifts and crib breaks for mine workers – sirens sounded once again for the festival, evoking memories for locals and former locals, visiting. Crib was the name for the miners breaks, the crib room was where they would gather, they called the food they ate their crib, and often played the card game crib. *Pictures: Jillian Mundy*



Xavier Scotney-Barron performs at the *Ground* sunrise ceremony.

tonnes of mining tailings plus sewage were disposed into the Queen River making it resemble a flowing grey milkshake, until tailings were diverted into a dam in 1995.

The former company town is reinventing itself. Its tourism industry is winning awards and Queenstown is becoming an artistic hub fuelled by necessity, the availability of cheaper housing and the Unconformity Festival.

It was announced the week after the festival that multinational mining and metals processing group Sibayne Stillwater gained 100% ownership of the Mount Lyell mine, with the Tasmanian government committing a \$34.5 million package should mining operations recommence.

First Festival

In 2010, the first Queenstown Heritage and Arts Festival was held, with a focus on the mining heritage.

The next, in 2012, was timed to coincide with centenary commemorations of a mining disaster that claimed 43 lives.

By the time the next festival swung around in 2014, and after a series of workplace deaths, the Mount Lyell mine, Australia's longest continually operating mine and the heart of Queenstown for 130 years, had ceased operating.

In 2016 the festival was renewed and rebadged as Unconformity, with a broader focus – from the deep geological past to the present and the future.

More recently Unconformity began nurturing relationships with Aboriginal artists.



While prospectors had been in the Queenstown region for decades, in 1893 the Mount Lyell Mining and Railway Company took mining to an industrial level. This photograph, taken in Queenstown 1897, shows the landscape before all the trees were felled to fire the smelters and all vegetation poisoned by sulphuric acid rain. *Picture: Tasmanian Archives Collection.*



Priscilla Beck and sisters Colleen and Cheryl Mundy, from southern Lutruwita/Tasmania, plant a tree at *Ground*. The stage is designed to be used for anything from a large public event like a festival opening to the slow growth of a tree.

conventional wisdom



The Gormanston Hills (the '99 bends') on the way into Queenstown, where forests were felled to fuel smelters, open-cut mining took place and sulphuric acid rain fell, the eroded land is starting to revegetate. At times, regeneration attempts by government services were thwarted by locals who, having an affection for naked hillsides, removed the planted saplings. The hills are also now a tourist attraction. This is a recent photo – a few decades earlier there was not a tree in sight. *Picture: Rémi Chauvin.*

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Probably not too easy for a town with very few long-term Aboriginal residents. Travis Tiddy, the festival artistic director, a born and bred Queenstown-er, describes the town as "a part of the world that is not very diverse in its community make-up".

His own family had suppressed the fact his grandfather was Chinese until he started asking questions after the birth of his son about a decade ago.

Australian Electoral Commission records show all polling booths in the area recorded over 79% No vote in the Voice referendum, one might presume these were not progressive No votes.

Respectful Aboriginal Relationships

The festival is determined to build genuine connection, collaboration and trust with palawa and other Aboriginal people living in Lutruwita.

They have annual Aboriginal Artist residencies offering artist fees, per diems, a materials' budget, travel expenses and two-and-a-half-weeks accommodation, with few expectations in terms of outcomes.

Tiddy doesn't believe they are generous – rather, responsible.

"So many residencies have expectations that artists will fund themselves and I don't think that's right because to create a residency, there's an incredible flow-on benefit for surrounding community and those organisations," he said.



Damon Brown, one of the few Tasmanian Aboriginal fellas born and bred in Queenstown, cycled down to the festival for a quick look.



Known as 'The Confluence', where the King and Queen Rivers meet: on the left is pure clean water, on the right is water poisoned from decades of mining tailings let loose into the once pristine river. *Picture: Jack Robert-Tissot*



Aboriginal artists and dancers lead a ceremony at dawn on the Friday of Unconformity at Ground.

"An artist in that structure, in a self-funded capacity, is effectively funding that outcome, and they are there because that is their practice, that is their livelihood.

"What is being invested in is the connection between Aboriginal people and the West Coast and whatever flows from that is organic.

"A lot of trust has flowed from that.

"This doesn't happen lightly in a place like Queenstown," he said.

"We know that there is integrity behind this, we're not doing it because we feel like we have to from anyone else's expectations. We're doing this because as an organisation we're really interested in social justice, we're really interested in outcomes from the entirety of our community.

"We're on a long-term journey."

There have been six residencies so far.

DENNI aka Madam Pakana was the 2022 Aboriginal artist resident.

During the residency, the singer-songwriter and all-round artist engaged with youth, put on a free solo show and joined mainland musicians for a show at the historic Paragon Theatre.

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"It was nice to get to know some of the locals, I think the kids got a lot out of it," she told the *Koori Mail*.

"They do get musicians go out there, but maybe not many hip-hop artists.

"Hip-hop speaks to a younger generation."

This year she headlined the main stage performing two shows on Queenstown's main street, Orr St, which was transformed into the festival's hub 'Crib Road'.

"It's a very unique festival, the place and the people give it its own angle."

Local and visiting children danced on stage with DENNI, and they lined up afterwards to get her autograph.

"It was pretty special," DENNI said.

For those children, it may well create a memory just as enduring as the legendary 1976 AC/DC show did for older locals. It was from this visit that a local woman was said to have inspired the AC/DC classic *Whole Lot of Rosie* when Bon Scott was still frontman, a year before his death.

Tiddy says seeing the kids' enthusiasm for the pakana hip-hop artist performing on the main stage as a lead, and locals being comfortable with that, was significant.

"That's the sort of outcome that ten years ago you couldn't have imagined.

"She's a rock star on the west coast."

This year's Unconformity had the biggest number of Aboriginal artists integrated on the program yet.

Pakana author Adam Thompson praises Unconformity for being respectful and genuine.

"I don't feel like I've been exploited in any way," he said.

"Sometimes you work with people and you feel like they've got an agenda and want you to endorse something or help them to get Aboriginal funding for their projects."

He was the recipient of the Aboriginal Artists residency in 2021.



Walkers ascend Mt Owen, the 11km climb was part of the *Unrise*, a personal encounter with the mountain. Picture: Rémi Chauvin.



The moon did not fall out of the sky! Aunt Cheryl Mundy sang at the opening night of *Earth Shine* which featured Luke Jerram's seven-metre-diameter 3D moon created from high-resolution NASA lunar imagery, set in an old limestone quarry beneath the real moon.

Palawa/pakana singer-songwriter DENNI signs an autograph for a young fan.



"It's a very unique festival, the place and the people give it its own angle."

– DENNI aka Madam Pakana

He said it was life-changing.

"It gave me the time to write and I did an artist talk at the beginning where I met people from the town who invited me into their homes.

"I was inspired by the artists that were following their passions and not worried about money."

Former miners flip careers

Some were newcomers to Queenstown, others former miners who had flipped their career to arts.

When Thompson returned home he quit the day job, which he loved, and followed his passion to be a writer. A decision he has not regretted.

"It's a quirky town with a wild backdrop, with a lot of white and black history, an interesting mixture of locals that have been there for generations and arts-people who have moved there recently.

"I think people in the town appreciate hearing about the Aboriginal history.

"There was a presumption

there were no Aboriginal people around there because the environment was too inhospitable.(...) many like to continue this narrative that no one was in the area until the brave mining pioneers moved in."

Aboriginal heritage surveys have located evidence that proves otherwise.

The only known source of natural glass in Lutruwita can be found just south of Queenstown. Formed when a meteor hit the earth long, long ago, the naturally-occurring glass was a sought-after material, used by Aboriginal people to make tools.

In the 1990s, just outside of Queenstown, the King River was flooded to make Lake Burbury for the Hydro Electric Scheme. Aboriginal heritage surveys before the inundation rediscovered extensive archaeological evidence of Aboriginal occupation.

Stone tool sites and occupied rock shelters now lie beneath the lake with the remains of mining ghost town, Crotty.

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DENNI invited her young fans onto the stage to dance.



Walkers ascending Mt Owen for the *Unrise*, from a different perspective and with the sun a little higher in the sky. Picture: Rémi Chauvin.

continued from page 28.

Thompson has built a relationship with Unconformity and worked at every festival since his residency.

This year he led 75 punters on a four-hour silent walk up Mt Owen in collaboration with Selena de Carvalho.

Thompson said it got people out of town and on Country and was aimed at waking up the mountain, making Country whole and bringing back elements of Aboriginal culture that had been stripped away, as well as asking for good fortune for the festival.

233 days of rain a year

And good fortune there was. In a town that averages 233 days of rain a year, over the four festival days there was only one, and it didn't rain for long. While the rest of the state dealt with torrential rain, flash flooding, gale-force winds and power blackouts, Queenstown was spared.

Thompson hopes the walk will become a fixture of every Unconformity Festival.

He also presented a talk about Tasmanian Aboriginal writing and its evolution, reading some of his short stories and works of other palawa writers.

It was a packed house, people were turned away at the door.

Also on the program was *Ground*, an artist-designed stage constructed mainly with rocks and earth displaced from old mining activities, "a collaboration with Country (place)" facilitated by artist Priscilla Beck and pakana* arts leader and dancer Sinsa Mansell. Gatherings and activities were held in the space, including the official ceremonial opening of the festival.

Several palawa*, including this writer, spoke on live panels on UNTV, an analog-style pop-up festival television station broadcast from inside the decked-out Queenstown magistrates court.

The next Unconformity Festival is in 2025.

*Pakana and palawa are two spellings/pronunciations that mean the same thing – Tasmanian Aborigine.



Festival artistic director Travis Tiddy and pakana author Adam Thompson in the UNTV pop-up TV studio after their live-to-air panel discussion.



Sinsa Mansell leads the *Ground* sunrise ceremony.



Saturday evening at *Ground*, punters gathered with Aboriginal artists, sharing stories and learning to twine. They are pictured showing off their creations.



The islands of Zenadth Kes were the inspiration for many of Joey Laifoo's stories about culture. This picture is taken on Waiben (Thursday Island).

By NICK PATON and SARAH ROBERTS-FIELD



FOR Joey Laifoo, passing down precious knowledge of art, dancing, storytelling and song to the next generation is critical.

From a very young age, Joey's family members have always shared stories about growing up on Zenadth Kes (the Torres Strait), the islands, the sea, land, wind, tide, stars, sky and their experience in dancing, art, hunting and reading the weather.

"All my knowledge and my bloodline comes from Badu, Moa (Kubin), Mabuiag and Saibai Islands," Mr Laifoo told the *Koori Mail*.

"I come from Badu, stingray clan. My Badu wind is the north west. Mabuiag, crocodile clan, the biggest clan on Mabuiag and my wind is north west. Right on top, Saibai the snake clan, black taipan. And here, the Kaurareg people, Aboriginal people of Torres Strait, hammerhead clan.

Totems

"These are all of my totems of my identity, and where I am from, and my bloodlines that connect me to Zenadth Kes."



Joey Laifoo in his cafe, Island Stars.

Mr Laifoo was born on Waiben but grew up on Badu Island under the care of his great grandmother, and from a cultural side of things, that's where all his knowledge started.

For Mr Laifoo's grandmother, it was important that she brought him up, knowing about his culture and learning about it often.

"She taught us a lot about mother nature and how to

connect with the environment and how to use things around us to our advantage," Mr Laifoo said.

"Everything from the trees to what's in the water, my grandmother taught me how to show respect for each and everything around us in nature.

"I loved spending that time with my grandmother, but I also loved to come down to Waiben (Thursday) Island where my mum

and dad were working."

Mr Laifoo said his mum worked as a nurse on Waiben, while his dad did things like drive trucks and operate machinery on the island.

"I would leave Badu Island where I was staying with my grandmother during school holidays and come down to Waiben to spend time with my mum and dad," Mr Laifoo said.

Family home

"We had a family house in Pearl Street, and a lot of my uncles lived in the house as well, so when I would come back for holidays, we would all live together, like brothers and sisters.

"Depending on who was staying with us, we might have had 15 people in the house at any given time!

"And that means there was lots of knowledge and culture being spoken about.

"I remember being at that house, with all of my aunties and uncles, and in the kitchen, was this huge pot of rice and stew that we would share as a family."

Hunting skills

When he was younger, Mr Laifoo was encouraged to use the natural resources he could find around him, and would often go fishing with his uncles.

"I suppose, getting all of our food from the sea, that's where I learned a lot of my hunting skills," Mr Laifoo said.

"This was a necessity for me, and my family, to know how to fish and how to hunt, because it can be very expensive to get fresh meat brought over here to the islands from the mainland," he said.

● Continued next page



The front door to Joey's cafe, Island Stars.



Joey with his niece Wasada Dorante.

“We want to build these kids up so that they can continue the legacy and the traditions that we will leave behind. And the best way to do this is to give these kids a sense of responsibility, so that they feel in charge, and so that they feel empowered.”



Traditional Torres Strait Islander headdress

and renowned artist, he is also a sought-after traditional dancer.

He has danced and held art exhibitions all over the world and has performed for many high-profile governments and government agencies throughout his career, even for the Prince of Monaco.

“It was so funny! He came into the room, which was surrounded by all these fish in tanks. He walks in, and we shake his hand not knowing who he was. The next day, we go out to a coffee shop. I'm looking around, and there's this big picture of the same dude. I look at this picture and then at the woman working and ask, 'Who's that dude there?' She says, 'Oh! That's our Prince.' I'm thinking, 'Okay, that's their Prince,' so I tell her, 'We met him last night'. She looked at us in our calico and said, 'Mmm, I don't think so.'”

Billionaire royal

Joey and his team performed for the billionaire royal, who was blown away by their talent and skill.

“We ate with them, and they blocked the whole road off in front of his palace because we danced for him at the museum. He came into the restaurant and said, 'All the food is on me for what you just did'.

“I'm the smallest out of all my uncles, but all my uncles, they're big boys, and when we ate, we had \$400-\$500 worth of seafood every day for lunch, breakfast – it was good food. He (the Prince) probably spent about \$3,000 on us, we were there for a week. It was so good.

“He then flew over to Badu with his chef, and when they arrived, he asked one of my uncles 'Where are those big warriors?'”

Mr Laifoo laughs remembering the experience, telling the *Koori Mail*, “Because when we wear our suit, our big costumes with our headdress, it makes us look bigger. Most of my uncles are taller than six feet. They're huge,

and when they wear them, they look so big. I'm average size, but when I was standing there with them, they were like giants behind me. The Prince said to my uncle, 'Where are those big, giant Torres Strait dancers you had?'

“And see, we come from everywhere, we're not living in one area when we practise. We bring the team in, everyone performs, and everyone goes back,” he said.

Mr Laifoo has also performed in Jordan, Morocco, India, Egypt, Scotland, at Cambridge University and the British Museum, in Guam, all over the Pacific islands, as well as at the Commonwealth Games held recently in Australia.

“If you go into the High Commissioner's office in India, you will see my traditional dance suit hanging up in the office, which I donated to them at the time,” Mr Laifoo said.

Community cafe

For the last four years, Mr Laifoo and his partner have been running a cafe on Waiben called 'Island Stars'. The Cafe also doubles as a community space.

“We purchased this space together because we could see that there was nothing like this for young Torres Strait Islander people,” Mr Laifoo said.

“Not only are we a well-established cafe, we are also a much-needed community centre,” he said.

“We run a barista course here so we can teach the young ones how to make coffee, but we also do a lot of programs for some of the disengaged kids at the local schools.

“We try to employ as many of the young ones as we can once they have got their training, and we also run dance classes every Tuesday and Thursday out the back of the cafe for members of the community who are interested.

“We tend to target kids at school for most of the programs we run, but we also have

programs we run to engage the older members of our community, like dancing, and that shows the old ones that we are passing on our knowledge and culture to the next generation.”

Mr Laifoo says it doesn't matter which island you are from, he and the team are always ready and willing to teach kids about their culture and the way they live in Zenadth Kes.

Cultural boost

“Just recently we had school-holiday workshops where we ran dance classes, barista classes, weaving and print making classes and photography workshops, for anyone on the islands - black or white - who is interested in learning about Torres Strait Islander culture,” Mr Laifoo said.

“The good thing about these workshops is that for the little ones, they can use what they have learned about their culture to take them to new avenues in their lives.”

Mr Laifoo studied engineering at TAFE while he lived in Cairns and since then has helped to design many of the roads on Waiben as well as helping to design aspects of the football fields, boat ramps and footpaths.

Mr Laifoo has passed on all of this acquired knowledge to other members of the community.

“My partner Melissa and I really created this space because we could see what was lacking on the islands in terms of the young ones, and having connection to their culture.

“But at the end of the day, what we are doing here is all about the community and helping the community, and most importantly, educating the next generation,” Mr Laifoo said.

“We want to build these kids up so that they can continue the legacy and the traditions that we will leave behind.

“And the best way to do this is to give these kids a sense of responsibility, so that they feel in charge, and so that they feel empowered.”

● From previous page

“All the skills needed to hunt and how to catch fish correctly have been passed down through the generations and that's how we have learnt to survive here by ourselves on the Torres Strait.”

Mr Laifoo said he feels blessed knowing that his mum and dad, and grandparents, taught him everything he needed to know while he was growing up.

“This is reflected a lot in my art - about growing up with my uncles and my family,” Mr Laifoo said.

“The reason I grew up on Badu Island is because my great grandmother migrated from Saibai Island, and settled on Badu.

too and that's how we have become part of the stingray clan.”

Bloodlines

But even though he calls Badu home, Mr Laifoo's bloodlines extend to many other islands in the area.

“And that's why it is just so important to know your totems - and to know where you are from - so that there are no intermarriages back into the bloodlines.”

Mr Laifoo has four children: three daughters and a son. His partner Melissa is from Malta.

“My son's name is Malu and that means 'deep ocean'.

“He is named after all of my grandfathers who dived for pearls and pearl shells, and so his name carries on through deep water and the deep water divers.”

Not only is Mr Laifoo a business owner, cultural leader



Yorta Yorta legends Sir Pastor Doug Nicholls (left) and William Cooper emblazoned on the walls of Shepparton streets.

Shepparton grows success

First Nations arts and culture set to empower a post-referendum rural town

By ALI MC



UNDER the glare of the midday Australian sun, Kurnai man Brad Boon gestures towards a towering mural – one of many that dot the small, rural town of Shepparton.

From it, the faces of heroes William Cooper and Sir Douglas Nicholls stare defiantly at a smattering of nearby shops.

Hailing from the Yorta Yorta nation, Cooper and Nicholls were strong advocates for First Nations' rights in the 20th century.

The fact that their faces – along with other Indigenous heroes – are emblazoned on the walls around the town is testament not only to the Yorta Yorta peoples' survival and resistance to brutal colonisation, but also their enduring legacy.

Yet despite this long history of resistance and activism, in 2023 the Yorta Yorta nation is still fighting for their rights, especially in the ashes of the recent referendum which was met with a resounding No.

In Shepparton, the No vote resounded even louder than most places.

In a region with one of the largest populations of First

Nations peoples in the state outside of Melbourne, more than 76.2% of the population voted against the proposal; far higher than the national average of 60.62%.

Boon identifies with the Kurnai peoples but has lived in Shepparton for 17 years. He has worked in legal services and is a former player and now volunteers in the local Indigenous-run Rumbalara Football and Netball Club.

He told the *Koori Mail* the referendum is just another hump in the long road to equality.

"There are communities doing a lot of good, but you don't hear about that," he said. "I think we do get left out."

The referendum was notable not only for the resounding defeat, but also the racism and negativity that typified the debate.

Well-known local First Nations' rapper Briggs – Brad Boon's brother-in-law – was a strong advocate of the Voice to Parliament, and held a free concert in Shepparton to gain more voter support.

Yet despite the loss, Boon says there are many positive community-led outcomes in small towns like Shepparton that are rarely touted in the media and political debates.

"At the minute we're just seeing bad stuff – domestic



Inside a replica house that had been built for the Yorta Yorta from the Mooroopna Flats after much advocacy to replace the tin and hessian huts, located at the Rumbalara Aboriginal Cooperative. The historical advertisement says 'Vote No to Keep Australia White'.

violence, sexual abuse, all the stuff that they want to get people up in arms about," he said.

"But they're not talking about the good that's happening around the state. And that's what I think we need to do more of."

One of the positive programs is the Academy of Sport, Health and Education (ASHE), a high achievement centre for predominantly First Nations' young people.

Heidi Knowles works as manager of operations and student success at ASHE. She said the centre is vital for students who may experience racism and discrimination at their local school, or who simply don't fit into the mainstream education system.

"Our young ones were falling through the cracks in mainstream schooling," she said. "So they come here, because it's a

culturally safe and appropriate place where they can reach their full potential."

Knowles herself was once a student at ASHE and said that growing up in Shepparton she faced many barriers to gaining employment – which she believes was due to discrimination.

So, she knows how important Indigenous-led education programs are.

Students from ASHE have gone on to undertake PhDs and become nurses and sports professionals, which she says is due to the cultural values embedded at the centre.

"Being in a culturally safe place, you feel connected to your culture. And feeling connected to your culture, it plays a big part in achieving what you want to achieve," she said.

"Because if you've got your connection to culture, the sky's the limit."

Nearby, the Shepparton Art Museum is home to another local success story, where a First Nations' art space Kaiela Arts has been established.

Modelled on the art centres normally found in central or northern Australia, Kaiela Arts was developed in 2021 as a hub for art creation as well as display.

Continued on next page...



Brad Boon is proud of local community successes, including new netball courts at the Indigenous-run Rumbalara Football and Netball Club.



Artist and community members Lyn Thorpe and Belinda Briggs.

Continued from previous page...

Tammy Atkinson, an artist with Kaiela Arts, said the work created by the Yorta Yorta community is very different from the well-known dot paintings from the desert region that has come to typify First Nations' art.

"What they assume is Aboriginal art is different to Aboriginal art down here," she said. "Down here this art is more about narrative storytelling and lines."

Like many of the successful programs developed in Shepparton, Kaiela Arts began as a local community initiative with Yorta Yorta Elder Les Saunders collecting art from peoples' homes and selling the works privately.

However, today, Kaiela Arts is now one of 90 recognised Indigenous art centres across Australia and hosts art programs for women, children and young people.

Artists and community members Belinda Briggs and Lyn Thorpe share the same enthusiasm for Kaiela Arts, and said the youth arts programs help maintain a strong culture for the Yorta Yorta community into the future.

"(Young people are) like the young gumtree," said Briggs. "We want them to be old gumtrees one day, with strong roots and they know where to find the water that gives them sustenance and nurtures them. And then they are passing that on to the next generation."

Artist Lyn Thorpe led the development of a photo wall at the local Rumbalara Football and Netball club, which depicts generations of family history.

She said that even such a small thing as a collation of family photos was a form of resistance to colonisation, which – through the Stolen Generations – aimed to divide and erase Indigenous families.

"We're talking about generations of people, forever trying to rebuild. It gets broken down, we rebuild again," she said.

On the outskirts of the town, a rebuilding of a different kind is occurring.

The Munarra Centre for Regional Excellence is currently in construction and will serve as a purpose built, modern facility



Yorta Yorta woman Heidi Knowles is manager of operations and student success at the local Academy of Sport, Health and Education (ASHE), a high achievement centre for Indigenous young people.

for the Yorta Yorta to combine education, culture, the arts and sport.

Another local initiative, the Munarra Centre is set to open in 2024 and will serve as a community hub with the aim of fostering the next generation of leadership and to encourage success.

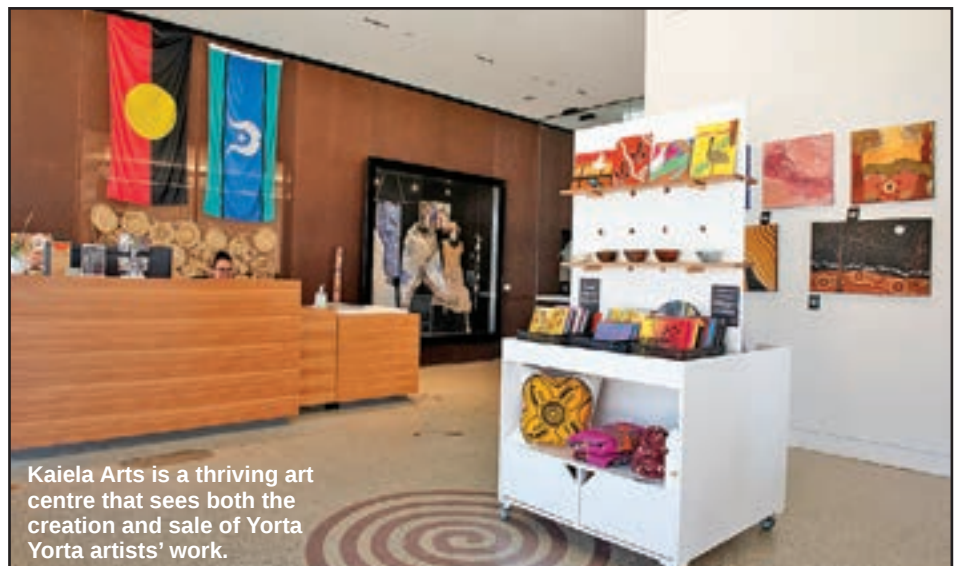
And for Brad Boon, he says it is the hard work of the local community that will see progress for the community in such projects, despite the disappointing result of the referendum.

"For us, we've just got our head down and our bums up and just persevere and chug along and get the results that we want for our community," he said.

"It's not newsworthy but it should be. Because little things like that really empower our Mob (people). Our young kids see that and then they're happy to go around and talk about being Aboriginal and what it means to them and see the good that's happening."



The Rumbalara Football and Netball Club boasts a photo wall of Indigenous families and sports' heroes to encourage and connect the next generation.



Kaiela Arts is a thriving art centre that sees both the creation and sale of Yorta Yorta artists' work.



Bushland around the Rumbalara Aboriginal Cooperative.



Inside a replica house at the Rumbalara Aboriginal Cooperative.



The Munarra Centre for Regional Excellence is currently in construction and will serve as a purpose built, modern facility for the Yorta Yorta to combine education, culture, the arts and sport.

State-of-the-art store for Bamaga



A NEW 'remote store of the future' aimed at keeping the community healthy and well fed has been opened in Bamaga, near the northern tip of Cape York Peninsula.

The new IBIS store, operated by the not-for-profit Community Enterprise Queensland, began construction in September 2022 and has an improved, modern look and design.

It is a first-ever concept store marking a significant milestone in improving the shopping experience for remote First Nations communities.

The new store includes bulk buys, deadly deals, and an exclusive product range not typically found in remote stores, along with cutting-edge eMarket kiosks for ordering additional product lines not available in-store.

There is also a self-service café with a range of nutritious and healthy meal options and active promotion of healthy food choices, including gluten free options, while removing all confectionery from the checkouts.

The store has instructional resources such as 'grow your own' videos and books, enabling community members to cultivate their own produce and features eco-friendly shopping trolleys made from recycled milk bottles and the bakery produces fresh bread and rolls.

The new store increases the trading area to approximately 800 square metres – almost double the



The IBIS Bamaga team at the recent store opening.

size of the previous store, and there is a new energy-efficient chiller and freezer refrigeration, with full back up of refrigeration equipment to prevent loss of products.

Experience

CEQ chief executive officer Michael Dykes said the new store creates an experience for customers that is not currently available in remote communities in Australia.

"We're delighted to officially open this ground-breaking new store in Bamaga to continue to provide the best possible service to the local community," Mr Dykes said.

"By bringing city supermarket-style shopping, healthier food

options, and an array of innovative concepts to Bamaga, CEQ is determined to redefine the retail landscape in the region.

"At CEQ, all our team members live by our vision of 'caring, every day, always' and improving the lives of residents in remote First Nations communities.

"Our aim is for the team and people of Bamaga to be proud of their new store, which provides a focused range, quality fruit and vegetables, and healthy food options."

The store also features HappyOrNot customer feedback kiosks to gauge the success of the Bamaga store's innovative services.

Mr Dykes said CEQ will use this customer feedback

to decide which initiatives from the Bamaga store could potentially be rolled out to other IBIS and ABIS stores across CEQ's remote store network.

"These new stores show how we are reinvesting in infrastructure to increase capacity, employment, quality and affordability in communities," he said.

Support

"We would like to thank the Traditional Owners for their continued support for the community in making this happen," Mr Dykes said.

The official opening saw representatives from Ipima Ikaya Native Title Aboriginal Corporation, Apudthama Land Trust, Bamaga People Indigenous



Community Elders and board members were on hand to celebrate the new store.



Some members of the Bamaga Injinoo dance team.

Corporation, and Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council (NPARC) in attendance, as well as CEQ Board of Management, CEQ team members, and the wider community of the Northern Peninsula Area.

Community Elders were on hand to officially open the store along with NPARC Mayor Patricia Yusia, while Pastor Titom Tamwoy provided a traditional blessing.

CEQ is a not-for-profit

organisation responsible for providing goods and essential services to the Torres Strait, Northern Peninsula Area (NPA), mainland Aboriginal remote communities, and Palm Island through its 28 stores.

CEQ manages Islanders Board of Industry and Service (IBIS) and Aboriginal Business, Industry and Service (ABIS) stores, as well as Col Jones, Mona's Bazaar and Mitre 10 on Thursday Island.

NAB to pump \$1-billion into First Nations businesses



IN a new move from NAB, First Nations businesses and community organisations will be loaned at least \$1 billion over the next three years.

Proud Awabakal woman Kate Russell, chief executive of Supply Nation – a non-profit organisation that aims to grow the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander business sector through the promotion of supplier diversity in Australia – said NAB's ambition to lend over \$1 billion to Indigenous businesses would help promote a prosperous, vibrant and sustainable Indigenous business sector.

"Indigenous businesses have long struggled with accessing critical capital to grow. Clear commitments from organisations

like NAB to do more business with the Indigenous business sector and understand their cultural drivers will create more opportunities for Indigenous businesses to thrive," Ms Russell said.

Network

Through its growing network of specialised bankers across Australia, NAB will fund First Nations businesses and community organisations eager to unlock their potential and grow.

The First Nations business sector is rapidly growing in Australia, with Australian consumers eager to purchase goods and services directly from First Nations businesses. New insights from NAB's economics team reveals about 40% of Australians want to spend more

money with First Nations owned businesses.

"Working together with First Nations people, we want to strengthen financial resilience, increase business and employment opportunities, and remove the barriers that have traditionally made it hard for First Nations customers and businesses to access financial services," Andrew Irvine, from NAB executive business and private banking, said.

"Businesses play an integral role in strengthening First Nations leadership and creating opportunities for communities to succeed. First Nations businesses are leading the charge by driving self-determination, and rapidly improving financial capability and inclusion," he said.

"We have listened to First

Nations businesses and community organisations around the barriers they experience when trying to establish and grow their businesses. During the last two years, we have put the building blocks in place to better support our growing First Nations business customer base, from both a commercial and cultural perspective.

Dreams into reality

"From land councils to native food businesses, farmers to fashion designers, we are walking alongside our customers as they turn business dreams into reality," Mr Irvine said.

NAB's ambitious new lending target represented an increase of more than 140% based on current lending of \$413 million and would

help stimulate sustainable business growth to help create prosperity for First Nations communities.

NAB was the first Australian corporate business to achieve 'Elevate' Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) status.

Strategy

In early 2022, NAB launched its First Nations business strategy, with the aspiration to be the bank that backs First Nations business.

To realise this aspiration, NAB established its First Nations Business Banking team – a specialist team of bankers who understand the First Nations business sector. They want to build the best and most compelling business service proposition to meet the needs of First Nations business customers.

Protector of cultural heritage and First Nations rights recognised



GLOBAL Indigenous rights advocate and trailblazer for cultural heritage preservation, Henrietta Marrie AM is among four outstanding leaders who were recognised at the 2023

University of South Australia Alumni Awards on Saturday night.

UniSA's distinguished Alumni Award winners are announced each year at a gala dinner, which was held this year at the University's Pridham Hall on October 28.

Together with Marrie, awards were presented to domestic violence prevention advocate Arman Abrahamzadeh; Hill-Smith Family Estates chair Robert Hill-Smith; and chief executive of Zoos SA Elaine Bensted.

UniSA Vice Chancellor Professor David Lloyd says the University's Alumni Awards celebrate the innovators and pioneers of its 240,000-strong global alumni community.

"It's fantastic to witness the achievements of our graduates, knowing that UniSA has played a part in their journey," Prof Lloyd says.

"I could not be prouder of the outstanding alumni we are honouring this year. They have contributed immensely to society and represent exceptional leadership across diverse areas, all sharing a strong commitment to community."

Ms Marrie, a Yidinji and Gunggandji Elder who grew up in northern Queensland, says her experiences in Adelaide while completing a Diploma in Teaching and a Graduate Diploma of Arts (Indigenous Studies) at UniSA, were instrumental in shaping her future.

"I found myself when I went to Adelaide," she says.

"The upbringing I had was very similar



Yidinji and Gunggandji Elder Henrietta Marrie AM has been recognised for her Indigenous rights advocacy and work in cultural heritage preservation, at the 2023 University of South Australia Alumni Awards.

to what I was learning, and the political and international relations components of my Indigenous studies were so relevant to my growing understanding of cultural heritage preservation, and my growing questions."

This background laid the foundation for a commitment to cultural heritage that saw her the first Aboriginal Australian to be appointed to a United Nations (UN) agency, where she advocated for more than a billion First Nations people around the world and made recommendations that were cemented into UN guidelines. Her other achievements include overseeing the distribution of \$35 million to sustain Aboriginal biocultural diversity across

northern Australia while working in the not-for-profit sector.

Together with managing her consultancy business, Ms Marrie is currently leading an Australian Research Council (ARC) project at The University of Queensland.

"Through this project, we are developing a database to collect and safeguard the knowledge of northern Queensland Aboriginal Peoples on indigenous plants and their properties, including for food, agriculture or medicine applications," she said.

"If Aboriginal Peoples are to move forward, their unique knowledge must be

preserved at an economic level so they can be rewarded for their expertise, and it can benefit the nation. It's been done in the arts, which has contributed immensely to the Australian economy."

Her other key work is based on a tool developed with her husband Adrian that identifies, measures and monitors institutional racism. This has been applied across all Queensland hospitals and health services and has been heralded for its ability to measure progress towards closing the gap on Aboriginal disadvantage in health systems.

Ms Marrie says the adaptable matrix can also be customised to other industries or areas of discrimination, and they are starting to engage with applications outside of health.

Fellow award winner Arman Abrahamzadeh OAM is a design and construction professional, who was recognised for outstanding achievements as an advocate for gender equality and domestic violence prevention, and community leadership including his role as a Councillor at the City of Adelaide.

Robert Hill-Smith was recognised for his contributions over many years to the wine industry, including his current position as chair of Hill-Smith Family Estates, and past and present roles on the boards of many community and wine industry organisations.

Elaine Bensted is the chief executive of Zoos South Australia. She was recognised for her extensive achievements in senior leadership, including previous roles in banking and as chief executive of TAFE SA, and board membership of the Australian Rhino Project and Regional Development Australia – Murraylands and Riverland.

Scholarships to entice teachers



THOUSANDS of education students will receive scholarships worth up to \$40,000 as part of the federal government's push to boost the number of teachers across the nation.

The scheme will offer 5,000 scholarships to teaching students who begin studying next year, specifically targeting high-achieving school leavers, mid-career professionals, First Nations people, those from remote or regional Australia, students living with disabilities and those with English as a second language.

But the plan to address Australia's chronic teacher shortage has already drawn some blowback, with one group suggesting it will 'skew' the recruitment of teachers towards government schools.

Any scholarship recipient must commit to teaching in government-run schools or early learning settings for at least four years if they are an undergraduate student and at least two years for postgraduates.

Education Minister Jason Clare says scholarships will help 5,000 of the best teaching students to complete their studies.

The 'commitment to teach' stipulation arose from consultation with school principals and teachers who referred to their own scholarships with similar requirements.

"Tying scholarships to a commitment to teach is an old school idea that will help tackle today's teacher workforce challenges," Mr Clare said in a statement.

"Teachers do one of the most important jobs in the world, but we just don't have enough of them ... (the scholarships) will help 5,000 of the best and brightest teaching students to complete their studies and begin changing lives in the schools who need it most."

As part of the \$160 million investment, undergraduate students can receive \$40,000 over four years, while postgraduates could receive up to \$20,000 over two years.

Teaching students who complete their placements in remote communities could receive

an additional \$2,000.

But the National Catholic Education Commission wants their schools included in the 'commitment to teach' portion of the scheme, citing teaching needs in non-government facilities.

The National Catholic Education Commission says schools should be supported according to need.

"There is a long-established recognition of school choice by successive governments that ensures support for all schools according to need," executive director Jacinta Collins said in a statement.

"To favour one sector over another creates an uneven playing field and makes it extremely difficult for Catholic and other low fee schools to attract teachers, parents ... will carry the burden."

Universities Australia CEO Catriona Jackson said backing teachers in from day one was "absolutely essential".

"Attracting teachers to the profession is a big part of the challenge, so this initiative is a positive and important step," she said in a statement. — AAP

Nominations for education reference group open now



MORE than 250 positions are available to guide the future of First Nations education in Australia.

The First Nations Expert Reference Group is being established by the Australian Education Research Organisation (AERO) to ensure education research, policy and practices meet the needs of First Nations communities.

AERO's Principal Advisor, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Strategy and Engagement, Sally Cooper said the organisation is seeking people from urban, regional, remote and very remote communities, with a diverse range of education experience, to join the reference group.

"From early childhood education to curriculum and pedagogy development, and community engagement through to Indigenous language revitalisation, the group will harness expertise and work collaboratively to enhance education for First Nations students around the country," Ms Cooper said.

AERO's CEO Dr Jenny Donovan said the

establishment of the reference group was one example of the national education evidence body's commitment to achieving real change in First Nations education.

"Improving outcomes for First Nations students requires us to work collaboratively across curriculum implementation, community engagement, policy development, and beyond.

"This new reference group will play a huge role in this."

"Reference group members will also help ensure the quality evidence we make available to teachers, educators, leaders and policymakers is always reviewed from a First Nations perspective."

"If you are passionate about improving education for First Nations students in Australia and have experience in this area, we'd love to hear from you," Dr Donovan said.

Reference group members will be remunerated for their expertise and time.

Nominations are now open, until close of business, Monday, November 20.

For more details, visit edresearch.edu.au or email erg@edresearch.edu.au

First Nations make big

IN this special feature, SHANELLA MAJID tells the story of her business Salty Curls, as well as recounting



“As I learn more about my cultural heritage, I would love to make more products around it, as well as continue giving back to remote communities as my business grows.”

**– Shanella Majid
Salty Curls**

SALTY CURLS – Shanella Majid @saltycurls22



“I STARTED my small business Salty Curls in 2022, selling beaded earrings and necklaces inspired by the knowledge passed down by my great-grandmother Emily Majid. My business also draws from my home of Seisia, one of five communities making up the Northern Peninsula area in Queensland.”

“I come from a multicultural background. My Aboriginal tribe is Wuthathi, I’m also from the Torres Strait, PNG, Wales (United Kingdom), Vanuatu, Italy and Malaysia.”

Within the first year, Salty Curls was able to give back to the Seisia community by sponsoring the local football team, and then a few months later by creating pieces to raise funds for the New Mapoon Warriors and Alau Eagles local football teams.

“As I learn more about my cultural heritage, I would love to make more products around it, as well as continue giving back to remote communities as my business grows.”

Salty Curls has grown quite a bit since starting, expanding its product range with the hope to one day have a physical coffee/gift shop in community.



Salty Curl designs. Pictures: SMAJID PHOTOGRAPHY

“Being an Indigenous small business owner, I try to do my best in everything I do but I always seem to face a lot of challenges. From a great sales month to a very low sales month or even the negative comments you get from people



who don’t support small businesses.

“I always feel for other small businesses especially when they are getting run down by people who don’t even see the impact they have made while growing steadily.”



in small business

the journey of two other small business operators in Far North Queensland.



Laura De Jersey, owner of Lubleh Gal Designs.

LUBLEH GAL DESIGNS – Laura De Jersey @lublehgaldesigns

LAURA De Jersey is the owner of Lubleh Gal Designs which started up on March 2, 2023.

"I created Lubleh Gal Designs to promote and sell my artwork," Laura said.

"For many years now I've been wanting to create and sell my own designs in clothing, accessories, painting and paint."



A design by Laura De Jersey.

She sells most of her paintings at Gab Titui Cultural Centre, based on Thursday Island.

Her Mob is from Old Mapoon, Hammond Island and Savo Island.

Laura's mum is her biggest inspiration and well-known artist, Margaret Mara.

"I've spent my whole life watching my mum paint and create beautiful pieces, and eventually working with her for Wei'Num Arts and Crafts. She encouraged me to keep practising and find my own style, which eventually after some time I found it," she said.

Margaret is the one who encouraged her to start her own small business as Laura jokingly came up with a few digital designs.

Laura would like to promote herself and her artwork to the world while inspiring young adults and encouraging those who take an interest in the art industry to express themselves through creating art, which can come in many different forms.

A lot of her digital artworks connect back to her customised totems and Indigenous backgrounds while her paintings represent her life stories and some are family-related.

Lubleh Gal Designs has given back a little bit, but not as much as Laura would like as her business is only starting up.

She has created the jerseys and logo for local female rugby league team Black Pearls, who will be competing in this year's Dan Ropeyarn Cup, as well as doing a giveaway with other Indigenous-owned businesses: Salty Curls, Strait Fitness, Bowie Empire and Yaraay Yulay, for the NAIDOC giveaway hosted by Salty Curls.

Laura said: "I create designs to match sayings that I use daily, and also create paintings and drawings that represent my stories and memories of home and family. I am excited to share my work with you Mob."



Athe Threads owner Josh Faid, right, pictured with his brother David.

ATHE THREADS – Josh Faid @athethreads

ATHE Threads was started in 2021 by Josh Faid from Poruma Island to provide everyone with an opportunity to learn about the Torres Strait Islander culture.

He says there is often a misunderstanding around Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures being the same thing.

He says that even though Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal people are both First Nations people, there is a misunderstanding about the fact they are two different cultures, with different protocols to follow or even differences in the way artwork is used to tell stories.

"I am also very proud of where I come from and being able to relate products that represent my identity," Josh said.

His products tell stories and provide educational knowledge regarding the names of islands and where they are located.

The cards he creates use traditional language along with the pronunciation, for example, Kukuwam (kook-whum) Hibiscus flower.

It's little things like this that spark conversations while providing educational value and resources to everyday people, businesses and schools.

"The culture itself has been our biggest inspiration. Our motto "For our Culture" is the reason why we are in the business industry to be able to create opportunities and pathways is our end goal," he said.

One of the reasons Josh started his business was because he wanted to give back and provide opportunities, being able to support various people and organisations within the Torres Strait Islander community.

Over the years Athe Threads' creativity has grown which has allowed the business to broaden its horizons.

"I am incredibly proud of how far Athe Threads has come as our brand is a representation of our people, but it is also a brand that invites and encourages anyone and everyone to experience the beautiful culture," he said.



Troy Ruttley, RCLALC CEO.

Red Chief gets a new chief



THE Red Chief Local Aboriginal Land Council (RCLALC) is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr Troy Ruttley as its new Chief Executive Officer.

Troy is a proud descendant of the Kamilaroi/ Gamilaraay/ Gomeroi people (depending on your definition) whose lands extend from New South Wales to southern Queensland.

Troy's Aboriginality is a strong bloodline connection to the Moodies from Gunnedah and the Ruttleyss from Baradine. On his mother's side, Troy is a direct descendant of Charles Gilbert Moodie, the Black Tracker from the Gunnedah region. The Black Tracker is Troy's great-grandfather.

Troy has extensive experience and will offer strong leadership having worked in very remote areas and more recently in Sydney as the Aboriginal Practice Manager for Aboriginal Consultation working in the Community Services stream of the Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ).

Before DCJ, Troy worked as a Teacher (Primary and Secondary Education), Assistant Principal and Principal.

He has supported cultural development, developing and delivering training packages for DCJ Commissioning and Planning, Housing and Community Services while also leading Aboriginal education within the school sector.

Troy's strong values and philosophy combined with his positive mindset are behind his commitment to drive significant improvements at the RCLALC.

Troy pursues collaborative leadership and is strategic in his thinking. He is looking forward to working with the community and the RCLALC's stakeholders to deliver on the objectives within the Community Land and Business Plan including program development and implementation.

Troy seeks to foster strong working relationships with local communities and will be facilitating initiatives designed to enhance the Aboriginal community's well-being and the RCLALC's operating environment. Community members and stakeholders are encouraged to reach out to him at the RCLALC.

In addition, Troy will assist the LALC in its next steps towards appointing a strong and independent board.

opinion

Moulton rises to the occasion

Let me name-drop for once (I can't at all promise I won't again)... After all, a rising tide floats all watercraft and we must celebrate those who actively promote and practise their culture(s) and cultural responsibilities, especially those who do so with true class and generosity. I first met Kimberley Moulton in 2011. She had just come through the National Gallery of Australia's Wesfarmer's Indigenous Arts Leadership Fellowship in its inaugural 2010 iteration, where she went on to be a mentor in the Fellowship program, and where I experienced first-hand how she connected with participants. Her reputation within the Indigenous art industry and museum circles has continued to grow and now her curatorial skills have been recognised, and called on, in the United Kingdom.

A Yorta Yorta woman, Moulton has never shied away from learning about her own and others' art practices and cultures. Due in part to the example set by her forebears, many of whom were artists, educators, political figures, Lore-keepers, and storytellers, she is keen to correct the narratives around our histories and push for better practice, truer provenancing of art and artefacts, and challenging the intellectual core of colonial institutions. As such, her new role as adjunct curator at the Tate Modern (London) is ideal, as she vacates her role as senior curator of the First Nations Collection at Museums Victoria. She also remains the senior curator of the impressive RISING Festival held annually in Naarm/Melbourne).

The Tate role enables Moulton the opportunity to work and live in Australia, while simultaneously having the scope to bring her practice across the world, bringing our stories to the 'belly of the beast' as it were, of colonisation-as-we-know-it: England. It's an important role that answers a calling, undeniably, and one righteous in honouring her old peoples. Moulton is at the top of her game, bringing her insight about best cultural practice (Our Way) to the team at Tate's Research Centre alongside a collegial cohort of three others who bring their own perspectives on knowledge and culture from their homes across the globe.

"Part of my role at the Tate is to contribute to re-thinking global art histories from an Indigenous



Jack Wilkie-Jans

perspective, to consider Indigenous art practice within the context of Tate Modern, and to support programming, collection development and research," Moulton tells *Koori Mail*. "My role is transnational, which means I have a focus on Australia and the Pacific region but also towards Indigenous art practice globally. I hope I can make an impact in the representation of First Peoples art and our expansive cultures and exceptional arts practice, and bring attention to this".

In discussing her work with Tate and her efforts to create structural impact with and for Indigenous artists, in public-facing ways, Moulton says she hopes to "connect Australia to the Tate in various ways, whilst developing curatorial practice and connections across the world to bring back home".

Being guided by ancestors and being always, everywhere, a strong Yorta Yorta woman, Moulton says that 'grounding' is important, when working with big institutions.

"I've always tried to connect to the cultural material (in the United Kingdom) from our Ancestors. And, although I'm now working more with contemporary practice, the old people and our ancestral belongings continue to inspire and speak to me... Living culture, art and history intersect and inform each other as it does me and my identity, and spirit".

Back in Australia, the curatorial role at RISING festival continues to excite Moulton. I am still lamenting missing it this year, but there are big things occurring in this space in 2024. For one, RISING's *Shadow Spirit*, a stimulating and evocative multi-media installation showcasing First Nations artists – and one of the best for sensory engagement to be presented in Australia – is set to tour with more details yet to be announced.

Reflecting on RISING 2023, Moulton says, "RISING is an incredible creative organisation to work for! The support behind *Shadow Spirit* was immense. We commissioned fourteen new works which received over thirty-five thousand visitors in eight weeks. It shows the impact that can be made when First Peoples artists are supported to create ambitious work".

Readers, do yourselves a favour and find out more about the *Shadow Spirit* collection at shadow-spirit.rising.melbourne/

Also, to learn more about the Tate Modern and Kimberley Moulton's new role as adjunct curator, visit: www.tate.org.uk

Let's yarn soon!

Artform giving voice to youth

BY KIRK PAGE



AS a young kid, hip-hop artist Michael Weir found joy in spending the day outdoors with friends

in the bush, on their bikes and swimming in the local waterways.

Now the Wiradjuri man is finding a new flow between his creative master's studies in sound, songwriting and being a dad.

Growing up in Queanbeyan, NSW, Michael says times were a little different then as he was exposed to the strong bonds of sport, the rough and tumble of football and hanging with mates exploring the scrubland and bike tracks.

"We all used to play outside all the time, in the bush. Forever playing footy, I think it kept me out of trouble for sure. A lot of swimming in the river, swinging off ropes in the trees, jumping from trees in the river, riding our bikes everywhere, playing in the bush, playing a lot of sport, amongst a tight knit community with a lot of friends," Michael said.

Life as a young person can be challenging and sometimes difficult to find a focus or to know where it is your path is going to lead you.

"In high school, I reckon around year 10, we always used to go to parties and gammon freestyles, busting rhymes and expressing ourselves through that hip hop form. Thank God there were no iPhones back then because it would be pretty embarrassing if someone caught that".

The hip-hop culture had a strong influence on our young people and still does today, finding a voice to talk about things that may not be so easy to share with, a mate or family member feels easier when you have a beat and a microphone to work with.

"There was probably me and another friend that were writing lyrics in the back of our school books. Back then it wasn't something that we thought we could really pursue."

Michael would continue to write and dream about the kind of success and influence he saw other performers gain and became more actively involved in his writing.

"Growing up in the hip-hop scene roused an interest and a voice that I could relate to. Some of the earlier hip-hop I was listening to was defiant and it was anti-establishment and I could hear our own stories in those songs. I think because it came from a predominantly black culture at the time, a lot of the young fellas, we could relate to that," Michael said.

From one viewpoint, hip-hop has a reputation for violence and sexism but from a different perspective there are strong,



Wiradjuri hip-hop artist Michael Weir performs at Yellamundie Festival 2023. Picture: Patrick Boland

important, positive messages being put out there, and perhaps its existence is a threat to those in power and control.

It's no surprise that artists who have lived under power, impacted by the privileged majority, feel the need to speak out for justice and take their own power and control in the colony here in Australia.

"To be honest, when I was younger there was a lot of the 'attitude' and ego in it that I would never write about now. The typical hip-hop image that people used to see. I was probably mimicking that in some way. But as I matured, you sort of see it as an opportunity. You know, our Mob have always told stories and this is just another art form," Michael said.

If young people can talk about what's going on for them, processing their histories and personal stories, it might bring healing and gather support to bring people closer to the idea that we are not so different from each other.

"I've written about my own journey and been honest in that exchange. Growing up in a single-parent situation, it's also therapeutic and healing looking back at the hard times that we had".

Michael has been developing his skills in sound design and

bringing his experience as a performer to his practice, loving the challenge and new ways of approaching story through sound.

Michael was one of many artists this year to participate in Moogahlin Performing Arts 'Yellamundie Festival': a platform where writers, musicians and dancers get to test and develop ideas with creative support working with directors and professionals in the sector.

"I'm learning about poetic inquiry and a part of this is going out and doing a bunch of research, and then turning that research into some sort of poem, and that's kind of what I was doing when I was writing stories about Aboriginal ANZACs, or about Aboriginal deaths in custody, doing all the research, and then turning that into a song," Michael said.

Currently, Michael works for the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (IATSIS) in the family history unit, supporting people affected by policies that led to the Stolen Generations.

Michael continues to extend himself as an artist and challenge the status quo. His star continues to rise and we can't wait to see what's next for Michael and his creative and cultural journey.

CORRECTION



THE story titled 'Ron Hurley Exhibition realises Wajgan's Return to Country' which ran in the Arts section of the previous edition of the *Koori Mail*, (November 1, 2023), contained some errors.

The story was marked incorrectly with the NSW state icon. This should have been a Queensland icon as the exhibition was held in Bundaberg, Queensland, and Hurley's work and life were based in Queensland.

The story also incorrectly stated that *Wajgan's Return* was the first major exhibition of Hurley's work since his passing in November 2002. The Queensland Art Gallery held an exhibition called 'Nurreegoo' – *The Art and Life of Ron Hurley 1946 - 2002*, at GOMA in Brisbane in 2009. *Wajgan's Return* (2023) was the first major exhibition of Hurley's work to be presented on his Country, Gooreng Gooreng Country, since his passing.

The *Koori Mail* apologises for any harm or misunderstanding caused by these errors.



Kimberley Moulton.
Picture: Eugene Hyland.eps

event listings

NEW SOUTH WALES

Flow
NORPA
when: Nov 16-17
where: Maclean Showground, Yaegl Country. **and**
when: Nov 23-25
where: The Quad (Lismore), Widjabul Wia-bul Country
info/bookings: free event, bookings essential
norpa.org.au/events/flow-2023/

DOBBY

Guest performer at Áine Tyrrell's Irish as F**k.
when: Nov 17 from 7pm
where: Brunswick Picture House, Brunswick Heads
info/bookings: follow the links to Áine Tyrrell's show, with DOBBY as guest, at
brunswickpicturehouse.com/

Giiyong Festival

when: Nov 18
where: "Jigamy" between Pambula and Eden, home of the Thaua people, NSW.

Cyril Knox Art Prize exhibition

when: Nov 18-24
where: The Crossing Theatre, Narrabri.
info/bookings:
crijhirjossingtheatre.com.au/

Saltwater Freshwater Arts Exhibition 2023

This touring exhibition combines the Saltwater Freshwater Aboriginal Art Award and contemporary cultural objects exhibition, featuring Aboriginal artists from the Worimi, Biripi, Dunghutti and Gumbaynggirr Nations on the Mid North Coast of NSW.
when: until Nov 25
where: Wadjar Regional Indigenous Gallery, Yarrowarra

and

when: December 7-27
where: Manning Regional Art Gallery, Taree
info/bookings: see future tour dates and venues into 2024 at
saltwaterfreshwater.com.au/contact/

DanceRites

when: Nov 25-26
where: SOH
info/bookings:
sydneyoperahouse.com/dancerites

SandSong: Stories from the Great Sandy Desert

when: Dec 5, 2023, 2023
where: Orange Civic Theatre, Wiradjuri Country. **and**
when: Dec 8-9
where: Glasshouse, Port Macquarie, Birpai Country
info/bookings:
bangarra.com.au

The Power of Creativity: My Horizon Line

A retrospective of work by Jeffrey Samuels



Whispers at the Opera House



DUE to its resounding interest with Sydneysiders and visitors alike, the Sydney Opera House has extended the exhibition of Quandamooka artist Megan Cope's monumental public artwork, *Whispers*.

Commissioned as part of the Opera House's 50th Birthday Festival celebrations in October, *Whispers* uses more than 85,000 oyster shells positioned across the Sydney Opera House precinct to evoke the ancestral midden sites that

were used on the site Tubowgule, now known as Bennelong Point, for Aboriginal celebrations and gatherings for thousands of years.

A new documentary about *Whispers* by award-winning Walbanga and Wadi Wadi film producer Alison Page has been released on the Opera House's online streaming platform Stream: stream.sydneyoperahouse.com/videos/whispers-megan-cope *Whispers* is on display at the Sydney Opera House Forecourt until November 26.

when: until 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 February 11, 2024
where: Bundanoon, Shoalhaven.
info/bookings: For full program and to book go to
bundanon.com.au/miwatj-yolnu

VICTORIA

Watercolour Country: 100 Works from Hermannsburg

when: until April 14, 2024
where: The Ian Potter Centre, National Gallery of Victoria, Fed Square, Melbourne
info/bookings:
ngv.vic.gov.au/exhibition/watercolour-country/

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

Touring Exhibition: Layers of Blak

This exhibition is the outcome of KHT's Blak Design program which

provides a platform for nurturing sustainable, collaborative First Peoples design practices. Each artist presents a range of contemporary jewellery grounded in their connection to culture, Country and family. The works draw on cultural connections through materials and design, while experimenting with creative ways to reimagine jewellery.
when: Dec 9, 2023 – Mar 10, 2024
where: Art Gallery of Ballarat
info/bookings: more dates later in the year and 2024, see
korieheritagetrust.com.au/whats-on/exhibitions/layers-of-blak/

TASMANIA

Silk Stockings

A project partnership between Design Tasmania and Walantanalaniny 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

'Invitation to milaythina kani' by Jillian Mundy

Travel on Country with palawa in the short film *Language of the Land – Milaythina Rrukani*, by Troy Melville and Jillian Mundy. Hear about connection to language and place. Consider the resonance of original place names, the power of speaking names on

Country and the connection language builds between people, land and time. This is an invitation to kani and to learn about the place names of Lutruwita.
when: until Dec 9, 2023.
where: FIRST SPACE at Sawtooth ARI Gallery, Launceston
info/bookings:
sawtoothari.com/upcoming

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

WOOLAH!

Yirra Yaakin Theatre Company
where: Main Auditorium, Subiaco Arts Centre
when: November 16 – 19, 2023 (evening and matinee performances)
info/bookings: Recommended for ages 15+, contains coarse language and adult themes. Tickets selling fast at
yirrayaakin.com.au/product/on/woolah/

First Lights – Kooranup

First Lights, Fremantle Biennale's acclaimed drone light and sound experience, returns 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 17 and Saturday, Nov 18 at 7.30pm
where: Wadjemup (Army Groyne, Rottneest Island) Kooranup at Wadjemup event is free to attend, but registrations are essential due to limited capacity.
info/bookings:
fremantlebiennale.com.au/project/first-lights-kooranup/

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/

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

Dan Sultan

when: Dec 2, 2023
where: UC Hub Canberra
info/bookings:
dansultan.com/shows

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

2023 Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards (Telstra NATSIAA)
when: until Feb 18, 2024
where: Museum and Art Gallery Northern Territory (MAGNT), Larrakia Country, Darwin
info/bookings: To enter

the virtual gallery, vote for the People's Choice Award or find out more about the physical exhibition, please visit
magnt.net.au/natsiaa

Katherine Prize Award

when: until Dec 22
where: Godinymayin Yijard Rivers Arts and Culture Centre, Katherine
info/bookings: :
Follow the links at
northernterritory.com/katherine-and-surrounds/events/

QUEENSLAND

Son

Circa Cairns (First Nations-led circus)
when: Nov 22-25
where: Playhouse, Queensland Performing Arts Centre (QPAC)
info/bookings: qpac.com.au

SandSong: Stories from the Great Sandy Desert

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

Mare Amoris | Sea of Love

An exhibition that brings the preciousness of our Sea Country and waterways to the fore.
when: until Jan 20, 2024
where: UQ Art Museum, UQ St Lucia
info/bookings:
art-museum.uq.edu.au/mare-amoris-sea-love

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Touring Exhibition: Layers of Blak

This exhibition is the outcome of KHT's Blak Design program which provides a platform for nurturing sustainable, collaborative First Peoples design practices. Each artist presents a range of contemporary jewellery grounded in their connection to culture, Country and family.
when: until Nov 26
where: Jam Factory at Seppeltsfield, SA (Tarnanthi Festival)
info/bookings:
korieheritagetrust.com.au/whats-on/exhibitions/layers-of-blak/

Vincent Namatjira: Australia in colour
when: until Jan 21, 2024
where: Art Gallery of South Australia
info/bookings:
agsa.sa.gov.au/

Tarnanthi Festival

when: until Jan 21, 2024
where: Art Gallery of SA, North Terrace, Adelaide
info/bookings: free entry
agsa.sa.gov.au/whats-on/tarnanthi/tarnanthi-2023/

Yankunytjatjara Wangka! Keeping Ancestral Voices Alive

when: until March 31, 2024
where: South Australian Museum
info/bookings:
samuseum.sa.gov.au/event/yankunytjatjara-Wangka

Employment

EXECUTIVE • PROFESSIONAL • POSITIONS VACANT



Pathway program helps Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people find a career in law enforcement.

Diversifying the force



THE First Nations Pathways to Policing Program aims to increase the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people working in law enforcement.

The initiative is a collaboration between TAFE Queensland, the Queensland Police Service, the Australian Border Force, and the Australian Federal Police.

TAFE Queensland Director of Educational Delivery, Services and Arts for North and Far North Queensland Leanne Bell said the program was the first of its kind to be rolled out in the state.

"The First Nations Pathways to

Policing Program is an exciting initiative aimed at promoting diversity and inclusion on the frontline," Ms Bell said.

"Participants will develop their language, learning, conflict resolution, critical thinking, team participation, fitness, and digital literacy skills.

"The program also provides students with an opportunity to explore and learn more about their culture, as well as strategies to express their identity.

"The students have the opportunity to tour law enforcement workplaces and gain valuable industry insight by working closely with a mentor from the Australian Federal Police.

"When students complete the 24-week-long course, they will have the skills they need to confidently enter a law enforcement academy program, empowering them to pursue careers on the frontline," she said.

Next intake

Upon graduation, First Nations Pathways to Policing participants will receive a Certificate III in Vocational and Study Pathways for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander People (11036NAT) and the next intake is in January 2024.

Devante Robinson, 17, said the First Nations Pathways to Policing Program was setting him up for future career success.

"I am considering joining the army or becoming a police officer, so this course really interested me," Mr Robinson said.

"The program is good and I have been learning a lot about communication skills, which is really helpful.

"I have also met a lot of different people who work in law enforcement, and they have been open about their field of work to help me and my classmates decide if we want to pursue the same career path.

"I've met members of the Queensland Police Service, Australian Border Force, and dog squad, and I went on a study tour to Canberra to visit the Australian Federal Police College and learn

more about forensics and tactical response.

"If anyone is thinking about joining the program, I would say just go for it!

"If you get an opportunity like this and you're interested in doing any police work, this program is a really good step in that direction," he said.

TAFE Queensland is Queensland's largest, most experienced training provider, delivering practical, industry-relevant training across a range of industries at more than 60 locations in Queensland.

To find out more about studying at TAFE Queensland visit tafeqld.edu.au or call 1300 308 233.

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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Aboriginal Partnership Officer

- Permanent part time position, 4 days a week
- Salary from \$94,037+ Superannuation (Pro Rata)
- Rewarding role in delivering our Reconciliation Action Plan

About the Position:

This is a special measures role and only Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples are eligible to apply, as per the Equal Opportunity Act 2010.

The Aboriginal Partnerships Officer role is an exciting position that will be responsible for the delivery of the Monash, Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan. The position will work closely with the Cultural Diversity Community Development Officer and partner organisations to build capacity and understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait self-determination across the organisation and the community.

The role is integral to raise awareness, strengthen systems, policies and programs connected with the key deliverables from our Reconciliation Action Plan.

About You:

- Demonstrated experience in Community Development, working with Traditional Owner groups, Aboriginal and Torres Strait controlled organisations, community groups and community members.
- Qualification in Social Work, Community Services, Community Development, Counselling, Welfare or similar is desirable.
- Experience in developing plans and practically applying policies and strategies.
- Highly developed communication skills (written and verbal) with the ability to develop strong working relationships both internally and externally, including an ability to develop and present information in clear, easy to understand language.

Requirements of the position:

- Employee Working with Children's Check
- A current Drivers Licence
- Satisfactory National Police Check; and
- Other pre-employment checks may be required depending on the role requirements

How to Apply:

Please submit your resume along with a cover letter outlining your experience and how it relates to the position.

Applications are currently open, with a closing date of 1 December 2023 at 11:55pm.

Enquiries:

If you would like to discuss this role further, please contact Colin Bostock on 03 9518 3214 or colin.bostock@monash.vic.gov.au. Monash Council is committed to be a flexible, safe, equal and inclusive workplace where we embrace and support diversity.



ONERWAL LOCAL ABORIGINAL LAND COUNCIL

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (Attractive Remuneration Package)

The Onewal Local Aboriginal Land Council (OLALC) is seeking applications from experienced and motivated people interested in a rewarding career undertaking a new and challenging role of Chief Executive Officer.

This position has been established following amendments to the Aboriginal Land Rights Act, 1983 (ALRA) as amended, and provides an excellent opportunity for the successful applicant.

This position holder will provide an extensive range of assistance and support to the elected Board through the day-to-day management of the OLALC's affairs in accordance with delegated authorities; the provision of sound and accurate advice and the implementation of the Board's resolutions in a timely and appropriate manner.

The successful applicant will have a knowledge and understanding of the ALRA, the capacity to interpret and implement legislation and sound communication skills.

Organisational and management experience is essential together with an understanding of accounting practices and principles. A sound knowledge and appreciation of Aboriginal issues would also be required.

All applicants must obtain a copy of the recruitment package containing the Position Description, selection criteria and address the selection criteria for their application to be considered. For a recruitment package contact

Onewal LALC board by email: onerwal@gmail.com

Applications can be forwarded to Chairperson or marked "Confidential" and posted to:

Onewal Local Aboriginal Land Council
PO Box 644
Yass, NSW 2582

Applications COB Friday 11th December, 2023

This position is an Aboriginal identified position. OLALC considers that being an Aboriginal person is a genuine occupational qualification under the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977 (NSW)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (ABORIGINAL IDENTIFIED)

PORT MACQUARIE, NSW



Who are we?

Many Rivers Regional Housing (Many Rivers) is an Aboriginal community-controlled organisation and a leading not-for-profit provider of Aboriginal community housing services. We are an Aboriginal Community Housing Provider (ACHP) providing property management services for the Aboriginal Housing Office (AHO) and other providers of Aboriginal community housing.

Our vision is to Close the Gap in Aboriginal wellbeing through housing, partnerships and community development. Cultural safety is central to everything we do.

This is an Aboriginal identified role and the successful candidate will be asked to provide confirmation of his or her Aboriginality.

The role

This role provides organisational leadership for operations, change management and the attainment of strategic goals, Aboriginal employment and advancement; genuine partnerships with community and building the capacity of tenants and community.

Key objectives include:

- Providing leadership through growth and change including cultural safety, management and operation of the organisation.
- Maximising Aboriginal participation through workforce development, leadership and talent management, and procurement.
- Creating, implementing and maintaining high quality service standards and initiatives including the fulfilment of all statutory, regulatory and funding obligations
- Building effective partnerships with community, developing pathways for consultation and engagement; responding to community needs
- Contributing to the operational and strategic decision-making processes and providing advice to the Board of Directors on operational and strategic matters and organisational performance

The role is based in Port Macquarie on the beautiful Mid North Coast of NSW with travel required within NSW.

About you

To thrive in this role you will have the ability to effectively engage with Aboriginal communities and knowledge and understanding of issues impacting upon these communities.

You will also need:

- Post Graduate Tertiary qualification in Business, Commerce, Management, Finance, Health or similar discipline
- Demonstrated success and experience in building effective service performance and quality-based partnerships with regulators and government agencies.
- Proven commercial management skills including funding management and financial reporting.
- Demonstrated vision, strategic and operations planning in the creation and implementation of plans to achieve desired outcomes.
- Understanding of the role of the Board, the Chief Executive and the management team in the leadership, management and operation of an organisation.
- Demonstrated ability to lead and manage teams, to mentor and empower staff and to build a culture of engagement and success.
- Current valid Driver's license, minimum of Class "c" or equivalent

The successful applicant will also be required to obtain a National Police Check and NSW Working with Children clearance prior to commencement.

We offer an excellent range of benefits including:

- Genuine community engagement and an opportunity to support organisational growth and development while delivering community outcomes.
- Full non-profit status with salary sacrifice available to reduce tax and increase your take home pay
- A beautiful regional location on the flourishing Mid North Coast.

To find out more please contact Kelli Dragos from Abundance Human Resources on 0419 419 554 or kelli.dragos@abundancehr.com.au.

The closing date for this role is 9.00am on Monday, 27 November 2023.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The Cobar Local Aboriginal Land Council ("CLALC") is seeking applications from experienced and motivated people interested in a rewarding career in the role of Chief Executive Officer.

CLALC is an Aboriginal membership-based organisation with significant land holdings and a provider of housing within Cobar NSW and surrounding communities.

The Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983 ("ALRA") outlines the specific functions of the CEO. The CEO will be responsible for the day-to-day management of the CLALC's affairs in accordance with delegated authorities and will provide an extensive range of assistance and support to the elected Board.

The successful applicant will have knowledge and understanding of the ALRA, the capacity to interpret and implement legislation, the ability to work under pressure, prioritise tasks and meet deadlines, and also highly developed interpersonal, communication, negotiation and consultative skills with experience in developing and maintaining collaborative partnerships and stakeholder relationships.

Organisational management experience is essential together with financial management skills, a current NSW Working with Children Check and a driver's license.

The successful applicant will also have:

- An understanding of property management and associated matters.
- Requisite experience in Indigenous Corporations and/or a not for profit/charitable environment.
- Knowledge, understanding and an appreciation of the cultural, social and economic needs of discrete Aboriginal communities.
- People management and associated skills and experience.
- An understanding of work, health & safety requirements and other laws and requirements pertaining to a Local Aboriginal Land Council.

All applicants must obtain a copy of the recruitment package containing the Position Description and Selection Criteria and address, in writing, the selection criteria for their application to be considered. To obtain a copy of the recruitment package or for further information, please contact the CLALC's Administrator by email: tim.gumbleton@rsm.com.au or on 0418 919 882.

Applications addressing the selection criteria are to be forwarded to: tim.gumbleton@rsm.com.au or posted to:

The Administrator – Cobar Local Aboriginal Land Council
C/- RSM Australia
PO Box 5542, PORT MACQUARIE NSW 2444

Applications close at 4:00pm on 27 November 2023.



Advisor – First Nations Economic Wellbeing

- Identifying opportunities to improve economic development for the First Nations economy
- Producing a First Nations Women's Economic Participation Review including future-focused policy options
- Implementing strategies, frameworks and reforms that impact First Nations people and communities.

About the Team

NSW Treasury's First Nations policy teams work to embed and recognise First Nations rights, interests, and perspectives in the evidence and frameworks that inform government decision making. We are responsible for building Treasury and the wider sector's capability and capacity to design and evaluate culturally informed initiatives that impact First Nations people and communities and drive greater outcomes.

About the Opportunity

Your typical day-to-day work includes contributing to the development and implementation of strategies, frameworks and reforms that impact First Nations people and communities. This work will help to identify 'what works' in improving outcomes for First Nations people and build capacity in teams across Treasury to work towards these goals in partnership with First Nations communities.

The successful applicant would be supported by a First Nations leadership team and a broader First Nations employee network from across Treasury.

You will be successful in this role if you:

- have a degree in a relevant discipline or equivalent experience
- have demonstrated experience and interest in providing policy advice on First Nations related matters and/or working with First Nations communities.

NSW Treasury is accredited as a Level 1 Activate Carer Employer. We are committed to being an employer of choice for the people of NSW.

Talent Pool

A talent pool may be created through this recruitment process. A talent pool represents a group of applicants who have been assessed and identified as suitable for this role or similar roles and who may be considered for a range of similar roles, including temporary, term, or ongoing roles, over the next 18 months.

How to Apply

- an up-to-date resume detailing your knowledge, skills, and experience in relation to the role.
- complete several pre-screening questions as part of the application process.

For enquiries contact our Talent Advisor Scott Walker at scott.walker@treasury.nsw.gov.au

To apply or read the [role description](#) to learn more about the role visit iworkfor.nsw.gov.au and search **REQ30424**.

Closing Date: Wednesday, 29 November 2023 at 10:00am.

A concurrent search is also underway.

Ask your mob,
your way, RUOK?



**STRONGER
TOGETHER**
ruok.org.au/strongertogether

NSW Department of Education – School Infrastructure

We want to work with
Aboriginal owned
businesses.

First Nations Engagement in School Infrastructure program



School maintenance work is available

School Infrastructure NSW manages a large maintenance program for more than 2,000 schools across NSW. To do some of this work, we are looking to engage local Aboriginal businesses and local businesses that employ Aboriginal employees, apprentices, and trainees.

Who are we looking for?

We're looking for a variety of maintenance services and trades including:

■ Plumbing

■ Glazers

■ Carpenters

■ Gasfitters

■ Electrical

■ Test and tag

■ Lighting

■ Pest control

■ Construction

■ Gutter cleaning

■ Equipment construction and maintenance

■ Engineering

■ Fencing services building and repairs

■ Roofing

■ and more

How can I get involved?

Scan the QR code below to register your interest or go to edu.nsw.link/FNESI

Need help?

We have Aboriginal Senior Program Officers who can assist you with:

■ understanding the types of services we are looking for

■ how to register your business as an Aboriginal owned business or one who employs Aboriginal people

■ connecting with businesses who want to employ Aboriginal apprentices or trainees.



Scan the QR code to register your interest or go to edu.nsw.link/FNESI

Contact us:

Email an Aboriginal Senior Program Officer enquiries.fnesi@det.nsw.edu.au

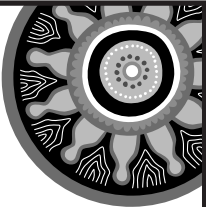


schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au

LP1594



Communities and Justice



Aboriginal Client Service Officer
Housing Services

• Location Southern NSW District – Goulburn or Queanbeyan

• Talent Pool will also be created for surrounding locations

• Salary range: \$74,803 to \$86,539 – PLUS employer's contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading

• 12 month temporary full-time role with the possibility for extension

• Opportunities for learning, development, and internal career progression.

This position is open to Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people only.

The Aboriginal Client Service Officer provides a broad range of applicant management services and advice to clients including those with complex support needs, advocates with stakeholders across the access service stream and within the community.

The role manages relationships, partnerships and networks between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and the Department to improve communication on and access to services for clients and to support sustainable tenancies.

What you'll do

You will be passionate about making a difference and delivering innovative solutions for people experiencing homelessness or at risk of becoming homeless. You will have a strong customer focus and a commitment to person-centred, culturally sensitive client outcomes.

You will be working across a range of Housing programs, policies, and systems to maximise efficiency and service delivery outcomes as well as providing coaching and support to team members.

Working collaboratively with other Client Service Officers, Housing Managers and Team Leaders, including internal and external service providers, you may even assist in developing innovative strategies to deliver improved client outcomes and contribute to continual improvement in achieving key performance indicators for the district.

Applications close Tuesday 21 November 2023 at 11:59pm AEST

Got a question?

For more information about the role or what it's like to work for DCJ, please contact the hiring manager Gina McGufficke via: gina.mcguifficke@dcj.nsw.gov.au or phone (02) 6229 7616.

For more information, please visit jobs.dcj.nsw.gov.au and search **63670**

LP1701

Sunshine Coast
Hospital and Health Service



Cultural Advisor (Identified)

An exciting opportunity exists for the Cultural Advisor (Identified) to provide high quality care and support to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Directorate also provides cultural education and training to the Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service workforce and supports a collaborative approach to care by growing partnerships with community, health service providers and broader social services to improve health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service (SCHHS) is in southeast Queensland and extends through the coastal and hinterland areas from Caloundra in the south to Gympie in the north.

The SCHHS is a values-based organisation. We are committed to the maintenance of a culture in which we treat our colleagues with respect as we do our patients, consumers and the community. We respect, promote human rights in our decision-making and actions.

Link - <https://smartjobs.qld.gov.au/jobs/QLD-SC521568>



South Western Sydney
Local Health District



Allied Health Assistant
Brighter Beginnings

Location: Campbelltown Community Health Centre

Employment Status: Temporary Full-Time

Classification: Allied Health Assistant

Remuneration: \$1,124.84 to \$1,271.77 per week

Enquiries: Kate Tylor on 0439 603 478 or Kate.Tylor@health.nsw.gov.au

In this role Aboriginality is a genuine occupational qualification and is authorised by section 14(d) of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1997.

Stepping Up aims to assist Aboriginal job applicants by providing information about applying for roles in NSW Health organisations.

For more information, please visit:

steppingup.health.nsw.gov.au

Closing Date: 19 November 2023

Applications must be lodged electronically at jobs.health.nsw.gov.au Search for Job Ref Number: **REQ442338**

LP1660



Batchelor
Institute

Chief Executive Officer

(Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Identified position)

Location: Batchelor, Northern Territory

Employment type: Full time, Three year fixed term contract

Salary: Negotiable plus applicable allowances

• Exciting leadership opportunity

• Champion the advancement of First Nations quality education

• Highly impactful position on remote communities across the Northern Territory

Highly impactful opportunity working with government and remote communities to deliver high quality tertiary educational opportunities to First Nations students.

The Institute is seeking a person with proven educational leadership background that crosses the boundaries between Vocational Education and Higher Education sectors who will inspire new generations of dedicated professional educators, support staff and students to improve educational outcomes for First Nations people by providing meaningful pathways to employment, further study and research opportunities, and support to become community leaders.

The CEO will foster and maintain strong relationships with stakeholders across a broad spectrum including the Australian and Territory Governments, private and educational sectors and the broader community, while maintaining a culturally safe workplace, and accountability for the effective operational management and outcomes achieved. The role will also exercise legal authority as the Director under various Acts including the Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education Act and ensure appropriate governance across the Institute.

For a full job description please visit <https://www.batchelor.edu.au/people/current-vacancies/>

To apply for this role, please visit the Recruitment page, and then submit applications by email to recruitment@batchelor.edu.au

Applications close:

Sunday 3rd December 2023 @ 11:59 pm

Waminda



WAMINDA RECRUITMENT

Waminda is a culturally safe and holistic service, providing women and their Aboriginal families an opportunity to belong and receive quality health and well-being support. We are a family friendly Aboriginal organisation with a focus on driving community outcomes, programs and services to innovate, inspire and deliver change for the community we represent.

NETWORK COORDINATOR

■ Aboriginal Identified Position

■ Permanent Full Time

■ Location: Shoalhaven, Illawarra and Far South Coast Region

■ Salary: \$93,858 - \$98,117 per year plus salary sacrifice and superannuation

We are seeking a Network Coordinator to join Waminda's Social Emotional Wellbeing Program that is imbedded within Waminda's model of care of Aboriginal ways of knowing, being and doing. The position will work collaboratively and in consultation with key stakeholders and Indigenous health care providers and professionals working in suicide prevention services on the South Coast and surrounds. The role includes the co-design of a Network Suicide Prevention plan and developing strategies to increase cultural safety for Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander people with accessing and receiving services for social and emotional wellbeing.

NABU CASE WORKER

■ Aboriginal Identified Positions

■ Permanent Full Time

■ Location: Shoalhaven and Illawarra Regions

■ Salary: \$82,045 - \$93,858 per year (depending on qualifications) plus salary sacrifice and superannuation

We are seeking two Nabu Case Workers to join Waminda's Family Preservation and Restoration Program that is imbedded within Waminda's model of care of Aboriginal ways of knowing, being and doing. The roles will provide a strength based and holistic case management to strengthen parents and significant carers abilities to provide safe and enriching environments for their children, young people and the broader family. One position is female only based in Shoalhaven and the other is based in Illawarra, however both positions will be required to attend other Waminda outreach sites across Shoalhaven and Illawarra regions. We encourage both female and male case workers to apply.

IT TRAINEE

■ Aboriginal Identified Position

■ Permanent Full Time

■ Location: Shoalhaven Region

■ Salary: \$48,394 per year plus salary sacrifice and superannuation

We are seeking an IT Trainee to join Waminda's Information Technology Department. This position will provide a range of information technology support, including systems, applications, and software support. Engage in continuous learning throughout the traineeship, seizing practical opportunities to apply and expand knowledge with the realm of IT services. This role will suit an enthusiastic individual looking to develop their skill set in information technology.

Applicants for the above positions must be an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander descent and an applicant's race is a genuine occupational qualification and is authorised under section 14(d) of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977.

To apply for a position, please request an application package at peopleandculture@waminda.org.au

Applications close Friday 1st Decemberr 2023.



Carer
Gateway

An Australian Government Initiative

Where carers can
get support.

carergateway.gov.au

1800 422 737

Monday-Friday 8am-5pm

Emergency respite available 24/7

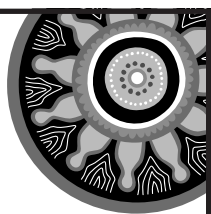


42 | THE KOORI MAIL, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2023

www.koorimail.com



Communities and Justice



Commissioning and Planning Officer South Eastern Sydney & Northern Sydney Districts

- **Location:** Strawberry Hills, Sydney NSW
- **Opportunities:** 1, targeted Ongoing position and 1, generalist temporary position until June 2024
- **Flexible work practices**
- **Generous leave entitlements including Flex Leave**
- **Opportunities for learning and development**
- **Clerk Grade 7/8-Salary \$106,025 to \$117,363 pa, plus employer's contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading**

This is a targeted recruitment. While all applicants are welcome, preference will be given to candidates who meet the established standards of the role and are of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent/have a disability/are refugee on Class XB visas/are under 25 years. This is because the Department acknowledges this lived experience contributes a perspective valuable to our work with this community.

Your role

Do you enjoy collaborating with community partners to achieve positive outcomes for individuals, families and communities?

The Commissioning and Planning Officer role manages contracts with human service providers across a diverse range of programs. The Commissioning and Planning Officer role also provides an opportunity for you to build relationships with partners across government and the community sector, to support the delivery of quality human services, and better outcomes for individuals, families and communities.

The Commissioning and Planning Officer works within the Commissioning and Planning Team within an assigned portfolio. The work is dynamic, fast-paced, and requires a sophisticated range of skills and experience.

What you'll do

As part of the Commissioning and Planning team you will:

- Manage contract meetings that include leading discussion and reporting minutes
- Analyse reporting requirements and identify actions for follow up for the organisations that you are allocated
- Provide written responses to Ministerial and other requests for information internally within the department and externally
- Manage complaints and compliance for contracts
- Conduct annual reviews of the financial reporting requirements for individual organisations
- Participate in meetings with internal and external government agencies and providers

You'll work as part of a team of Commissioning Planning Officers, Senior Commissioning Planning Officers and Managers.

Applications close Sunday 26 November 2023 at 11:59pm AEST

For more information about the role or what it's like to work for DCJ, please contact the hiring manager Joyce Campbell via: joyce.campbell@dcj.nsw.gov.au

For more information, please visit jobs.dcj.nsw.gov.au and search **63671**

LP1702

Test Excavation at 197 Church Street, Parramatta, NSW 2150

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment – Registration of Interest

JPY Group Pty Ltd of 6a Glen Street, Milsons Point, NSW, has commissioned Austral Archaeology Pty Ltd (Austral) to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) in regard to the test excavation within 197 Church Street (Lot 150, DP1287069), Parramatta, NSW. On behalf of the proponent, Austral wishes to consult Aboriginal people to assist with a cultural heritage assessment under an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP). Consultation is required to assist the Director General of the Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPC) in his or her consideration of the application. Consultation will be accordance with the DPC's Consultation Requirements 2010. Parties with cultural knowledge relevant to the significance of Aboriginal object(s) and/or place(s) are invited to register their interest. More information about the project will be provided after registration.

For more information please contact:

JPY Group Pty Ltd,
Fred Samaha, Suite 8.06 6a Glen Street, Milsons Point, NSW 2061
Phone: 0474 125 202
Email: fred@jpygroup.com.au

To register, please contact:

Austral Archaeology,
Lindsay Costigan at Shop 1/148 Tongarra Road, Albion Park, NSW 2527
Phone: 0402 745 058
Email: lindsayc@australarch.com.au

Registration closes 24/11/2023.



North Queensland Land Council

Native Title Representative Body Aboriginal Corporation
ABN: 39 047 733 337 | RGN 1996 | www.nqlc.com.au

(07) 4042 7000
1800 834 778 (free call)
PO Box 676 Cairns North QLD 4870

MEETING NOTICE

AUTHORISATION MEETING FOR A GIA AND NGARO PEOPLE NATIVE TITLE CLAIM

DATE: 9 December 2023
TIME: Registration from 9am for 10am start
VENUE: Mantra Croc Club, 240 Shute Harbour Road, Cannonvale QLD 4802
To receive more information or register your interest to attend the Authorisation Meeting, please contact Krystle Edmonds, NQLC administration officer, on (07) 4042 7000 or fameunit@nqlc.com.au.

WHY IS THERE A MEETING?

This meeting is being called to make very important decisions about bringing a Gia and Ngarno People's native title claim.

The proposed claim area is shown on the map in this notice.

The proposed members of the native title claim group are the descendants (including through customary adoption) of the following Gia and Ngarno Ancestors (Gia and Ngarno Ancestors):

- Maude (aka Maude King)
- Nellie mother of George Wake
- Jim Bowen
- Nellie partner of Jim Bowen
- Mary of Bowen
- Maggie of Proserpine
- Yellow Boy
- Rosie partner of Yellow Boy
- Nellie mother of Billy Lightning
- Maggie of Pretty Bend
- Father of Herbert Emmerson

If it is agreed to bring a claim the meeting will also authorise persons to bring the claim on behalf of the native title claim group.

For more information contact Krystle Edmonds, NQLC administration officer, on (07) 4042 7000 or fameunit@nqlc.com.au.

PLEASE CONTACT NQLC TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST TO ATTEND THE MEETING BY CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON 1 DECEMBER 2023.



WHO SHOULD ATTEND THE MEETING?

All Aboriginal people who are descendants of the Gia and Ngarno Ancestors described in this notice or who hold native title rights under Gia and Ngarno traditional laws and customs in the proposed claim area are strongly encouraged to attend the meeting.

If you have any questions about your traditional connections to country, please contact Senior Anthropologist Pascale Taplin: (07) 4042 7000.

Attendance will be in person. Those attending in person will be entitled to participate in any decision-making.

Limited travel assistance is available to people attending. Registration for travel assistance purposes must be completed by close of business on 1 December 2023. For details, please contact Krystle Edmonds, NQLC administration officer, on (07) 4042 7000 or fameunit@nqlc.com.au.

PUBLIC NOTICE

GEEMOOIBURRA-YARRABURRA KUNGGANDJI GURRABUNA PEOPLE NATIVE TITLE AUTHORISATION MEETING

9 December 2023, Cairns Junior Choral Society, Cairns

Background

Massar Briggs Law is convening a meeting for all Geemooiburra-Yarraburra Kungandji Gurrabuna People (GYKGP) who assert native title rights and interests in the area of land and waters depicted in the **map below (Proposed Claim Area)**. The meeting is being convened to discuss and authorise the making of a Native Title Determination Application for the GYKGP over the area depicted in the Proposed Claim Area.

THIS NOTICE INVITES all members of the proposed native title claim group described below to attend the native title Authorisation Meeting at the date, time, and location provided below.

The proposed native title claim group is all Aboriginal persons who assert native title rights and interests in the Proposed Claim Area, being the descendants of the following apical ancestors:

- Kari of Mirra Wungulai, Wunguliburra, Geemooiburra of Kamoi and Yarraburra, the father of George Christian
- Njurjurnai (sister of Billy Church and wife of Kari) the mother of George Christian
- George Christian the father of Ida De Silva
- Ida De Silva nee Christian the mother of Topsy Morgan nee De Silva, Thomas De Silva, William De Silva, Gertie Garling nee De Silva, Maria Addo nee De Silva and Ellen De Silva and descendants
- Mandi Tjapir (sister of Kari) and her husband Billy/Goondor Church
- Menmuny and his wife Maggie 1 (Daughter of Mandi Tjapir and Billy Church)
- Nora mother of Ned Choikee and Minnie Obah (Children of Menmuny and Nora)
- Maggie 2 (Daughter of Nego/Nengo and Billy Church) mother of Albert
- Nego/Nengo the mother of Maggie 2
- Billy Woompah and his sister Rosie
- Dick Richards the son of Mandi Tjapir and Billy Church

Any person who is or may be a Descendant/member of the Proposed Native Title Claim Group but does not have an ancestor listed above should contact Massar Briggs Law. For any queries or further information, please do not hesitate to contact Massar Briggs Law on 03 9653 9040 or info@massarbriggslaw.com.au.

AUTHORISATION MEETING

WHEN: 9 December 2023

WHERE: Cairns Junior Choral Society, 28 Grove Street, Cairns Australia

TIME: 3:00pm – 5:30pm

Purpose

The purpose of the Authorisation Meeting is to authorise the Geemooiburra-Yarraburra Kungandji Gurrabuna People's Native Title Claim. Decisions to consider at this meeting include:

- What decision-making process to use to authorise the claim;
- Agreeing on key details of the native title claim;
- Choosing and authorising the Applicant for the claim, and putting conditions on their authority; and
- Anything else raised at the meeting about a native title claim over the proposed claim area.

The meeting is being held in-person only.

Proxies

Those people who are and may be eligible to attend but are unable to do so may request an appointment of proxy form from Massar Briggs Law.



Public Notice

Annual General Meeting

Aboriginal Corporation for Homeless and Rehabilitation Community Services,

Friday 8 December 2023 at 4:00 pm.

Board Room

Level 1, 11 Lord St Botany NSW 2019

AGENDA

1. Apologies

2. Previous Minutes

3. Audit Reports

4. Elections of Office Bearers

5. General Business

Yours sincerely

Helen Orcher, Chairperson

Aboriginal Corporation for Homeless and Rehabilitation Community Services



13 11 14

Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network

ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING

Interested parties are invited to attend the Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network

Monday 4th December 3.30pm

Virtual attendance only

Register at:

<https://jhfmhn.eventsair.com/annual-public-meeting-2023/register>

by 27 November

For further information contact JHFMHN-events@health.nsw.gov.au



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
Mining Lease	15/1907	MONGER EXPLORATION PTY LTD	1432.68HA	34.5km E'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 31° 10' S: Long: 122° 1' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE, KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Mining Lease	26/864	POTTS, Christopher Peter	6.77HA	10.8km SE'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 48' S: Long: 121° 33' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY

Nature of the act: Grant of mining leases, which authorises the applicant to mine for minerals for a term of 21 years from notification of grant and a right of renewal for 21 years.

Notification day: 15 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 **15 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. The mining tenements may be granted if, by the end of the period of 4 months after the notification day (i.e. **15 March 2024**), there is no native title party under section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)* in relation to the area of the mining tenements. 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.

DMIRS 18766



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	08/3137	JOWIN RESOURCES PTY LTD	10BL	154.1km SE'ly of Onslow	Lat: 22° 55' S: Long: 115° 40' E	ASHBURTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	09/2691	RUSSELL MINING PTY LTD	67BL	95.6km S'ly of Mt Augustus	Lat: 25° 9' S: Long: 116° 42' E	UPPER GASCOYNE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	09/2757	VOLCANIC RESOURCES PTY LTD	54BL	132.8km N'ly of Mullewa	Lat: 27° 22' S: Long: 115° 48' E	MURCHISON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	15/1926	PRITAM GOLD PTY LTD	2BL	28.5km NW'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 30° 46' S: Long: 120° 57' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	15/1943	MANDILLA GOLD PTY LTD	1BL	23.5km SW'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 31° 22' S: Long: 121° 31' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	15/1980	BEAU RESOURCES PTY LTD	4BL	23.2km SE'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 31° 3' S: Long: 121° 22' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	15/2028	WESTERN BROWN INVESTMENTS PTY LTD	18BL	47.4km E'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 31° 11' S: Long: 122° 9' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE, KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	16/635	ZULEIKA GOLD LIMITED	3BL	29.6km N'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 30° 41' S: Long: 121° 9' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	28/3275	SAMMY RESOURCES PTY LTD	14BL	81.4km S'ly of Edjudina	Lat: 30° 32' S: Long: 122° 27' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	28/3345	BARACUS PTY LTD	110BL	139.3km E'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 31° 2' S: Long: 123° 6' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	28/3355	GOLDTRIBE CORPORATION PTY LTD	9BL	75.3km NE'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 30° 48' S: Long: 122° 18' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	28/3362	GOLD GEOLOGICAL CONSULTING PTY LTD	1BL	90.7km E'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 38' S: Long: 122° 24' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	28/3363	GOLD GEOLOGICAL CONSULTING PTY LTD	5BL	92.2km NE'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 30° 43' S: Long: 122° 27' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	36/1083	GOLD GEOLOGICAL CONSULTING PTY LTD	37BL	81km SW'ly of Leinster	Lat: 28° 31' S: Long: 120° 13' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	38/3899	GOLD ALPHA INVESTMENTS PTY LTD	2BL	42.2km S'ly of Laverton	Lat: 28° 59' S: Long: 122° 32' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	38/3905	MT MALCOLM GOLD HOLDINGS PTY LTD	42BL	139.2km NE'ly of Laverton	Lat: 27° 39' S: Long: 123° 18' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	39/2410	BEAU RESOURCES PTY LTD	28BL	158.1km E'ly of Edjudina	Lat: 29° 57' S: Long: 123° 59' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	39/2426	SR EXPLORATION PTY LTD	16BL	175.2km E'ly of Edjudina	Lat: 29° 53' S: Long: 124° 10' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	39/2428	NIWEST LIMITED	8BL	56.9km S'ly of Laverton	Lat: 29° 6' S: Long: 122° 13' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	47/4697	LCT PRECIOUS METALS PTY LTD	10BL	24.6km SE'ly of Whim Creek	Lat: 20° 59' S: Long: 118° 0' E	KARRATHA CITY
Exploration Licence	52/4287	STANIFER PTY LTD	57BL	91.8km E'ly of Peak Hill	Lat: 25° 31' S: Long: 119° 37' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	57/1213	LEGENDRE, Joseph Paul	4BL	63.4km SW'ly of Sandstone	Lat: 28° 27' S: Long: 118° 55' E	SANDSTONE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	57/1272	RED GIANT METALS PTY LTD	44BL	23.7km W'ly of Sandstone	Lat: 27° 55' S: Long: 119° 4' E	SANDSTONE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	57/1410	FORTUNA BATTERY MINERALS PTY LTD	35BL	104.9km E'ly of Paynes Find	Lat: 29° 3' S: Long: 118° 44' E	SANDSTONE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	59/2849	SCHWANN CONSULTING PTY LTD	63BL	39.9km N'ly of Yalgoo	Lat: 27° 58' S: Long: 116° 39' E	YALGOO SHIRE
Exploration Licence	63/2370	PLAYA ONE PTY LTD	25BL	116.6km E'ly of Hyden	Lat: 32° 23' S: Long: 120° 8' E	DUNDAS SHIRE
Exploration Licence	70/6513	EMU RESOURCES PTY LTD	19BL	25.5km S'ly of Mukinbudin	Lat: 31° 8' S: Long: 118° 12' E	NUNGARIN SHIRE
Exploration Licence	77/2754	GOLDZONE INVESTMENTS PTY LTD	70BL	118.5km N'ly of Southern Cross	Lat: 30° 9' S: Long: 119° 21' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Exploration Licence	77/2803	GOLDZONE INVESTMENTS PTY LTD	1BL	155.5km N'ly of Southern Cross	Lat: 29° 49' S: Long: 119° 17' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	77/3124	ALTAN RIO MINERALS (AUST) PTY LTD	1BL	15.4km NW'ly of Marvel Loch	Lat: 31° 21' S: Long: 119° 23' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Exploration Licence	80/5613	IGO NEWSEARCH PTY LTD	171BL	51.5km SW'ly of Halls Creek	Lat: 18° 37' S: Long: 127° 24' E	HALLS CREEK SHIRE
Exploration Licence	80/5960	DIVERSIFIED MINERAL RESOURCES PTY LTD	5BL	103.1km S'ly of Wyndham	Lat: 16° 24' S: Long: 128° 0' E	WYNDHAM-EAST KIMBERLEY SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	15/6754	PRITAM GOLD PTY LTD	140.23HA	10.1km NW'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 30° 52' S: Long: 121° 6' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	24/5563	ZULEIKA GOLD LIMITED	85.72HA	6.2km S'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 29' S: Long: 121° 18' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	24/5687	DUNDAS MINERALS LIMITED	149.83HA	13.1km NW'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 21' S: Long: 121° 14' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	24/5689 & 24/5695-5696	COSTANZO, Patrick Natale	466.92HA	12.3km NW'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 17' S: Long: 120° 57' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	25/2689-2690	LITTLE RIPPER GOLD INC	338.80HA	35.4km SE'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 52' S: Long: 121° 48' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	26/4709	TUCKER, Michael David	24.55HA	6.6km S'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 48' S: Long: 121° 27' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	36/1956	WESTERN AUSTRALIAN GOLD RESOURCES PTY LTD	16.69HA	28.1km SW'ly of Leinster	Lat: 28° 4' S: Long: 120° 28' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	45/3191	STREAM, Kevin Ross	9.67HA	48.4km SE'ly of Marble Bar	Lat: 21° 25' S: Long: 120° 7' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	77/4647	WAY, Robert, Russell	19.94HA	125.1km NE'ly of Mukinbudin	Lat: 30° 6' S: Long: 119° 7' E	YILGARN 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: 15 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 **15 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. **15 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 18765

Heritage Act 1977

Notice of intention to consider listing on the State Heritage Register

The Heritage Council of NSW maintains the State Heritage Register which is a list of places of particular importance to the people of NSW, including Aboriginal and other heritage.

The Heritage Council is currently considering whether or not to recommend the listing of the following place on the State Heritage Register in acknowledgment of its heritage significance.

Hayden Orpheum Picture Palace (formerly Cremorne Orpheum Theatre), 380 Military Road, Cremorne

Written submissions on this listing are invited from any interested person by 5 January 2024. Enquiries to David Hoffman on (02) 9873 8582.

The Heritage Council is interested in receiving information in writing, by email, telephone or in person from the Aboriginal community or Aboriginal organisations on the potential Aboriginal significance of this place.

Further details on the nominated place can be viewed at: environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/heritage/request-a-heritage-listing/nominate-an-item-for-listing-on-the-state-heritage-register/comment-on-nominations

Direct submissions to: heritagemailbox@environment.nsw.gov.au
Heritage Council of NSW
Locked Bag 5020
Parramatta NSW 2124



Renotification of a non-claimant application for determination of native title in New South Wales

Notification day: 29 November 2023

Important note: This notice replaces a previous notice which identified a notification date of 18 October 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 **28 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 28 February 2024**. Further information regarding how to file a Form 5 is available from www.fedcourt.gov.au. After **28 February 2024**, you will need to seek leave from the Federal Court to become a party.



Applicant's name: Red Spot Jetty Pty Ltd ACN 643 120 674
Federal Court File No: NSD834/2023
Non-native title interest: The applicant is the holder of a term lease (Lease No. RX 601678) and two licences (Licence Nos. PO 145900 & RN 641314) pursuant to the *Crown Land Management Act 2016* (NSW) over Crown land and waterways covered by this application. The applicant wishes to obtain a new term lease over the application area for business purposes in relation to a café, bar, boat shed, jetty, wharf and restaurant
Order sought by Applicant: The applicant seeks a determination that native title does not exist
Description: The application area covers about 968 sq m over Lot 274 of DP753168 and Lot 507 of DP1118197 and is located on the bank and waters of Wallis Lake, Forster
Relevant LGA: MidCoast Council

For assistance and further information about this application, call Megan Harris on 07 3052 4921 or visit www.nntt.gov.au.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED GRANT OF MINING LEASE

NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

The Queensland Minister for Resources, PO Box 15216, City East, Queensland, 4002, hereby gives notice in accordance with section 29 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) of the proposed grant of Mining Lease (ML) 100350 shown below under the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld).

ML 100350 applied by Cameron John LOWE, over an area of 166.9 ha, centred approximately 16.5 km southeast of Thornborough, in the locality of Mareeba Shire Council.



Nature of Act(s): The grant of a Mining Lease under the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld) authorises the holder to mine and carry out associated activities subject to the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld) for a term not exceeding fifteen (15) years, with the possibility of renewals for terms not exceeding fifteen (15) years.

Name and address of person doing acts: It is proposed that the Mining Lease be granted subject to the provisions of the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld) by the Queensland Minister for Resources, PO Box 15216, City East, Queensland, 4002.

Native Title Parties: Under the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) any person who is a 'native title party' is entitled to certain rights in relation to the proposed grant of a Mining Lease. Under section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth), persons have until three (3) months after the Notification Day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to this notice. Enquiries in relation to filing a native title determination application may be directed to the Federal Court,

Brisbane Registry, Level 6, Harry Gibbs Commonwealth Law Courts Building, 119 North Quay, Brisbane, Queensland, 4000. Telephone: 1300 720 980 or Email: nativetitleQLD@fedcourt.gov.au. Enquiries in relation to the registration of a native title determination application may be directed to the National Native Title Tribunal, Brisbane Registry, Level 5, Harry Gibbs Commonwealth Law Courts Building, 119 North Quay, Brisbane, Queensland, 4000. Telephone: (07) 3052 4040.

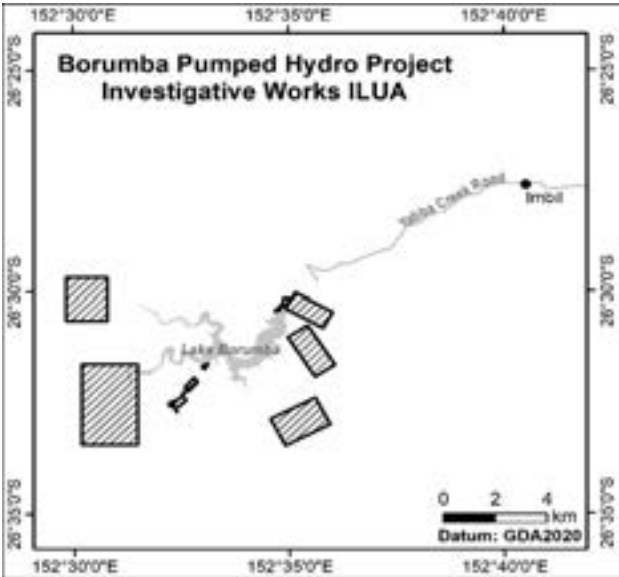
Further Information: May be obtained from the Department of Resources, Mineral Assessment Hub, Level 9, Verde Tower, 445 Flinders Street, Townsville, Qld, 4810. Telephone: (07) 4447 9230 or Email: MineralHub@resources.qld.gov.au.

Notification Day: 29 November 2023



PUBLIC NOTICE OF INDIGENOUS LAND USE AGREEMENT MEETINGS
KABI KABI FIRST NATION TRADITIONAL OWNERS AND THE BORUMBA DAM PUMPED HYDRO ENERGY PROJECT (BORUMBA PROJECT) INVESTIGATIVE WORKS

All persons who are members of the Kabi Kabi First Nation Traditional Owners native title claim group (QUD20/2019) and all other persons who hold or may hold native title in relation to the land and waters in the proposed Indigenous Land Use Agreement Area (ILUA Area), as shown on the map and described below, are invited to attend an information and consultation meeting, and an authorisation meeting with the Kabi Kabi Registered Native Title Claimants, their advisers and, as required, relevant Queensland Hydro officers.



The Kabi Kabi First Nation Traditional Owners are the descendants of one or more of the following people:

(a) Maggie Cadenti/Cadente/Cantidi: "Maggie"; (b) George Parson; (c) Albert Williams; (d) Ngimbukum; (e) Kalomakuta/Galmaguda/Haloma-kuta/Kal-ma-kuta; (f) Willie Kina; (g) Susan Andy; (h) Jacky Ball (or Baul); (i) Maggie Cain/Caine; (j) James Crow/Crowe; (k) Maggie Palmer; (l) Emma Dunne; (m) William/Billy Glenbar; (n) Annie Laurie; (o) May Burnett; (p) Tuppernywoe "King" Tommy of Noosa; (q) Dundalli; (r) Sarah Di:naba Moreton (s) Marian/Mary Ann Thompson; (t) Towcha

and who identify as and are recognised as members of the Kabi Kabi First Nation Traditional Owners in accordance with the system of traditional laws and custom

Information and Consultation Meeting Details:

Date: Saturday 25th November 2023
Time: 9am – 3pm
Venue: Oaks Sunshine Coast Oasis Resort (Verandah Room), 2 Landsborough Parade, Caloundra QLD

Purpose of Information and Consultation Meeting

The purpose of the Information and Consultation Meeting is to consult with the Kabi Kabi First Nation Traditional Owners about the following:
1. the Borumba Project investigative works such as geotechnical works, tunnelling, temporary workers camps, access tracks etc which are required to determine whether the Project is feasible;
2. An Indigenous Impact Assessment for Kabi Kabi people for the main project.

Authorisation Meeting Details:

Date: Saturday 9th December 2023
Time: 9am – 12.30pm
Venue: Oaks Sunshine Coast Oasis Resort (Verandah Room), 2 Landsborough Parade, Caloundra QLD

Purpose of ILUA Authorisation Meeting

The purpose of the ILUA Authorisation Meeting is to consider whether to enter into the Investigative Works ILUA for the Borumba Pumped Hydro project near Imbil, Queensland, which, if agreed, will allow permits and authorities to be issued and investigative works to be undertaken to determine the feasibility of the overall project. Investigative works include geotechnical drilling, boreholes, temporary camps and exploratory tunnel excavation.

The ILUA does not provide consent to the Project itself, only the required investigation works.

ILUA Area

Described as lots 3, 5 and 6 on AP23765 and some surrounding lots as shown on the map. The ILUA investigative work activities will occur wholly within the areas appearing on the map.

Meeting attendees will be asked to make decisions at the authorisation meeting. It is therefore important that you attend as decisions may be made even if you are not present at the authorisation meeting.

Travel assistance is not generally able to be provided for the meetings, however, light refreshments and lunch will be provided to meeting attendees.

All persons considering attending the meetings are asked to register their interest by contacting Olivia at P&E Law on (07) 5479 0155 or emailing olivia@paelaw.com

Notice of applications to register area agreements on the Register of Indigenous Land Use Agreements in South Australia



Notification day: 22 November 2023



ILUA No.	ILUA Name	Agreement Area Description	Relevant LGAs
SI2023/002	Wirangu No 2 (Part B), Wirangu No 3 (Part B), Wirangu Sea Claim No 2 (Part B) and Nauo #3 Settlement ILUA	The agreement area covers about 3,458 sq km and is located between the Eyre Highway and the coast of Anxious Bay in the Great Australian Bight	District Councils of Elliston, Streaky Bay and Wudinna
SI2023/003	Wirangu No 2 (Part A), Wirangu No 3 (Part A) and Wirangu Sea Claim No 2 (Part A) Settlement ILUA	The agreement area covers about 5,447 sq km and is located west of the Eyre Highway (between Wudinna to North of Poochera) to the coast of the Great Australian Bight including Streaky Bay	District Councils of Streaky Bay and Wudinna
SI2023/004	Nauo and Nauo No 4 Settlement ILUA	The agreement area covers about 7,416 sq km and is located on the Eyre Peninsula, between the Tod Highway and the Great Australian Bight	District Councils of Elliston, Lower Eyre Peninsula and Wudinna

Objections to the registration of an ILUA where the application for registration has been certified:
These three applications for registration of indigenous land use agreements (ILUAs) have been certified by the South Australian Native Title Services Ltd, the representative body for the area concerned. The area covered by each agreement is shown in the map. Any person claiming to hold native title to any part of the areas covered by any of the agreements may object in writing within the notice period to the registration of the agreements if they think that the applications to register the ILUAs have not been properly certified. If you wish to object to the registration of any of the agreements (and you hold or claim to hold native title in any part of the areas covered by the agreements) you may only object for one reason: in your view, the applications to register the ILUAs have not been properly certified, as stated in section 203BE(5)(a), (b) and (c) of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth). You must make this objection in writing and send it to the **Native Title Registrar, National Native Title Tribunal, PO Box 2528, St Georges Terrace Post Shop Perth WA 6831** by **22 February 2024**. Generally, procedural fairness will require that the material you provide is given to certain other persons or organisations for comment. It may also be taken into account in the registration of other ILUAs and claimant applications and thus be provided to relevant persons or organisations for comment.

Parties to the agreements and their contact addresses:

SI2023/002-004: Attorney-General for the State of South Australia (State), c/- Crown Solicitor's Office of South Australia, GPO Box 464, Adelaide SA 5001
SI2023/002: Caroline Wilson, Cindy Morrison, Barry Dean (Jack) Johncock, Elizabeth Pool, Neville Miller, Kenneth Wilson for and on behalf of the registered native title claimant in the Wirangu No 2 Native Title Claim (SAD64/2022) (Wirangu No 2 Native Title Claim); Caroline Wilson, Cindy Morrison, Barry Dean (Jack) Johncock, Elizabeth Pool, Neville Miller, Kenneth Wilson for and on behalf of the registered native title claimant in the Wirangu No 3 Native Title Claim (SAD228/2019) (Wirangu No 3 Native Title Claim); Neville Bilney, Cindy Morrison, Cheryl Saunders, Elizabeth Pool, Harry Miller, Kaylene Kerdel, Keenan Smith, Neville Miller for and on behalf of the registered native title claimant in the Wirangu Sea Claim No 2 Native Title Claim (SAD84/2021) (Wirangu Sea Claim No 2); Brenton Weetra, Pauline Branson, Cynthia Weetra-Buzza, Jody Miller for and on behalf of the registered native title claimant in the Nauo No 3 Native Title Claim (SAD63/2018) (Nauo No 3 Native Title Claim); Wirangu and Nauo Aboriginal Corporation (ICN 9901) (Corporation); c/- South Australian Native Title Services Ltd, Level 4, 345 King William Street, Adelaide SA 5000
SI2023/003: Caroline Wilson, Elizabeth Pool, Kenneth Wilson, Cindy Morrison, Neville Miller, Barry Dean Johncock Senior for and on behalf of the registered native title claimant in the Wirangu No 2 Native Title Claim (SAD64/2022) (Wirangu No 2 Native Title Claim); Caroline Wilson, Elizabeth Pool, Kenneth Wilson, Cindy Morrison, Neville Miller, Barry Dean Johncock for and on behalf of the registered native title claimant in the Wirangu No 3 Native Title Claim (SAD228/2019) (Wirangu No 3 Native Title Claim); Neville Bilney, Cindy Morrison, Cheryl Saunders, Elizabeth Pool, Harry Miller, Kaylene Kerdel, Keenan Smith, Neville Miller for and on behalf of the registered native title claimant in the Wirangu Sea Claim No 2 Native Title Claim (SAD84/2021) (Wirangu Sea Claim No 2); Wirangu Aboriginal Corporation (ICN 9333) (Corporation); c/- South Australian Native Title Services Ltd, Level 4, 345 King William Street, Adelaide SA 5000
SI2023/004: Lavinia Heron and Jody Miller for and on behalf of the registered native title claimant in the Nauo No 1 Native Title Claim (SAD65/2022) (Nauo No 1 Native Title Claim); Brenton Weetra, Pauline Branson, Cynthia Weetra-Buzza, Jody Miller for and on behalf of the registered native title claimant in the Nauo No 4 Native Title Claim (SAD185/2021) (Nauo No 4 Native Title Claim); Nauo Aboriginal Corporation (ICN 9948) (Corporation); c/- South Australian Native Title Services Ltd, Level 4, 345 King William Street, Adelaide SA 5000

The agreements contain the following statements:
[Explanatory notes in brackets inserted by the National Native Title Tribunal]

[SI2023/002-004 ILUAs]
12. Changing the effect of the vesting of Adjacent and Subjacent land under the HNA
[The Parties agree that to the extent (if any) that vesting of Adjacent Land and Subjacent Land in the Minister under the HNA is a valid, Category A intermediate period act, the effect of the vesting is to extinguish all Native Title. The Parties agree to change the effect in relation to the Vesting and for the purpose of section 24EBA of the NTA. In the event that the Vesting is not an intermediate period act, the Parties agree that it is a valid act to which the Non-extinguishment Principle applies.]
13. Issue of Certificate of Title over Land Vested under HNA
[Subject to notice requirements, the Parties consent to the issue of a Certificate of Title in relation to any Adjacent or Subjacent Land to the extent (if any) it is a Future Act.]
Part 7: Future Acts consented to under Agreement
[The Future Acts consented to under Part 7 do not apply to specified acts, including Future Acts done under any of the Mining Acts, the compulsory acquisition of Native Title, the grant or vesting in fee simple of an interest in Native Title Land (except as provided for in clause 13), the grant of a lease with a term exceeding 15 years which grants a right of exclusive possession, and a Future Act that permits or requires tourism activities on a pastoral lease that involves observing activities or cultural works of Aboriginal peoples.]
18. Future Acts done prior to the Registration Date
[The Parties agree to the validity of acts done before the Registration Date, including grants of a Certificate of Title by the State over specified parcels of land within the determination area and the vesting of Adjacent Land and Subjacent Land pursuant to the HNA. The Parties agree that the specified acts or classes of Future Acts are valid and are taken always to have been valid and that the Non-extinguishment Principle applies to the acts validated.]
18.3. The Native Title Holders and the Corporation surrender to the State all of their Native Title in the parcels of land referred to in clause 18. [The surrender will take place on the Registration Date and wholly extinguishes the surrendered Native Title.]
20. Consent to Future Acts
[The Parties consent to the State doing the Future Acts or activities referred to in Part 7, except those in clause 19.]
20.2. All acts or activities consented to under this Part 7 are valid.
20.3. The Parties agree that Subdivision P of Part 2 Division 3 of the NTA (which deals with the Right to Negotiate) is not intended to apply to the acts or activities consented to under this Part 7.
23. Easements on Crown Land
23.1. Subject to compliance with the requirements of the *Crown Land Management Act 2009*, the Parties consent to Future Acts that are the grant of an easement under section 28 of that Act.
Other Future Acts
[The Parties consent to the doing or approval given by the State for the doing of, all Future Acts except those referred to in clause 19, subject to: where the Future Act is a Notifiable Act, the consent of the native title holders is conditional upon the State's compliance with the Notification Process; and where the Notification Process does not apply, the consent of the native title holders is conditional upon the Corporation being provided procedural rights.]
[SI2023/003 ILUA only]
24. Constitution of Land as NPWA Reserve
[The Parties agree to specified parcels to be constituted as the Cape Blanche Conservation Park, Searcy Bay Conservation Park, Scaale Bay Conservation Park, Point Labatt Conservation Park and Baird Bay Conservation Park.]

Aboriginal Heritage means Aboriginal Sites, Objects or Remains;
Adjacent Land has the meaning given to it in the HNA;
AHA means the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988* (SA);
Corporation [means the relevant Prescribed Body Corporate authorised by the Native Title Holders];
HNA means the *Harbors and Navigation Act 1993* (SA);
Mining Acts means the *Mining Act 1971* (SA), the *Opal Mining Act 1995* (SA), the *Petroleum Act 1940* (SA) and the *Petroleum and Geothermal Energy Act 2000* (SA);
Native Title means the Native Title rights and interests recognised over the Native Title Land in the Determination;
Native Title Holders means those persons determined as holding the Native Title in the Determination;
NPWA means the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972* (SA);
Reserve means any land and waters within the Agreement Area that is constituted as a reserve pursuant to the NPWA from time to time;
Right to Negotiate means the right to negotiate procedures set out in Subdivision P of the NTA and any alternative scheme approved under section 43 or section 43A of the NTA from time to time;
Subjacent Land has the meaning given to it in the HNA.

Details of the terms of the agreement are not available from the National Native Title Tribunal.
For assistance and further information about these applications, call Huia McGrath on 08 6317 5442 or visit www.nntt.gov.au.

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YANDRUWANDHA YAWARRAWARRKA PART B NATIVE TITLE CLAIMANT GROUP

NOTICE of NATIVE TITLE AUTHORISATION MEETING

South Australian Native Title Services Ltd (SANTS) invites all Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka people as described below (the Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka Part B native title claim group) to attend a meeting to authorise the nomination of the Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka Traditional Land Owners Aboriginal Corporation as the prescribed body corporate to hold native title rights and interests as agent for the Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka common law native title holders in relation to a Consent Determination being negotiated with the State of Queensland in relation to the Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka Part B native title claim area.

The native title claim group consist of those living Aboriginal people who identify as, and are recognised by other Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka People as Yandruwandha or Yawarrawarrka (or both), because:

- (a) he or she is biologically descended from one or more of the following Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka:
- (i) Annie (born at Cordillo Downs), mother of Archie Guttie;
 - (ii) Clara Nirrpinni, mother of Frank Book and Alice Miller (nee Booth);
 - (iii) Cora the mother of Bob Parker and Nellie Parker;
 - (iv) The parents of Flash Ted Bikehandle and Flash Tommy;
 - (v) Kimi (born at Innamincka) and his wife;
 - (vi) Maramundu Jack "The Ripper" Parker;
 - (vii) Caroline (born at Cordillo Downs) the mother of Mary Stafford (nee Moore), Jack Moore, Charlie Moore, female twins (Winifried and Freida) and Albert Moore;
 - (viii) Brothers Walter Harris(on) and Dick Harrison;
 - (ix) The parents of Lily (whose married name is Parker) and her sister Kathlene (whose married name is George);
 - (x) Annie and her husband, who are the parents of Coongie Maggie (born at Coongie Lakes in South Australia);
 - (xi) The parents of the sibling set – Billy Parker, Jessy Parker, Peter "Petekin" Parker, and Paddy Parker;
 - (xii) The parents of sibling set – Merty George and Merty Johnny and Merty Mick;
 - (xiii) Larriken Mick; or
- (b) he or she is biologically descended from such other ancestor who is acknowledged by the Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka People as a Yandruwandha or Yawarrawarrka apical ancestor.

The Consent Determination is in relation to the Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka Part B native title determination application. The relevant claim area is shown in the map below.

Date: Friday
24 November 2023

Venue: Hotel Grand Chancellor
Brisbane,
23 Leichhardt Street,
Spring Hill QLD 4000

Time: 4:00 pm

The Purpose of the meeting is to:

1. Authorise the nomination of the Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka Traditional Land Owners Aboriginal Corporation as the prescribed body corporate to hold native title rights and interests as agent for the Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka common law native title holders in relation to a Consent Determination being negotiated with the State of Queensland in relation to the Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka Part B native title claim area.

All members of the Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka Part B native title claim group are invited to contact SANTS on 1800 010 360 to register their attendance at the Authorisation meeting.

Some limited assistance including accommodation and transport will be available for the meeting in accordance with SANTS Policy, and lunch and refreshments will be available during the day.



s p o r t



Brisbane Heat's Mikayla Hinkley gets on the front foot in a recent WBBL match. The Heat have landed in fourth spot on ladder. Picture: Getty Images

WWBL's big start



MIKAYLA Hinkley and the Brisbane Heat have given themselves clear air inside the top four ahead of the chasing pack after edging home with three wickets in hand and two balls to spare against Adelaide Strikers in Mackay.

The thrilling result created a four-point gap between the Heat and the Sydney Sixers in fifth, with five games still to play in the regular season.

Streak ends

The result also snapped the Strikers' four-game winning streak, and left them one point behind the ladder-leading

Sydney Thunder (13) and level with second-ranked Perth Scorchers and fourth-placed Heat.

Hinkley, an all-rounder, is one of several Indigenous players within the WBBL, joining Sydney Sixers captain Ash Gardner and Sydney Thunder pair Hannah Darlington and Anika Learoyd.



Riverlands – 80 Auld Avenue, Milperra, NSW Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment – Community Consultation Stage 1

Urbis has been commissioned by Abacus Riverlands Investments Pty Ltd (the Proponent) to conduct an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for their site known as 'Riverlands' at 80 Auld Avenue, Milperra, NSW (the subject area). The subject area is legally referred to as the following lots and DP's:

Part Lot 22 DP 749985
Lot 21 DP 749985
Lot 231 DP 805826
Lots 23 to 27 DP 7304

Lot 1 DP 813007
Lot 38 to 41 DP 7304
Lots 50 to 59 DP 7304

The subject area is located within the Canterbury-Bankstown Local Government Area (LGA) and within the administrative boundary of the Gandangara Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC). This ACHA has been prepared to support a Concept Development Application (DA) to be submitted to Canterbury Bankstown City Council for consideration. As the project is being undertaken as a local DA, the ACHA will support an application for an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) should this be required. The proposed development is for a sports precinct centred around a centre of excellence & indoor sports courts and external playing fields with formed roads and parking.

The proponent can be contacted directly via:

Don Muggli
Abacus Group
E: dmuggli@abacusgroup.com.au

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 Close of Business, 29th November 2023.

Kirsten Downey
Consultant
Urbis Pty Ltd
kdowney@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 Heritage NSW and the Gandangara Local Aboriginal Land Council; unless the person or group specifies that they do not want their details released.

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First Nations Round across the WBBL



return of the National Indigenous Cricket Championships and a

A DEDICATED round in the men's and women's Big Bash competition, the

dedicated training camp are all part of a long-range plan to showcase Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander talent and pathways.

The Big Bash leagues honours First Nations culture this

summer, starting with the WBBL this month.

Dedicated matches held throughout the month saw the WBBL First Nations games be played across the country between November 5-24.

Every club will host a match during this period showcasing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture

and ceremony, including the barefoot circle, Welcome to Country and the incorporation of local languages.

Details of the men's BBL First Nations matches will be confirmed closer to when that season starts.



Celebrating the launch of the WBBL Indigenous Round were (from left) Sydney Thunder's Hannah Darlington, Sydney Sixers' Ash Gardner, Parramatta's Saira Jabeen and Sydney Thunder's Anika Learoyd with Cricket Blast players Imogen Taylor, Emily Amparo and Elise Waters. Picture: Phil Hillyard



Lydia Williams, Matilda's goalie.

TV deal next as Matildas, Socceroos seal pay boost



AFTER signing off on a record-breaking collective bargaining agreement, Football Australia will move to lock down a new long-term TV deal before turning its attention to a possible contract extension for Matildas coach Tony Gustavsson.

FA and Professional Footballers Australia (PFA) unveiled a new CBA last week which rewards Matildas and Socceroos players following historical performances at World Cups over the last year.

As part of the new agreement which runs until 2027, players will benefit from a 50-50 World Cup prize money split with FA while both senior national teams will share in FA's revenues.

Central contracts for Matildas players have been scrapped in favour of match payments equal to those enjoyed by the Socceroos.

Carers for the children of players – up to the age of four rather than two – will be given accommodation as part of a deal described by the FA as "globally unique".

One of the first tests of the new revenue-sharing model will be when FA goes to market on a new TV deal for its national teams.

The current deal with Network Ten expires at the end of 2024, with FA keen to capitalise on high interest following successful World Cup campaigns.

The FA hoped to have a new deal, which would include all Matildas fixtures and Socceroos games outside of the World Cup ticked off by early next year.

Matildas coach Gustavsson's rocky tenure found calmer waters over the last 18 months when he guided the team to the semi-finals of this year's World Cup.

The Swede has been linked with other roles - most notably the US women's national team gig - since the World Cup.

Meanwhile, the FA said it was comfortable with the decision to not compete with Saudi Arabia for the 2034 men's World Cup, instead hoping there would be a sense of "goodwill" that would strengthen Australia's hopes of hosting the women's Asian Cup in 2026.

The FA will monitor interest in Gustavsson as he enters the final year of his contract but it is confident the 50-year-old will see out his current deal, which ends after next year's Olympics, before both parties decide whether they wish to continue. – AAP

Cape Crusaders in Cairns curtain-raiser

By CHRISTINE HOWES



TWO teams of girls from far north Queensland made local football history recently when they played the curtain-raiser to the AFLW's Indigenous Round at Cazalys Stadium in Cairns.

The Cape York Crusaders were a team of footballers from Cape York, the Northern Peninsula Area and the Torres Strait. Their opponents were the Cairns City Lions.

The girls played before almost 2000 people before the AFLW round 8 match between Hawthorn and Richmond. This game was part of the league-wide Indigenous Round.

The seasoned Lions had the better of the Crusaders, but they played with heart, said Sean Hunter AFL Cape York House for Girls boarding manager and Crusader program support staffer.

"It was very exciting," he said.

"We haven't had a representative fixture since 2019, so for our young girls to be able to represent where they're from and who they are and the Mob back through the



The Cape York Crusaders girls team represented their respective regions with pride when they played at Cazalys Stadium in Cairns recently ahead of the AFLW round 8 games. Picture: Christine Howes

Cape, the Torres Strait and the Gulf, is really exciting."

Hunter said in terms of the game, "they gave it a red hot crack".

"We have a mantra that we play for one another," he said.

"So the Cairns team are probably based on skill and tactics, probably more advanced given that they play more

regular football. But for our young people it's about an opportunity to represent who they are and where they're from.

"We definitely play a tough brand of football so that holds us in good stead."

The Crusaders' assistant coach Luana Healey said it was a humbling opportunity to be on-side with the team, who she

hoped she would see playing in the AFLW one day.

"Definitely, now the pathway is there," she said.

"Back when I was playing there wasn't this pathway identified, so the fact that the girls can play today and then watch the (AFLW) game afterwards and see directly what they can do, that's exciting."

Epic seasons that revealed new

THE finale to the 2023 AFL premiership season was like no other – but we say that every year when a grand final was as good as this year's – while the AFLW grows in stature and prominence; just like the contributions of the game's Indigenous players across both competitions. Here, long-time *Koori Mail* correspondent PETER ARGENT runs the rule through them all....

Adelaide (4)
Shane McAdam
Wayne Milera
Tariek Newchurch
Izak Rankine

Medium forward Shane McAdam played just one game in the first 17 rounds of the season and finished with seven for the year, playing his 50th club game in round 24. He asked to be traded at the end of the season and is now at Melbourne. Wayne Milera is returning to the peak of his powers, having played 22 games this season as a rebounding half-back. He finished in the top 10 in the club's best-and-fairest count. After three years on the senior list Tariek Newchurch was delisted at the end of the season. Back in his home state and in his first season in Crows colours, Izak Rankine added a spark to the Crows' forward-line and finished fourth in the Malcolm Blight Medal count. He kicked 36 goals in his 20 games and spent time in the midfield rotations.

Brisbane (6)
Callum Ah Chee
Charlie Cameron
Nakia Cockatoo
Blake Coleman
Keidean Coleman
Darryl McDowell-White Jnr

Now in his fourth year with the Lions (after four with Gold Coast) Callum Ah Chee has established himself at the club, playing 12 games in 2023 including all three finals. Livewire forward Charlie Cameron became a 200-game player at the start of the finals; this season he kicked 59 goals across his 26 games and finished seventh in the Merrett-Murray Medal, along with being the only Indigenous player in the 2023 All-Australian team. Nakia Cockatoo hadn't added to his 49 games in 2023 and, after a season with the Lions' VFL team, retired at the end of the season after nine years in the AFL. Blake Coleman spent the winter in the seconds, while older brother Keidean's credentials grew quickly over a brilliant finals series for the Lions where he delivered a couple of career-best games in the preliminary and grand finals. Basketball convert and son of Lions triple-premiership player Darryl, Darryl McDowell-White Jnr played in the VFL this year. Both he and Blake Coleman were later delisted.

Carlton (3)
Jack Martin
Jesse Motlop
Zac Williams

Mercurial at times, Jack Martin only managed 13 games this season but in those limited games showed just how much of a match-winner he could be. He has now played 148 games across a 10-year career. Second year small-forward Jesse Motlop, son of former North Melbourne and Port Adelaide player Daniel, played 21 games in 2023 in which he kicked 24 goals, his best effort being a four-goal haul against his dad's old side Port in round 18. Zac Williams' season didn't get started after he suffered a serious injury during training at the Blues' pre-season camp in Queensland during February, scans later confirmed a ruptured ACL.

Collingwood (3)
Bobby Hill
Ash Johnson
Nathan Kreuger
 Bobby Hill was the Magpies' prized



Gold Coast's Ashanti Bush played under much duress this season and will be looking forward to a fresh start next season. Picture: Peter Argent

recruit in 2023. He delivered on his renown footy nous, creativity and speed to the team's forward-line with a four-goal Norm Smith Medal-winning performance in the grand final. Across his 24 games this season he booted 33 goals. Halls Creek talent Ash Johnson was on the edge of the best side by the end of the season, having played 15 games (for 21 goals) as a strong-marking forward during his third season at the Magpies after being picked up from Sturt in the 2021 mid-season draft. At 196cm, natural athlete Nathan Kreuger only played two AFL games this season, having played 28 games across five seasons (formerly at Geelong). He was later retained by the club next season.

Essendon (5)
Alwyn Davey Jnr
Jayden Davey
Anthony McDonald-Tipungwuti
Anthony Munkara
Tex Wanganeen

Alwyn Davey Jnr is a tremendously exciting prospect who played 10 games as a small forward in his first season at the top level, while twin sibling Jayden spent the season recovering from a second ACL injury. Much-loved by the Bombers faithful, Anthony McDonald-Tipungwuti retired for a second, and final, time from AFL football at the end of the club's 2023 campaign. The man with the trademark dreadlocks finished with 133 AFL games and 157 goals; he played just seven in 2023 after coming out of his first retirement. Another Tiwi, Anthony Munkara played with the Bombers' VFL team and was later delisted at the end of the season. In late June, Tex Wanganeen, son of former club great Gavin, underwent successful surgery after battling ankle and foot soreness that ruled him out for the season. He's played five AFL games.

Fremantle (6)
Eric Benning
Joel Hamling
Liam Henry
Alex Pearce
Michael Walters
Nathan Wilson
 Emerging young ruckman Eric Benning

spent his second season on the Dockers list in the WAFL but was later delisted at the end of the season. Joel Hamling played just six games since joining the Dockers in 2020, four of those this year. He signed on at Sydney (his fourth club) as an unrestricted free agent where he will look to make the most of his talents. After a solid fourth season where he played 16 games, first-round draft selection and former academy player Liam Henry decided he wanted to move. St Kilda came calling and he was traded for a future fourth-round pick. Adding to his 21 games in 2022, skipper Alex Pearce finished with a seventh placing in the Doig Medal in a strong season; he also passed the 100-game milestone. Now 32, and having debuted in 2009, Michael 'Son Son' Walters played 20 games this year, kicked 33 goals and showed his value. After playing just four games in 2023 key-defender Nathan Wilson was delisted at the end of the season, having played a total of 155 games that included six season at the Giants.

Geelong (2)
Brandan Parfitt
Tyson Stengle

After earning a guernsey for the successful 2022 grand final team, Northern Territory product Brandan Parfitt played nine games in the Cats' modest 2023 campaign. Following a break out 2022 campaign, including the premiership, Tyson Stengle was solid this year, finishing with 27 goals from 19 appearances as a small forward. Stengle passed the 50-game milestone mid-season in his sixth season at his third AFL club.

Gold Coast (7)
Jed Anderson
Jy Farrar
Joel Jeffrey
Lloyd Johnston
Sean Lemmens
Ben Long
Malcolm Rosas Jnr

Moving up to his third club at the start of the season Jed Anderson started 2023 on 99 games but didn't add to his tally. The club confirmed he was granted personal

leave in June and was later delisted at the end of the season. The athletic Jy Farrar, second-generation talent Joel Jeffrey (son of NT football great Russell Jeffrey) and first-year player Lloyd Johnston formed a solid half-back line in the Suns' breakthrough VFL premiership. At AFL level, Jeffrey added seven games to his overall tally in his third season at the club while Farrar played nine games in his fourth campaign and Johnston made his AFL debut in round 23. A quiet achiever, Sean Lemmens managed 11 games in 2023 and has now played 145 games overall since he arrived on the Gold Coast in 2014. In his first year at the Suns, after six seasons at the Saints, Ben Long played 15 senior matches this year. Another NT lad at the Suns Malcolm Rosas Jnr is developing as a small-forward, kicking an average of a goal a game across his 19 appearances this year, including an impressive four-goal haul against Melbourne.

GWS Giants (1)
Toby Bedford

One of the success stories of the Giants' withering run deep into September was the performance of Toby Bedford in his first year at the Giants. After 18 games in four years at Melbourne, Bedford played 19 in his first season at the Giants and was an integral part of the team's impressive forward-line.

Hawthorn (4)
Karl Amon
Tyler Brockman
Jarman Impey
Chad Wingard

A link player for the Hawks, Karl Amon was prolific with ball in hand this year, averaging 23.1 disposals across the season and noted for hitting targets. He was eighth in the Peter Crimmins Medal count. After adding 15 games this year to his 11 in 2021, Tyler Brockman was traded to West Coast in the post-season trade period. Jarman Impey had a solid and ultra-consistent year in 2023 and was seventh in the Hawks' best-and-fairest count. The much-maligned Chad Wingard had his most inconsistent season of his career, spending time in the VFL and playing 14 senior matches. He ruptured his Achilles tendon in round 22, underwent surgery and is expected to be sidelined for at least nine months at this stage.

Melbourne (3)
Steven May
Kysaiah Pickett
Deakyn Smith

Melbourne were again modest in the finals series for a second consecutive year but on the bright side for Demons fans full-back Steven May proved to be one of the best key defenders in the AFL. He was fifth in the Bluey Truscott Medal count and was consistent and durable across the entire season. Excitement machine Kysaiah Pickett, despite his early season suspension after a (in)famous bump on the Bulldogs' Bailey Smith, was a key small man at Melbourne both up forward and in spurts through the middle in his 23 games where he landed 37 goals. Deakyn Smith spent the season with the Casey Scorpions in the VFL and averaged 15.5 possessions per game.

North Melbourne (3)
Jy Simpkin
Phoenix Spicer
Tarryn Thomas

The 2021 and 2020 Syd Barker medallist Jy Simpkin finished 10th in this year's count from the 18 games he played this season where his statistics went up with his career averages. Simpkin is one of the true leaders at the Kangaroos. Struggling to adjust to the commitments required of an AFL player, the diminutive Phoenix Spicer

● Continued next page

talent, ageless stars and heroes

WITH AFLW finals series in full swing, and a handful of the brightest Indigenous talents in the thick of it, we take a close look at the performances of our contingent in Season 8...

Adelaide (1)
Danielle Ponter
2023: 10 games, 16 goals; Career: 55 games, 64 goals
Darwin talent Danielle Ponter is one of the premier midfield-forward hybrids in the AFLW. She passed her 50-game milestone mid-season and is looking for another premiership flag.

Brisbane (3)
Ally Anderson
10 games, 0 goals; 76 games, 8 goals
Dakota Davidson
9 games, 17 goals; 48 games 49 goals
Courtney Hodder
10 games, 5 goals; 46 games, 32 goals
Season 7's best-and-fairest, Ally Anderson increased her possession average from 21.4 disposals from S7 to an even more impressive 26.3 in S8. A ball magnet, she is one of only a couple of current players who played in the first exhibition game in 2013. A potent key forward Dakota Davidson is a key marking target in attack, and with a career-high 17-goal season. She plays a vital role in the structure of the Lions forward line. The best pressure-forward in the AFLW, Courtney Hodder averages 7.2 tackles in S8, a touch higher than her first three seasons. She took the most courageous mark of the season in round 7.

Carlton 0

Collingwood 0

Essendon (2)
Madison Prespakis
10 games, 3 goals; 54 games, 24 goals
Paige Scott
10 games, 3 goals; 20 games, 10 goals
The Bombers' first best-and-fairest and true leader, Madison Prespakis continued her elite-level output in the AFLW. She was a major reason the Bombers are playing finals. She increased her season average to 26.8 touches and tackles to 5.1 per game. After a strong first campaign, teenager Paige Scott

backed up with a consistent second season.

Fremantle (1)
Mikayla Morrison
0 games; 4 games, 3 goals
On the Dockers list for a fourth season Mikayla Morrison was ruled out of S8 after rupturing the ACL in her right knee at training.

Geelong (1)
Georgie Prespakis
10 games, 3 goals; 29 games, 3 goals
In her third season, Georgie Prespakis is as equally exciting as her big sister. She had an average of 25.3 disposals per game and was a pivotal link player through the midfield.

Gold Coast (4)
Gabrielle Biedenweg-Webster
1 game, 0 goals; 2 games, 0 goals
Ashanti Bush
3 games, 0 goals; 10 games, 2 goals
Kalinda Howarth
1 game, 0 goals; 34 games, 20 goals
Claire Ransom
0 games; 2 games, 0 goals
A mature-aged defender, Gabrielle Biedenweg-Webster added just one game to her career tally in round 10. Small forward Ashanti Bush played under duress in 2023 with a heavily strapped knee and wasn't really at the top of her game. In a heartbreaking start to the season, up-and-coming superstar Kalinda Howarth injured her knee (ACL) during the second half of the opening round clash with Carlton and missed the remainder of the season. Claire Ransom was put onto the inactive list for 2023

GWS Giants (0)

Hawthorn (3)
Kaitlyn Ashmore
10 games, 1 goal; 68 games, 24 goals
Janet Baird
0 games; 4 games, 0 goals
Mattea Breed
8 games 0 goals; 8 games, 0 goals
In her seventh season and third club, Kaitlyn Ashmore was among the most consistent for the Hawks, finishing with an average of 15 disposals across the season. Janet Baird is Northern Territory product in her fourth season in the AFLW and second with the Hawks but didn't add to her tally this

season. She was playing community footy two years ago, but Mattea Breed had a strong rookie season with the Hawks, playing eight games and became consistent the longer the season went.

Melbourne (0)

North Melbourne (1)
Mia King
9 games, 0 goals; 46 games, 5 goals
A tackling machine, Mia King has developed into one of the key members of the Kangaroos midfield as they look to go deep into the major round campaign. She averaged 20.9 possessions and 9.3 tackles, both well about career averages.

Port Adelaide (5)
Laquoiya Cockatoo-Motlap
0 games; 1 game, 0 goals
Litonya Cockatoo-Motlap
1 game, 0 goals; 5 games, 0 goals
Gemma Houghton
10 games, 16 goals; 60 games, 60 goals
Georgie Jaques
0 games; 0 games
Jasmin Stewart
10 games, 0 goals; 32 games, 6 goals
Small forward Laquoiya Cockatoo-Motlap couldn't force her way into the Power side this season. Defender Litonya Cockatoo-Motlap added just the one match to her previous four in S7 of 2022. After an inconsistent and injury-frustrated Season 7, Gemma Houghton bounced back to be a premier marking forward at the Power who consistently hit the scoreboard. A developing ruck, Georgie Jaques spent her first season at Port Adelaide on the training track. In her return season to AFL football, Jasmin Stewart added bite and drive to the Power midfield, averaging 12.3 touches a games and was creative with her handball.

Richmond (1)
Stephanie Williams
0 games; 9 games 0 goals
A proud Larrakia woman, and the Tigers' first ever Indigenous AFLW player, Stephanie Williams featured in the first five matches of Season 7 before a knee injury ended her campaign. Afterwards, the 21-year-old was placed on Richmond's inactive-player list for 2023.

St Kilda (2)
J'Noemi Anderson
5 games, 2 goals; 10 games, 2 goals
Natalie Plane
7 games, 0 goals; 43 games, 5 goals
At 18, and the youngest of three siblings to play AFL football, the mercurial J'Noemi Anderson added another five games in 2023 to the handful in her debut season. In her first season at Moorabbin, versatile defender Natalie Plane was often called by her coaches to fill a specific role in which she would rise to the occasion. Plane is also an elite cricketer, the proud Kamilaroi woman having played WBBL for the Melbourne Renegades.

Sydney (3)
Jaide Anthony
2 games, 1 goal; 3 games, 2 goals
Alexia Hamilton
9 games, 0 goals; 22 games 1 goal
Aliesha Newman
8 games, 5 goals; 56 games, 22 goals
Forward Jaide Anthony added two games and a goal this year to her solitary appearance in Season 7. Alexia delivered a second consistent season in ruck for Sydney, providing her midfielders with first use of the ball. Aliesha Newman played as a forward this year, kicking five goals from the eight games she played. She also provided leadership and experience to the young finals-bound Swans outfit.

West Coast (2)
Emily Elkington
5 games, 0 goals; 5 games, 0 goals
Krstel Petrevski
0 games; 10 games, 2 goals
Teenager Emily Elkington made her debut in the Western Derby and learnt plenty across her first five games. Noted as a dependable forward Krstel Petrevski didn't get started in Season 8; she was placed on the inactive list after suffering an ankle injury during pre-season match simulation training.

Western Bulldogs (1)
Naomi Ferres
6 games, 0 goals; 6 games, 1 goal
Playing her best game for the season against the Crows in round 7 Naomi Ferres finished with six games in 2023, finding more consistency late in the season for the struggling Doggies.

● From previous page

played six games in 2023 that brought his total to 12 in the three years he spent at Arden Street; he was later delisted at the end of the season. In a story of redemption, Tarryn Thomas, a Next Generation Academy player out of Tasmania, returned to AFL ranks in round 12, from where he produced an outstanding run of form across the back half of the season. His consistent performances saw him finish six in the club's best-and-fairest from just 12 games.

Port Adelaide (5)
Jase Burgoyne
Jeremy Finlayson
Lachlan Jones
Sam Powell-Pepper
Willie Rioli
Still needing to add some weight to his 70kg frame, 20-year-old Jase Burgoyne (son of Port's 2004 premiership player Peter) added five games in 2023 to his eight matches in his debut year. Jeremy Finlayson's form fluctuated during the season; his wife is very ill with cancer, understandably he has plenty things else on his mind. The boy from Bute, Lachie Jones added 15 games in his third season at Port and is on the verge of becoming a key player in the team's structures. Sam Powell-Pepper finished sixth in the Jack Cahill Medal count after another consistent season across half forward, kicking a career high 31 goals. In his first season at Port Adelaide, 2018 premiership player Willie Rioli showed his value as a small forward with 31 goals from 19 appearances.

Richmond (6)
Shai Bolton
Matthew Coulthard
Rhyan Mansell
Marlion Pickett
Daniel Rioli
Maurice Rioli Jnr
Shai Bolton, the Tigers' mercurial midfielder/forward with a leap like a 'startled gazelle' placed third in the Jack Dyer Medal. Mid-season recruit from Glenelg, Matthew Coulthard played four games in the AFL this season. In his third season on the Tigers list, defender Rhyan Mansell (from Tasmania via SA) played 17 games and was solid. After arguably his best season at Richmond in 2022, Marlion Pickett produced similar numbers in the Tigers' 2023 campaign. The smooth-moving Daniel Rioli placed fifth in the best-and-fairest count from across half-back while his uncle, Maurice Rioli Jnr, plateaued in 2023 after promising signs in 2022; he played 10 games this season and kicked just two goals.

St Kilda (6)
Jade Gresham
Bradley Hill
Isaac Keeler
Jack Peris
Nasiah Wanganeen-Milera
Marcus Windhager
Having played 23 games in 2023, with an average of 17.8 touches per game, the enigmatic Jade Gresham was traded by St Kilda to Essendon. He played 117 games for the Saints since his debut in 2016. Perhaps in the 'veteran' stage of his career after 233 games across three clubs, Brad Hill placed

sixth in the Trevor Barker Medal count in a season where he averaged 20.7 disposals per game, numbers above his career average. First-year tall forward/ruck option Isaac Keeler this season developed his game with Sandringham in the VFL. It was a breakout season for Nasiah Wanganeen-Milera who finished fifth in the Trevor Barker Medal in which he played exciting and consistent football. Defender Marcus Windhager had a second solid season at the Saints, playing 19 games and fitting into Ross Lyon's structures. Still just 19 and with a huge sporting heritage Jack Peris made his debut in round 18, garnering a respectable 13 possessions, however he was later delisted by the club.

Sydney (1)
Lance Franklin
After reaching the 350-game milestone during the season, superstar Lance Franklin retired from AFL football after injuring himself in round 20. Across his 19 seasons, firstly at Hawthorn and then at the Swans, Franklin left a legacy of brilliance rarely seen in the code, especially by a 199cm-100kg athlete.

West Coast (5)
Jamaine Jones
Tim Kelly
Sam Petrevski-Seton
Liam Ryan
Isiah Winder
While it was a season to forget for the West Coast faithful, Jamaine Jones was in sparking form until he was injured in round 9; after surgery, he returned for the final three games of the season.

Midfielder Tim Kelly stood head and shoulders above the pack for a brilliant personal season in which the Eagles finished rock-bottom. Kelly won the John Worsford Medal in a season where he averaged an elite 28.2 touches per game across 22 games. Sam Petrevski-Seton played 13 games in his second season at West Coast (after crossing from Carlton) but was later delisted after a 121-game career. Liam Ryan, now 26, injured his hamstring after landing awkwardly in a marking contest during the round 3 Western Derby and missed the rest of the season. Isiah Winder didn't play any senior football in 2023 and the 21-year-old was later delisted after seven total games across three seasons at the Eagles.

Western Bulldogs (3)
Arthur Jones
Liam Jones
Jamarra Ugle-Hagan
Livewire Arthur Jones popped up with a couple of match-winning goals across 2023 and in his debut season the WA lad played 13 senior games. Returning to the cut-and-thrust of AFL football after spending the 2022 season outside the footy bubble, Liam Jones, at 32, had an outstanding return this year. The key defender finished with a fifth-placing in the Charles Sutton Medal count and won the Doggies Scott West (Most Courageous) Award. Exciting young key forward Jamarra Ugle-Hagan took another step forward in his development in 2023 where he played all 23 games and finished second in the club's goal-kicking with 35 goals.

Griffiths to coach Knights' NSW Cup side



AFTER two premiership wins, Ron Griffiths has transitioned from his role as Newcastle's NRLW coach into the hot seat with the NSW Cup side.

The Knights have not yet announced Griffiths' successor as the NRLW team lays plans for a third consecutive title.

Newcastle believe the move is in the best interest of progressing Griffiths' career as a coach.

Griffiths alluded to the possibility of stepping down after the Knights beat Gold Coast last month to claim a second premiership.

He met with club management in the lead-up to the grand final to gauge his interest in changes to his position.

"Coaching NSW Cup will be an exciting opportunity," Griffiths said last week.

"The Knights have afforded me the chance to be a part of a history-making NRLW team, I will be forever grateful for those opportunities and the memories created."

After a last-placed finish in 2021, Newcastle appointed former Wests Tigers assistant Griffiths as head coach and he oversaw rapid improvement across his two seasons in charge.

The club recruited such superstar players as Tamika Upton and Millie Boyle under his watch and debuted Jesse Southwell, who has gone on to become a leading light in the NRLW.

The Knights' NSW Cup team finished second-last in 2023 with eight wins from 24 games.

"Ronald has done an outstanding job as NRLW head coach, and we felt coaching NSW Cup was the next phase in his coaching career," head of football at the club Peter Parr said.



Ron Griffiths has a new role.



Eastern Warriors women's team that won their division at the 37th Bindal Sharks Indigenous Rugby League Carnival in Townsville. Pictures: Alf Wilson

Warriors of FNQ football

By ALF WILSON



WARRIORS men's and women's teams with Torres Strait Islander connections were happy winners at the 37th Bindal Sharks Indigenous Rugby League Carnival in Townsville recently.

The Thugerr and Eastern Warriors men's and women's teams won their respective divisions' finals at the annual tournament that is the biggest in Queensland's far north.

In the men's final it was a try in the last 30 seconds that brought on a thrilling and nerve-wracking finish. Thugerr were five points down to Burdekin Delta Dolphins

(14-19) when second-rower Jordon Remfrey scored a try inside the last minute of play to bring the score to 18-19. It was left to Addo Waianga to convert from the right-hand side and on an angle; the fate of the game was on his boot – miss, and Burdekin win; kick it straight, and it's the Torres Strait side's victory.

Hearts fluttered among the hundreds of fans at the Townsville

Sports Reserve as Waianga placed the ball on the kicking-tee. He hit the ball in the sweet-spot and, if guided by radar, it sailed through the posts and the celebrations began.

Incredibly, Waianga was not the team's designated kicker, that role belonged to sharpshooter Shaun Nona. Asked why he took the kick, Waianga said: "Well, Shaun had a hamstring worry and so he asked me to take the kick. I was very nervous, but relieved and happy when it went through."

The players were overjoyed and some wept as fans ran onto the field to celebrate with them.

In the semi-final, Thugerr defeated another red-hot Torres Strait side Erub United 18-10.

Erub had won their qualifying games and quarter-final and were one of the favourites to take out the title.

Earlier, it was the Warriors women's turn to shine.

Eastern Warriors defeated the women's Burdekin team 24-10 in the final. They had to do it the hard way. At half-time Burdekin led 10-8 but the Warriors kept them scoreless in the second half while piling on the points.

Eastern Warriors No.9 Jairel Martin-Savage was named player of the final.



Thugerr Warriors men's team were happy winners in Townsville.

NRL can carry momentum from Las Vegas 2024 season kick-off

VIVA Las Vegas! That will be the words shouted when the NRL opens the 2024 season at the glitter strip, also known as 'Sin City', in March next year.

South Sydney will play Manly while Brisbane tackle the Sydney Roosters in a double-header at the 60,000 Allegiant Stadium, home to the Las Vegas Raiders (formerly Oakland Raiders, formerly LA Raiders) of the NFL. In fact, just a few weeks before rugby league takes over the venue, the stadium will have hosted Super Bowl LVIII in February. That means American sports fans and first-time rugby league observers will have the

chance to see the Rabbitohs' Latrell Mitchell and Alex Johnston, the Sea Eagles' Jason Saab, the Broncos' Selwyn Cobbo and Reece Walsh.

That weekend could also have an extra Indigenous theme, aside from the stars on the field, the Rose brothers of George, Matt and Trent, could have their No Limit Boxing promotion in Las Vegas on the same weekend. There have been



Kris Flanders

discussions that the Rose brothers could have their star fighter, WBO super-welterweight champion Tim Tszyu, headlining a card featuring other Australian boxers including Tim's brother Nikita, Sam Goodman and Liam Wilson, among names in the proposal.

NRL boss Peter V'landys is said to be a huge fan of the concept which would see the Tszyu brothers fighting on the Friday leading into the Saturday NRL double-header.

The remaining round 1 draw will see games back home a few days later after the Las Vegas extravaganza. Thursday, March 7

will see Newcastle host Canberra, and the Warriors at home to Cronulla while Melbourne will play three-peat premiers Penrith the next day. The action continues on Saturday, 9 March with arch-rivals Parramatta and Canterbury head-to-head. Later that day, Gold Coast will tackle St George-Illawarra, and wrapping up the opening round is a Queensland derby between The Dolphins at home to North Queensland. The Wests Tigers will have the bye.

It may be mid-November and with still over three months until the 2024 season gets underway, a handful of NRL clubs have returned

to the training paddock. Normally, the early starters are the sides that missed out on the finals, but there are some finalists sweating it out with an eye on more September action next year.

The NRL has also locked in State of Origin – Sydney will host Game 1 (June 5), Game 2 heads to the iconic MCG (June 26) and Game III in Brisbane (July 17).

**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.*

Anderson, Cockatoo boost Rusca's troops

By JACKSON CLARKE



SHANNON Rusca has boosted his troops at Southern Districts in the Top End with the recruitment of former local AFL players this current NTFL Premier League season.

Ex-Geelong and Brisbane player Nakia Cockatoo has returned to the club his father was a star at, while former Hawthorn, North Melbourne and Gold Coast midfielder Jed Anderson has also joined the club.

Anderson has adopted a Crocs jumper after deciding to sign with the rural area club over his junior club, Darwin Buffaloes.

After a slow start, Anderson has put in several starring performances over the past month, including a 30-disposal three-goal effort against PINT. He backed that up with another 30-disposal game the following week against Palmerston. Anderson is central to a tough midfield unit at the

Crocs alongside a handful of highly-credentialed country Victorian recruits.

Cockatoo made his long-awaited return to his junior club where his father Jason is a club great and former captain.

The younger Cockatoo, a 49-game AFL player, finished with 14 disposals and two goals in his first game in the NTFL in almost a decade.

Southern Districts coach Rusca told the *Koori Mail* that the 27-year-old's impact would not be measured by his disposal numbers.

"It's not always about getting the footy, it's about how you can help and coach out on the footy field," Rusca said.

"It's a great feeling, it's always good for a former AFL player to come back and impart their knowledge on the younger kids.

"It fast-tracks their learning and makes them feel safer around the footy when you have a big-bodied player like Nakia."

Rusca, who spent time in the AFL system as a player with Brisbane and the Western Bulldogs, believes Cockatoo is a calming influence on the younger players at the club.

"These players slow the game down and help them through the process," Nakia did that so wonderfully on the weekend, just marshalling the troops, and he did it all with a smile on his face.

It was Cockatoo's first senior game he played alongside with his younger brother Jagar.

"His family is a big part of the football club – we all know how great his father was – and it was great to see Nakia play alongside his brother," Rusca said.

"It was just awesome to see him come back to the club with a big smile on his face we know the pressures of AFL footy, but they feel free when they play up in Darwin and they're not under the microscope."



Nakia Cockatoo has returned to Southern Districts after a 49-game AFL career – a club in which his father was captain and former great. **Picture: AFLNT**

Stanley's masterclass Premier League debut for Crocs

By JACKSON CLARKE



DRAFT hopeful Stanley Waistcoat produced a forward-line masterclass in his Northern Territory Football League debut for Southern Districts a fortnight ago.

The 18-year-old from Tennant Creek booted five goals in the Crocs' 109-point win over PINT at Marrara Stadium.

Playing in a forward-line alongside recently retired AFL player Nakia Cockatoo, Stanley finished with 12 disposals, 10 of those contested, and had eight ground-ball gets, earning him a nomination for the NTFL's Rising Star award.

Southern Districts coach Shannon Rusca said Stanley had to earn his place in the team after a couple of strong performances in the reserves.

"He had to come through the reserves to prove his worth and he's done that emphatically," Rusca said.

"He has shown some really classy moments and we thought this young man really does have something special. We thought, let's throw him in against the better sides and we will help him through the process.

"He's a great young fella, a very bubbly kid."

Rusca was impressed with the teenager's first performance at Premier League level and believes he has the talent to go further.

"There were impressive signs for the young man, he was very clean and good overhead, he reads the ball in flight very well," Rusca said.

"His journey can be a great one as long as he loves the football caper and the hard work; I'm sure



Southern Crocs' Stanley Waistcoat made an impressive debut in the NTFL Premier League. Picture: Tymunna Clements / AFLNT

he could go up to a higher level."

The small forward is eligible for this year's AFL draft and produced impressive form for the Northern Territory in the national under-19 competition recently.

He was named among Thunder's best with 13 disposals and a goal against Gold Coast Suns Academy in round 6. Against the Calder Cannons, Stanley had nine disposals and a team-high five tackles, highlighting the youngster's defensive capabilities.

Earlier this year, Stanley told AFL.com that he hoped to play AFL and make everyone back home in Tennant Creek proud of him.

"I want to make my family back home proud – I'm leading the way for them – and for myself, too," he said.

"I just want to move and try something new, do a better thing for my life. I want to be a good bloke for my little brothers, step up and be a role model for them so that they can look up to me and say, 'I want to be like him one day'."

Stanley also spoke about some of the challenges growing up in a small community and the advice he would give to other kids who have come from a similar place.

"Go to school, get your attendance up and do good for yourself," he said.

"Just keep moving forward, there's no turning back – chase your dreams."

In 2023, Stanley played eight games for YDU in the AFL Barkly competition and briefly relocated to Perth to play in the WAFL for South Fremantle.

After starring in one of the Bulldogs Colts' pre-season games, Stanley featured in two games averaging just under ten disposals and 5.5 tackles per game.

Williams takes on role at JMF



FOOTBALL journeyman David Williams will take on a role just as important as the one he has as striker at Perth Glory after being appointed on the Indigenous Football Australia council (IFA).

Williams joins 15 others on the IFA who have been tasked to oversee the strategy and national expansion of John Moriarty Football (JMF), Australia's longest-running Indigenous football initiative.

The IFA's goal is to create exponential social change through football, expand JMF and ensure more equitable access to the great game of football for grassroots and elite Indigenous players.

"I've been a long time admirer of the impact John Moriarty Football is having in remote and regional communities with Indigenous kids and families," Williams, taking time out from training, said.

"As a member of the Indigenous Football Australia council, I look forward to sharing my unique insights and experience to help JMF reach even more kids and communities and continue to change lives for the better.

JMF co-founder and co-chair, and the first Indigenous footballer selected for Australia, Yanyuwa man John Moriarty, said having Williams on board was advantageous to the organisation's objectives.

"We are honoured to have David join the IFA council," he said.

"As an experienced player and a role model, he will bring his own unique experiences, skills and goals for Indigenous football in Australia.

"It is an important time for Indigenous football in Australia.

"Indigenous-led programs, like JMF, receive little to no funding from the national and international football community, and the pipeline of Indigenous talent in the game is minimal and unsupported.

"This is why the IFA council is so important.

"Through JMF, we are empowering



Perth Glory striker David Williams has accepted a role on the Indigenous Football Australia council. *Picture: Getty Images*

Indigenous communities in remote and regional Australia to overcome the extreme social disadvantage and barriers to football opportunity faced by Indigenous players."

JMF is Australia's longest-running and most successful initiative in Indigenous football in the 2-18 year-old age group.

JMF's transformational skills program uses football for talent and positive change, improving school attendance and achieving resilient, healthier outcomes in Indigenous communities.

Each week JMF delivers to over 2,200 primary and secondary school Indigenous children in 18 remote and regional communities, with equal participation of boys and girls, through in-school and after-school sessions, school holiday clinics and tournaments.

The IFA council has majority Indigenous membership, and is gender equal.

Its members (in alphabetical order) are: Beau Busch, Professional Footballers Australia co-chief executive, former Australian professional footballer; Travis Dodd, Ngarrindjeri /

Narrungga/Kaurna man, Australia's first Indigenous Soccerroo goal-scorer and former captain of Adelaide United;

Craig Foster, former Soccerroo, football analyst, JMF board member and human rights activist;

Prof. Gail Garvey, Goori woman, National Health and Medical Research Council research leadership fellow and professor of Indigenous Health Research, School of Public Health, University of Queensland;

Kathryn Gill, Professional Footballers Association co-chief executive, former Matildas Captain;

Adam Goodes, Andymathanha/Narungga man, author, former AFL player, dual Brownlow Medal winner, two-time premierships player (2005, 2012), 2014 Australian of the Year 2014, Founder of GO Foundation;

Prof. Stan Grant, Wiradjuri man, journalist, author, Charles Sturt University vice-Chancellor's chair of Australian/Indigenous Belonging;

Tracey Holmes, award-winning ABC News sports journalist, Australia's first female host of a national sports program, presenter of The Ticket podcast;

John Moriarty, Yanyuwa man, co-founder and co-chair of JMF;

Ros Moriarty, co-Founder and Honorary managing director of Moriarty Foundation, Inaugural chair of Football Australia Women's Football Council (2019-21);

Gema Simon, Gumbaynggirr woman, former Matilda and Newcastle Jets A-League Women player;

Tiffany Stanley, Wiradjuri woman, JMF Dubbo community coach;

Allira Toby, Kanulu/Gangulu woman, former Canberra, Brisbane A-League Women striker and JMF scholarship mentor;

Danny Townsend, leading sports executive, former Australian professional footballer;

Jada Mathysen-Whyman, Wiradjuri/Yorta Yorta woman, Matilda, Sydney FC A-League Women goalkeeper and JMF Scholarship Mentor

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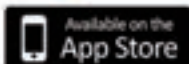
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NT sporting legends in chance meeting

By **PETER ARGENT**



TOP End sporting graced the opening round of the 2023-24 WNBL

season in Adelaide recently when Danielle Ponter and Abby Cubillo took a minute for a chat and a rare photo.

Adelaide Lightning's Cubillo is on the sidelines while recovering from an ACL injury she sustained while in hometown Darwin in the NBL1 earlier this year.

Adelaide Crows' Ponter begun its AFLW Season 8 finals campaign after taking out the minor premiership.

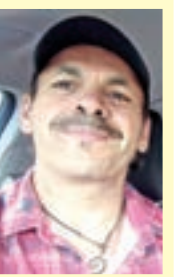
Both women have played at the elite level of their respective sports for several years now.



AFLW star Daniele Ponter (left) and WNBL star Abby Cubillo at the opening round of the new WNBL season in Adelaide recently. *Picture: Peter Argent*

Support for Mob remains strong as ever

THE big takeaway from the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sports Awards (see back page) in Naarm at the weekend for me was the broad church of practitioners in a variety of sports compared to when they were last held 20 years ago.



Darren Moncrieff

Twenty years ago in Adelaide I had the privilege of meeting footballer-turned-boxer Anthony Mundine for the first time; that was when he won the national sportsman award. Since then, our Mob have not only broadened out from the big football codes but have excelled in fields where we were previously, and largely, invisible – in domestic and international cricket, at the top of the world in tennis, keeping goals and as strike weapons in international football, officiating in national basketball leagues, holding office in the coaches' box, running national tournaments, etc.

A lot of this is due to a lot of hard work by a lot of hard-working people, some as collectives, others as individuals.

If you caught the awards on livestream, or were there in person, perhaps the one thing that also stood out was that recognition by our people toward our people carries more weight than any of the same from the mainstream. What does this say? I think it is that this sense of belonging and support is as strong as ever; fresh in mind, also, the 'No' response for a Voice. Twenty years ago, instant media in the form of the internet and social media was non-existent. Since then, the medium has changed dramatically. Connections are instant, sometimes to the detriment of society generally. But those same connections strengthens the connection our people have for each other. So when an internationally recognised figure like Cathy Freeman says her award means so much to her than any others she has won, it says that we are at least on the right track in being there for each other. May that forever be so.

***Darren Moncrieff is a Wadjarri-Thakarri/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.**



La Perouse Netball Club were winners of the 2023 Koori Netball Tournament near Newcastle recently.

La Perouse – new stars of Koori netball



AMONG the more than 90 teams that graced the Charleston courts at 2023

Koori Netball Tournament near Newcastle recently, La Perouse proved to be the best among them all.

The annual tournament is growing in stature.

The 90 teams saw around 1000 players from across NSW grace the courts over final October weekend in women's, junior's and mixed divisions.

La Perouse Netball Club, from the NSW south coast, claimed the Open Women's A Division trophy when they

defeated local Newcastle team #4 Voguey in the final.

While the women from Newcastle may rue the one that got away in the final, Voguey's Sarah Graham was the weekend's stand-out player, voted as the Open Women's A Division player of the tournament.

"From the opening ceremony with the magical little Midnight Dreaming dancers to the last whistle on the Sunday, the weekend was full of wonderful netball, competitive netball, social netball and communities coming together as one, enjoying the atmosphere, catching up with friends, relatives and other Mobs just

like a corroboree," Di Pascoe, president of the Charlestown Netball Association, said.

"The uniforms were colourful, the faces were smiling, the games played in good spirit.

"The whole weekend was just wonderful. We all can't wait to do it all again in 2024."

Results

Open Women's A winners: La Perouse; runners-up: #4 Voguey; Player of the Tournament: Sarah Graham (#4 Voguey).

Open Women's B winners: Kookaburras 1; runners-up: Awabakal Sisters; Player of the Tournament: Alearah Donovan (Kookaburras 1).

Open Mixed winners: #4 Voguey Purple; runners-up: Awabakal Sisters & Brothers; Player of the Tournament: Logan Aoake (#4 Voguey Purple).

13-15 Years Girls winners: Anaiwan Matriachs 15s; runners-up: #4 Voguey Girls 15s; Player of the Tournament: Maddison Ridgeway (Anawain Matriachs 15s).

13-15 Years Mixed winners: Googar Guns; runners-up: Wagga Wagga; Player of the Tournament: Kaleel Goolagong (Wagga Wagga).

10-12 Years Mixed winners: Tidda Girls; runners-up: La Perouse; Player of the Tournament: Halle McGuire (Tidda Girls).



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BLAK EXCELLENCE CELEBRATED AT MCG



Top left: The great Cathy Freeman was presented with the Lifetime Achievement award at the 2023 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sports Awards at Naarm-Melbourne on Saturday night. With her is the awards' primary sponsor Jed Smith. Top right: Janine and Rose Coombes paid an emotional tribute to their father Uncle Kevin Coombes for his Trailblazer award. Pictures: T J Garvie Photography

Re-born national awards take centre-stage in Naarm

By DARREN MONCRIEFF



IT was a two-sentence email that led to the reinstatement of an age-old institution of ceremony celebrating Blak excellence in the field of sport.

The 2023 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sports Awards saw over 500 guests from around the country and sportspeople across the length and breadth of all the games we play come together at the Olympic Room within the iconic MCG in Naarm-Melbourne.

Over a traditional food-inspired entrée and meal, guests stood to applaud Olympic gold medallist Cathy Freeman's lifetime of achievement, Jenny Pryor's selfless work as a sports administrator in far north Queensland, international rep Ash Gardner's sustained excellence in cricket, the work of the remote island-based Torres Strait Youth & Recreation Sporting Association in ensuring young people can realise their ambitions, 2023 Koori Knockout champions Walgett Aboriginal Connection, and trailblazer Uncle Kevin Coombes who laid the foundations for us to follow.

MC Shelley Ware took a minute to acknowledge the great Frank Reys who,

50 years ago, rode the winner at the 1973 Melbourne Cup, the only Aboriginal man to do so at the celebrated horse race.

Ware was one part of a broader organising committee that included Wayne Coolwell, whose email late in 2022 got this Blak ball rolling, and former AFL player Nathan Lovett-Murray.

Freeman, who inspired a nation with her 400m gold-medal run at the 2000 Olympic Games, was formally recognised by her people with the Lifetime Achievement award. The standing ovation she received brought love to a room already glowing in warmth.

"This is very humbling, and special," Freeman said, sporting an injured knee and supported by a cane.

"I'm sad Uncle Wayne is not here tonight, and Nathan, thank you – only you could get me here. I want to congratulate all of the nominees in this, and of those award-winners. I've heard the words 'Blak excellence' tonight and I like that.

"Anyone with a dream, I urge you to look to your ancestors. I am very proud to be here, and I dedicate this award to my great-great grandparents, my great grandparents, my grandparents, and my parents."

Indigenous All-Stars and NRLW premiership-winning coach Ron Griffiths was presented for the Coach of the Year award. Griffiths was recently appointed senior coach of the Knights in the NSW Cup, the second-tier of rugby league in the country.

"I am happy to be here and surround by Blak excellence," Griffiths said.

"To all the other nominees, the magnitude of you in this field, hold it dear in your hearts. I've been fortunate enough to coach some really great teams – the Knights, the All-Stars teams, and for this I am forever indebted. To my family, Gomerois, my mum and four sisters, who have been integral in sharing this dream, to my wife Chantel, I am forever indebted to you and our two jarjums in having you along for the ride to create these memories.

"And to the greatest influence of my career – your lessons stay with me to this day, you have moulded my philosophy; we haven't had a yarn in 13 years, and now you are coaching in the Dreamtime, this one's for you dad (Rick Griffiths)."

● More from the 2023 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sports Awards will be in our next edition, 29 November.

2023 NATSISA winners:

Volunteer: Jenny Pryor (Bindal Sharks rugby league organisation)

Community Organisation: Torres Strait Youth & Recreation Sporting Association

Sports Team: Walgett Aboriginal Connection (Koori Knockout)

Sportsperson with a Disability:

Amanda Reid

Sports Official:

Jacqui Dover (WNBL, NBL referee)

Media Representative:

Jake Duke (Fox Sports)

Coach:

Ron Griffiths (Indigenous All-Stars, Newcastle Knights NRLW)

Junior Sportsperson:

Jesse-May Hall (basketball)

Competition:

National Indigenous Basketball Tournament

Sportsperson:

Ash Gardner (cricket)

Senior (Elder) Sportsperson:

Aunt Pam Pedersen (long-distance running)

Lifetime Achievement:

Cathy Freeman (athletics);

Trailblazer:

Uncle Kevin Coombes (Para-Olympics)