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Deadly father and son duo return from hip-hop trip to the USA

By NICK PATON



HAVING just returned home from their first international performance at the renowned SXSW (South by Southwest) festival in the USA, rising Boorloo / Perth-based hip-hop stars FLEWNT and his 11-year-old son INKABEE are showing no signs of slowing down anytime soon.

Next up is the Sydney Opera House.

It's there that the West

Coast's freshest father and son MCs will take to the stage to land their Vivid LIVE debut alongside rap star Tasman Keith for a massive show in June.

"We are both just absolutely spinning out about our upcoming show at the Sydney Opera House," FLEWNT told the *Koori Mail*.

"And because we've both been so busy working, everything has happened so fast, and all of a sudden it's just around the corner – it's crazy!"

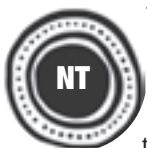
● Full story, page 26



Picture: Sounds Australia

FLEWNT and INKABEE performing in America. Their next gig is at the Sydney Opera House.

Riot the result of 'inadequate' care



THE North Australian Aboriginal Justice Agency has renewed calls to shut the notorious Don Dale Youth Detention Facility in the Northern Territory following yet another 'riot'.

The embattled centre was placed into lockdown last week after a group of inmates set fire to the education centre

and climbed onto the roof as part of a riot on Wednesday evening.

Police were called on Wednesday afternoon after reports of smoke billowing from the education facility and 14 children on the roof. The children allegedly threw projectiles at staff and police, sending an officer to hospital with a fractured leg.

NAAJA's principal legal officer Jared

Sharp said the disturbance was the direct result of the "appalling conditions" within the centre which had proven it was "unable to accommodate the needs of a highly vulnerable group of children".

Latest NT corrections data shows more than 90 per cent of Darwin's youth detainees are Indigenous and almost half are under the age of 14.

● Full story, page 7



Don Dale Youth Detention Centre

**Check out our latest podcast, *Safety & Connection*.
Just hold your smartphone camera over the qr code**



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MY FAMILY Billo Mosby (Kulkalgal man), Townsville



I am from a big family with relatives living on many Torres Strait Islands, up and down the east coast of Queensland and even as far away as Western Australia.

They are all important to me and I try and keep in touch with them.

In Townsville I am loving life with my wife Ella (nee Savage) and our sons Jamaal (22), Paul (19) and BJ – Billo junior (17).

As a family we enjoy barbecues along the Strand where we can always find a spot, and out at Pallarenda. Both places are beside the sea which we like.

The Strand is busy and we catch up with many families there.

We also love going fishing to Saunders Beach just north of here and land different species of fish which make great eating.

One of our major loves is rugby league football which my late father Richard, who passed away in 1998, got me into.

Richard was an inspiration and a role model to me and always gave families his support.

I am aged 45 and retired a few years ago. I have played in many Allblacks carnivals including in Townsville and places

from Thursday Island to Cairns.

We connect with numerous extended family members at them – who come to matches from other communities.

My family was at the Bowen Summer 10s carnival recently and we got great pleasure in the boys all lining up for the team I coached – Mosby Eagles.

Ella helped and supported us that day and I saw my sons in the same team playing beside each other.

I have Masig and Mabuiag descent and Ella has forebears from Badu and Mabuiag.

We are proud members of the Kulkalgal First Nations people and there are hundreds of Mosby family members.

I have relatives on Thursday Island, Masig, Badu, Iama, Coconut and some others.

Far away in Western Australia, I have uncles and cousins that we try and keep in contact with through social media.

Here in Townsville, there are many Mosby people including my brother Patrick and his family.

Life is great for me and family is at the forefront of that happiness.

Enjoying family time are Billo Mosby Senior (second from left) with wife Ella and three sons Jamaal, Paul and BJ.

SHARE YOUR FAMILY WITH OUR READERS

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

Koori Mail

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OUR CHILDREN



The Robinvale College dancers perform at a corroboree on the Murray River. Full story and more pictures on pages 8 and 9.

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In the spirit of song and dance



Around 500 people turned out for an evening of dance, music and catching up at the Mildura Corroboree on the banks of the Murray River in Victoria. Corroboree was hosted by the Mildura Rural City Council, in partnership with the Ngiwa Yarna Aboriginal advisory group.s See pages 8-9 for the story and pictures by JILLIAN MUNDY.

Rio Tinto to manage uranium mine rehab



TRADITIONAL owners have cautiously welcomed the appointment of Rio Tinto to manage the rehabilitation of the Ranger uranium mine in Kakadu.

Energy Resources Australia (ERA), which operated Ranger and is 86.3 per cent owned by Rio Tinto, announced a new management services agreement for the rehabilitation project in a statement to the Australian Stock Exchange last Wednesday.

In March, ERA announced it had applied for a renewal of the Jabiluka mineral lease within Kakadu, but Mirarr Traditional Owners are opposed to the move, saying they have concerns about the financial position of the company.

All mining operations and uranium processing at Ranger ceased on January 8, 2021.

Gundjeihmi Aboriginal Corporation, which represents the Mirarr traditional owners of the former mine and the Jabiluka



mineral lease area, said the announcement was a long overdue recognition of the inability of ERA to manage the rehabilitation project.

Gundjeihmi chief executive Thalia van den Boogaard said Mirarr were alarmed in November 2022 to learn the Department of Industry, Science and Resources had allowed ERA to draw down \$56.8 million on the limited Ranger rehabilitation trust funds held by the government, in order to prop up the company's finances.

ERA has said more than \$1.2

billion would be needed to complete the rehabilitation project.

The drawdown left \$481 million in the trust.

"That fund is intended to be the safety net ... that request showed us ERA was in trouble," Ms van den Boogaard said.

"This is a step in the right direction, as a major operator with expertise like Rio Tinto is needed to turn this around."

Under the new agreement, Rio Tinto will manage all aspects of the mine rehabilitation.

"As the project moves into a new phase it will benefit from Rio Tinto's global expertise in mine closure," ERA chief executive Brad Welsh said.

All Rio Tinto services will be provided at cost once they commence. Rio Tinto has also agreed to provide some services free, including the first 12 months of management team costs and access to internal technical expertise.

ERA will continue to directly manage its commitments in the town of Jabiru, along with its corporate and financial affairs, and assets and governance, including the Jabiluka mineral lease renewal.

Mirarr TO

Mirarr Traditional Owner Corben Mudjandi said while it was good news that Rio Tinto would manage the clean-up at Ranger, ERA was still in financial dire straits.

"It's also disappointing that one of the few things that will be left under ERA management is the

Jabiluka mineral lease," he said.

"It's time for both the Northern Territory and Commonwealth governments to pay attention to Kakadu and dismiss the notion that ERA is in any state to hold on to a mineral lease anywhere, let alone over dual World Heritage-listed Country that a generation of Australians fought to protect."

Uranium prices have risen over the past year, meaning several previously mothballed projects in Australia and overseas are being considered for reopening, including the Honeymoon mine in South Australia, 80km northwest of Broken Hill.

Ranger was Australia's longest continuous uranium mine.

ERA said the new agreement is expected to be implemented in the second quarter of 2024, with a transition period of two to three months, and an updated rehabilitation timeline for the Ranger project will be announced.

Either Rio Tinto or ERA may terminate the new management service agreement if there is an insolvency event.

- AAP

Rangers taking care of Country



CARING for Country has been the focus of a joint community effort improving biodiversity at Niigi Niigi – Sealy Lookout in New South Wales.

The bush regeneration works in the Bruxner Park Flora Reserve undertaken by Forestry Corporation involves Envite Environment and the Gumbaynggirr Ranger team of the Ngiyambandigay Wajaarr Aboriginal Corporation (NWAC).

Weed management works in recent months have seen lantana, camphor laurel, tobacco tree, crofton weed and broad-leafed paspalum removed from the floral reserve.

Staged bush regeneration is now underway with native species planted along the Gumgali Track leading to Korora Lookout.

Forestry Corporation's Partnerships Leader Ryan Ellis said "the current project of weed management and replanting is just a small part of the ongoing maintenance and management of the reserve to ensure the site continues to be appreciated into the future."

"The Bruxner Park Flora Reserve in Orara East State Forest has a range of nature-based experiences including forest walks, treetops adventures, the cultural tours and cafe, amazing lookouts and a rich blend of Indigenous and European history," he said.

The Gumbaynggirr Ranger team has worked alongside Envite Environment's experienced bush regenerators to build their skills and experience expanding their capacity to deliver programs, which manage and protect Gumbaynggirr land and water.

NWAC Head Ranger Jesse Shilling said "this partnership provides our team of rangers with good practical experience working on Country that complements our team's existing skills and qualifications."



Trainee Gumbaynggirr Ranger Della Byrnes and Gumbaynggirr Ranger Angel Williams planting native species on Gumgali Track.

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o p i n i o n

Friends of mine

You know when a non-Aboriginal person asks you if you know their Aboriginal friend and they expect you to know them, then are somewhat shocked, when you don't?! Well turns out, I do know two of our reality TV stars in *Survivor* – Kirby Bentley and *Gordon Ramsey's Food Stars* Troy Benjamin from Blakbrews.

Kirby was outstanding on this year's *Survivor* she placed 4th. I truly believe, if she was in the final three, there is no doubt she would have won – but not to be. She showed people she is an intelligent, funny, loyal, caring and cunning strong blak woman, who was terribly underestimated until she wasn't. Kirby thought outside of the box in challenges, often helping her team win, she was brilliant at reading people and knew what they were thinking, before they even thought it, let alone discussed it with others.

I've known Kirby for many years and tuned in to support her as a first time *Survivor* watcher and I didn't miss an episode, as she was so captivating. Watching her represent herself, her family and her people with such intelligence and grace was brilliant. You could see her purpose was to celebrate and showcase us and knock down those stereotypes people hold on to so dearly. She made frenemies with Feras Basal, an Arabic man, who ultimately won and was there for



Shelley Ware

the same reasons, they were the people to watch everyone was captivated. It's literally impossible to be prouder of Kirby and Feras as they both represented and challenged the minds of many, planting the seeds of change.

On our screens now is *Gordon Ramsey's Food Stars* where business owner Troy Benjamin of the tea and coffee brand Blakbrews is on Team Gordon. It wasn't a great start for Team Gordon with losing the first two challenges and two team mates in elimination. Then there was the third challenge and bring in Troy Benjamin as team leader and a challenge that involves a night of First Nations culture and celebrations – they win with a five-star rating.

Troy was remarkable, he was brilliant in his leadership and team work whilst sharing our beautiful culture with the world. A heartfelt welcome filled with love by Boonwurrung man

Jaeden Williams and watching the Djirri Djirri dancers share their stories through dance and song was stunning. I loved that artist Jade Kennedy created a stunning mural throughout the event, showcasing his amazing artistic skills and our beautiful art work, through his stories, while the guests watched on and enjoyed their evening of Indigenous foods cooked by chef Matt Moran. I'm not going to lie, I did ugly cry at the beauty of it all.

Although when everyone kept using the word "unique" to describe Team Gordon's night throughout the show, it highlighted to me, how far we have to go in this country, for people to understand, connect and share in the beauty of the oldest living culture every day as a norm.

I look forward to exciting times ahead for Blakbrews and I hope Troy wins the major prize of \$250,000 and being mentored by Team Gordon, so all his teas and coffees are on the menu of Gordon Ramsey's 100 restaurants.

I also look forward to how Kirby Bentley, will change the world for our people, more than she already has, she is force that I am glad is fighting for a better future for our people and our children.

● **Shelley Ware is a proud Yankunyatjara and Wirangu women from South Australia.**

Detained teen's harm threats ignored



THE first juvenile to die in youth detention in Western Australia

threatened to self-harm eight times in the hours before he was found unresponsive in his cell.

Cleveland Dodd's last night in the troubled youth wing of a high-security adult prison on October 12, 2023, was detailed last Wednesday, the first day of an inquest in Perth.

Counsel assisting the coroner Anthony Crocker said the 16-year-old Indigenous boy had been locked in his Unit 18 cell, which had no running water, for most of the day.

He was also frustrated with the length of time he had been in custody after being denied bail.

Cleveland also covered a CCTV camera in his cell with tissue paper, blocking the view of correctional staff monitoring him, but they didn't bother to uncover it until they were fighting to save his life.

Cleveland made multiple calls asking for medical treatment and water as the night wore on but Casuarina Prison officers were generally reluctant to open detainees' cell doors at night "due to staffing numbers and risk issues".

"At 1.35am, Cleveland made a call (from his cell via the intercom to a control room) and again threatened to self-harm," Mr Crocker said during his opening submissions.

"This was the eighth time since lockdown that night when Cleveland threatened to self-harm."

A staff member visited Cleveland's cell and briefly spoke to him before moving on to check on another detainee.

"It appears that at about this time Cleveland (self-harmed)," Mr Crocker said.

"The detainee next door to Cleveland made a cell call to (the control room) and said, 'Cleveland's trying to kill



Family and friends of Cleveland Dodd gathered prior to the inquest to demand justice.

himself, he's not talking back to me ... it's an emergency, bro'."

A video played to the inquest showed a staff member banging on Cleveland's cell door soon after, but he didn't have keys.

The officer walked at a "hurried pace" to fetch them from a manager's office, which was next to Unit 18's nursing post but did not ask for help.

He also wasn't carrying a radio, which was Department of Justice policy.

At 1.51am, the officer opened Cleveland's cell door and was joined soon after by a manager, who did not "appear to be hurried", Mr Crocker said.

A code red alert was issued at 1.54am as staff tried to revive the teen.

Paramedics arrived at 2.06am, but did not get access to Cleveland, who was found to be in cardiac arrest, for nine minutes.

The teen was partially revived and taken to hospital but suffered a brain injury due to a lack of oxygen.

"Cleveland died, surrounded by his family, on 19 October, 2023, at 10.14pm," Mr Crocker said.

Mr Crocker told the inquest Cleveland had been in detention since August 2022 and had been diagnosed with a major depressive disorder, a cannabis use disorder, and a likely language disorder.

A mental health worker at the facility said he was "oppositional defiant" and "extremely violent and aggressive ... He needs to be at Unit 18".

Coroner Phil Urquhart earlier said it was the first inquest to be held for a young person who had died by "apparent suicide" in a youth detention centre contained in a maximum-security prison built to house adults.

The expedited inquest has also included an unprecedented early level of involvement from the coronial investigators, including examining Cleveland's cell soon after his death and

supervising evidence gathering.

Despite this, Mr Urquhart said the inquest would be a limited fact-finding exercise and he could not make findings of negligence or guilt for criminal offences.

"This inquest like every other is not a royal commission," he said.

The hearings are expected to take 21 days and will happen in two parts – the first was set to conclude on April 12 and the second expected to start in July.

Witnesses who worked at Unit 18 including three youth custodial officers, a nurse and a manager started giving evidence on Friday, with a full day set aside for each.

Outside court, Cleveland's grandmother, Glenda Mippy, expressed outrage.

"Eight times he told them he was going to hurt himself and none of them took it seriously," she said. "They left him there in that cell until something happened." – AAP

Youth wing 'unliveable'



THE corrections worker who found the first juvenile to die in youth detention in Western Australia did not initially understand what he was seeing as he peered through the boy's cell door.

Youth custodial officer Daniel Torrijos discovered Cleveland Dodd unresponsive inside his cell in the youth wing of a high-security adult prison in the early hours of October 12, 2023.

"I couldn't really believe what I was seeing ... then I thought it could be Cleveland playing a trick," he said in the witness box on Friday.

"I banged thinking he would react ... I might have just said: 'Cleveland what the hell'. It was a reaction of disbelief."

CCTV shown to the court of the incident shows Mr Torrijos with a torch looking into Cleveland's cell through a viewing panel on the door from various angles.

He said that when he saw the boy's face he realised "he was definitely gone".

The inquest heard that after Mr Torrijos opened the cell door he lowered the boy onto the floor and with the help of other staff attempted to resuscitate him until paramedics arrived and took over.

Mr Torrijos also said Unit 18 was not prepared for youth inmates when it was opened in 2022, and a lot of his colleagues did not want to work there because they knew it was "chaos" at the facility.

"It was set up to fail and that's how it was perceived by a lot of officers," he said.

"Everyone didn't feel that positive that it was going to be successful at Unit 18."

Mr Torrijos said many of the boys at the unit had mental health issues and were in "destructive mode" after being involved in major incidents at Banksia Hill Youth Detention Centre before they were transferred.

He also painted a bleak picture of WA's youth justice system, including staff assaults, rolling lockdowns due to staff shortages, limited schooling and riots, in the three years before Cleveland died.

The cells were "unliveable" and many had wires hanging down, broken windows and plumbing, with no running water or flushing toilets or working showers. – AAP

Demand for more housing



WHILE the Federal Government's \$4 billion investment in remote housing has been welcomed by Aboriginal housing representatives, they say

more funding is still needed across Australia.

In early March, the Federal Government announced the funding for housing in remote communities across the Northern Territory to help close the gap on housing outcomes.

Now, the Aboriginal Housing and Homelessness Forum (AHHF) and Aboriginal Housing Victoria (AHV) are calling on government to recognise the housing needs of Aboriginal people in regional and urban areas too.

AHHF chair and AHV chief executive Darren Smith said while he did not want to take focus or

investment away from Aboriginal communities in the remote NT, that the current rates of Aboriginal housing insecurity and homelessness are at crisis point everywhere.

Unacceptable

"Across all states and territories, in all areas remote, regional and urban, the housing and homelessness outcomes of Aboriginal people are unacceptable and deteriorating," he said.

"On any given night in Victoria, there are 1,000 Aboriginal people who need homelessness support. Victoria has the highest rates of Aboriginal people accessing homelessness services, and in 2022-23, nearly one in four Victorian Aboriginal women accessed homelessness services."

"Aboriginal people represent only one per cent of the entire

Victorian population, yet 13% of all people accessing specialist homelessness services in the state are Aboriginal – we need governments to tackle the nationwide crisis with the same urgency as the remote NT."

Mr Smith said the government is on the right path.

"The housing and homelessness outcomes for Aboriginal Northern Territorians are unacceptable for a wealthy, developed nation."

"The partnership between Territory and Federal governments with Aboriginal Housing NT and Aboriginal Land Councils to deliver the housing is imperative also."

"As the largest registered Aboriginal housing provider in the country, AHV sees how benefits stay within Aboriginal communities when Aboriginal community-controlled organisations have

custodianship through ownership of housing."

Mr Smith said the challenge was for all state and territory governments, and the Commonwealth, to make substantial investments into Aboriginal housing at a level capable of making the real difference that is required to make a real difference.

"They can start by ensuring available investments in new social and affordable housing, for example through the Housing Australia Future Fund, actually reach Aboriginal housing providers and Aboriginal people," he said.

Legacy

"The enduring legacy of colonisation is stark when looking at the data – the least they can do is ensure that a minimum of 10% of new housing is delivered to

Aboriginal people through Aboriginal housing providers."

Aboriginal Housing NT (AHNT) chief executive Skye Thompson said "AHNT supports AHV's calls for investment across Aboriginal housing nation-wide".

"We know that we must strengthen the community-controlled sector if outcomes are to significantly improve across all Closing the Gap priority areas," she said.

"When we, as Aboriginal people are empowered to take control of our lives and decision-making, we are able to build capacity across our communities – this leads to increased economic activity and more job opportunities."

"A stable home means a safe home environment for our kids which significantly increases education, employment and health outcomes."

Kobie Dee raps his truth

Kobie Dee is a Gomeri rapper and master storyteller who has just released a new single called *Statistic*.

By ALI MC



"PICTURE yourself being 10 years old having visions stuck in prison."

So raps Kobie Dee on his new single *Statistic* – the latest hard-hitting lyrical masterpiece to emerge from the talented Gomeri artist.

Shining a blazing torch on increasingly high incarceration rates, Kobie Dee rails against the stereotype that prison is a one-way destination for First Nations young people.

"I was in the studio, actually working on a completely different song," he told the *Koori Mail*. "It just started off as a conversation with me and my producer about being a youngfulla and having the feeling of possibly ending up in jail. How it wasn't a normal thing for a kid to be thinking about."

That conversation soon turned into a powerful song that highlights the impacts of colonisation and the ongoing trauma of prison.

"I wanted to speak about how we fall under those statistics," he said. "But I also wanted to speak about where those numbers come from. All that stuff was introduced – there was no prisons, no drugs and alcohol before colonisation."

Growing up on Bidjigal Land in Maroubra, South Sydney, Kobie Dee said as a teenager he was "angry about a lot of things"; this anger has driven the topics that he raps about.

"A big part of me rapping about the stuff that I rap about started off as being a



Kobie Dee.

youngfulla and being angry," he said.

He said the disappointment of the 2023 referendum meant that the disenfranchisement of First Nations' young people as expressed in the song *Statistic* will unfortunately likely continue.

"After the referendum there's going to be a whole 'nother generation of young people that feel that same way," he said.

"It's not something that young people need to be thinking about or worrying about –

kids should be kids. It's definitely disheartening to think that it's still going on to this day."

Speaking from the set of a video shoot in his newly developed studio, Kobie Dee said he was excited to be part of a solution by engaging with the local community and giving back.

"I am in the process of building a studio here in my neighbourhood that will be used by the community. That's not too long away from being open," he said.

With the media spotlight recently focussing on young people in Alice Springs – including renewed calls for a military intervention – Kobie Dee said that instead, more support should be given to the community leaders on the ground.

"We should be going in there and seeing what we can do to benefit the community, rather than going in there and just showing all the bad stuff that's happening," he said.

"I know that there's people in there that are doing good. I know there are people in there doing different programs. It just shows how much funding and how much support that community needs that they just don't get."

Along with opening his new studio, Kobie Dee is also set to present the fourth instalment of the South-East Block Party.

Celebrating National Youth Week, The Block Party helps to provide a spotlight for local talent in the Maroubra area and for the community to support each other and raise awareness of important issues like mental

health. The event is also the realisation of a dream Kobie Dee had in his youth.

"That started off with just as a dream for me as a kid, across from the soccer fields, from where I live, and always wanting to do a performance there," he said.

"It started off with 1,000 people at our first one, and then it grew to 2000 the next one, and then I think the last one was 5,000 people. It's just grown so big over the years."

He said that connecting with the community has always been an integral part of his work as an artist.

"I've always been connected with the community. I just think growing up and being a part of youth programs within my community, I always felt that need to give back in that same way," he said.

After the Block Party, Kobie Dee says he has much more to come.

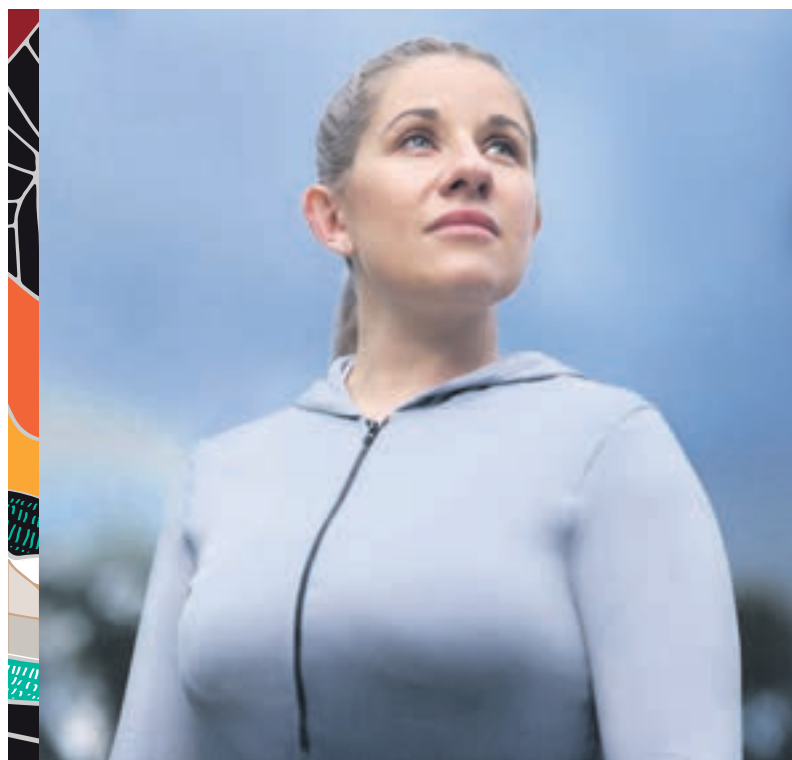
"I got a new single dropping just after the block party. And then I've got the EP coming later on this year as well. And a Northern Territory tour coming up as well."

From being an angry youngfulla with the cloud of prison hanging over his head, Kobie Dee has transformed into a community leader, rewriting his own narrative.

As he says in his latest song: "I ain't no statistic."

Weave Youth & Community Services, Randwick City Council and Kobie Dee present the South East Block Party at Coral Sea Park Maroubra on Bidjigal on Wednesday, April 24, 3 - 7pm. Free entry.

**"I ain't no statistic."
– Kobie Dee**



TAFE NSW



"I wanted to help bridge the gap between community and law enforcement."

Cass, IPROWD Graduate, Wonnarua Nation

The IPROWD program aims to engage Aboriginal people in training that prepares them for career opportunities in the NSW Police Force, the Australian Federal Police (AFP) or other Justice agencies. IPROWD offers a safe, supportive learning environment, so you can make a positive change to your life and community's future – just like Cass.

tafensw.edu.au/iprowd

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Lurking for trouble



Saltwater crocodiles like this one pictured in the mangroves are a major threat to unwary swimmers and their pets. Pic: Alf Wilson

By ALF WILSON



RESIDENTS on Thursday Island have been warned to stay well away from beaches popular with adults, children and pets following a spate of crocodile sightings.

In the latest sighting a three-metre saltwater crocodile has been seen

lurking in waters just off several locations including Hocking Point where many locals go for recreation.

Crocodile warning signs are in place around TI and also on nearby Horn Island and NPA communities Bamaga, Injinoo, Umagico, New Mapoon and Seisia.

Crocodiles inhabit waters near the jetty at Horn Island and Seisia.

People have been warned

not to swim off these beaches.

The Queensland Government's Croc Wise website warned crocodiles were apex predators that use ambush tactics, such as lying and waiting at the water's edge, to capture their prey.

"Just because you can't see a crocodile, it doesn't mean there is not one close by," according to the website.

"Crocodiles can stay underwater for over an hour

and can be completely concealed, even in knee-deep water.

"Night, dusk and dawn are when crocodiles are most active, during and after high tides and heavy rains," it warned.

The website issued five warnings in a bid to reduce the risk of an attack by crocodiles.

1: Stay at least five metres from the water's edge.

2: Dispose of food and fish scraps in a bin or take them home. Some anglers clean and gut fish near boat ramp and leave them which attracts hungry crocs.

3: Keep pets on a lead and away from the water's edge.

4: Avoid using small watercraft such as kayaks and paddleboards.

5: Stay well away from crocodile traps, which attract hungry crocs.

Calls to close Don Dale



LEGAL experts have blamed the latest riot at the Northern Territory's notorious Don Dale youth detention centre on failing standards and inadequate care.

The embattled centre was placed into lockdown last week after a group of inmates set fire to the education centre and climbed onto the roof as part of a riot on Wednesday evening.

Police were called to the centre on Wednesday afternoon after reports of smoke billowing from the education facility and 14 children on the roof of the building.

The children allegedly threw projectiles at staff and police, sending an officer to hospital with a fractured leg. On Thursday morning, six children remained on the roof but were removed by 9am.

The North Australian Aboriginal Justice Agency has renewed calls to shut the facility, saying children are not receiving adequate care.

"(This) is the direct result of the appalling conditions within Don Dale – a facility that has repeatedly proven it is unable to accommodate the needs of a highly vulnerable group of children," justice agency principal legal officer Jared Sharp said.

Territory Families chief executive Emma White said the facility was now in indefinite lockdown as an investigation occurred.

"The nature of the young people in Don Dale is adolescents that have very complex backgrounds ... they have often really problematic behaviours," she said. "And sometimes that involves conflict and that's what happened yesterday and has escalated."

NT Minister for Territory Families Ngaree Ah Kit said the centre was fully staffed at the time and police were called to de-escalate the situation.

"I wish I could give a guarantee that all the staff we have in place ... will stop a young person from causing a serious incident like yesterday," she said.

"The answer is no I can't."

The NT's Territory Response Group (TRG), which is under ICAC investigation for a series of racist "awards" uncovered during a coronial inquest, was sent in to manage the riot.

Acting Police Commissioner Martin Dole said he was not concerned about using the response group.

"TRG is a professional outfit and we continue to use them across the territory in deployments," he told reporters.

90 per cent Indigenous

Latest NT corrections data shows more than 90 per cent of Darwin's youth detainees are Indigenous and almost half are under the age of 14.

Mr Dole said the children who participated in the riot would be charged.

"Suffice to say criminal damage will be among (the charges), assault police and probably engage in a riot, I would assume," he said.

Graphic footage was shown on ABC TV in 2016 of four detainees being tear-gassed at the facility.

That led to the 2017 Royal Commission into the Protection and Detention of Children.

The NT government accepted in full or in principle all 227 recommendations at an estimated cost of \$229 million, including the closure of Don Dale.

Five years after the recommendation, the facility remains open and critics say the government is dragging its feet.

With an election due in August, Ms Lawler said she remains committed to closing the facility. A replacement facility was due to open in 2023 but the government has continued to blame building approvals, staffing and COVID-19 for delays.

"It will be an outstanding facility when it's completed and truly it can't be open soon enough," Ms Lawler said.

The latest disturbance comes four days after reports of a similar incident, involving detainees climbing onto the roof. – AAP

ACMI



Stanislava Pinchuk The Theatre of War

Free exhibition
19 Feb – 09 Jun 2024

The Mordant Family Moving Image Commission for young Australian artists is created in partnership with Professor Cav. Simon Mordant AO and Catriona Mordant AM, the City of Melbourne, John Allsopp from Web Directions, and ACMI.



The Mordant Family

Web Directions





Thuukalu Barkindji Traditional Dancers led by didge player Tony J Hunt.



Barkindji River artist Sharon King had a stall at Corroboree.

Dancing by the river

By JILLIAN MUNDY



AROUND 500 people turned out for an evening night of dance, music and catching up at the recent Mildura Corroboree on the banks of the Murray River.

For the first time the sunset event on Latji Latji Country, which celebrates history and culture, had a competitive edge.

Six dance groups competed for prize money, with Thuukalu Barkindji Traditional Dancers from the other side of the river taking out the open prize worth \$2,500 and Stars Academy dance group from at Chaffey College won the schools prize worth \$500.

There was also live music, local stalls and food.

The event which is the ninth of its kind is held every second year but the local community are keen to see it moved to an annual event.

Corroboree was hosted by the Mildura Rural City Council, in partnership with the Ngiwa Yarna Aboriginal advisory group.



Wamba Wamba hip-hop artist Philly (Phillip Murray) from Mildura.



Kiilalaana Foundation dance group.



Emu Callers are a traditional Kunja dancers from Queensland who now live in Mildura: Erica Dixon (left) taught her nieces and nephews the dance they performed, it was the first time she had performed in 25 years – “it was a big deal” she told the *Koori Mail*.



Aalsya Payne and Iszaak Smith with their aunty – Yorta Yorta photographer Nioka Briggs from Mildura.



For Aaron Clarke from Ballarat, it was his first Mildura Corroboree and is pictured with his mum Helena Baxter from Mildura.



Robinvale College dancers.



Brazilian Jiu Jitsu competitors Tyler Carter (Barkindji) and Harmony Baxter (Latji Latji) from Mildura were raising funds to compete in the world competition.



Joziah, Jararnie and Jett with their mum Mariah Dunrobin from Robinvale at their family stall Baxter Durabin Art.



Kayla Bowden, Kyle Timbery, Shalailah Bowden, Roy Harris and Leslie Orcher Snr holding Leslie Orcher Jnr.

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Enrol for 2024. Speak with your preferred kinder service or local council today about how to register for a place or visit vic.gov.au/koorie-kids-shine to learn more.

Women's voices: June Oscar speaks her truth

Outgoing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner June Oscar has given a powerful and personal speech recently at the National Press Club in Canberra.



The outgoing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner June Oscar.

NOMINATE A Reconciliation Champion

We're proud to introduce a new award category which recognises outstanding achievements in advancing reconciliation within Monash.

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Nominations close **Wednesday 5 June 2024**

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IGS INDIGENOUS EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS 2025

With the vision Unity Through Diversity and located on the land of the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation, International Grammar School (IGS) has a proud tradition of educating young Indigenous Australians since 2003.

International Grammar School invites applications for Indigenous Educational Scholarships from Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander children who are entering Kindergarten in 2025.

The scholarships cover all costs of schooling from Kindergarten to Year 12, including full tuition fees, uniforms, textbooks and other requirements. They will be awarded to candidates who, in the opinion of the School, are likely to benefit most from the IGS educational experience.

Selection will be based on the application and an interview.

Candidates will be short-listed for a meeting and discussion with the applicant and their parent/guardian/family members. The interview panel will make a recommendation for consideration by the Principal.

APPLY NOW

Applications will close on **Tuesday 7 May 2024**. Apply at igssyd.nsw.edu.au.

For further information, please contact IGS Acting Director of Admissions, Kamila Marshall at admissions@igssyd.nsw.edu.au or on (02) 9219 6700.

AUS JUNE Oscar's great-grandmother lived through the killing times of the Bunuba people in the Kimberley in the 1890s.

By the 1930s, the Bunuba population was reduced to a tenth of their size before invasion.

"In the greatness of our civilisation, spanning millennia, this was apocalyptic," Ms Oscar told the National Press Club last week.

Ms Oscar's term as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner – the first woman to hold the position – is coming to an end. But her legacy will continue in the way she has amplified the voices of First Nations women and girls.

Listening

When Ms Oscar took on the role in 2017 she began travelling around the country, listening to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and girls for the Wiyi Yani U Thangani – which means 'women's voices' in Bunuba language – project.

The project will continue with the Wiyi Yani U Thangani Institute for First Nations Gender Justice, a dedicated research space at the Australian National University in Canberra, which the federal government announced on Wednesday would be supported with \$3 million over four years.

She said it is thanks to the female line of her family and her grandmother, who turned her back on white society in the aftermath of decimation of the Bunuba.

"My grandmother lived in a corrugated iron one-room shack, just beyond the banks of the creek, where I slept, under the stars, on our Bunuba country with my mother and brother," Ms Oscar said, adding that while her mother worked as an indentured servant, her grandmother would take her walking on Country and teach her Bunuba ways.

"These seemingly ordinary, everyday acts by the matriarchs who raised me were powerful forms of resistance against a colonial system that had attempted our eradication."

Denigrated

"A system that insisted this new Australia was not for us, and denigrated our women, implicitly condoning gendered violence, abuse and rape."

Ms Oscar's grandmother could not reconcile with Western society when she was alive.

"Our existences at the time were denied, emphasised by the fact that my father, a white station owner, never acknowledged me or my Indigenous siblings in his lifetime," she said.

Ms Oscar reflected that last year's referendum on a First Nations Voice was a mirror on a moment, which she believes, despite the failure can still provide a wake-up call.

"The Voice fell victim to what it aimed to counteract: mass discontent with socio-economic conditions which globally have given rise to sectarianism and populism, fuelling a surge in mis- and disinformation," she said.

"This burgeoning industry of lies and discriminations masquerading as truth and justice erodes our trust toward

each other, government institutions and, for me, most significantly our ability to work together – the public with decision-makers – to weave, protect and sustain the social fabric."

In Bunuba culture Elders teach young ones to be "wanyjawurru", a giver, which she said also encompasses the strands of the social fabric spoken of by women throughout Wiyi Yani U Thangani.

"Being wanyjawurru means we all have responsibilities to regenerate reciprocal relationships of care, safety, kindness and generosity," she said.

Dialogues

The Wiyi Yani U Thangani Institute will help foster dialogues of truth, Ms Oscar said.

"When we know each other, we can listen without fear, and act together with integrity and humility, walking into a future where we lay the foundations to account for everyone and exclude no one," she said.

Ms Oscar said her grandmother gave her a vision for the future where women's voices were heard.

"I exist holding this vision, where I stand tall next to my grandmothers and mothers, our feet bare in the warm pindan soils of our Country; gathered around us are our peoples and hundreds of other women and men with heritages from every part of the world, and there too are my non-indigenous brothers and sisters, their children and theirs and so on," she said.

"We all hold digging sticks and seeds, fires are lit, we sing, country hums. All is safe, all is well."

– AAP

Katie Kiss takes over as our new social justice commissioner



AUSTRALIA'S new Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner, Katie Kiss, said in the wake of the devastating outcome of last year's Voice referendum that Australia must consider the next steps and prioritise finding ways to heal and soothe divisions.

This includes making meaningful progress in addressing the systemic and structural discrimination experienced by First Nations communities.

Commissioner Kiss, who commenced in the role on Wednesday April 3, said her immediate focus would be to meet with First Nations communities around the country, hearing their perspectives on the most pressing matters facing their people.

"If we are going to improve the lives of First Nations Peoples, and if we are serious about reconciliation, healing, and unifying the nation, the voices of First Nations Peoples must be front and centre," Commissioner Kiss said.

"I want to hear what communities think their priorities are, whether it be about Closing the Gap, youth justice reform, Native Title, truth-telling and treaty, or combatting racism and other

structural barriers.

"There is so much work to do and conversations to continue having. We need to elevate and empower our people, and this must be done together."

Commissioner Kiss is a proud Kaanju and Birri/Widi woman who grew up in Rockhampton, Central Queensland on the lands of the Darumbal People.

Senior positions

She was previously the Executive Director of the Interim Truth and Treaty Body supporting Queensland's Path to Treaty, and held senior positions in the Queensland Government, including Chief of Staff to the Minister for Seniors, Disability Services and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, and senior advisor to the Deputy Premier.

"It is a real honour to take on this role, following the legacy left by the five Social Justice Commissioners who have served over the last 30 years, since Mick Dodson was appointed in 1993 in response to the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody. I'm also proud to be the second woman to hold this position, following the completion of June Oscar AO's term," Commissioner Kiss said.

"Today also marks 15 years since Australia endorsed the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, having initially voted against it at the UN General Assembly in 2007.

"Having been part of the team at the Australian Human Rights Commission that helped facilitate this important step in building Australia's human rights framework, a key focus of mine will be to see the Declaration fully implemented across our country to better protect and progress the rights of First Nations People."

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner is a statutory position relating to the human rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. This includes undertaking research and education projects to promote respect for, and the enjoyment and exercise of human rights by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

"I look forward to working with my fellow Commissioners at the Australian Human Rights Commission, as well as state and territory counterparts, our Elders, community organisations and advocates, business, health and media sectors, and governments, to champion the empowerment of our people," Commissioner Kiss said.



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner, Katie Kiss,

"There is so much work to do and conversations to continue having. We need to elevate and empower our people, and this must be done together."

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Councillor Torenzo Elisala with Wrench Mau.



Dauan Island Roxin Eagles rugby league club footy players.

Roxin Eagles love the game

By ALF WILSON



ON Dauan Island, the players and supporters of Roxin Eagles rugby league club are doing special things in the community – mentoring youngsters and doing volunteer work.

With a population of around 200, the remote island in the Torres Strait is part of the Gudamalulgal top-western nation of Zenadth Kes.

It's also one of the islands closest to Papua New Guinea, along with Boigu and Saibai.

The Roxin Eagles club was formed in 1988 and two of the team's prime movers are former star forward Wrench Mau and local Councillor Torenzo Elisala.

While the team competes at regional Allblacks carnival, the focus of the players and officials is helping the community.

Now, the youngsters on Dauan are following in the footsteps of their forebears.

Cr Elisala told the *Torres News* recently that their grandfathers, fathers, uncles and brothers historically travelled far for "the love of the game".

"They travelled the treacherous waters of Torres Strait, making that 90km and eight-hour dinghy rides to Thursday Island, just to make it on time and play footy with saltwater still dripping down their faces," he said.

"This is what brings us together as a team today, carrying on for the love of the game.

"The passion and commitment to play the game of rugby league and to represent our beautiful families and community of Dauan."

Cr Elisala said that the youth in this day and age look at rugby league differently – in terms of the management and logistics – compared to what veterans did back in older days in their four-metre-long tinnies.

"In today's approach, the idea is to seek financial support from funding bodies for plane charters to attend annual Allblack carnivals," he said.

"The modern day rugby league tactic for us on Dauan to attend carnivals is measured by an on-



Dauan football players doing volunteer work.



Locals enjoy island life in a tinnie.

**"We balance footy and life."
– Cr Torenzo Elisala**

field, off-field strategy. And with examples of what we have gained from our experiences through school, club footy down south and past experiences playing in carnivals or seasonal football.

"We take everything into consideration, first and foremost are our supporters, families and community.

"It takes a village to grow a child and that is what we try to do at our nest.

"Grow our own and teach them good values to be men of our community – and to be proud Torres Strait Islanders.

"Because at the end of the day, it's more than just a game of football.

"It's about our communities, our families and looking after ourselves as strong community men (Lagau Garkazil).

"As role models in the community, we lead by example, showing the virtues and qualities of an eagle. "We look after our nest, try giving back as much we

can through community work by cleaning yards, attending community events, being present for important schooling events, taking the lead in cultural events, church events – and being there when community needs their men to be there for them.

"In all aspects of community life, we balance footy and life living on a little Island with nothing but a footy and oval preparing for the Island of Origin."

Roxin Eagles competed at the 2023 Island of Origin on Badu, losing the final to Mabuiag side Goemu Bau Raiders

In 2008, the *Koori Mail* yarned to player Wrench Mau and teammate James Binawel at the Island of Origin carnival on Badu. They shone for Western Bears, which had a combination of players from the outer islands.

This year, Wrench told the *Koori Mail* "it's good to see so many youngsters on Dauan loving rugby league".

"I have just come from training



James Binawel and Wrench Mau when they played with the combined outer islands team, Western Bears at the 2008 Island of Origin on Badu Island.

at the local oval," Wrench said.

Many of the Roxin Eagles players are of Dauan descent and live in various regions down south including at Cairns and on the NPA.

One star player is now Bamaga based veteran back Aaron Binawel, who is the co-captain of Roxin Eagles.

Aaron is a quality footballer and has played for Torres/Cape in 2009 when they reached the grand final of the Foley Shield in Townsville.

Torres/Cape went into the carnival as rank underdogs in the six-centre contest, but stunned non believers when they beat big smoke city teams Cairns and Townsville – and also Mid West/Mount Isa in qualifying matches.

Aaron later played for Innisfail-Eacham and was a member of the Saguci team which lost the 2011 Island of Origin final on Badu to Argun Warriors.

His brother James now lives



Dauan Island footy players train hard and volunteer lots.

and works on Moa Island but still maintains a keen interest in Roxin Eagles.

Going forward, the Roxin Eagles will contest the June Origin series on Badu and the Gordonvale carnival later in the year – and perhaps the Zenadth Kes on Waiben during October.

Whatever the immediate future holds, the Dauan Island community is kicking goals because of the young interest in Roxin Eagles.

Patrol catches illegal fishers



BULGUL and Kakadu rangers on the job have caught four people fishing without Northern Land

Council (NLC) permits. The recreational fishers have received fines and were charged after rangers intercepted four separate boats in the Little Finnis River, and past the Finnis River closure line.

The individuals did not have permits to enter and undertake recreational fishing in the waters.

On November 28, 2023 and January 23, 2024, the matters were heard at the Darwin Local Court, where all four individuals pleaded guilty to entering or remaining on Aboriginal land without a permit. This is an offence under the Aboriginal Land Act 1978 (NT) and carries financial penalties.

These are the first prosecutions in Aboriginal waters since the introduction of the recreational fishing permit system in January 2023.

This outcome provides a strong precedent and gives Traditional Owners (TOs) confidence there will be consequences for people who enter Aboriginal waters without obtaining permission.

Rangers on Country.
Picture: NLC



Bulgul rangers undertook the joint patrol that led to the prosecutions alongside rangers from Kakadu National Park, in an effort to increase compliance in the Finnis coastal and Peron

Islands region. Kakadu's rangers participated in the operation to share the compliance expertise of each group.

Rangers are a regular presence on the water and will

continue their marine patrols.

The establishment of the new compliance team within NT Fisheries will also provide an increased level of support to Aboriginal ranger groups along

the Northern Territory coastline.

Aboriginal people have deep connections to their waters, including the aquatic species that inhabit them.

TOs for the Finnis coastal and Peron Islands region limited access to their area in 2021, in the hope that the Northern Territory Government (NTG) would work with them to improve access, use, and resource management of these waters.

TOs and rangers encourage fishers to abide by the current access arrangements.

Permit-free fishing continues to apply to key fishing areas around Darwin and Bynoe Harbours as well as the Daly River, Nhulunbuy, Port Keats and McArthur River regions, based on existing agreements between TOs, the NLC, and the NTG. Outside of these areas, an NLC permit is required to fish recreationally in Aboriginal waters.

NLC chair Matthew Ryan said "these court rulings are a clear reminder that permission, in the form of permits, must be obtained to fish Aboriginal waters".

"This process is simple – check if a permit is required. If it is, apply for one, and then enjoy your fishing," he said.

● For more stories about rangers, see pages 22 and 23.

Could it be sepsis?

People of all ages can get sepsis, a medical emergency that needs urgent treatment.

Know the symptoms.

Get help fast.



Sepsis is when your body has an extreme, life-threatening response to an infection and affects people of all ages.

People with sepsis say they feel very sick (the worst they have ever felt) and get sick very quickly.

Symptoms can include:

Fever or chills, rapid heart rate, difficulty breathing, vomiting or diarrhoea, confusion, feeling more sleepy, low or no urine, a new rash.

If you feel unwell or are concerned, visit your doctor or call Healthdirect on 1800 022 222, even if you have already seen a doctor.

If you are very sick, go to a hospital emergency department or call Triple Zero (000). **Don't be afraid to ask, "could it be sepsis?"**



For more information visit:
www.health.nsw.gov.au/sepsis



Headland artwork signals a powerful historical message



ON top of Freshwater Headland, a monumental public artwork signals an important message about the history of our nation and honours the world's oldest living culture.

Northern Beaches Council has unveiled the landmark artwork by First Nations art and design studio mili mili, as part of the Coast Walk Public Art project.

Led by artist and creative director Nicole Monks, mili mili have created a powerful tribute to the enduring tradition and historical significance of signal fires.

"Signal fires have been lit on headlands up and down the east coast by Aboriginal people for tens of thousands of years," Ms Monks said.

"They are part of a sophisticated system of communication passed down through the generations, serving as a message, serving as a warning, serving as a reminder."

Pride of place

Northern Beaches Mayor Sue Heins said the artwork takes pride of place on Freshwater Headland, signalling for all people to gather and pay tribute.

"When Cook sailed the Endeavour up the east coast of Australia in 1770, First Nations people strategically lit signal fires along the headlands, to convey a message and a warning," Mayor Heins said.

"While the ship's crew noted the smoke and fire, little did they know they were witnessing an emergency response in action.

"Just as smoke served as a signal



Artist and mili mili creative director Nicole Monks sits in front of the sculpture.

then, may this artwork serve as a signal for us to all come together and pay tribute to the traditional custodians of this land and the enduring, continuing culture of First Nations people."

Council and mili mili engaged with local Aboriginal Elders, cultural knowledge holders, the Aboriginal Heritage Office and community as part of their creative process. Through many walks and yarns on Country with local Aboriginal people, local knowledge has been incorporated into the final artwork.

The studio also worked with local Aboriginal enterprise Bush to Bowl and



The artwork takes pride of place on Freshwater Headland, and is a key landmark along the 36km Coast Walk from Manly to Palm Beach.

Council's bush regeneration teams to include endemic native plants into the surrounding landscape.

The artwork is a key landmark on the 36km Coast Walk, stretching from Manly to Palm Beach. The Coast Walk connects

some of Sydney's most iconic beaches and surf breaks, ocean rock pools, aquatic reserves, surf lifesaving clubs, headlands, lagoons, archaeological sites, public artworks and places of significant culture heritage.

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Have your say on how to improve the rules managing coastal floodplain drainage works in NSW

The NSW Government is committed to improving the regulatory framework and water quality impacts associated with coastal floodplain drainage and has released an options report for consultation.

The Coastal Floodplain Drainage Project Options Report lays out six proposals to address the complexity, time and costs involved with the approvals process and reduce the impact of agricultural drainage works on downstream water quality, aquatic ecosystems, communities and industries.

We want to hear your feedback on the proposed options.

Complete our survey by 11.59 pm, Sunday 21 April 2024.

Visit water.nsw.gov.au/coastal-floodplain-drainage



New mayors to take charge

By CHRISTINE HOWES



NEW, incumbent and former mayors across Queensland's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Councils are counted and declared as part of the state's local government elections, held every four years.

New mayors have been elected in Torres Shire (Elsie Seriat), Northern Peninsula Area (Robert Poi Poi), Mapoon (Ronaldo Guivarra), Aurukun (Barbara Bandicootcha), Hope Vale (Bruce Gibson), Kowanyama (Territa Dick); Mornington Island (Richard Sewter), Wujal Wujal (Allister Gibson), Yarrabah (Daryl Sexton), Woorabinda (Terence Munns) and Cherbourg (Bruce Simpson).

Re-elected mayors (either incumbent or previous) include Torres Strait Island Regional Council (Phillemon Mosby), Napranum (Roy Chevathen), Lockhart River (Wayne Butcher), Doomadgee (Frederick O'Keefe), Pormpuraaw (Ralph Kendall) and Palm Island (Alfred Lacey).

New Aurukun Mayor Barbara Bandicootcha – one of only three new female mayors for Queensland's Aboriginal or Torres Shire Councils – said at first she was wondering what she had got herself into.

"I suppose it's going to be a learning process for me, a new experience, but it was something the community wanted," she said.

"I've sat back for so long and seen how much is needed for a change within our community, we're long overdue for a change and I'm willing to go on this new journey for myself as well as the people around me.

"I'm looking forward to working with the community and making the changes together."

She said the Aurukun community approached her.

"The support I had from community was overwhelming, to have them behind me with this, and now I'm looking forward to sitting in that seat," she said.

"I'm going to try my best to make those changes for our people and the Wik Nation."

New Hope Vale mayor Bruce Gibson said he was proud to walk in his father, Mervyn's, footsteps.

"I was a councillor a term ago," he said.

"So it's my first time as mayor and I've joined my dad now, he was the first Community Council chair for Hopevale, and the first chair of the Aboriginal Coordinating Council.

"He gave me the worst jobs – I was pumping sewage – in order to show there was no favouritism."

Mayor Gibson said Hope Vale was once one of the leading communities on Cape York.

"We need to rebuild relationships here in the community to support a vision where Hope Vale needs to go," he said.

"And that vision would encompass jobs and businesses, growth because Hope Vale was the leading shire in terms of growth, because people were moving here.

"Officially we have about 800-900 people, but we know people haven't been counted.

"There are issues here, like everywhere else, there's unemployment, there's a lack of business but our infrastructure is starting to grow and we have a lot of planning that's been put in place.

"I'm in a position now to really push ahead and build a Hope Vale that one day I could retire in."

In the 'mainstream' councils several Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander candidates were successful, including radio personality Trevor Tim – now the first Indigenous councillor elected to the Cairns Regional Council.

"I'm very excited," he said.

"I wasn't even looking at it, being a politician or being in council.

"I've been campaigning all my life, I just love life, love people, love my Mob, love my non-Indigenous brothers and sisters, love youth.

"I'm a man who doesn't drink, smoke or take drugs, high on life. I've been campaigning all my life, so it was fitting.

"Love to my beautiful wife, Jackie, who supported me all the way and got me over the line, and my beautiful friends and family who helped me campaign."



Aurukun Mayor Barbara Bandicootcha.



Mayor Bruce Gibson (middle) with Hope Vale Councillors Shellane Gibson, Barry Bowen (3rd term), Rowan Hart and Eva Bounghi.

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Find out how the Australian Government's plan will restore the Murray-Darling rivers at murraydarling.gov.au



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TO GATHER TOGETHER



Pictured left to right from CONNECT 2023:

Naomi Moran (Koori Mail), David Hulett (PromoGear), Eve Langford (Amber's Food Wraps), Deb Munson (Baagi Milaygiin), Laura Rose (IBA), Karen Seage and David Lappan (Snap Printing Underwood) and Shane Jacobs (Orana Services).

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news

Justice reform calls rejected



ABORIGINAL and human rights advocates have blasted the Victorian government's response to a truth-telling inquiry into the child protection and criminal justice systems.

The Yoorrook Justice Commission made 46 recommendations in an interim report published in September, after 84 witnesses spoke across 27 days of public hearings into the systems.

The state government has accepted four of the recommendations in full and 24 in principle, it announced last Wednesday.

Another 15 remain under consideration, including standalone Indigenous justice and child protection systems and a new independent police oversight body.

Rejected outright

Three recommendations have been rejected outright, including urgently raising the minimum age of criminal responsibility to 14 years without exceptions, and to outlaw the detention of children under 16 years.

Others knocked back were to create a presumption in favour of bail for all offences except murder, terrorism and similar charges, and beef up the state's Charter of Human Rights.

The Yoorrook recommendations came after 84 witnesses spoke across 27 days of public hearings.

Yoorrook chair Eleanor Bourke said commissioners were disappointed with the government's rejection.

"Recommendations regarding the Bail Act and the minimum age of criminal responsibility and detention are crucial given the alarming over-incarceration of



Yoorrook Justice Commission chair Eleanor Bourke.

First Peoples adults and children, and ongoing deaths in custody," she said.

"These recommendations were not made lightly. They go to the heart of addressing ongoing injustice against First Peoples."

The commission expects progress on the 15 recommendations that remain under consideration and warns it could call extra hearings later in 2024 to hold the government to account.

The Victorian Aboriginal Legal Service said the response was unworthy of the heart-wrenching truths told to the commission.

"We have waited over 210 days for the Victorian government to respond to the Yoorrook for Justice Report and it reads like it was slapped together overnight," chief executive Nerita Waight said.

"It is so disappointing that the Victorian government did not take this more seriously and develop a more detailed response that supported in full all recommendations."

She said it felt like 'paralysis' had set into the government since Jacinta Allan took over from Daniel Andrews as premier.

First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria co-chair Ngarra Murray was frustrated by the same old

sticking points arising and disappointed with the disrespect shown to community members who participated in the inquiry.

"The government's stubbornness when it comes to the slow timeline for raising the age is very frustrating," she said. "We won't let it rest."

Feeble

The Human Rights Law Centre described the response as feeble and branded the government's plan to only raise the age of criminal responsibility to 12, before lifting it to 14 with some exceptions, as a betrayal of Victoria's children.

"The premier must answer why she has not acted on the clear calls of Yoorrook, Aboriginal leaders, organisations and communities and instead chosen a path that will keep harming Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children locked away in youth prisons," the centre's managing lawyer Monique Hurley said.

Treaty and First Peoples Minister Natalie Hutchins said the Allan government was taking the recommendations seriously, when asked why people should bother telling their traumatic stories if it does not implement the changes.

She said she understood the frustration of Aboriginal people wanting quicker solutions after having to battle the effects of colonisation for more than 200 years.

"But we have an obligation as a government to the Victorian people to make sure that we get the laws and the changes and the policy settings right," she told reporters.

Ms Allan is scheduled to give evidence before the commission in late April as part of its latest inquiry into the land, sky and waters.

Yoorrook's final report is due to be delivered in 2025. — AAP



Illustration by Alistair Ott
Visit act.gov.au/lgbtiq to learn more.

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CREATIVE VICTORIA

Installation view of Aidan Hartshorn's work 'These violent delights' 2024 on display in My Country: Country Road + NGV First Nations Commissions from 22 March to 4 August 2024 at the Ian Potter Centre: NGV Australia, Melbourne. Photo: Tom Ross

Call to protect rock art



A PROPOSED expansion of a regional gas production hub would put sacred rock art at risk and add to climate change, critics warn.

In an open letter to Environment Minister Tanya Plibersek, two former Western Australian Premiers, Indigenous leaders and dozens of other prominent Australians have urged her to oppose Woodside Energy's plans.

The proposed \$50 billion hub on the Burrup Peninsula in the Pilbara region threatens Australia's global climate obligations and outstanding cultural heritage values, the signatories say.

Former WA Premier Carmen Lawrence said the Albanese government has an opportunity to "stand up for the national interest rather than Woodside's interests".

"It's time this government gets real about the six billion tonnes of emissions from Woodside's Burrup Hub and the threat to precious rock art and culture on Murujuga," she said.

The landscape contains over one million unique and ancient petroglyphs, making it the largest and oldest outdoor art gallery on earth.

The signatories cite scientific studies which show acid emissions are eroding remaining rock art sites, after thousands were



The Woodside Energy building is seen in the central business district of Perth, Western Australia.

destroyed during initial construction of the Karratha Gas Plant in the area in the 1980s.

The WA government in February confirmed no further new development on the peninsula and transferred 254 hectares of land to the Murujuga National Park, including four sites located in the Withnell Bay area that were originally set aside for heavy

industry. There are six projects that make up the Burrup Hub, including two under assessment by the federal government.

The federal department responsible has paused the national environment law assessment of the two projects until it receives further information requested from the WA government and the proponent.

This means that no federal government decision has yet been made on either project.

"Aside from huge carbon pollution, the direct impacts of this project on the Murujuga rock art proposed for World Heritage listing are likely to be profound and irreversible," the letter said.

"We urge you to take this urgent, vital historic step to save

Australia's most significant rock art heritage."

In 2023, the area was nominated for a World Heritage listing in recognition of its "Outstanding Universal Value".

Yindjibarndi Elder Tootsie Daniel said Murujuga was a significant gathering place where people have always come together.

"It's a place where the Elders take the children to be closer to us ... It is very much alive," she said.

"We want people to respect it. Nothing is to be touched. Nothing is to be removed. The site is important and it's very dangerous to do anything to it."

The hub is designed to bolster the existing Pluto LNG and North West Shelf projects by creating a regional production hub for gas from the vast Scarborough and Browse fields to be prepared for export to Asia.

Former Australian of the the year Professor Fiona Stanley, also a signatory to the letter, said the science was "overwhelming" on the climate damage from burning fossil fuels

"The current and future health and wellbeing of our societies and future generations depends on urgent, immediate cessation," she said.

Woodside has rejected accusations it is preparing to detonate a "climate bomb" that would dwarf national efforts to reduce emissions.

— AAP



Invitation to register as a Registered Aboriginal Party for the Reconnecting River Country Program's early works measures projects

The Water Group in the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water is seeking registrations from Aboriginal people with local knowledge of Aboriginal cultural heritage to become Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) for the Reconnecting River Country Program's early works and measures packages.

This is in accordance with the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water, 2010).

About the early works and measures packages

The department's Water Group is scoping four early works and measures packages in the Murray and Murrumbidgee River systems as part of the ongoing development of the program.

The aim of these packages is to identify program works and measures to deliver wetlands and floodplain outcomes by December 2026, should the program proceed to delivery.

There are four packages being scoped including:

- Werai Forest (in the Edward River Council and Murray River Council areas)
- Niemur-Colligen (in the Murray River Council area)
- Mundarlo Bridge (in the Junee Council and Cootamundra-Gundagai Council areas)
- Mundowry Lane (in the Wagga Wagga Council area).

Some examples of the types of works and measures being considered as part of the packages include:

- watercourse crossing upgrades
- new installations such as bridges, culverts, causeways and rock crossings
- access track upgrades
- installation of regulators.

For more information on the program's early works and measures packages visit water.nsw.gov.au/rrcp-early-works

About Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs)

RAPs play a crucial role in determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or place(s) during project development and inform decision-making regarding cultural heritage. The participation of RAPs will assist to prepare an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report for the four packages being scoped.

Aboriginal people or organisations, with cultural knowledge of the project areas, can register their interest by writing to the department, emailing us or registering online.

How to register

Interested parties should identify the package they are seeking to become a RAP for and provide background concerning their cultural connection to the area as part of their registration.

Registrations by 5pm (AEST) on 8 May 2024, would be appreciated.

You can send your registration to us by:

- **mailing:** Reconnecting River Country Program, Early works packages: Registered Aboriginal Party registration, NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, 5/620 Macauley Street, Albury, NSW 2640
- **email:** admin.rrcp@dpie.nsw.gov.au
- **visit:** dpie.nsw.gov.au/reconnecting-river-country-program



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Memories of Elders live on in art

By ALF WILSON



RESPECT for the late Carl Wyles lives on in art, at the aged care facility that cared for him in final years.

Mr Wyles was an artist and proud Girramay and Bwgcolman man who passed away at the age of 75.

Recently, Carl's family donated a painting which had been painted by Carl, to Parklands Residential Aged Care Facility for the care they provided.

Mr Wyles was a much respected member of the community and hundreds attended his funeral in Townsville on February 9.

They came to show respect for a man who had been a top quality sportsman in his heyday, as well as a talented artist.

In his later years Mr Wyles became ill and resided at the Parklands Aged Care Facility – and he loved it there.

Mr Wyles was a member of a large Aboriginal family, and many of them visited him at the facility – as well as others from his extended families.

His wife Jenny Wyles and daughter Shanane Mills-Pryor donated the painting, which

honours our Elders.

"We donated the painting to Parklands Residential Aged Care Facility for the care they have provided to Carl," Mrs Wyles said.

The painting is called *For Our Elders* and depicts families coming together to protect Elders, as they are the key to culture and knowledge.

During his life, Mr Wyles had been a champion Australian Rules and rugby league player, as well as being a very handy boxer. He used to thrill spectators when he played for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander team Garbutt Magpies for many years in the local Townsville Australian Rules competition.

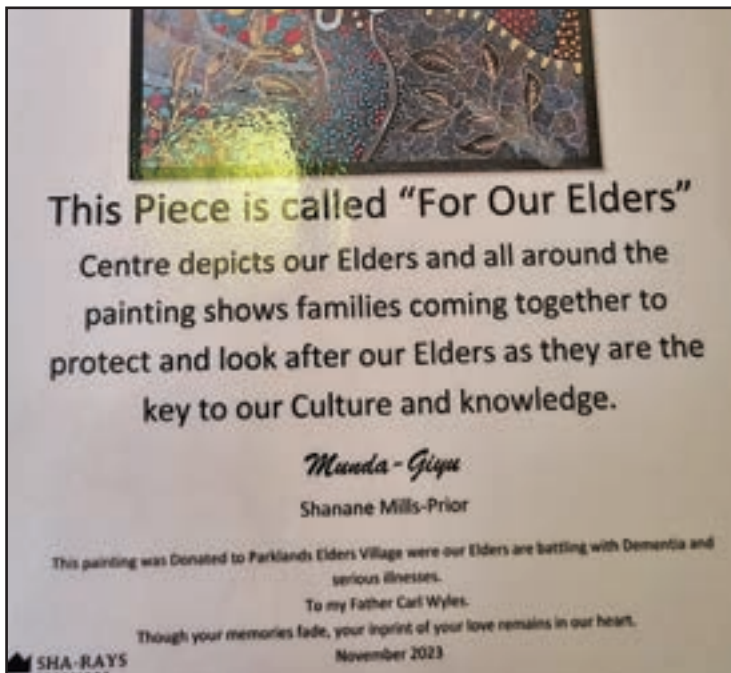
He had also been a fleet-footed back for different local rugby league clubs, as well as winning many amateur boxing bouts.

The late and great Palm Island boxing trainer Ray Dennis once said that Mr Wyles was so good that if he had continued with his career in the ring, he could have gone on to be an Australian, or even a world champion.

Throughout his life Mr Wyles had been a mentor for young First Nations youth and will be sadly missed.



Pictured left: The story of the painting donated to Parklands Aged Care Facility in Queensland. Pictured above: Shanane Mills-Pryor, daughter of the late Carl Wyles, with the donated painting.



Voice donors revealed

Who were the biggest donors to the 'yes' and 'no' campaigns?



BIG donors to the voice referendum 'yes' and 'no' campaigns have been revealed in electoral commission data showing the tens of millions spent wooing votes.

The 'yes' campaign for the Indigenous voice to parliament spent more than \$60 million on the failed referendum.

Referendum donors

The Australian Electoral Commission published new data recently, with disclosure showing the main 'yes' body, Australians for Indigenous Constitutional Recognition, received more than \$47 million in donations.

Australia's largest philanthropic body, the Paul Ramsay Foundation, gave \$7 million to the leading group

campaigning for constitutional change.

The major 'no' bodies dropped tens of millions less on the campaign, defeating their opponents comfortably despite being out-spent.

Organisations in the 'no' camp, Australians for Unity and Advance Australia, spent \$11.8 million and \$10.4 million respectively.

The referendum lost, with the

'no' side garnering 60% of the vote compared with 40% for those who voted in favour.

The ACT was the only jurisdiction with a majority 'yes' vote.

New rules

Under new rules passed in March 2023, all donations above the threshold of \$15,200 must be declared to the electoral

commission and publicly released.

Big Four banks and others also forked out for the 'yes' campaign with ANZ donating \$2.5 million, Woodside Energy giving \$2.1 million, Commonwealth Bank \$2.05 million and Westpac \$2.04 million.

The Pratt Foundation donated \$1 million to 'yes' campaigners.

– AAP

Danny Eastwood's view



A YARN WITH...



Tony Foster

Alice Springs, NT
(aged 37)

Favourite bush tucker?
Bush bananas and bush apples.

Favourite other food?
Fried rice.

Saltwater food:
Mangrove worms.

Non-Indigenous Food:
Lamb chops.

Favourite drink?
Fanta and Passiona.

Favourite music?
Country music, a big fan of George Strait.

Favourite sport?
AFL – I barrack for Sydney Swans and NRL for Roosters.

Favourite holiday destination?
Hawaii.

Favourite Movie?
Freddie Krueger horror movies.

What do you like in life?
Making and keeping good family connections.

What don't you like in life?
Negativity about our young people.

Which Black or Indigenous person would you most like to meet?
Carl Barron the comedian.

Which people would you invite for a night around the campfire?
Close family and friends and my brother Lance.

Who or what inspires you?
My father James who lives in Katherine.

What would you do to better the situation for Indigenous people?
Try and get them to come together and communicate then all stand together.

Quote



“As a dad, it just fills me with pride, just to know that my boy is so passionate, and so creative and talented, and so hard-working when it comes to something that I think is life changing – which is the culture of hip hop, and rap

– FLEWNT speaking about making music with his young son INKABEE

● See page 26

Unquote

Riots a result of poor conditions

How long can the NT government continue to blame the child inmates at the Don Dale Youth Detention Centre in Darwin, Northern Territory, for the ongoing riots that have plagued the hell-hole for years?

Almost eight years have passed since graphic footage of young detainees being tear-gassed was shown on ABC TV, leading to a Royal Commission into the Protection and Detention of Children.

Held in 2017, the Royal Commission delivered 227 recommendations at an estimated cost of \$229 million. One of those recommendations was to close Don Dale.

Yet here we are, five years since that recommendation was accepted by the NT government, along with all the others, and the detention centre remains open.

And the riots continue to happen on a regular basis.

It's as if the government is simply unable to deliver on its promises yet at the same time is willing to cast all of the blame on the actions of the young inmates.

Advocates have long argued that the reason the young people in detention act up is because of the appalling conditions they live in.

They are often locked away in their cells for most of the day, there are few effective rehabilitation programs in place at the centre, and the inmates are



most often Indigenous young people, who have struggled with mental health issues as a result of poor housing, education and health services.

Indeed, the latest NT corrections data shows more than 90 per cent of Darwin's youth detainees are Indigenous and almost half are under the age of 14.

Surely those figures – which have remained unchanged for decades – show that the current approaches are not working.

But where are the solutions? Where are the investments in diversionary programs, further education, improved health services, and employment pathways that could make a real difference to the lives of these young people?

Highly-paid government employees tasked with achieving results should be held to account over their apparent inability to actually deliver what the politicians promise. Of course, there is another election around the corner in the Northern Territory and once again youth crime and detention will be a major issue.

Hopefully whoever wins will finally close Don Dale for good.

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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).



Samantha Martin and Brandon Walker on Country, filming an episode of *The Taste of Tropics: Iconic FNQ*, now available on SBS On Demand.

Find the taste of Country with Bush Tukka Woman

By LIINA FLYNN

It was when she was growing up on Country in the East Kimberleys that Jaru woman Samantha N. Martin began her journey of becoming the Bush Tukka Woman – and having her own TV show.

“I learned survival skills from my mum, Nancy,” Samantha told the *Koori Mail*.

“Mum is a traditional full-blood Jaru woman and when we’d go out bush, I’d always taste things. She taught me how to eat foods in season and read the landscape. I learned every aspect of our spirituality and culture – I knew our ancestors are part of us, even though we don’t see them.

“We never took medicine – I learned the healing aspects of plants and animals

“If we were spiked by a fish, we’d pee on it. We’d put mud on bites and we never got stung by snakes or spiders because we understood the landscape and respected it.

“I grew up with a strong foundation, really connected to Country.”

Old Soul

“Mum always said I had an old soul and I’d look after everybody else before myself.

“When we’d all go out on Country, I’d collect wood and put the billy on, then I’d put a grasshopper on a fishing line and catch bream and catfish.

“Then I’d put them on a little branch and cook them up and feed the old people.”

Bush Tucker Man

“When I was nine, my fave TV show was the *Bush Tucker Man* – I was fascinated by his survival skills and I wanted that life.”

“I wanted to be a famous TV person who could teach about Mob, our ancestors and the way we live – to pass on



Samantha Martin, aka the Bush Tukka Woman, is the presenter of a new program, *Taste of Tropics*.

that knowledge.

“My passion was my love of education. Mum was illiterate and I could only read at a year 3 level, so, I begged mum to send me to high school in Perth.

“Once I discovered how to read, it was amazing and I wanted to be an author.

“Even though I was homesick and experienced racism, I knew I couldn’t quit and I became the first Aboriginal girl to graduate through the Catholic Board of Education.”

Return home

Samantha’s ambition, at first, was to return home and be the community’s bookkeeper. But after saving money from working multiple jobs, she just wanted to leave again.

“On my 20th birthday, I got on a bus and headed to Queensland,” she said. “I knew I needed to leave or I’d stay barefoot and pregnant.”

“I went to the Whitsundays

and did modelling and set up an agency. I had young Indigenous girls come to me for deportment and grooming classes.

“I mentored them in how to believe in themselves and love themselves – and gave them a goal.

“In the Whitsundays, I was spotted by a talent scout who was making a film, *Tales of the South Seas*, at Airlie Beach. She asked me to audition as village princess and I got the role as an extra.

It was my first time acting.

“Then, with \$500 in my pocket, I went to Sydney chasing opportunity. I found great jobs and worked for the ABC – and loved it. In Redfern, I kept mentoring Aboriginal girls.

Message Stick

“Then I met my partner – he was into TV production and drove around in the *Message Stick* van.

“So, I joined him and I became the host of *Message*

Stick and we road-tripped to the Kimberleys together – and he met my family.

“On Country, I’m a full bush woman and he loved it.

“Together we developed the Bush Tukka Woman, when he saw how I foraged on the land once I got home.

“I just picked up a rifle and went off to get turkeys with brother and come back with food.”

Bush Tukka Woman

When the Bush Tukka Woman show idea was rejected by NITV, Samantha was disappointed and thought she’d leave her TV career.

“So, I rebranded myself and brought Bush Tukka Woman to life as an educator and mentor,” she said.

“People would call and book me to do cooking demos and talks.

“My brand grew and I was approached by Screenworks with

an opportunity to be a mentor for a TV show with a young girl boxer.”

Samantha also has a stint as TV presenter for *My Bush Tukka Adventures with Samantha Martin* and a director and producer for *Around the Camp Fire*.

She’s also wrote *Bush Tukka Guide*, sharing her survival skills and cultural heritage.

Taste of Tropics: Iconic FNQ

“Then the *Taste of Tropics* was advertised and the all-female producers wanted me to get back into TV.

“It was fun shooting the series in Queensland.

“In the show, we tap into the into unsung heroes in community and appreciate food.

“In one episode, I was with Brandon Walker in the mangroves on his Country. It was an honour to be there with this amazing hunter and he educated me about mangroves meeting the Barrier Reef.

“It was all about the connection local Mob have to country preserving traditional knowledge on Country.

Food

“My favourite Indigenous food is echidna. The meat is rich and I know why the desert Mob go mad for it, full of fat, minerals and iron.

“I also like goanna – I’ll chase and hunt a goanna too,” she laughed.

“I love berries, plums and lemon myrtle is great in savoury and sweet foods too.

“Then there’s lily pilly, bunya nuts and kakadu plum – these have 3,000mg of vitamin C in one fruit.

“For me, it’s all about passing on knowledge and catching and collecting food, then going and cooking it up.”



Pictured above left: Uunguu rangers Tabitha Kowan, Colleen Mangolamara, Desmond Williams and Damon Bundamurra on Country. Pictured above right: Tabitha Kowan in the laboratory. Pictured below left: Rangers with museum curators at the workshop. Pictured below right: Desmond Williams with museum collection objects.
 Pictures: Wunambal Gaambera Aboriginal Corporation and Zoe Richards.

Funded by the Australian Government through the Our Marine Parks Program, Kimberley Reef Connect is a collaboration between Curtin University, the Western Australian Museum, Wunambal Gaambera Aboriginal Corporation and Parks Australia.



Rangers emerge as curators



A GROUP of Uunguu rangers from Wunambal Gaambera Country in the North Kimberley have taken part in

an Emerging Curators Workshop at the Western Australian Museum's Collection and Research Centre to exchange cultural and scientific knowledge.

Uunguu Rangers, Damon Bundamurra, Tabitha Kowan, Desmond Williams and Colleen Mangolamara, worked closely with WA Museum's Aquatic Zoology staff to learn more about the marine species collected during the group's expedition to Wunambal Gaambera Wundaagu (Sea Country) in the North Kimberley Marine Park in November 2023.

Along with learning more about specimen curation,

taxonomy and coral health, the rangers developed skills related to coral reef monitoring more generally.

WA Museum Curator of Marine Invertebrate Zoology Associate Professor Zoe Richards said the November fieldtrip secured thousands of marine specimens.

"These specimens now need to be stored, identified, curated, reported and shared, including taking images," she said.

"The workshop involved a series of collection and laboratory-based activities at the WA Museum Collections and Research Facility and the Boola Bardip Museum exhibition space. In addition, the rangers have participated in some activated outdoor learning activities including snorkelling and fishing."

The week-long workshop is part of a larger collaborative

program that sees Western Australian Museum, Curtin University, Parks Australia and Wunambal Gaambera Aboriginal Corporation join forces to document marine biodiversity in the Uunguu Wundaagu Sea Country in northwestern WA.

Tabitha Kowan, Uunguu Ranger, Wunambal Gaambera Aboriginal Corporation, said "it has been really great to see all the Kimberley specimens from the trip last year and how well they are being looked after at the museum."

"I also enjoyed looking at the Kimberley artefacts, especially the ones made by our family members," she said.

"Plus going snorkelling and looking at the coral, fish, shells and algae was really fun, although the water was a bit colder than what I am used to."





Muru-warinyi Ankkul Ranger Kylie Sambo.



Jeffrey Curtis at the Tennant Creek ranger hub.



It was all smiles at the opening of the new ranger hub.

Muru-warinyi Ankkul Ranger Hub opens



THE long-awaited Tennant Creek Ranger Hub has finally opened.

The new hub at 37 Brown Street replaces the Muru-warinyi Ankkul

Rangers old operational base, which was a humble, dusty shed with only basic amenities. Before the new building was finished, the group had to split their operations between two locations, using the Central Land Council (CLC) Paterson Street office for administration and training – and the shed for works and storage.

Now, the new facility offers modern amenities and space for the team to grow and professionalise.

In addition to being a training facility, the ranger base will also house heavy equipment that other regional groups can use, making it a significant central ranger hub.

At the hub's opening, Muru-warinyi Ankkul Rangers celebrated the milestone, alongside CLC chair Matthew Palmer, executive member Sandra Morrison and the Traditional Owner ranger advisory committee of the Muru-warinyi Ankkul Rangers.

CLC chief executive Les Turner said the hub is strategically located to offer ranger teams space for training. Particularly for teams in Arlparra, Lajamanu, Daguragu and Ti Tree, which have had to travel to Alice Springs up until now.

CLC chief executive Les Turner said the new facility does justice to the rangers' efforts.

"Ten years after the rangers first started to look after Country around Tennant Creek, they now have a building that meets their needs and can grow with them as they continue to go from strength to strength. They deserve no less," he said.

When the CLC acquired the Brown Street lot in December 2022, it already had an office, a sizeable shed and a three-bedroom house.

Following extensive collaboration with the rangers, it awarded a renovation



Jeffrey Foster working on Central Land Council Country.

contract to Aboriginal-owned business Dynamic Solutions.

Work started last August and the contractor completed the renovation four months later.

The office underwent substantial improvements, including new power and data points for future growth, air conditioning, an updated layout that includes a conference space and a new server room and laundry area.

Ranger Jeffrey Curtis said the aircon provides welcome relief when temperatures are in the 40s week after week.

"It was very hard working in the old shed during the hot weather," he said.

"Now we're working in luxury in the cool shed. Everybody is very happy to have a new work place and we've got to look after it."

The shed upgrade features a large fan,



The hub opening was celebrated with cake.

lockers, tool cage, welding benches, and outside a pressure cleaner and wash bay. These improvements help the rangers to keep equipment organised, ready to carry out their duties efficiently.

The house on the property received a new kitchen, bathroom and furnishings,



Rangers celebrate having a new facility with modern amenities and space for the team to grow.



CLC chair Mathew Palmer.

ready to welcome visiting staff and trainers. The solar panels make the hub more sustainable, as do water tanks and insulation.

A new truck and tractor, to be funded by the Northern Territory Government Aboriginal Ranger Grants Program will soon be stationed at the hub.



Pictured above: Muru-warinyi Ankkul Ranger teams working on Country.

Know where your money goes

As 2024 finally lands, the aftermath of this year settles into our bones. This year has hit me in a whole new way, another year, another war, another climate event and the ongoing attempt of the elite to hold onto a system that inevitably will have to end soon. The honest truth is that we can't keep just gobbling up the earth's resources without any repercussions, the resources are finite and therefore we need a system change.

2024 feels like it's never been clearer to the masses that the system we all live under, the capitalist and colonial design and functions, are not working and not serving the majority.

If we take a big picture perspective of the genocide that is currently taking place in the Middle East or the famine in Sudan or any other places of death and destruction that are currently being created by this system across the globe, we can start to see how a violent system that thrives off the death and extraction of our lands and waters is also thriving off the death and destruction of our human brothers and sisters and our more than human kin.

It's clear that we cannot remove violence with a system that is inherently violent. We cannot create equality when we rely on a system of hierarchical power and top-down functions, we cannot protect our Country, our waters and this one beautiful planet that we have been gifted until we start seeing it as a living being and not an object to be abused and used for our own individual benefit.

It is clear that individualist ways are becoming outdated and that collective creations are the way of the future, bringing the old way into the new paradigm.

It is also becoming clearer and clearer how connected we are, even when we look at green energy and the renewable movement, it's clear to see how the impact of our consumptive societies are affecting other countries, communities and ecology. Every time you buy a



Ella Noah Bancroft

fast-fashion item you are investing in child labour, water poisoning and plastic pollution. Every time you consume from a large corporation you give them power to keep us all enslaved.

It's important in 2024 to stay curious and ask questions. Like I am all for fossil fuel reduction, but I do question whether battery powered energy is the answer, as my curious nature has led me to truly understand it. The battery powered energy or renewable energy as they call it is contributing to the destruction of communities and the planet.

I believe it's the next big mining boom. In order to create batteries they have to mine precious minerals from our mother earth which include lithium, nickel, cobalt, manganese, palladium, and others. The dirty secret of the renewable energy is its insatiable hunger for resources from Africa and elsewhere that are produced using some of the world's dirtiest technologies and using child labour and black bodies to get those resources.

It is clear that trying to maintain this society of mass consumption is the issue, we are not in balance. It's clear to me that coming together in community to share more would



Mining often leaves a legacy of destruction.

also elevate the consumption epidemic as we move into more ways of sharing and caring for each other.

These western neo-liberal capitalist democracies applaud greed; we see accumulation of wealth as successful rather than greedy.

Greed has taken over and now there is so much greed in this country that my generation cannot find a home, there is so much greed that we refuse to consume less to impact the lives of others who are facing genocide or starvation.

The truth is this system is violent and ongoing global violence, climate disasters, population displacement, and the attempted destruction of knowledge systems are all bi-products of this colonial capitalist system and I think we need out.

It becomes ever-present that the systems of oppressive

violence in which corporate greed holds all the power are outdated and not a world that my generation or those who come after me want to live in.

Many of us have been writing letters to our politicians and signing petitions in support of a ceasefire in the Middle East, with the intention to save women and children and create a world where all families should be safe from bombs. Many of us are told that the climate issue is our fault but it's not, it's corporations who are pulling the machine and destroying people and the planet.

For we have to see this system for what it is and the truth is that the capitalist and colonial foundations of this system are imbued in being anti-nature, anti-woman, anti-child and anti-Indigenous. It's no wonder that the world and our women and children are crying

out. So how can we make real change? It starts first with building knowledge about which corporations to avoid, then we activate by joining the global boycott of brands that do bad and divest your money, by buying local and giving your money to organisations that are doing good in the world. Arming ourselves with knowledge about the companies we support when we buy from them is empowering. We can cancel subscriptions, buy food somewhere else and use social media groups to find holiday houses rather than big corporates. Together we can choose how we divest our money and make those at the top a whole lot less powerful, helping to support all of our kin who are in war currently. Please do the research to find out where your money really goes.

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Wearing culture on the field

By ALF WILSON



PROUD Aboriginal artist Bradley Michael has designed an Indigenous jersey to be worn by the North Queensland Cowboys during the NRL Deadly Choices round.

Bradley was raised by a Balnggarrawarra father and a mother from the Nugal Clan of the Guugu Yimithirr speaking people and his design embodies a rich cultural heritage deeply rooted in his Indigenous background.

Entitled Nhinhinhi Gurra Bamawi Guugu (how the giant Nhinhinhi fish changed the languages), the jersey will be worn by the Cowboys when they meet the West Tigers on May 24 at Townsville's Queensland Country Bank Stadium.

Bradley is a NRL Cowboys House staff member and the jersey was unveiled at a function in late March.

The Indigenous jersey design tells of a traditional tale from the Cooktown and Hopevale region of Far North Queensland and inspiring a unique collaboration.

The design and its story carry significant meaning, including values of respecting and learning people's culture, community, family and values.

His design tells the creation story of Nhinhinhi, a great giant Queensland Groper, in a traditional story passed down to him by his grandfather, Tulo Gordon.

"The story place on our Country – there



Wearing the jersey in front of the Toyota Coaster are Jamal Shibasaki, artist Bradley Michael and Kaiden Lahrs.

are hundreds of cars that pass by the area each day, but most people would not know that the story existed or was about this area. My grandfather's connection to the story is because it was from his traditional homeland and my grandfather was a storyteller. This story was passed down to him from his Elders and then from him to my mum and us. I believe it is important for my generation and the ones to follow to

know this story and be able to identify the area the story comes from," Bradley said.

At the official launch were Cowboys players Kaiden Lahrs and Jamal Shibasaki and along with Bradley were the first to wear the design alongside an eye-catching inclusion in this year's Cowboys Indigenous range, the 'Nhinhinhi'-inspired Toyota Coaster.

The 22-seat Coaster, donated by

Toyota, provides essential daily transportation for NRL Cowboys House boarding students and now features the striking design artwork.

Toyota Australia Chief Marketing Officer Vin Naidoo said Toyota's support underscores their commitment to supporting and inspiring communities across Australia through the power of diversity, inclusion, unity and pride.

"The Toyota-donated Coaster will not only assist with the transportation of boarding students but will make education and training more accessible to young First Nations communities, creating a lasting positive impact for years to come," he said.

Cowboys Chief Community and Government Relations Officer Fiona Pelling said the club's embrace of the Nhinhinhi design showed a unified connection to recognising and honouring the contribution of Indigenous people to the community and rugby league across North Queensland.

"The Cooktown and Hopevale area is such a beautiful part of Far North Queensland and we're proud to wear and carry this traditional story from the region in 2024. We have a long history of hosting boarding students from Cooktown and Hopevale at NRL Cowboys House while our school community programs including Try for 5! are delivered to communities throughout that area. We're proud to have continually provided artists across North Queensland with a platform to showcase their art," Fiona said.



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Hip-hop duo's star on the rise

By NICK PATON



HAVING just returned home from their first international performance at the renowned SXSW (South by Southwest) festival in the USA, rising Boorloo / Perth-based hip-hop stars FLEWNT and his 11-year-old son INKABEE are showing no signs of slowing down anytime soon.

Next up is the Sydney Opera House.

It's there that the West Coast's freshest father and son MCs will take to the stage to land their Vivid LIVE debut alongside rap star Tasman Keith for a massive show in June.

"We are both just absolutely spinning out about our upcoming show at the Sydney Opera House," FLEWNT told the *Koori Mail*.

Crazy!

"And because we've both been so busy working, everything has happened so fast, and all of a sudden it's just around the corner – it's crazy!"

"This is the Opera House!" INKABEE said.

"When people think about Australia, the first thing that comes to mind is the Sydney Harbour Bridge and the Opera House – and we're playing it!"

FLEWNT and INKABEE were invited over to perform at SXSW

in Austin, Texas last month after their appearance at the SXSW last year in Sydney.

"Which for us was a series of just incredible moments" FLEWNT said.

"That performance in Sydney really set the foundation for me and INKABEE to head over to Texas for the big SXSW festival which saw us showcasing our culture and talent on an international stage, which is just insane," he said.

Texas

SXSW takes place in Austin, Texas, each year in March. The annual event began in 1987 and continues to grow in both scope and size every year.

The event features sessions, music and comedy showcases, film and television screenings, world-class exhibitions, professional development and networking opportunities, tech competitions, awards ceremonies, conferences and much more.

Last year, for the first time in its history, SXSW established itself in Sydney. As the gateway to the Asia Pacific, SXSW Sydney brings together creators from across the region and the world to converge again this October.

Not only was this their first time on the international stage, it was also the first time the pair



FLEWNT and his 11-year-old son INKABEE. Pictures: Sounds Australia.

have flown overseas.

"We've never been outside the country before because we've only ever had to travel interstate to perform," FLEWNT said.

"So it's just massive, massive steps, really quickly."

INKABEE said to go on an international trip is a dream come true.

"When I first found out we

that with all different types of cultures that were over at SXSW attending the festival from the countries all over the world where they were from also."

"Looking back, it's just mind blowing to think that we were there in the USA, but it really does show the power of our old people, and our way of life as Aboriginal people, and that shows a real strength and power."

For INKABEE, performing with his dad is something he says is 'really special'.

"I get to connect with my dad in ways that some other kids don't get to connect with their

dad, and that's through rap, and I'm just heaps grateful whenever I get to be up there on the stage with him," he said.

Pride

"As a dad, it just fills me with pride, just to know that my boy is so passionate, and so creative and talented, and so hard-working when it comes to something that I think is life changing – which is the culture of hip hop, and rap - it's just such a powerful culture, and we can see it now in the way it can change people's lives for the better," FLEWNT said.

"Every time we hit the stage together, it kind of gives me a bit of a shock because we are achieving something so significant."

FLEWNT said INKABEE was born into the world of music, rap and hip hop.

"I had him when I was really young, and music was a big part of my journey growing up, especially through all the hardships we face as Blakfellas,

and music was there for me," FLEWNT said.

"He was there with me when I was young going through all of that, so he has kind of been moulded by it in the same way, and he has kind of just been immersed in music since he was born, within the culture of hip hop, because I was using hip hop as therapy, you know, as my tool to spread my own message," he said.

"So it was really natural progression for INKABEE when he was ready to pick up the mic!"

INKABEE is a sacred Central Desert name given to him by his grandfather when he was born.

He wrote his first rap song when he was seven-years-old alongside his dad which is about him being a big brother to his little sisters and about his mum having to take care of him.

Debut single

FLEWNT and INKABEE then worked together on INKABEE's 2022 debut single, 'Beat the Odds'.

"Dad had already laid down a couple of beats, but he didn't have any words to go along with the beats, so I started to sing all these melodies on it, and then we started to fully write the song," INKABEE said.

"Yeah, it was more of just an experiment at the start," FLEWNT said.

"I was kind of stuck on the beats and then INKABEE had started to sort of sing along to it as well, and was rapping already, and so I knew he could rap, and while he was coming up with all of these different sorts of melodies for the beats, I knew he was just a natural and had a natural understanding of how to work on that sort of track," he said.

"And so anybody who became involved in the track, jumped on it and just believed in it, and it went off."

"Every time we hit the stage together, it kind of gives me a bit of a shock because we are achieving something so significant."

were going to Texas in the USA I was just like crazy excited, it was the best news I've ever heard," INKABEE said.

"It was a whole bunch of feelings, all at the same time, because I was feeling happy, and excited, but a little bit sad at the same time in a way, because I was going to have to leave my family and community for a while," he said.

Proud

"I just felt so proud to be over there representing my people on an international scale, and to show the world what I've got."

FLEWNT said a special part of heading overseas was sharing the stories of his culture through hip-hop.

"These are our old people's stories that have been a part of our culture for forever, you know, and it's that passing on of knowledge through storytelling, which is kind of what we do when we tell stories through hip-hop," he said.

"We got the chance to share



INKABEE in action.



NYFL and ANU execute the MoU at the Ngurin Centre in Ieramugadu (Roebourne), Western Australia. Left to right (back): NYFL Chairman Michael Woodley, NYFL Director Lyn Cheedy, NYFL Director Janelle Mowarin, NYFL CEO Sean-Paul Stephens, NYFL Director Angus Mack, NYFL Independent Director John Hender. Seated (left to right): ANU's Professor John Taylor, NYFL Director Ricky Smith, ANU's Professor Peter Yu, and NYFL Director Kevin Guinness.

Roebourne community is taking control of its data



THE Ngarluma and Yindjibarndi Foundation Ltd (NYFL) executed a Memorandum of Understanding last month with the

Australian National University (ANU) in Ieramugadu (Roebourne), in the remote Western Australia Pilbara region.

The MoU outlines how NYFL and ANU will collaborate on a project to enhance First Nations self-determination through data sovereignty.

Roebourne, which is known as 'Ieramugadu' in Ngarluma language, is approximately 1,500 km north of Perth, in the resource-rich Pilbara region. Despite being surrounded by billion-dollar resource projects; Roebourne Aboriginal people continue to suffer extreme social and economic disadvantage. Despite these challenges, Roebourne people continue to demonstrate resilience, strength, and fortitude. This strength is now focussed on data sovereignty rights.

Data rights

The Data Sovereignty movement is led by First Nations people across the globe and focuses on the rights of Indigenous people to govern the creation, collection, ownership, and application of their data. The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) details throughout its 46 Articles the rights Indigenous people have concerning Indigenous data.

Roebourne is often referred to as one of the most consulted and researched Aboriginal communities in Australia due to



NYFL's Bryce Mongoo, ANU's Professor John Taylor, NYFL Chairman Michael Woodley, ANU's Peter Yu, and NYFL CEO Sean-Paul Stephens at the 'Old Reserve' in Roebourne

its proximity to resource projects. ANU Professors Peter Yu and John Taylor this month travelled to Roebourne to meet with Ngarluma and Yindjibarndi leaders to refine the scope of the Ieramugadu data sovereignty project.

The project is aimed to empower Aboriginal people from Roebourne to access and manage data for their community. It is informed by Elders and the community and ensures that the data being collected remains in the hands of the community and is used for their purposes.

Global initiative

NYFL Chairman Michael Woodley said that data sovereignty is an important global initiative that can bring to light the information's affecting First Nations peoples and being in control of our data leads to better

informed decision making and productive delivery of services.

"We see from the United Nations and other international bodies that data sovereignty is an important right for First Nations people across the globe. The time of others measuring us, our lives, our wellbeing is over. It needs to be in the hands of our community," Mr Woodley said.

"Sadly, the story the data about Roebourne will tell, will likely be tragic. It will show the significant failures across our region, in terms of First Nations social and economic wellbeing. All the evidence shows that as wealth from the region grows, the wellbeing of at least two thirds of Aboriginal people is going backwards. In this day and age, this is not right," he said.

NYFL Chief Executive Sean-Paul Stephens said that the project between NYFL and ANU

aims to address the growing disparity between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people and communities in the Pilbara.

"Despite Roebourne being in the heart of the Pilbara region, a region that has an economic output of \$100 billion annually, the community continues to experience significant social and economic disadvantage. Elders and the community say enough is enough," Mr Stephens said.

"The economic output of the Pilbara is three times greater than the GDP of some countries. Yet much of the First Nations community is unable to meet basic needs. Our organisation is supporting Elders and families to put food on the table. To be able to travel for a funeral for a loved one. It is wildly unacceptable that these conditions persist when others are extracting such extreme wealth and prosperity from the Country," he said.

Indicators

"So, we need to measure the indicators that are important for the community, and we need to know how these are tracking over time. The NYFL Board have drafted the key indicators that are to be measured, which include mental health, employment, justice outcomes, and cultural wellbeing.

"The project between NYFL and ANU is aimed at upskilling local Aboriginal people to collect and manage data about their community. This is different from the current model whereby government and other sectors collect and hold data about Roebourne people. When data is collected and managed by First Nations people, it is more thorough, complete and can be

used to inform better decision-making by the community," Mr Stephens said.

Yawuru man and ANU Professor Peter Yu said that data is a powerful tool.

"Data in the hands of Aboriginal people is a powerful economic tool. The partnership between Ngarluma Yindjibarndi Foundation and ANU will provide an evidence base to negotiate better agreements from a position of strength. It will also assist to establish a level playing field at the negotiating table and for First Nations people to own their own risk working to secure the cultural, social and material wellbeing for their community" Professor Yu said

Wellbeing

Professor Taylor has worked with the Pilbara Aboriginal community over the past three decades and has written seminal reports on the social and economic wellbeing of the Pilbara Aboriginal community.

In 2016 he was invited by Traditional Owners to prepare a report on the wellbeing of the Pilbara Aboriginal community. The report showed that the wellbeing of over two thirds of the Aboriginal community in the Pilbara had gone backwards since 2005, despite the immense wealth being generated in the Pilbara.

On the new data project with NYFL, Professor Taylor said, "this local ability to access and control the data that sets the narrative for development is a vital underpinning of self-determination and the Roebourne Aboriginal community will be joining First Nations groups across the country who are beginning to assert this right."

Hearing the needs of aged care



Bernice Mitchell, Link-Up (Qld) CEO Pat Thompson and Tina Gibson.

BY CHRISTINE HOWES



LINK-UP (Qld) was one of several Brisbane hosts last week for a consultation that will form the basis of a proposal for a permanent First Nations Aged Care Commissioner as a result of the recent Royal Commission into Aged Care.

Interim Commissioner Andrea Kelly said it was important to hear the voices of the stolen generations as part of the aged care cohort.

Ms Kelly has been engaging with First Nations communities and stakeholders on the design and functions of a permanent role, as well as advocating for ongoing changes to meet the aged care needs of our older peoples.

"This is not about me talking to them, but genuinely listening to the barriers that people have when they're trying to access aged care services," she said.

"We know that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are really underrepresented in the aged care system.

"It's all about making sure that the services offered are culturally safe, trauma-aware informed, and also healing-informed."

More than 20 Link-Up (Qld) clients participated in the meeting and said it had been useful.

"I wanted to find out a little bit about the aged care system," public servant Bernice Mitchell said.

"And also, because it was a consultation process, it was to share the story about my father and to support the need to have cultural competency built into the reform, and that flow over into the design of facilities, and how we involve more Indigenous people in aged care."

Estelle Sandow said she wished she had more information a decade ago when her mum was still alive.

Brisbane Elders Council secretary Tiger Singh said aged care was a big issue in the community.

Ms Kelly said there were already some emerging issues.

"Some of the things are access, education, and that's two-ways, making sure people understand what they can access as they're eligible," she said.

"Language is a really big thing too, I'm not talking about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander language, but the language governments use when we're talking."

She said housing for a support workforce was also an issue.

"A lot of what I'm hearing is people want to stay on Country and they want to die on Country, so we have to have a system that enables and supports people to do that," she said.

"We've got to change the system, and my view is if we get it right for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, we get it right for all Australians."



Back row, l-r: Department of Health and Aged Care Queensland NT state manager Nicole Jarvis, the department's Queensland state office director Robert Zillman, and Dot Bardell. Front, l-r: Paul Sandow, Estelle Sandow and Lorna Spangen.



Left-to-right: Maggie Walsh, Interim Commissioner Andrea Kelly, Beverley Johnson, Adam Oakholl and Brisbane Council of Elders secretary Uncle Tiger Singh.



Defence gets new cultural designs



THE Australian Defence Force (ADF) is set to get a new look thanks to a new project that will allow Indigenous youth to design a new uniform.

The project is a collaboration between Australian Defence Apparel (ADA) and Indigenous Design Labs (IDL).

Stage one of the project will see IDL create modern and contemporary print artwork for uniforms.

Then an eight-week training program will see IDL youth collaborate with ADA designers to develop a new clothing range from concept to prototype and manufacturing.

The program is set to be a platform to connect Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities through clothing and art.

ADA chief executive Chris Dixon said the collaboration with the defence and manufacturing



IDL Indigenous youth work with designers to create new cultural designs for ADF uniforms.

sectors to craft new apparel is also about "driving positive change and fostering cultural appreciation within Australia's apparel manufacturing landscape".

"Through innovative design, community engagement, and

social responsibility, ADA and IDL are poised to set new standards for inclusive practices," he said.

"The initiative not only provides valuable paid creative work and mentorship opportunities for young First Nations people but also injects

and creates real-world opportunities for them to activate their creativity in the digital and creative design space."

IDL founder Leigh Harris said IDL's team of young creatives will focus on abstract and contemporary designs that reflect

a diverse representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.

"We view every opportunity as a chance to contribute to and expand upon the ongoing narrative of Indigenous design," Leigh said.

The project will also allow young people in regional areas to have a role in the process.

"This collaboration enables regional youth to access opportunities previously out of reach, breaking down barriers and paving the way for a brighter future," Leigh said.

The sizing collation and fitting for ADA team members will happen in mid-May, with final orders set for delivery to ADA headquarters by mid-August.

The launch event to celebrate this transformative collaboration will see the Indigenous youth creatives and mentors being flown down to Melbourne from Far North Queensland at the end of August 2024.

Cultural load recognised



A NEW allowance recognising the cultural work load borne by First Nations people has been created at Murdoch University.

Cultural load is the additional work borne by First Nations people in the workplace. It often goes with First Nations employees asked to provide cultural education and guidance to non-Indigenous colleagues.

To recognise this, Murdoch University has established a new allowance to support First Nations workers in the cultural contributions they make in the university community.

The Cultural Workload Allowance is a first for the Australian university sector and provides up to a \$8,944 per year to First Nations employees who are contributing cultural knowledge and perspectives beyond the scope of their role.

"I'm so proud that we're able to offer this," Pro Vice Chancellor First Nations Chanelle van den Berg said.

"Our First Nations staff are often sought out for cultural guidance and consultation in the course of their work, so it's only fair that they get recognised and compensated for the important contribution they make."

Vice Chancellor Professor Andrew Deeks said the new allowance was an important recognition of the critical role First Nations staff play in the Murdoch community.

"This new allowance simply seeks to formalise that recognition and set a precedent for how cultural load is considered within the workplace, especially in settings where there are few First Nations employees," Prof Deeks said.

Employees who undertake First Nations related work that is not a requirement of their role will be able to apply for the allowance to the Pro Vice Chancellor First Nations.

The University also provides an Indigenous language allowance to employees who are required to use an Indigenous language in the course of their employment.

"Our aim is to become the university of first choice for First Nations peoples, and a leader in embracing, promoting and benefiting from Indigenous Knowledges and cultural inclusivity," Dr van den Berg said.

"Recognising cultural load is one of the commitments we are making that shows we are on our way to achieving this goal."

Murdoch University has the highest representation of First Nations students in Western Australia.

Funding set to boost our career pathways



EDUCATION and career opportunities for First Nations students are set to get a boost as not-for-profit organisations, DeadlyScience and Aurora Education Foundation receive \$1 million in funding.

The organisations, which create education and career pathways were the recipients of new philanthropic funding from Salesforce Foundation's Salesforce Catalyst Fund.

The Salesforce Catalyst Fund is a global philanthropic fund dedicated to investing in organisations led by members of underrepresented minorities and serving underrepresented communities.

It aims to counter systemic racial inequities in philanthropic funding by redistributing the flow of money to underfunded groups including education and STEM programs and workforce development.

Deadlyscience

DeadlyScience provides STEM resources and programs to Indigenous students and will use the funds to provide additional educational support to Indigenous learners in remote communities.

DeadlyScience chief executive Corey

Tutt said "we work with over 800 schools and community organisations across Australia to give students access to vital STEM resources".

"With the reinvestment from Salesforce, we can move closer to our goal of inspiring more Indigenous students to study and pursue STEM subjects," he said.

Aurora Education Foundation

Aurora Education Foundation supports First Nations students as they navigate high school right through to the workforce, providing the necessary tools to help students achieve their goals.

Aurora Education Foundation chief executive Leila Smith said "our programs use education as a lever to enable Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to be whatever it is that they want to be, from Year 7, through to PhDs at Oxford and everything in between".

"We create a pipeline of programs so that Indigenous success happens by design and not by chance, and we're validating students who have high goals and big dreams," she said.

"The grant from Salesforce will help us to continue doing this work, through our mentoring, internship and post-graduate pathways into employment."

Indigenous-led childbirth is best according to research



INDIGENOUS women who receive care through an Indigenous-led model of maternity care are three times less likely to have their newborn removed by child protection services, according to new research. Conducted through the Institute for Urban Indigenous Health (IUIH), the research compares women who received standard maternity care to those who received an Indigenous-led model of care.

IUIH Birthing in Our Community (BiOC) service development manager Kristie Watego said the results show it is possible to reduce the number of Indigenous babies removed at birth through effective holistic co-designed services.

Out-of-home care

The research, which was published last month, comes on the back of similar data from the Australian Government's Closing the Gap 2023 Annual Report – which shows and increasing rate of over-representation of Indigenous children in out-of-home care in Australia.

"Existing maternity care models and child protection systems, lack preventative

measures and fail to prioritise family preservation," Ms Watego said.

"IUIH's Birthing in Our Community service is a holistic, Indigenous-led and governed, multi-agency partnership between Aboriginal community-controlled health services and hospitals in parts of southeast Queensland.

"It has already proven effective in improving health outcomes for Indigenous babies, reducing pre-term births by 38%, and significantly reducing related costs on the health system.

"Research now shows BiOC is also effective in improving family outcomes and reducing child protection intervention."

In 2021-22 in the southeast Queensland jurisdiction where this research took place, Indigenous babies accounted for 43% of infants in out-of-home care while only representing 9.7% of all infants.

The research

The research was conducted at IUIH's Salisbury BiOC Community Hub and Brisbane's Mater Mothers Hospital from 2013 to 2019.

During the study, 1,988 women who were pregnant with Indigenous babies were offered either standard care or the BiOC

service. In that time 944 women (960 babies) received BiOC care while 1,044 women (1048) babies received standard care.

Thirty-one women who received standard care had their babies removed by child protection services at birth, while only nine of the women who received BiOC care had their babies removed.

Ms Watego said the BiOC model of care offers a more holistic and culturally safe and supportive wrap-around service.

"We see women come earlier and more often during their pregnancy because we've built relationships and connection with them," she said.

"They feel comfortable and trust our staff, and that means they disclose challenges and then engage to strengthen themselves and their families.

"That's at odds with what you often see in standard services with women concerned about child protection services."

Break cycles of trauma

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Health Service Brisbane chief executive Renee Blackman said "pregnancy and childbirth provide an opportune time to

engage women and break cycles of trauma".

"Unfortunately, most strategies and funding are directed towards child removal at birth which is expensive and avoidable in many cases," Ms Blackman said.

The BiOC model is an example of what the Closing the Gap reforms were intended to deliver, significant impact through a strong community-controlled sector, transforming government organisations, shared decision-making, and shared access to better data in collaboration with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and organisations.

IUIH chief executive Adrian Carson said the research is evidence of the success of community-controlled approaches. He said the Productivity Commission review of progress on the National Agreement on Closing the Gap highlighted the lack of meaningful change in many areas.

"Particularly that governments had failed to enable self-determination through sharing of power, and need to recognise that the community-controlled sector can achieve better results," he said.

"It's time for action, and funding, to follow the evidence," Mr Carson said.

Footy legend tackles youth mental health with honesty and respect

By ALF WILSON



FORMER NRL star Joel Thompson had a message for the many youngsters from Bamaga and

Thursday Island (Waiben) during his trip: "to believe in yourselves and chase your dreams".

Joel spent five days at the Northern Peninsula Area State College (NPA), Bamaga campus, and Waiben as part of an NRL 'State of Mind' training program and conducted clinics and spoke to primary and high-school students.

The State of Mind program is an initiative that aims to increase mental health literacy, reduce the stigma around mental

illness, and facilitate positive conversations within communities.

The program focuses on promoting mental well-being, fostering understanding, and encouraging open dialogue about mental health issues.

"If they go away for football they can suffer from home sickness and if that occurs they have to seek advice on their mental health and well-being. What was also positive was that I saw so many smiles and much enthusiasm," Joel told the *Koori Mail*.

Joel said that talented young footballers and those having to leave for work with unlimited potential often found it difficult to leave their communities when the opportunity arose to



Students at NPA College at Bamaga who participated in the State of Mind training program with Joel Thompson.

move away.

Now retired at age 35, Joel was in the top bracket of NRL footballers and played 237 matches for the Canberra Raiders, St George Dragons and Manly Sea Eagles between 2008 and 2020.

In 2021, Joel played 19 matches for St Helen's in the English Superleague, the climax of a magnificent career.

Joel also lined up seven times for the Indigenous Allstars and still has a run at Allblacks carnivals, including being a member of the Walgett side

which defeated the Michael Purcell memorial team in the recent Koori versus Murri Interstate Challenge.

Joel said his Bamaga-based teammate for Walgett, Windsor Bowie who won man of the match, was a great example of a big success.

"Windsor is so skilful and awesome," Joel said.

Windsor Bowie lives at Bamaga and works at Weipa on Cape York.

Now employed outside of football by Yakka Training and based on the Gold Coast, Joel

has great knowledge and can offer advice about careers as well as sporting pathways for youngsters. The trip to the NPA and Waiben was his first and Joel said he fell in love with the area.

"I didn't get to go fishing but hope to get back up there soon to do some," Joel said.

Joel also would love to travel to Badu for an Island of Origin series.

"I really enjoyed my trip up there and was so impressed with the talent and potential they have," he said.



Joel Thompson with students.



Professor Cindy Shannon.



Matthew Cooke.



Renee Williams.

Our leaders take top health roles



THREE First Nations health leaders have been appointed as chairs to Queensland hospital and health service boards.

Bailai man and Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Council (QAIHC) chair Matthew Cooke (37) has been appointed as chair of the Central Queensland Hospital and Health Service Board.

QAIHC member and Torres Health Indigenous Corporation chief executive Renee Williams has been appointed as the chair for the Torres and Cape Hospital and Health Service Board.

Ngugi woman and advisor in Indigenous health Professor Cindy Shannon, was appointed

as chair of the Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service Board.

QAIHC acting chief executive Paula Arnol said "Mr Cooke, Ms Williams and Professor Shannon are exceptional leaders who are dedicated to improving the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Queensland".

"This is another step forward for health equity in Queensland," she said. "With their background in Indigenous health, they will provide a strong voice for their people and will be influential in shaping health policy focused on closing the health gap between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and other Queenslanders.

"We are looking forward to working with them on delivering health solutions that are

comprehensive, culturally safe and accessible to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of all ages, needs and abilities across Queensland."

Matthew Cooke

Mr Cooke is currently the chief executive of Nhulundu Health Service, the Aboriginal and Islander community-controlled health service in Gladstone. He is also executive chair for the First Nations Bailai, Gurang, Gooreng Gooreng, Taribelang Bunda People Aboriginal Corporation and is the former chair of the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO).

He has more than 18 years of experience in executive roles.

Central Queensland Hospital and Health Service is responsible

for the direct management of facilities including Biloela Hospital, Capricorn Coast Hospital, Emerald Hospital, Gladstone Hospital and Rockhampton Hospital.

Renee Williams

Renee Williams has paternal linkages to the Bindal and Juru and maternal linkages to Wakka Wakka and Mer and Erub Islands. She was previously the general manager – policy and research for QAIHC.

Ms Williams has also worked as the consulting chief executive of Boorndawan Aboriginal Health Service in Victoria, and has worked for VACCHO, NACCHO and Apunipima Cape York Health Council.

Torres and Cape Hospital and Health Service is responsible for

the direct management of facilities including Weipa Integrated Health Service, Thursday Island Hospital, Bamaga Hospital and Cooktown Multipurpose Health Service.

Professor Cindy Shannon

Prof Shannon helped establish the Institute for Urban Indigenous Health (IUIH), which is a QAIHC Regional Member. She is Deputy Vice Chancellor (Indigenous, Diversity and Inclusion) at Griffith University and an Emeritus Professor with the University of Queensland.

Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service is responsible for the management of facilities including Gold Coast University Hospital and Robina Hospital.

RivMed is back to care



NOW that its accreditation has been reinstated, Riverina Medical and Dental Aboriginal Corporation (RivMed) is once again providing culturally-safe Out of Home Care services.

Operating in the Wagga Wagga region of New South Wales, RivMed's accreditation faced a temporary deferral in 2022.

At the time of deferral, 54 children were in care with their carers being supported by RivMed's case management and support teams. As a result, these cases were carefully transitioned to other organisations.

The deferral happened after shortcomings were identified in operational policies and procedures. This led to intervention and assistance from the Office of the Children's Guardian (OCG), the Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) and AbSec, the peak organisation for Aboriginal children and families in NSW.

Working with OCG, DCJ and AbSec, RivMed created a plan to address the identified issues and implement actions that focus on providing culturally safe and positive environments for vulnerable children in care. They also facilitate connections with family and kinship structures and ensure a strong sense of identity within the Aboriginal community.

RivMed's chief executive Peta Larsen said the corporation has been granted full accreditation for three years without restrictions on the number of children in care, or the complexity of their needs.

"RivMed is accredited as a designated agency under the provisions in Schedule 3A to the Children's Guardian Act 2019," Ms

Larsen said.

"We are now actively working with non-Aboriginal government organisations to transition Aboriginal children and cases to our dedicated team of First Nations staff, skilled in delivering effective foster care case management and support services.

"Through our model of care, Aboriginal children and their carers will receive culturally appropriate support with access to culture and community to help develop children's positive self-identity, encourage healing, and maintain a sense of belonging. Especially for those who have been disconnected from their immediate family."

In his notice of accreditation letter, NSW Children's Guardian Mr Stephen Kinmond said "given the improvement in systems and practice demonstrated by RivMed, I have removed the additional conditions previously imposed on RivMed".

"This includes the condition requiring RivMed to engage an external consultant with reportable conduct expertise and the condition limiting the number of children and young people to whom RivMed may provide statutory out-of-home care services to," he said.

"I have informed the Department of Communities and Justice that there are no longer any restrictions imposed by my office on the number of children and young people who may be placed with RivMed."

Since regaining its accreditation, RivMed has furthered its holistic Out of Home Care model by introducing cultural support plans.

These are designed to preserve cultural heritage and identity, ensuring that no child loses touch with their culture or community.



RivMed Out of Home Care Team, back row: Peta Larsen, CEO; Nathan Wells, case manager. Front row: Cherie Vaughan, program manager; Chantelle Little, case manager; Susan Colley, foster care recruitment and support; Penny Kay, principal officer.

"This accomplishment is a testament to RivMed's dedication to delivering positive outcomes for the Wagga Wagga Aboriginal community," Ms Larsen said.

"We thank the Board for their resilience throughout the recent adversity, and acknowledge the perseverance of the

operational team, especially their commitment to improvement and growth."

As a designated agency, information about RivMed's accreditation status is published on the Office of the Children's Guardian's website and accessible to the public.

Wanda's commitment sets the tone for the fair in 2024



THE small, hardworking team at Cairns Indigenous Art Fair (CIAF) paused preparations earlier this month to recognise office manager, Wanda Weatherall for 14 years of service to Queensland's exemplary showcase of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art and culture.

A Mbabaram* woman, Ms Weatherall commenced her role with CIAF in 2010, just one year following its establishment by the Queensland Government in 2009 and 10 years since its transition to independent status as a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee and governed by an Indigenous-led board of directors.

CIAF's Artistic Director Francoise Lane praised Ms Weatherall for her commitment to CIAF and extended service.

"Wanda is the heart and soul of our CIAF team, and we are all looking forward to celebrating her achievements," Ms Lane said.

Ms Weatherall officially started with CIAF as an administration officer in March 2010 – almost a year after the inaugural event was held at Tanks Arts Centre in 2009.

Even after all this time, Ms Weatherall said the thing she loves most about her job is witnessing the annual arrival of fresh new artworks in various mediums from all corners of Queensland.

"I also love CIAF for catching up with family and friends that I haven't seen for a while and welcoming back our regular guests and first-time visitors," Ms Weatherall said.

A proud Indigenous woman, Ms Weatherall holds an Associate Diploma of Arts (A&TSI Cultural Arts) and worked for seven years within the retail arm of an Indigenous tourism organisation before joining CIAF.

*Mbabaram – First Nations rainforest peoples from Atherton



Wanda Weatherall was recognised by the team at Cairns Indigenous Art Fair for 14 years of service to the organisation. Pictures: supplied by CIAF

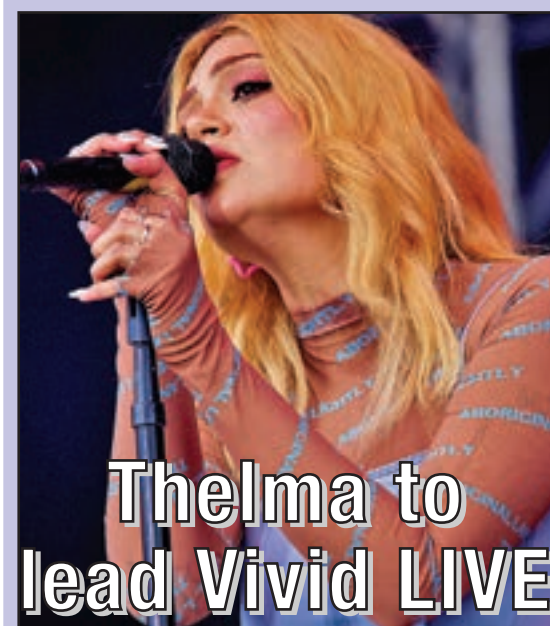
Tablelands.

Art Fair program to be announced

CIAF will celebrate its 15th anniversary this year, with the fair showcasing its largest and most

culturally immersive program to be announced next week.

CIAF will be held from July 25 to 28 at the Cairns Convention Centre and various arts and cultural precincts and galleries throughout Cairns. Visit ciaf.com.au for more.



Thelma to lead Vivid LIVE



IN just over a decade, Meanjin-born singer-songwriter and Gamilaraay woman Thelma Plum has become one of the country's most beloved singer-songwriters, racking up a string of awards and hit records, and blowing away

audiences with her powerful live performances. After her triumphant set with Paul Kelly at the Sydney Opera House in 2022, the Indigenous star returns to Vivid LIVE, performing her first ever headline show for the festival at the Joan Sutherland Theatre.

A gifted singer, songwriter and guitarist, Plum won Triple J's inaugural National Indigenous Unearthed Music award in 2012, when she was barely out of high school.

She followed it up with the EPs *Rosie* (2013) and *Monsters* (2014), before her debut album, *Better in Black* (2019), launched her into fully-fledged national stardom.

The hard-hitting, emotionally honest collection included contributions from no less than Paul McCartney and Paul Kelly. A top-five record, it yielded a number of ARIA nominations and gold and platinum singles including *Homecoming Queen*, *Clumsy Love* and the top-10 Hottest 100 title track, which sparked national conversations around race and Indigenous representation.

Plum's 2022 EP *Meanjin*, a love-letter to her hometown which featured the hit *Backseat of My Mind* won Album of the Year at the National Indigenous Music Awards while her 2023 single *We Don't Talk About It* – her first new music in more than 12 months – returned her to the Hottest 100.

Thelma Plum is the headline act at Vivid LIVE 2024 which runs May 24 - June 15.

Plum performs for one night only, May 20, at the Joan Sutherland Theatre, Sydney Opera House.

For information and tickets visit sydneyoperahouse.com/vivid-live/thelma-plum

APY Art centre watchdog claims evidence received



THE watchdog for Aboriginal corporations claims it has just received evidence regarding the APY Art Centre Collective, almost four months after it was asked to investigate the group.

The art centre has strongly refuted allegations that non-Indigenous art workers interfered with paintings by Aboriginal artists, first reported in *The Australian* newspaper in 2023.

The centre works with artists from the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) Lands that spread across the northern part of South Australia.

The allegations dented gallery sales for months and sent shockwaves through the

Aboriginal art industry, which is crucial for the livelihoods of many artists living in remote communities.

A South Australian government-appointed panel was one of several probes into the centre, but after speaking to more than 200 people, it wrapped up in December without returning any findings.

Instead, it referred the arts centre to two more powerful bodies, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) as well as the Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations (ORIC) for potential further investigation.

Since then, ORIC says it has asked the SA review panel three times to provide information and evidence to support its referral, with the first material received

on Friday.

While ORIC can conduct its own investigations, it says it would normally expect information and evidence to accompany a referral.

The independent statutory body has previously been accused of being reluctant to investigate the arts centre.

ORIC will assess the referral and determine whether there may have been potential breaches of the law that should be dealt with, it said.

"This includes factors such as the impact of the alleged wrongdoing, likelihood of successful prosecution and the likely cost of investigating compared with the likely effectiveness or outcome of other regulatory interventions," ORIC said

in a statement to AAP.

Even if it does receive sufficient evidence to warrant further investigation, any probe by ORIC could not decide on interference allegations. It's role is to ensure Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander bodies comply with governance rules and corporations law.

The ACCC said it is continuing to consider its referral and cannot comment on any potential investigations.

South Australian Arts Minister Andrea Michaels said it was her understanding that the state's investigative panel had provided information to both ORIC and the ACCC.

The APY Arts Centre Collective and Northern Territory governments have also been contacted for comment. – with AAP

Artist paints again after firey crash destroys priceless art



TIWI artist Kaye Brown had prepared a significant collection of new works for the

Adelaide Biennial, only to lose the lot in a firey truck crash just weeks before the exhibition opening.

Her seven large flat bark paintings (purrungupari) and two carved ironwood poles (tutini) were on the long journey from Melville Island to the Art Gallery of South Australia via Queensland, when they were destroyed in the crash in late January.

When she found out what happened, Brown was devastated and months later she is trying to move on.

"I felt heartbroken and really down but I got all that behind me now and continue on my path," the artist and senior Tiwi culture woman told AAP.

Jilamara studio co-ordinator Will Heathcote said the destroyed works are priceless and can't be replaced, yet months later the artist and arts centre are waiting on an insurance payout.

The Art Gallery of South Australia declined to comment on the insurer and the claim being made on behalf of the artist.

Brown, who began painting in 2012, spends hours each day creating work at Jilamara Arts in the community of Milikapiti on the Tiwi Islands north of Darwin.

She quickly gained recognition as a leading Jilamara artist with her work being collected by major galleries, and has twice been a finalist in the prestigious Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards.

One of two dozen contemporary artists selected to show at the biennial, her collection was titled *Yirrinkiripwoja*.

The reality for many First



Above: Artist Kaye Brown and others at an artists' camp at Goose Creek on at Melville Island in the Northern Territory. Pictures: AAP Image

Nations communities is that making art involves collective cultural knowledge and the work of many people, Heathcote explained.

The artist's brother Kenny Brown had collected and prepared the stringybark panels more than a year ahead of the exhibition, while fellow artist Patrick Freddy Puruntatameri

carved the poles before Kaye Brown added her ochre designs.

In the 2023 dry season, they held an artist camp on Country at Paluwiwanga (Goose Creek) in the remote eastern part of Melville Island before Brown travelled with her sister to Adelaide to view historical paintings by her forbears in the collection of the South

Australian Museum.

Brown has wondered whether her ancestors did not want her paintings to travel south to Adelaide and follow those artworks from a century ago.

When the arts centre and gallery found out Brown's valuable artworks had been destroyed, they swung into

action, acting quickly to borrow the museum paintings, and arrange last-minute loans of artwork from private collectors.

A film made on Country was prepared for display, and Brown's aunt Doriana Bush also remembered a song of sorrow that could tell the story of the lost paintings.

Returning to Adelaide in February and seeing her recent works at the biennial, along with her ancestors' rarely-seen artworks, was a satisfying moment for Brown despite everything.

"I was feeling proud of myself and the family that was there, they are feeling proud of me too," she said.

While losing the paintings was a great shame, Heathcote said the project had always been about a collective approach to making art and there was still a coming together to share story and culture.

Brown is now making similar paintings in an attempt to restore the lost artworks.

"I'm dealing with all the bark to remind me of all the paintings that got lost in the fire, so I try to bring all that back," she said.

* The 18th Adelaide Biennial of Australian Art: Inner Sanctum is showing at the Art Gallery of South Australia until June 2.

– AAP

Bangarra Dance Fellowship named to honour legend

David Page Music Fellowship program applications open now



AUSTRALIA'S leading Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander performing arts company Bangarra Dance Theatre is thrilled to announce that the 2024 David Page Music Fellowship program is open for applications until Wednesday, April 24.

Proud Munaldjali and Nunukal man, Roy David Page was Bangarra Dance Theatre's songman, composer and music director. His legacy lives on in perpetuity as the musical heartbeat of the company to which he dedicated so much of his life.

In 2024, there will be two Fellowships awarded in recognition of David's extraordinary life, his multi-talents, and his contribution across so many theatrical productions.

Inaugurated in 2017, the David Page Music Fellowship provides Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander composers/musicians early in their careers with paid opportunities to collaborate on various projects with the company.

The program offers emerging music/sound artists the opportunity to work in a professional, culturally respectful, and collaborative environment, guided by highly experienced mentors.

This is a paid Fellowship for which the Fellows are expected to spend at least four weeks at Bangarra's studios on Gadigal Country, in Sydney, throughout 2024.

During the Fellowship, recipients will enhance their creative, composition, and production skills by actively contributing to the creation of new scores for Bangarra Dance Theatre productions under the mentorship of acclaimed composers Steve Francis and Brendon Boney.

Bangarra Dance Theatre welcomes and actively encourages applications from dancers residing in regional and remote areas across Australia, whereby Fellows residing outside of Sydney will have their flights and accommodation covered by Bangarra.

For more about the Fellowship and how to apply visit: surveymonkey.com/r/DPMF24



David Page in 2016. Picture: Tiffany Parker, supplied by Bangarra Dance



First Nation soul/rap musician
Marlon Motlop.

New program putting emerging creatives on path to leadership



A NEW program for young emerging First Nations creatives has been announced by South Australia's largest multi-art form and cultural not-for-profit organisation for children and young people, Carclew.

The Emerging First Nations Creatives Program is set to kickstart the careers of four emerging creatives during an 18-month professional development program where they will participate in development sessions, hands on learning, and mentorship.

Unlike other development programs, Emerging First Nations Creatives is open to First Nations people of all backgrounds across SA, regardless of their artform or experience in the arts.

First Nations artists are some of the

leading contemporary Australian artists today, with the unprecedented demand nationally for First Nations artists, creative leaders and companies. The timely program is deeply connected to the national Cultural Policy Revive pillar of First Nations First and Carclew's guiding principle of First Nations respect. In this context, the program will create a safe space, provide paid development time and career support for the cultural leaders of tomorrow.

Funding is available for each creative to devise and deliver their own project, and as part of the program, the successful young artists will collaborate with their fellow creatives.

Following the initial development period, the creatives will be placed at various arts organisations fit to their

skills and interest to further their hands on experience in the creative industries.

Carclew has a long history of supporting First Nations programs and artists over the years including;

- Zaachariaha Fielding (part of Electric Fields going to Eurovision!)
- Jimblah – prominent Larrakia interdisciplinary artist

- Mali Isabel – visual artist and Adelaide Fringe poster winner 2022

Expressions of Interest are now open for First Nations people aged 18-30 who are interested in a creative career via carclew.com.au/program/emerging-first-nations-creatives/

The Emerging First Nations Creatives Program is presented in partnership with Arts South Australia and Creative Australia.

Earthy delights on show

Clay on Country is a new exhibition hosted by Cairns Art Gallery(CAG) showcasing a vast array of contemporary Aboriginal ceramics from the expanse of the mythologised 'Australian Outback'.

Given the strong contributions by coastal First Nations communities around Gimuy (Cairns), such as Yarrabah and Mossman Gorge, to 'ceramicism', CAG is a fitting temporary home for this exhibition – not to mention the region's contribution to pottery globally, the eternal legacy owing to the late, great Dr Thancoupie Gloria Fletcher James AO.

Adding to the gallery's already significant achievements in bringing to Gimuy a steady stream of important, nationally and internationally significant collections and exhibitions, *Clay on Country* — *Ceramics from the Central Desert* is curated by Jo Foster and Neridah Stockley and features thirty-two artists and over eighty works amounting to more than one-hundred pieces.

"Curating this exhibition was an opportunity to present to a national audience the breadth of

opinion



Jack Wilkie-Jans

practice coming out of the desert, from remote art centres to town-based studios. The desert region is energetic and diverse; this exhibition captures its beauty and unique edge", co-curator, Neridah Stockley told the *Koori Mail*.

The group show also presents weighty contributions by non-Indigenous artists who specialise in ceramics, while the First Nations' works present a unique and impressive survey of the styles and talents of ceramics forming this crucial movement in Indigenous art.

The exhibition celebrates the diversity of clay as a medium – moulded by the skilful hands and imaginations of artists who are masters – as well as the use of glazes.

All of the First Nations' works featured in *Clay on Country* draw inspiration from the richness and symbiosis of tradition, customary practice and spiritual understanding of place and lore. Some of these works are more obscure and abstract – pushing clay beyond tested earthy boundaries; others are colourful 'cuts' of portraiture, pattern-making on pots, and wall-hanging tiles; others reflect more earthen hues on broad vases – with all revealing the ingenuity of ceramicists



Artwork by Iltja Ntjarra Collaborative. Pictures: courtesy of the artist and Cairns Art Gallery.

from Central Desert.

Works which resonate with me the most are arresting, bold pots/vases by Angela Abbott, Anne Mosey and Kunmanara Carroll, and an installation of landscape wall hangings and miniature busts by the Iltja Ntjarra Collaborative.

There are also many First Nations' works which speak to the importance of the humble harvester and watanuma flying termites. Not only an important delicacy and nourishing food source, the termites across the Central Desert create clay pans, or putu, rather than the more familiar towering mounds. These putus (a Pitjantjatjara word) form an entrancing polka-dot pattern through tufted grasslands and are used as work platforms – namely, for the strong-armed separation of seed from chaff of native grasses, grains and wattles by the women. The putu also create clay.

This eclectic exhibition is spread about the lower floor of CAG's Lady Norman Gallery – it's a swimming sea of plinths

displaying the fine works, as well as some contextual installations and complementary pieces in other art forms. These works of hardened earth are girt by flush columns and wainscotted wooden floors. It's a tranquil space and gives the green-gilded tropics of Gimuy a glimpse into a landscape vastly different from where the gallery is situated – itself besides the glistening Coral Sea and rainforest mountain ranges.

Over later years of the gallery's 28 year history, the work to modernise its model and offerings within the region were realised under director, Andrea May Churcher. However, the growth from being a regional gallery to a destination institution is an often un-heralded success story of Gimuy's cultural capital.

Ms Churcher says some of her personal stand-out touring exhibitions to visit the gallery include the 99th Archibald Prize exhibition (CAG was the first venue outside of NSW/Vic to host the exhibition); *The Sidney Nolan Ned Kelly Series*; *John*

Mawurndjul: I am the old and the new; and, *Terminus virtual reality* by Jess Johnson and Simon Ward.

In forging bonds across First Nations communities and songlines of the tropical north, and with non-Indigenous artists also, *Clay on Country* continues to build and grow culture inscribed with tradition.

The exhibition is being toured by Artback NT, with support of Creative Australia and Visions of Australia.

Clay on Country — *Ceramics from the Central Desert* is on show at the Cairns Art Gallery (40 Abbott Street, Gimuy/Cairns) until May 26, 2024. Hurry!

Jack Wilkie-Jans is a Waanji, Teppathiggi and Tjungundji multidisciplinary artist, arts worker, writer, and arts policy theorist. Of dual Australian and British citizenship, Jack hails from Mapoon, Cape York Peninsula and is currently based in Gimuy/Cairns, Queensland.



Clay vessel by Kunmanara Carroll.

Writers festival celebrates unique First Nations stories



THE Brisbane Writers Festival returns in 2024, May 30 to June 2, with over 150 events for book lovers including a

curated program of First Nations-focused discussions, panels and workshops from page-turning authors.

Australia's traditional storytellers are set to share their culture and spark connections, with panels and conversations featuring First Nations authors including Daniel Browning, Jackie Huggins, Jane Harrison and Anita Heiss, with a keynote by Melissa Lucashenko at the 2024 First Word Opening Address, marking the official opening of the Brisbane Writers Festival.

First Nations curators Melanie Saward (Aboriginal) and Lenora Thaker (Torres Strait Islander) were tasked with putting together the series of sessions to complement and enhance the wider festival program.

Saward said that while making her curatorial decisions her mind was focused on Blak love and joy, she wanted the experience to be deadly.

"I've been fantasising about what the ideal festival would look like for a long time, and in my six sessions you'll see writers discuss their own festival fantasies, share love poems and talk about Aboriginal romance novels," she said.

"You'll hear about the

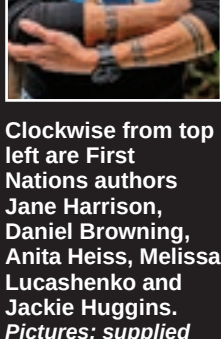
First Nations Cultural Curators



Torres Strait Islander curator, Lenora Thaker.



Aboriginal curator, Melanie Saward.



Clockwise from top left are First Nations authors Jane Harrison, Daniel Browning, Anita Heiss, Melissa Lucashenko and Jackie Huggins. Pictures: supplied

"All our storytelling is important, valid and worthy of discussion, but often Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander creatives are asked to perform our trauma for non-Indigenous audiences, and so I wanted to focus on all the things that make us deadly."

– Melanie Saward

healing properties of the arts, our hopes for our kids and from artists working to adapt their work across mediums."

The First Nations program also includes cultural storytelling workshops for young children, discussions based on Reflections on the Voice and Growing Up Torres Strait Islander in Australia, and a panel focusing on an anthology featuring works by First Nations writers from Australia and across the world.

Thaker said she hoped the sessions she had curated were able to show how the people of Zeneth Kes create and tell their stories.

"The common thread that weaves through the sessions is that our stories are unique, resonate with the spirit of ancestors, transform and come to life to teach, reflect, entertain and add to the richness of our shared human experience," she said.

Tickets are available now, with the program and more available at bwf.org.au

Artist call-out

Community Mural project (NSW)

Park Sydney Village, situated in Erskineville, Sydney, is inviting artists to submit expressions of interest (EOI) for the Community Mural project, planned for the shopping village, as solo artists or inclusive group submissions. Interested artists should email their contact details to Maryam Dirou at Design+Marketing (on behalf of Park Sydney Village) maryam@designmarketing.com.au by April 12 to receive an Expression of Interest pack for review, with all relevant details.

All In – Community Art Exhibition (TAS)

Devonport Regional Gallery (Tasmania) invites artists from North-West Tasmania to submit an artwork in their first-ever open community exhibition. All ages and skill levels welcomed – All In.

Prizes will be awarded for categories of Engaged: most thought-provoking; Boundary Breaker: most original; and Wow Factor (winners – \$100, runners-up – \$20).

Entries close: 29 April 2024

Exhibition runs May 17 - July 13

For more information and to enter (online entries only) visit paranapleartscentre.com.au/all-in-exhibition

Jacaranda Acquisitive Drawing Award - JADA 2024 (NSW)

Grafton Regional Gallery invites artists from across Australia to submit entries for Australia's richest regional drawing award, JADA 2024.

First Prize: \$35,000

Early Career Award: \$5,000

EOI close May 30

Submitted artworks will be shown in an exhibition which opens Friday, September 27, when the awards and prizes will be announced.

The Lester Prize - Main awards

Seven categories, with a total prize pool of \$115,000

Entries close June 7

For more information or to enter go to lesterprize.com/artists/submit-entry-2/

Sultan revisits *Blackbird* with symphonic power



TO celebrate the tenth anniversary of the release of his third studio album, *Blackbird*, Dan Sultan is preparing to perform songs from the album as well as hits from his impressive catalogue in a concert with the

Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, coinciding with NAIDOC week in July.

Sultan says he jumped at the opportunity to reunite with the MSO on this special anniversary, after headlining the orchestra's 2023 performance *One Song: The Music of Archie Roach*.

"I loved the experience of making *Blackbird*," he said.

"I spent two months in Nashville and worked with an incredible producer in Jacquire King and was able to take my band with me, Pete Marin and Josh Jones. We all had a wonderful time together and made something really special. It was a huge adventure and something I'll always cherish. To bring this

music to the MSO is a huge honour and a big challenge that I'm very excited about. I think we will make something very special once again."

Under Nyoongar conductor Aaron Wyatt, the MSO will perform Sultan's tracks, arranged for orchestra by MSO's 2022 Young Composer-in-Residence Alex Turley.

Original artwork from Sultan's long-time collaborator Jarra Karalinar Steel, commissioned by MSO, will adorn Melbourne Art Centre's Hamer Hall auditorium for the concert.

The esteemed singer-songwriter has also announced the release of a ten year anniversary vinyl pressing of his acclaimed album *Blackbird*, out April 26 via Liberation Records. For more visit Dan Sultan's website at dansultan.com/

Dan Sultan x MSO – NAIDOC Week Celebration is on at Hamer Hall, Arts Centre Melbourne, Southbank on Friday, July 12.

Tickets are on sale now and selling fast at mso.com.au



Dan Sultan, pictured performing at Jack Charles' state funeral, joins the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra in a concert in July. Tickets available now. Picture: Mick Harvey

Cultural discovery stands at the heart of exhibition



DISCOVER the world of Wagga Wagga artist Juanita McLauchlan in her new exhibition, *Standing at the Heart of Seven Generations*. This impressive showcase echoes the essence of the past while resonating profoundly with the present.

Juanita McLauchlan is a Gamilaraay woman living on Wiradjuri Country, Wagga Wagga. Drawing inspiration from her Aboriginal heritage, McLauchlan's exhibition offers a poignant reflection on the significance of lineage and the enduring legacy passed down through generations.

Through her masterful use of different mediums including collagraph and woodcut prints, soft sculpture, and woollen blankets, McLauchlan intricately weaves together stories, symbols, and traditions, inviting viewers on a journey of cultural discovery and introspection.

The exhibition's title, *Standing at the Heart of Seven Generations* holds a deep significance, serving as a reminder of the responsibility to honour the past, embrace the present, and pave the way for future generations.

"My work helps me to explore my identity, in my community and in my family," said Juanita.



Everywhen by Juanita McLauchlan.

"Everything I make is based in the understanding that my history, inheritances, loves and relationships are shaped by Country and by family circumstance".

Member for Wagga Wagga

Dr Joe McGirr is hosting the exhibition at Parliament House.

"I'm proud to be hosting Juanita's exhibition, bringing her work all the way from Wagga Wagga to NSW



Wagga Wagga artist Juanita McLauchlan has a new exhibition, *Standing at the Heart of Seven Generations*.

Parliament House.

"I encourage all who can to visit this show to experience Juanita's unique and intricate works which honour the richness of our past, the complexities of our present, and the aspirations for our future".

You can see *Standing at the Heart of Seven Generations* on weekdays between 9am and 5pm at NSW Parliament House (6 Macquarie Street, Sydney) until April 29 in the Fountain Court at NSW Parliament House. Entry is free.

Top line-up for Garrmalang



DARWIN'S major multi-arts event, Garrmalang Festival returns to the NT capital city in May. In its ninth year, the festival is led by a First Nations creative team under

Indigenous creative director Ben Graetz.

First Nations programming for the festival includes a world-first, the multi-awarded electronic music duo Electric Fields will join Darwin Symphony Orchestra for an evening exclusively for Garrmalang Festival 2024. Under the baton of DSO Resident Conductor Stephen Pevely, DSO will perform moving song cycles of Electric Fields' work arranged for the orchestra by Alex Hurley with supporting vocals by Belle Bangard, Alyson Joyce, and the Antara singers, Zaavan Fields, Sandra Pumani, Audrey Umala.

"I'm excited and honoured to be working on Garrmalang Festival this year as creative director," Graetz said. "Having been involved with the festival since 2014, I am so proud seeing the event grow and build over the years and support so many local and national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander performers, artists and community members."

Also on the program, NT Dance Company's *The Other Side of Me* will play for two nights on the back of a successful season last year, and festival favourite *Big Black Dot Comedy Spectacular*, hosted by Steven Oliver, returns to close out the festival on Saturday, May 25, with a special tribute to Warramungu warrior and original Deadly Darwin comedian Kumanjai Lewis.

The official gathering and welcome ceremony, Elders' morning tea, Blak Meeting Place (marketplace) and Our Songs – all free events – will continue in 2024 for all the family to attend.

Garrmalang will be staged at Darwin Entertainment Centre across four days from May 22-25.

Tickets are available now at www.yourcentre.com.au

Ethan paints as a homage



In the vibrant world of contemporary Indigenous art, Ethan James Kotiau stands as a unique voice with artworks that resonate with a profound elegance and unassuming power. As anticipation builds for

Ethan's inaugural solo exhibition at Kate Owen Gallery, the spotlight turns to the narratives woven into his captivating artworks. Ethan's exploration of identity, heritage and connection takes centre stage in this eagerly awaited showcase.

Ethan's artistic process transcends conventional boundaries, offering a glimpse into the depths of his creative spirit. His approach is characterised by fluidity and intuition, with each brushstroke serving as a channel for self-discovery and renewal.

Through his art, Ethan navigates the complexities of his Aboriginal heritage, reclaiming his identity as a source of resilience and pride.

At the heart of Ethan's oeuvre lies a profound reverence for his ancestral lands. Raised amidst the arid terrain of his great grandfather's Iningai Country in Central West Queensland, Ethan's artworks serve as a testament to the timeless beauty and wisdom of his homeland. His paintings capture the essence of Iningai spirit, from the tranquil riverbanks to the celestial expanse above.

One of the highlights of Ethan's exhibition is his new *Iningai – Marrangal* series, which pays homage to the great warrior and hunter spirit of his Ancestors. Oblong motifs within these paintings reference the nulla-nulla. The shimmering quality of the metallic paint is a reference to the great hunter who was said to be able to disappear with the light,

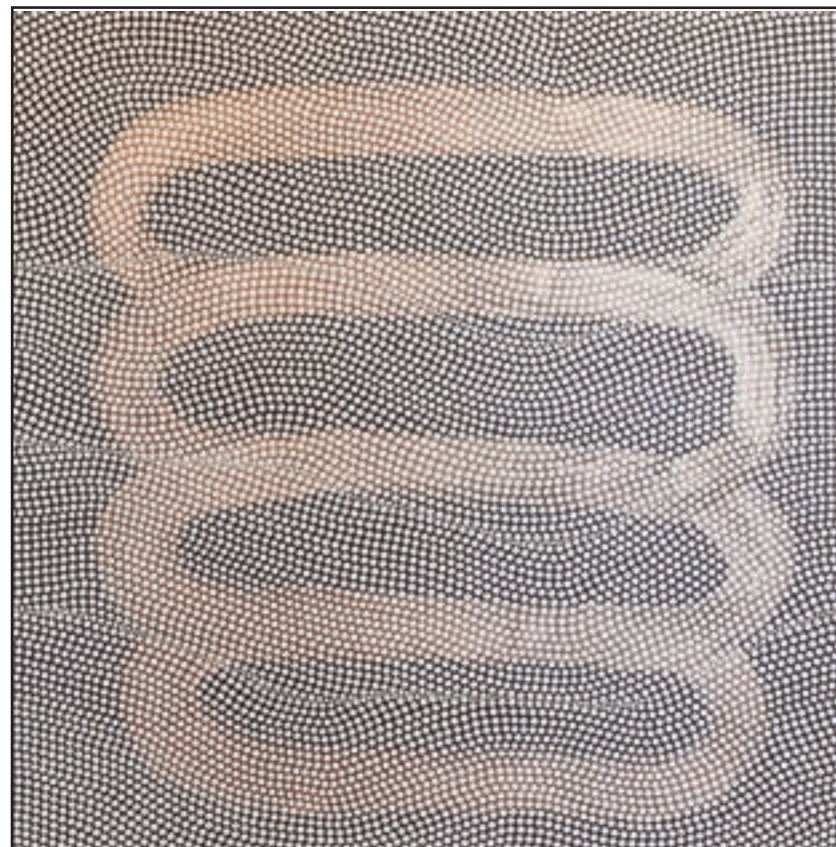


Ethan applies paint to the canvas.

but as Ethan explains "by the time you see the shimmer, it's too late – he's already got you."

From the tranquil landscapes of Iningai Country to the celestial wonders of the *Bindana and Bandara Mundu* series, Ethan's artworks are a testament to beauty of Indigenous heritage and offer hope, peace and inspiration to future generations.

Iningai - Ethan James Kotiau Solo Exhibition opens Saturday, April 13 at Kate Owen Gallery in Rozelle, and runs until May 12.



Iningai – Marrangal, acrylic on canvas by Ethan James Kotiau.

events listings

NEW SOUTH WALES

Biennale of Sydney 2024: Ten Thousand Suns
when: until Jun 10
where: venues in Sydney
info/bookings: biennaleofsydney.art/

4th National Indigenous Art Triennial

when: until May 19
where: Western Plains Cultural Centre, Dubbo
info/bookings: NGA exhibition on tour, for details visit nga.gov.au/exhibitions/national-indigenous-art-triennial-ceremony/

Iningai – Ethan James Kotiau Solo Exhibition
when: Apr 13 – May 12
where: Kate Owen Gallery, 680 Darling Street, Rozelle
info/bookings: kateowengallery.com

My Sovereign Black Body

A celebration of blackness by queer black artists, curated by Wamba Wamba man, Steven Lindsay Ross.
when: until Apr 13
where: Boomalli Gallery, Flood St Leichhardt
info/bookings: boomalli.com.au/

Cast in cast out

Display inspired by Dennis Golding
when: Mar 16 - Aug 4 and

Ngaya (I am)

This video installation explores the multiple identities of queer Ngarigo artist Peter Waples-Crowe, who was adopted and raised in the Illawarra region on the NSW South Coast and later reconnected with his Ngarigo heritage.
when: Mar 16 - Aug 25 and

Coomaditchie: The Art of Place

when: Mar 30 - Aug 25
where: Museum of Sydney, corner of Phillip and Bridge St, Sydney
info/bookings: mhns.wa.au/

VICTORIA

Watercolour Country: 100 Works from Hermannsburg
when: until Apr 14, 2024
where: The Ian Potter Centre, National Gallery of Victoria, Fed Square, Melbourne
info/bookings: ngv.vic.gov.au/exhibition/watercolour-country/

My Country Country Road and NGV First Nations Commissions

An exhibition of emerging Australian First Nations artists and designers paired with one of eight esteemed industry mentors.
when: until Aug 4
where: The Ian Potter Centre: NGV Australia, Fed Square
info/bookings:



SONGBIRD

Songbird hero image. Picture: Dana Weeks, supplied by Yirra Yaakin Theatre Company

An intimate tale from Yirra Yaakin



SONGBIRD, a play by Shakara Walley, is an intimate tale of heartbreak, forgiveness, shared memories and sweet melodies, presented by Yirra Yaakin Theatre Company at the Subiaco Arts Centre from April 19 to May 4.

Directed by Cezera Critti-Schnaars and featuring live music and original songs composed by Shakara Walley, *Songbird* examines the battle between forgiveness and sorrow.

“What inspired me to write *Songbird* was acting in *Up the Road* by John Harding,” says writer Shakara Walley.

“Looking at reconciliation, when one person wants to reconcile with the other and the past but the other doesn’t want anything to do with it.”

Songbird
when: Apr 19 - May 24
where: Subiaco Arts Centre, WA
info/bookings: *Songbird* is the first production in Yirra Yaakin's Season Pass – Three Show Package. For more and to book, visit yirrayaakin.com.au

ngv.vic.gov.au/exhibition/country-road-ngv-first-nations-commissions/

JSXH MVIR: Forever I Live

when: until Jul 14
where: Koorie Heritage Trust, Birrarung Building, Federation Square
info/bookings: koorieheritagetrust.com.au

QUEENSLAND

Clay on Country — Ceramics from the Central Desert

when: until May 26,
where: Cairns Art Gallery, Abbott Street, Gimuy/ Cairns
info/bookings: artbacknt.com.au/show/clay-on-country/

37

A play by Nathan Maynard Melbourne Theatre Company
when: Apr 11- May 4
where: Queensland Theatre, South Brisbane
info/bookings: A night with the artists: Monday, Apr 15, 6.30pm. For tickets and info visit queenslandtheatre.com.au/plays/37

Eastern Threads

An exhibition of Torres Strait Islander textiles, prints, and paintings from the City of Townsville Art Collection, curated by Gail Mabo.
when: until Apr 14
where: Perc Tucker Regional Gallery

info/bookings: whatson.townsville.qld.gov.au/events/eastern-threads-curated-by-gail-mabo

You and Me exhibition

UMI Arts member's annual group exhibition.
when: until May 10
where: UMI Arts gallery, Manoora, Cairns
info/bookings: allevents.in/org/umi-arts/1593000

How we remember tomorrow

when: until Jun 15
where: University of Queensland Art Museum, St Lucia, Brisbane
info/bookings: art-useum.uq.edu.au/how-we-remember-tomorrow

Seeds and Sovereignty

when: until Sep 8
where: Gallery of Modern Art and Gallery 3.5
info/bookings: free entry, blog.qagoma.qld.gov.au/qagoma-2024-program-announced/

Emma Donovan Songs, Stories and Soul from family and Country

when: May 2
where: Tank 5, Tanks Arts Centre, Cairns
info/bookings: tickets from tanksartscentre.com/

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

18th Adelaide Biennial of Australian Art: Inner Sanctum
when: until Jun 2
where: Art Gallery of

South Australia
info/bookings: Free entry, visit agsa.sa.gov.au/whats-on/exhibitions/

Waterhouse Natural Science Art Prize exhibition

Bringing together a rich and diverse survey of works that map the intersection of nature, science, and art.
when: Apr 12 - Jun 10
where: South Australian Museum, North Terrace, Adelaide
info/bookings: samuseum.sa.gov.au/c/waterhouse

NORTHERN TERRITORY

Parrtjima – a festival in light
when: April 12 - 21
where: Alice Springs
info/bookings: parrtjimaaustralia.com.au/

52 Actions

when: until June 2
where: Museum and Art Gallery Northern Territory, The Gardens, Darwin
info/bookings:

Ngaylu Nyanganyi Ngura Winki (I Can See All Those Places)

Luritja/Pintupi/Pitjantjatjara artist Kunmanara Carroll (1950 – 2021) based with Ernabella Arts at Pukatja in the APY Lands.
when: until May 12
where: Araluen Arts Centre, Cultural Precinct, Larapinta Dr, Araluen

info/bookings: araluenartscentre.nt.gov.au/

Mulga Bore Hard Rock – Rockin' the Red Earth tour

playing at Parrtjima
when: Apr 20, 3.30 - 10pm
where: The Gathering Ground, Parrtjima, Alice Springs
info/bookings: full tour dates available at mulgaborehardrock.com/

TASMANIA

Between Waves

Continues the Yalingwa exhibition series devoted to highlighting the significance of First Nations contemporary art practice of the southeast within a national context.
when: until May 4
where: Plimsoll Gallery, University of Tasmania
info/bookings: utas.edu.au/creative-arts-media/events/art-hobart/2024/march/between-waves

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

Belonging: Stories from Far North Queensland

when: until March, 2025
where: National Museum of Australia, Acton Peninsula, Canberra
info/bookings: nma.gov.au/exhibitions/belonging

Emily Kam Kngwarray
when: until April 28 2024
where: National Gallery of

Australia, Canberra
info/bookings: nga.gov.au/exhibitions/emily-kam-kngwarray/

Vincent Namatjira:

Australia in colour
when: until July 21
where: Level 1 galleries at the National Gallery of Australia (NGA), Canberra
info/bookings: free, booking recommended

Art Live at the Gallery

when: April 12, 6-9pm
where: National Gallery, Canberra
info/bookings: festival-style event is created exclusively for audiences aged 15-25, free entry, booking essential. Live music from 6pm, includes Mulga Bore Hard Rock (8.30pm). For info and bookings go to nga.gov.au/events/art-live/

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Meeyakba Shane Pickett: Six Seasons

Pickett is remembered as one of Western Australia's preeminent landscape artists and one of the foremost Nyoongar artists of his generation.
when: until Aug 25
where: WA Museum Boola Bardip, Perth Cultural Centre, Perth
info/bookings: go to visit.museum.wa.gov.au/boolabardip/meeyakba-shane-pickett-six-seasons

Jintulu: People of the Sun

when: until Apr 27
where: Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery, UWA, Crawley/Godroo
info/bookings: perthfestival.com.au/events/jintulu-people-of-the-sun/

Songbird

A play written by Shakara Walley and presented by Yirra Yaakin Theatre Co that tells an intimate tale of heartbreak, forgiveness, shared memories and sweet melodies.
when: Apr 23 - May 4
where: Subiaco Arts Centre
info/bookings: yirrayaakin.com.au/

NATIONAL

Jessica Mauboy: Yours Forever tour

when: until May 4
where: touring nationally
info/bookings: tickets selling fast with some venues sold out. For details visit jessicamauboy.com.au/

INTERNATIONAL

Blak Rainbow: The Art of Dylan Mooney

when: until May 2024
where: Australian Embassy Gallery, Paris, France
info/bookings: ngv.vic.gov.au/exhibition/blak-rainbow/

kith and kin

Archie Moore's work presented at the 60th International Art Exhibition – La Biennale di Venezia
when: Apr 20 – Nov 24
where: Australia Pavilion, 60th International Art Exhibition – La Biennale di Venezia
info/bookings: kithandkin.me

Employment

EXECUTIVE • PROFESSIONAL • POSITIONS VACANT



WA Minister for Training and Workforce Development Simone McGurk and Managing Director of NM TAFE Michelle Hoad with graduates of the Digital Workplace Job Ready program.

Train for the digital age



WESTERN Australians are being urged to take advantage of a free pre-employment pathway that guides them into administrative and customer service jobs quickly and effectively to help meet the state's workforce needs.

The Digital Workplace Job Ready program is one of 130 fee-free courses in 2024, made possible by the Cook government's partnership with the Albanese government.

Training and Workforce Development Minister Simone McGurk recently met with 11 Digital Workplace Job Ready participants who are graduating from a unique delivery of the program at North Metropolitan TAFE (NM TAFE).

The Digital Workplace Job Ready program is delivered at NM TAFE under the banner of its

Koomba Birdal (Big Spark) program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. Students are supported throughout their training by NM TAFE's Koolark Centre for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, and the NM TAFE Jobs and Skills Centre.

On completion of the course, students will be connected with opportunities to transition into employment. The program engages with employers, who have the opportunity to host a work placement student with the objective to transition into a traineeship.

Many of the recent graduates have secured a 12-month traineeship following their completion of the program, with Pacific Energy, MEGT, Waalitj Foundation and WesCEF among the employers taking on trainees from this cohort.

The Digital Workplace Job Ready program provides training in organising data and records,

producing documents and the use of different software applications. The program is designed to develop participants' confidence and ensure they are job ready for a wide range of business support roles.

Upskill or reskill

Job Ready programs ensure Western Australians – particularly Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, young people, people looking for work or receiving income support, unpaid carers, people with disability, and women facing economic insecurity – can access training and support to help them upskill or reskill for jobs in industries with a need for skilled workers.

To date, 32 per cent of Job Ready participants are women, 19 per cent are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people, and 27 per cent undertook the training in regional WA.

Registration for the program

occurs on the Jobs and Skills WA website at www.jobsandskills.wa.gov.au/pathways. Contact the Job Ready team on 6551 5049 or nearest Jobs and Skills Centre on 13 64 64.

WA Training Minister Simone McGurk said the program was designed to develop the digital skills of job seekers or career changers, preparing them for administration and customer service-based roles across a range of industries.

"The Digital Workplace Job Ready Program is a great opportunity to gain valuable entry-level skills and links with an employer to help you enter the digital workforce," she said.

"The Digital Workplace Job Ready Program was developed in response to workforce needs and responds to feedback from industry for short, sharp training as raised in the 2021 WA Skills Summit.

"The State Training Board and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry WA identified that employers in a range of industries were having difficulty filling administration, reception, and customer service roles.

"Congratulations to the newest graduates of the Digital Workplace Job Ready Program and best of luck with your traineeships.

"There has never been a better time to boost your confidence and enhance your digital skills through the free Digital Workplace Job Ready program, where you can learn valuable skills in a real workplace."

WA Aboriginal Affairs Minister Tony Buti said it was a fantastic initiative that was helping Aboriginal students get the skills they needed be part of the digital workforce and land jobs in administration and customer service.

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 and Torres Strait Islander Health Worker

Join cohealth at Parkville Youth Justice Precinct.

- Full-time role, \$40.55-\$44.70/hr + Super + Salary Packaging.
- Be part of a team dedicated to transforming health outcomes for Indigenous youth in custody.
- Enjoy benefits like salary packaging, generous parental leave, and a supportive, inclusive culture.

We're seeking someone with a passion for making a difference, possessing relevant experience and a deep understanding of Indigenous cultures. This role is a chance to impact young lives, offering holistic support and a pathway to better health.

This is an identified position, therefore only Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people are eligible to apply.

To find out more about the role and to apply go to:
<https://cohealthcareers.org.au/Current-Jobs>
& enter ref code: 6571130.



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER FULL-TIME (F/T Contract - 5 Days per week)

The Birrigan Gargle Local Aboriginal Land Council (BGLALC) is seeking applications for an Chief Executive Officer.

This position holder will provide management to assist and support the elected Board and work with the current Chief Executive Officer, to manage the day-to-day affairs of BGLALC, in accordance with NSW Aboriginal Land Rights Act and delegated authorities.

For applicants to be considered for an interview you will need to address the following in your application. Essential Criteria:

1. Understanding of Aboriginal community issues.
2. Demonstrated management experience which is relevant to the business of a Local Aboriginal Land Council.
3. Knowledge and understanding of the NSW Aboriginal Land Rights Act, and the capacity to interpret and implement legislation.
4. Excellent communication and engagement skills and experience.
5. Understanding of accounting practices and principles and reporting.
6. Understanding of social housing and property management.
7. Knowledge of Project management.
8. Knowledge of EEO and WHS issues.
9. A Current NSW Driver's License

All applicants must obtain a copy of the recruitment package and address the selection criteria to be considered for an interview.

For a recruitment package contact the BGLALC Chairperson, by email: ceo@birrigangargle.org.au

Pre-employment checks will form part of the application process and include NSW Working with Children check, and a National Criminal History Check.

For a confidential discussion on the role please contact Amanda Laurie on 0432595527.

Applications can be forwarded to ceo@birrigangargle.org.au or marked "Confidential" and posted to: The Chairperson Birrigan Gargle Local Aboriginal Land Council PO Box 62 Yamba NSW 2464.

Applications close 30th of April 2024.

Cultural Practice Advisor

Child and Family; Region – South West; Service Delivery – Child and Family

Department of Children, Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs

Salary: \$83,566 to \$91,633 p/a - \$3,203.10 to \$3,512.30 p/f

Location: Roma

REF: QLD/554954/24

Key Duties: Work within a multidisciplinary team, you will draw on your personal experience and knowledge of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander traditions and customs to provide high quality, culturally safe and appropriate child protection services to children, families and carers serviced by the Child Safety Service Centre.

Skills/Abilities: You will have a clear focus on the provision of culturally appropriate services and will use your own cultural expertise and knowledge to foster respectful relationships with communities and enhance positive relationships between children/young people and their families. You will share your cultural knowledge and contribute to growing the department's cultural capability.

Enquiries/Application Details: Vanessa Freeman – 07 4578 8300 – To apply please visit www.smartjobs.qld.gov.au

Closing Date: Friday, 19th April 2024



Queensland Government

M11978



An Australian Government Initiative

Where carers can
get support.

carergateway.gov.au
1800 422 737
Monday-Friday 8am-5pm
Emergency respite available 24/7



Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Suicide Prevention Manager

Wesley LifeForce Suicide Prevention Progra

- full-time position
- based in Sydney, NSW with frequent intrastate and interstate travel
- attractive salary packaging available
- Wesley Mission has determined that being Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander is a genuine occupational qualification for this position, under s14(d) of the Anti-Discrimination Act (NSW) 1977.

Wesley Mission have pioneered community led suicide prevention, intervention and postvention activities since establishing the first Lifeline service 59 years ago.

Wesley LifeForce's Suicide Prevention national team supports a network of volunteers to deliver interventions which address risk factors and social determinants of suicide across 132 communities around Australia.

This role is responsible to lead our program and work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities nationally. You will be a champion of culture, have experience or qualifications in Mental Health, Counselling or an appropriate field and have experience working in rural or remote communities.

For more information about the role, please visit <https://www.wesleymission.org.au/get-involved/careers/career-opportunities/>

Applications are to be sent to Isti.Kusmandini@wesleymission.org.au
by 17 April 2024, 4pm.



Queensland Government

M11932



Aboriginal Medical Liaison Nurse

- Utilise your medical and nursing expertise to provide support to the Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine
- A Fixed-Term, Part-Time opportunity to work with a high-performing and passionate team in the Victorian Public Service - hours negotiable
- Earn \$92,332 - \$104,762 plus super

This is an Aboriginal designated position, classified under 'special measures' of section 12 of the Equal Opportunity Act 2010. Only Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people are eligible to apply.

Coronial Admissions and Enquiries coordinates the activities related to the initial phase of the Coroner's investigation into deaths. These activities principally concern an assessment of the body and the gathering of information, much of which is medical in nature.

The **Aboriginal Medical Liaison Nurse** applies medical knowledge and quality case management to ensure streamlined coordination of a coronial death investigation, working to critical deadlines and managing difficult and complex situations in a calm and responsive manner.

Some of your duties will include:

- Evaluating health and medical information related to deceased person as part of the medical investigation
- Managing the initial stages of death investigations ensuring all communications and relevant information is accurately recorded
- Receiving reports of death and gathering information related to reported deaths.

As our ideal candidate, you will possess:

- Demonstrated knowledge and understanding of the Aboriginal community, both society and culture, and the ability to communicate sensitively and work effectively with the Victorian Aboriginal community
- Demonstrate post-graduate experience in an acute clinical setting
- Ability to participate in shiftwork on a seven day a week roster
- Current Nursing Registration (Registered Nurse) with APHRA

To apply, visit careers.vic.gov.au and search for Job ID FM0084.

For more information, contact Elise Doherty on 0396 844 444 or email elise.doherty@vifm.org

Applications close 4 April 2024

R40537

Case Support Worker (Identified)

Child and Family; Region – Brisbane and Moreton Bay;
Service Delivery – Child and Family

Department of Children, Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs

Salary: \$71,150 to \$78,951 p/a - \$2,727.20 to \$3,026.20 p/f

Location: South Brisbane

REF: QLD/554288/24

Key Duties: Regional Intake Services are responsible for receiving, recording and assessment of child protection concerns received from notifiers, regarding harm, or risk of harm to a child, or the risk to an unborn child after birth, in accordance with legislation, policy and practice. Key functions of intake staff in assessing child protection concerns includes engaging with notifiers, providing information about the role of Child Safety and local support services, engaging with families to offer support where appropriate and providing facilitated referrals to universal, specialist and secondary services to help meet the needs of families.

Skills/Abilities: TARGETED VACANCY - It is a genuine occupational requirement that this position be filled by an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person. One of the referees should be an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person who can attest to the applicant's background, knowledge, skills and experience as they relate to the cultural capabilities.

Key duties and responsibilities

The Case Support Worker's key responsibilities are to:

- Provide assistance to business unit staff to ensure service delivery is consistent with departmental policies and procedures and departmental objectives.
- Follow guidelines and implement processes in relation to records management, finance and other administrative and practice related policies and procedures.
- Provide culturally appropriate support to children, families and stakeholders including referral, provision of information, advocacy and consultation.
- Consult and liaise with relevant stakeholders (including families, community Generated: 20-03-2024 13:08:54 by mary-anne.knights@cyjma.qld.gov.au members and Elders) and service providers to support implementing and maintaining appropriate casework to achieve positive outcomes for children and families.
- Participate effectively as a team member and work collaboratively in a multidisciplinary team.
- Maintain accessible and clear case records consistent with departmental requirements.
- Collate information and use, update and monitor relevant databases to support the key functions of the business unit.
- Develop and maintain knowledge relevant to the role, and actively participate in appropriate learning and development processes.

Delegations - This role has no delegations.

Enquiries/Application Details: Mary-Anne Knights – 07 5433 6850 – To apply please visit www.smartjobs.qld.gov.au

Closing Date: Friday, 15th April 2024



Queensland Government

Call for applications for the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Council

The Minister for Treaty and First Peoples the Hon. Natalie Hutchins MP (Minister) is calling for applications from Victorian Traditional Owners to become members of the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Council.

What is the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Council?

The Council protects Aboriginal Cultural Heritage for the enjoyment and benefit of all Victorians.

The Council's principal functions are:

- advising the Minister for Treaty and First Peoples on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in Victoria
- making decisions about applications from Traditional Owners to become Registered Aboriginal Parties
- overseeing the reporting and return of Ancestral Remains and Secret or Sacred Objects
- promoting awareness and understanding of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage.

The Council was created under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*. The Act protects Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in Victoria, just as other forms of heritage are protected under Victorian law.

The Council is comprised entirely of Traditional Owners, in line with the principle of self-determination.

Expressions of Interest are sought to fill vacancies on the Council

The Minister is seeking Expressions of Interest from Aboriginal people who:

- are Victorian Traditional Owners
- live in Victoria
- have relevant experience and knowledge of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in Victoria.

Consideration will also be given to experience in governance and previous work under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*.

The Minister welcomes applicants from a diverse range of backgrounds and experiences, including people of different genders, people of all ages, people with disability, and LGBTIQ people.

Council members are expected to have adequate time to commit to Council. They are paid a sitting fee and are reimbursed for travel expenses in accordance with Victorian Government guidelines.

Please email your written Expression of Interest addressing the above criteria to: vahc@dpc.vic.gov.au

Alternatively, please post your written Expression of Interest addressing the above criteria to:

The Office of Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Council

Level 3, 3 Treasury Place

EAST MELBOURNE VIC 3002

Expressions of Interest must be received by 5pm on Monday 6 May 2024.

For further information, please contact the Office of the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Council.

E: vahc@dpc.vic.gov.au

T: 03 9922 7002

W: aboriginalheritagecouncil.vic.gov.au

Director, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Early Childhood Education and Care

- Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Identified role
- Increase the knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal cultures, ensuring every Aboriginal child is achieving their maximum potential
- Ongoing Public Service Senior Executive Band 1 role with a remuneration range of \$231,159 to \$255,262 per annum
- Located in Parramatta, however flexible working locations are supported, including regional areas, at your nearest Department of Education office, with travel to Sydney as needed.

About the role

The Director, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Early Childhood Education and Care is a key role responsible for Influencing and shaping programs within the Department to ensure Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children get the best start in life through early childhood education and development.

About you

You are a strategic and influential leader who thrives in a dynamic environment and prides themselves on their proven ability to connect with and have a deep understanding of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community, allowing you to translate community consultation into policy and programs.

You will bring your big picture thinking, strong negotiating skills and holistic outlook to the role, ensuring you play a vital role in developing a culture that enables an equitable, inclusive and outstanding early learning system for all children and families.

You will be passionate about and can build and maintain effective working relationships within and across our Department, and with external stakeholders to support collaboration and partnerships.

To be successful in this role, you will have

- Demonstrated extensive experience at a senior level in a large complex organisation.
- Demonstrated ability to communicate sensitively and effectively with and understand issues impacting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
- Aboriginal identified role: Aboriginality is an essential requirement and typically all or the majority of the work will involve the development and /or delivery of policy, programs and services which impact Aboriginal people and/or involve liaising directly with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people and communities.
- Appropriate tertiary qualifications in a relevant discipline such as education, business, management, social sciences or communications, and/or equivalent knowledge and experience.
- Hold a valid clearance to work with children (Working with Children Check).
- Demonstrated capacity to lead staff in implementing the Department's Aboriginal Education Policy and upholding the Department's Partnership Agreement with the NSW AECG and to ensure quality outcomes for Aboriginal people.
- Demonstrated understanding of and commitment to the value of public education.

Please note this position is targeted to the employment of an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person and is authorised by the Department's EEO Management Plan in accordance with Part 9A of the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1977*. When applying for an identified position, applicants must provide confirmation of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent upon interview as defined in the Confirmation of Aboriginality Guidelines.

Applications Close: 11:59pm on Wednesday, 17 April 2024

Contact: For enquiries about the recruitment of this role, please contact Zara Weiss on executiverecruitment@det.nsw.edu.au

To apply please visit iworkfor.nsw.gov.au and search **725-42363654**.

Ask your mob,
your way,

RUOK?



STRONGER
TOGETHER

ruok.org.au/strongertogether

Koori Mail

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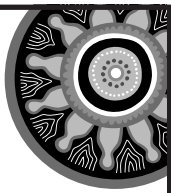
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Communities and Justice



Aboriginal Community Engagement and Culture Officer, Lismore Casino, Corrections Services NSW

Location: Lismore Casino Community Corrections

Employment Type: Ongoing Permanent Full-Time

Salary: Clerk Grade 5/6, Salary starting from \$93,295 pa plus Employer's contribution to Superannuation and Annual Leave Loading

This position is open to Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants only.

Your role

As an Aboriginal Community Engagement and Culture Officer, you will provide advice and support to Community Corrections in the case management of identified offender groups in a culturally sensitive manner and ensure appropriate case plans and supervision is implemented consistent with CSNSW mission of reduction of re-offending.

You will also identify and build collaborative community networks and partnerships to improve the effectiveness of community offender programs for identified offender groups.

If you enjoy building network and connections to better the community, join us now!

Applications close Friday 26 April 2024 at 11:59pm AEST

For more information about the role or what it's like to work for DCJ, please contact the hiring manager Jim Beard at jim.beard@dcj.nsw.gov.au

If you've got a question about applying or would benefit from an adjustment in the recruitment process to help you perform at your best, please call Nastassja Le Claire on 0460 961 902 or via Nastassja.leclaire@dcj.nsw.gov.au

To apply visit jobs.dcj.nsw.gov.au and search **65947**.

Preparation of an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report to inform the Staged Delivery of the Structure Plan for the Glenfield Precinct, NSW

Public Notice and Registration of Interest National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974

City Plan Heritage have been engaged by Landcom to prepare an Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment report to inform the staged delivery of the structure plan for the Glenfield Precinct, NSW. The proposed structure plan and subsequent ancillary works may result in impacts upon Aboriginal objects protected under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 and will therefore require the preparation of an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report. In accordance with Heritage NSW (2010) Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents, individuals or groups who hold cultural knowledge relevant to establishing the significance of potential Aboriginal objects and intangible cultural values in the area of the proposed development are invited to register their interest to participate in the heritage consultation and assessment process.

Contact details are as follows:

Duong No
Development Manager
Landcom
T: 02 9841 8173

Contact details for the heritage consultant:

Jakub (Chaz) Czastka
City Plan Heritage Pty Ltd
Level 6, 120 Sussex Street, Sydney, NSW, 2000
T: 02 8270 3500
E: chazc@cityplan.com.au

The registration period closes on Friday 26 April 2024.

Notice of a non-claimant application for determination of native title in Queensland

Notification day: 24 April 2024

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 **23 July 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 23 July 2024**. Further information regarding how to file a Form 5 is available from www.fedcourt.gov.au. After **23 July 2024**, you will need to seek leave from the Federal Court to become a party.



Applicant's name: Raymond Gregory & Betty Jenette Taylor
Federal Court File No: QUD74/2024

Non-native title interest: The Applicants are the holders of State leasehold land Lot 1357 on Crown Plan PH1674, being Rolling Term Lease PH10/1357, Title Reference 17664195

Order sought by Applicant: The applicant seeks a determination that native title does not exist in relation to the land in the State of Queensland comprised in and known as Lot 1357, Crown Plan PH1674, title reference 17664195

Description: The application area covers about 322 sq km over Lot 1357 on Crown Plan PH1674 and is located about 75 km south west of Charleville

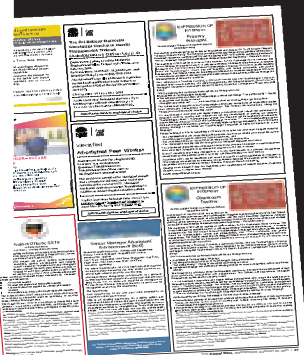
Relevant LGA: Murweh Shire Council

For assistance and further information about this application, call Vasile Tiano on 02 8067 2158 or visit www.nntt.gov.au.

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NOTICE OF PROPOSED GRANT OF MINING LEASES

NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

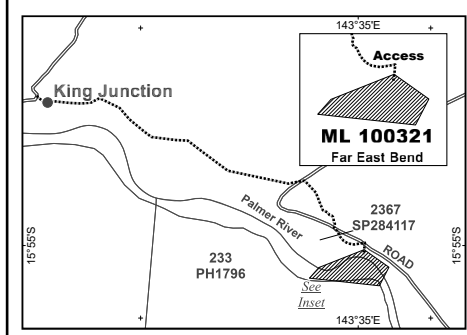
The Queensland Minister for Resources and Critical Minerals, PO Box 15216, City East, Queensland, 4002, hereby gives notice in accordance with section 29 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) of the proposed grant of Mining Lease (ML) shown below, subject to the provisions of the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld).

Nature of Act(s): The grant of the Mining Leases 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 twenty (20) years with the possibility of renewals for terms not exceeding twenty (20) years. The grant of the Mining Lease includes the granting of access as shown above.

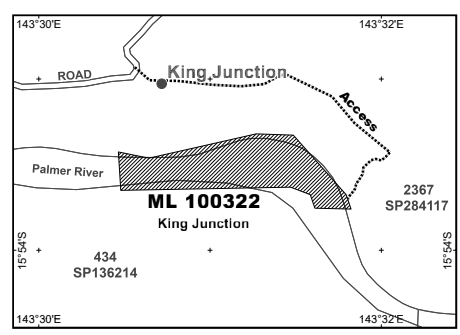
Name and Address of person doing Act(s): It is proposed that the Mining Leases be granted subject to the provisions of the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld) by the Queensland Minister for Resources and Critical Minerals, PO Box 15216, City East, Queensland, 4002.

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 the 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

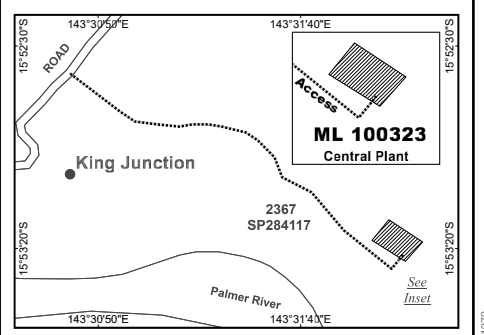
Mining Lease 100321 sought by Aurum Vale Pty Ltd, ACN 608 719 955, over an area of 104.97 ha, centred approximately 8 kms South East of King Junction, in the locality of the Cook Shire Council.



Mining Lease 100322 sought by Aurum Vale Pty Ltd, ACN 608 719 955 over an area of 107.96 ha, centred approximately 1.5 kms South East of King Junction, in the locality of the Cook Shire Council.



Mining Lease 100323 sought by Aurum Vale Pty Ltd, ACN 608 719 955, over an area of 5.81 ha, centred approximately 2.5 kms South East of King Junction, in the locality of the Cook Shire Council.



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, Mining Registrar, Mineral Assessment Hub, Level 9, Verde Tower, 445 Flinders Street, Townsville, Queensland, 4810. Telephone: (07) 4447 9230 or Email: MineralHub@resources.qld.gov.au.

Notification Day: 24 April 2024



NOTICE OF MEETING OF BARNGARLA NATIVE TITLE HOLDERS TO
CONSIDER PROPOSED INDIGENOUS LAND USE AGREEMENT UNDER
THE NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH)

Proposed Renascor ILUA

The Barngarla Determination Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC ICN 8603 (BDAC) is undertaking consultation about a proposal to enter into an Indigenous Land Use Agreement (Body Corporate Agreement) (ILUA) pursuant to Subdivision B of Division 3 of Part 2 of the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) (NT Act) with Renascor Resources Ltd and Ausmin Development Pty Ltd (together the Company).
The proposed ILUA covers land near Arno Bay in the area set out in the map contained in this notice (the ILUA Area). For a full description of the ILUA Area please contact BDAC.

What is the ILUA for?

The ILUA would allow the Company to construct a desalination plant (including an offshore pipeline and an onshore pipeline) on native title land within the ILUA area. The non-extinguishment principal would apply to all acts consented to in the ILUA and accordingly no native title would be extinguished, however native title rights within the ILUA Area would be affected.

The desalination plant is required to support the Company's mining operations, which will be located on land within the ILUA Area where native title has previously been extinguished. The ILUA would provide benefits and compensation for any affect that the project has on native title. The ILUA would also provide a heritage protocol that applies to all land in the ILUA Area regardless of whether native title exists or has previously been extinguished.

Who should attend this meeting?

The common law holders for the ILUA Area are the Barngarla native title holders (Barngarla People). The Barngarla People as determined by the Federal Court of Australia are those persons:

- who are related by means of the principle of descent to the following Barngarla apical ancestors:
 - o the siblings Percy Richards and Susie Richards;
 - o Maudie Blade who is the mother of Phyllis Croft;
 - o George Glennie and Mary Glennie;
 - o the siblings Bob Eyles and Harry Croft;
 - o Jack Stuart;
 - o Arthur Davis (also known as King Arthur) and his sons, Andrew Davis, Jack Davis, Stanley Davis and Percy Davis; and
- who have a connection with the Determination Area in accordance with the traditional laws and customs of the Barngarla People; and
- who identify as a Barngarla person and who are accepted by the Barngarla People as a Barngarla person.

BDAC is the Registered Native Title Body Corporate for the ILUA Area. Accordingly, pursuant to section 24BD of the NT Act, it must be a party to the ILUA. BDAC is required to consult with the Barngarla People under the Native Title (Prescribed Bodies Corporate) Regulations 1999 (Cth) (PBC Regulations) before making a Native Title Decision. Any member of the Barngarla People as defined by the Federal Court, is eligible to be a member of BDAC. Under the BDAC Rule Book, only Barngarla People can be members of BDAC. Accordingly, any member of BDAC (who by definition will also be a Barngarla native title holder) may attend this meeting.

If you have any doubts about whether you should attend this meeting you can contact BDAC on the details below.

Details of Meeting:

Date: Sunday 14 April 2024
Time: 9:30am registration (for 10:00am start)
Location: The Palms Function Centre
100 McDouall Stuart Avenue
Whyalla Stuart SA 5608

Please email or call to register your attendance at the meeting, work out alternative arrangements, or to obtain a copy of any of the documentation associated with the ILUA (including the Notice of Meeting, a copy of the ILUA or a summary):

bdac.clo@gmail.com
Ph: 0475 254 471

A Area Map



PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE of NATIVE TITLE AUTHORISATION
MEETING

South Australian Native Title Services Ltd (SANTS) invites all Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka People as described below (the proposed native title claim group) to attend a meeting at the time specified below, for the purpose of authorising a native title determination application over the two areas depicted on the map below, hereafter referred to as the Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka Part C native title determination application.

Under the traditional laws and customs of the Yandruwandha and Yawarrawarrka people, the Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka native title holders are those living Aboriginal people who identify as, and are recognised by other Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka native title holders as Yandruwandha or Yawarrawarrka (or both), because:

(a) he or she is biologically descended from one or more of the following Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka apical ancestors:

- (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 – Mert George and Mert Johnny and Mert Mick;
- (xiii) Larriken Mick; or

(b) he or she is biologically descended from such other ancestor who is acknowledged by the Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka native title holders as a Yandruwandha or Yawarrawarrka apical ancestor.

Date: Monday 22 April 2024

Venue: Stamford Grand Glenelg, 2 Jetty Road, Glenelg SA 5045

Time: 10:00 am

The Purpose of the meeting is to:

1. Authorise the making of a native title determination application on behalf of the proposed native title claim group over the lands and waters marked on the map below;
2. Authorise the Applicants to make the proposed application and deal with all matters arising in relation to it under the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth);
3. Make decisions about directing and supervising the Applicants in the performance of their duties;
4. Authorise the native title rights and interests to be claimed under the proposed application.

All adult members of the proposed native title claim group (being Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka native title holders) are invited to contact SANTS on 1800 010 360 to register their attendance at the Authorisation meeting.

All members of the YYTLOAC (Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka Traditional Land Owners (Aboriginal Corporation) RNTBC [ICN 3840]) may attend by registration. Other members of the proposed native title claim group should provide their name and contact details, the name of the Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka apical ancestor from whom they descend and a description of how they identify as, and are recognised by other Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka as either Yandruwandha or Yawarrawarrka (or both). Persons who are not members of YYTLOAC and who satisfy the board of the YYTLOAC that they are Yandruwandha or Yawarrawarrka (or both) will be eligible to attend the authorisation meeting. All registration applications must be provided by close of business on Monday 8 April 2024.

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.





YANDRUWANDHA YAWARRAWARRKA NATIVE TITLE HOLDER GROUP

NOTICE OF PBC REGULATIONS R.8 CONSULTATION & CONSENT MEETING

South Australian Native Title Services Ltd (SANTS) invites all Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka People as described below (the Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka native title holder group) to attend a meeting to at which the Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka Traditional Land Owners (Aboriginal Corporation) RNTBC (ICN 3840) will consult with Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka People about, and seek their consent in relation to, a proposal to execute an Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA) as negotiated with the Wongkumara native title claim group in relation to the land and waters described and shown in the maps below.

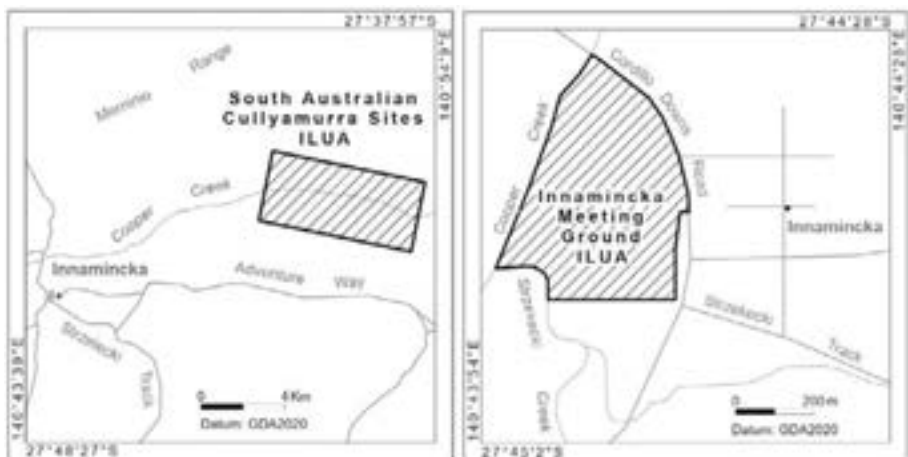
The Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka native title holder group consists of those living Aboriginal people who identify as, and are recognised by other Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka People as Yandruwandha or Yawarrawarka (or both), because:

(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 Yawarrawarka apical ancestor.

The proposed ILUA Area covers two discrete areas in South Australia, one adjacent to the Town of Innamincka and the other surrounding Cullyamurra Waterhole on Cooper Creek. These areas are shown in the maps below. Both areas are subject to a determination of native title recognising the Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka People as native title holders.



Date: Monday 22 April 2024

Venue: Stamford Grand Glenelg, 2 Jetty Road, Glenelg SA 5045

Time: 10:00 am

The Purpose of the meeting is to:

1. Authorise the terms of an ILUA in relation to the ILUA areas described and depicted above. The terms of the ILUA specify a process for the protection of places of significance under Aboriginal Tradition within the ILUA areas.

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.

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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 a native title agreement under s.87A of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) (including a proposed Consent Determination), as negotiated with the State of Queensland and the Wongkumara native title claim group in relation to the Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka Part B native title claim area.

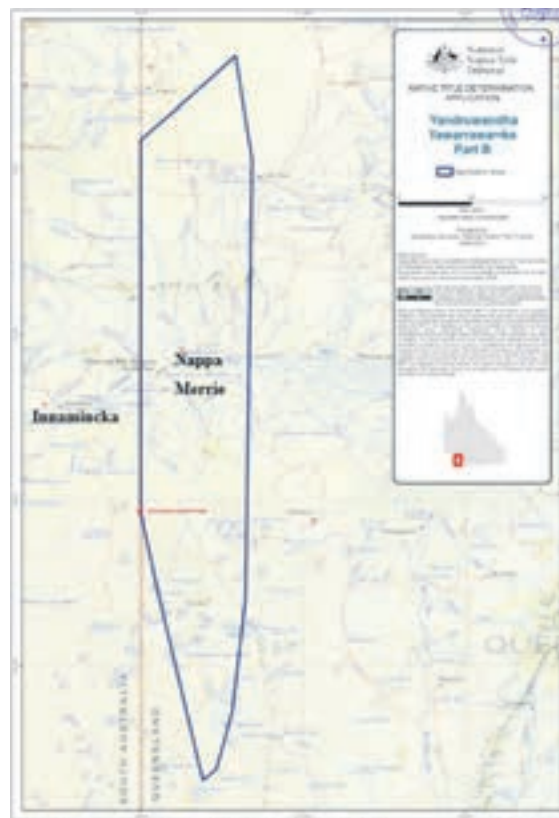
The Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka Part B native title claim group consists of those living Aboriginal people who identify as, and are recognised by other Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka People as, Yandruwandha or Yawarrawarka (or both) because:

(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 Yawarrawarka apical ancestor.

The proposed 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: Monday 22 April 2024

Venue: Stamford Grand Glenelg, 2 Jetty Road, Glenelg SA 5045

Time: 10:00 am

The Purpose of the meeting is to:

1. Authorise the terms of a native title agreement (including a proposed Consent Determination) in relation to the Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka Part B native title determination application.

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.



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development,
Communications and the Arts

Help protect First Nations traditional knowledge and cultural expressions

We're inviting community members to help guide the development of new stand-alone legislation to recognise and protect Indigenous cultural and intellectual property rights.

We're holding community engagement sessions across Australia between 4 March and 6 May 2024 to discuss how we can stop the harm caused by fake art, merchandise and souvenirs.

Current laws do not fully protect Indigenous cultural and intellectual property rights and this causes harm to First Nations artists, communities and culture. More than half of all purchased merchandise and souvenirs with First Nations art and designs are inauthentic or are made without permission.

We want to hear from First Nations people, artists and community members, and anyone who has an interest in safeguarding First Nations culture.

To have your say, join us at an in-person or online community engagement session or share your views online by **15 June 2024**.

Details on how to register for a community engagement session or on how to make an online submission are available on www.arts.gov.au/ICIP. You can also contact us on **1800 006 992** or via email at icip@arts.gov.au.

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PUBLIC CONSULTATION – PROPOSED FEES AND CHARGES REFORM FOR KEY SERVICES

Queensland Public Trustee is proposing to reform its fees and charges for the key service areas of financial management, deceased estates and trust administration. The objective of the proposed reform is to adjust fees and simplify fee structures to make them easier to understand.

Have your say

Public consultation on the Queensland Public Trustee's Proposed Fees and Charges Reform is open for comment up to 8 May 2024.

Visit www.pt.qld.gov.au to

- read the consultation paper
- submit your feedback via formal written submission.



OTH006490



NOTICE TO GRANT AMALGAMATION APPLICATIONS

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 amalgamation applications under the *Mining Act 1978*:

Exploration No.	Applicant	Amalg No	Area	Locality	Centroid	Shire
27/666	DYNAMIC METALS LIMITED	695811	108.52HA	45.8km E'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 20' S: Long: 121° 47' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY

Nature of the act: Grant of amalgamation applications which authorises the applicant to explore for minerals.

Notification day: 10 April 2024

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 the applications. The 3 month period closes on **10 July 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 the *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 amalgamation application may be granted unless, within the period of 4 months after the notification day (i.e. **10 August 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.

DMIRS_20787

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NOTICE TO GRANT MINING TENEMENTS

NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

The State of Western Australia HEREBY GIVES NOTICE that the Minister for Mines and Petroleum, C/- Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004 may grant the following tenement applications under the *Mining Act 1978*:

Tenement Type	No.	Applicant	Area*	Locality	Centroid	Shire
Exploration Licence	15/2036	LCT PRECIOUS METALS PTY LTD	9BL	36.1km W'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 30° 57' S: Long: 120° 47' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	16/575	JINDALEE LITHIUM LIMITED	7BL	33.2km W'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 16' S: Long: 120° 43' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	16/597	PRITAM GOLD PTY LTD	45BL	37.4km NW'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 9' S: Long: 120° 45' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE, MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	30/548	JINDALEE LITHIUM LIMITED	9BL	51.8km NW'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 6' S: Long: 120° 36' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	57/1257	REDScope ENTERPRISES PTY LTD	36BL	97.7km SW'ly of Sandstone	Lat: 28° 43' S: Long: 118° 45' E	SANDSTONE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	57/1404	HAGGERSTON PTY LTD	5BL	40.2km NE'ly of Sandstone	Lat: 27° 40' S: Long: 119° 29' E	SANDSTONE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	57/1431	REDScope ENTERPRISES PTY LTD	40BL	111.3km E'ly of Paynes Find	Lat: 28° 55' S: Long: 118° 45' E	SANDSTONE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	57/1433	SUSTAINABLE MINERALS PTY LTD	7BL	66.7km SE'ly of Sandstone	Lat: 28° 24' S: Long: 119° 47' E	SANDSTONE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	15/6855	MAHONEY, Lyndon Scott	23.48HA	7.6km NE'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 30° 53' S: Long: 121° 11' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	16/3436	MCAULIFFE, Bernard James	159.57HA	12.5km SW'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 27' S: Long: 120° 58' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE, KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	16/3442	MCAULIFFE, Bernard James	121.72HA	15.6km SW'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 29' S: Long: 120° 58' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	16/3444	MCAULIFFE, Bernard James	94.89HA	11.8km SW'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 26' S: Long: 120° 58' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE, KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	16/3445	MCAULIFFE, Bernard James	84.56HA	24.2km SW'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 37' S: Long: 121° 10' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	24/5721	KING, Alex Bruce	172.75HA	2.4km E'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 26' S: Long: 121° 21' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	24/5723	FORTUNA RESOURCES PTY LTD	187.67HA	20.5km NW'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 15' S: Long: 120° 53' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	24/5724	PINNER, Raymond John	45.34HA	8.5km SE'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 29' S: Long: 121° 23' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	24/5727	STEHN, Anthony Paterson	200.59HA	8.1km NW'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 19' S: Long: 120° 59' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	25/2778	ARDEA EXPLORATION PTY LTD	177.44HA	38km E'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 50' S: Long: 121° 51' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	25/2798	FORTIFY MINING PTY LTD	189.89HA	40.5km E'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 45' S: Long: 121° 53' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	26/4732	MAHONEY, Lyndon Scott	17.47HA	10.3km NE'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 41' S: Long: 121° 33' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY

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: 10 April 2024

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 **10 July 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. **10 August 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 20786



QI2024/001 Ewamian People QPWS ILUA

Description of the agreement area:
The agreement area covers a combined area of about 1634 sq km and is located west of the Kennedy Developmental Road in the vicinity of Einasleigh

Relevant LGAs: Etheridge Shire Council and Mareeba Shire Council

The agreement contains the following statements:
[Explanatory notes in brackets inserted by the National Native Title Tribunal]

6. Consents

6.1 The parties:

(a) consent to the doing of the Agreed Acts, to the extent that they are Future Acts, in accordance with clauses 10, 11 and 12 in this Agreement; and

(b) consent to the validation of the Existing Works, to the extent that they were done invalidly for the purposes of Native Title and can be validated in this Agreement.

9. Native Title consent - Routine Acts that are Future Acts

9.1 The parties consent to the doing of Routine Acts within the Agreement Area, to the extent they are Future Acts.

9.2 The parties agree that all Routine Acts can proceed without the need for notification, consultation or consent from the RNTBC.

10. Native Title consent - Procedural Acts that are Future Acts

10.1 The parties consent to the doing of Procedural Acts within the Agreement Area, to the extent they are Future Acts, provided that before each Procedural Act that is a Future Act is done the State:

(a) gives the RNTBC written notice in the form described in clause 14 or clause 15 stating its intention to do the Procedural Act that is a Future Act and inviting the RNTBC to provide comments on or before the day stated in the notice (**response day**);

(b) considers any comments given by the RNTBC on or before the response day; and

(c) complies with the Protocol as required from time to time for High Impact Activities.

10.2 A notice given by the State under clause 10.1 may include more than one Procedural Act.

10.3 If a permit is issued for the activity, the State will provide the RNTBC with a copy of the permit as soon as practicable after the grant.

11. Native Title consent - Significant Acts that are Future Acts

11.1 If the State proposes to do a Significant Act that is a Future Act (**Proposed Act**) in the Agreement Area, the State must give the RNTBC written notice that:

(a) is in the form described in clause 14 or clause 15 stating its intention to do the Proposed Act and requesting the RNTBC to respond on or before the day stated in the notice (**response day**);

(b) states that the RNTBC must, by the response day, give the State a written notice in response stating one of the following:

(i) the Ewamian People consent to the doing of the Proposed Act;

(ii) the Ewamian People do not consent to the doing of the Proposed Act;

(iii) the Ewamian People consent to the doing of the Proposed Act on stated conditions; or

(iv) the Ewamian People request further information about the Significant Act in accordance with clause 11.3 or request a meeting under clause 16;

(c) states that it will comply with the with the Protocol as required from time to time for High Impact Activities.

11.2 If the RNTBC notify the State under clause 11.1(b)(iii), the State will comply with the stated conditions when doing the Proposed Act.

11.3 If the RNTBC deem the information provided by the State in relation to the Proposed Act to be insufficient to make an assessment, the application may be returned within 20 Business Days by the RNTBC with a request for additional information. The State must use its best endeavours to provide the additional information requested. The RNTBC may respond by the date that is 20 Business Days after the additional information is received by the RNTBC and the Native Title Party (**revised response day**).

11.4 The RNTBC must, by the revised response day, give the State a written notice in accordance with clause 11.1(b).

11.5 If the RNTBC do not provide the State with written consent, written consent subject to conditions or a refusal to consent to the Proposed Act on or before:

(a) the response day or the revised response day (as applicable); or

(b) if a meeting was requested under clause 16, 20 Business Days after the request for a meeting was made;

the RNTBC will be taken to have refused consent to the Proposed Act.

A notice given by the State under clause 11.1(a) may include more than one Proposed Act.

“Aboriginal Cultural Heritage” has the meaning given in the [Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003 (Qld)];

“Agreed Acts” means the acts specified in and [sic] [Schedule] 3;

“Agreement Area” means the land and waters described in Schedule 1 and depicted in Schedule 2;

“Business Day” means any day other than a Saturday, Sunday or Public Holiday in Queensland;

“Determination” means the determinations of native title by the Federal Court of Australia in *Barry Fisher & Ors on behalf of the Ewamian People #2 v State of Queensland & Ors* QUD6009/1999, QCD2013/006 and *Barry Fisher & Ors on behalf of the Ewamian People #3 v State of Queensland & Ors* QUD6018/2001, QCD2013/007 That Native Title exists in relation to the Agreement Area;

“Ewamian People” means the persons described in the Determination as the persons who hold Native Title in the Agreement Area;

“Excavation Works” means disturbance by machinery of the topsoil or surface rock layer of the ground, such as by trenching, drilling or dredging;

“Existing Infrastructure” means:

(a) Rungulla Base that includes camp facilities, large undercover area, communications tower, storage and parking as identified in the map at Schedule 5;

(b) Rungulla walking track and art site as identified in the map at Schedule 5;

(c) Rungulla camp 1 which includes a toilet block and an open camping area as identified in the map at Schedule 5;

(d) Rungulla camp 2 which includes an open camping area as identified in the map at Schedule 5;

(e) QPWS (Canyon) Base which includes a simple shed accommodation facility as identified in the map at Schedule 6;

(f) Wundul camping area that includes access track camping area, toilets, lookout as identified in the map at Schedule 6; and

(g) Canyon communications site and access track and tower as identified in the map at Schedule 6;

“Existing Works” means any of the following activities or acts that were done by the State prior to Registration of this Agreement within the Agreement Area so far as they relate to the Existing Infrastructure:

(a) survey work, drilling, excavation or any other preliminary works activities that were undertaken ahead of constructing the Existing Infrastructure;

(b) any works related to undertaking the Existing Infrastructure, including construction, operation, maintenance and repair of the Existing Infrastructure;

(c) access to land necessary for the acts described in items (a) and (b);

(d) the grant of any authority, licence or permit required by Law for the acts described in items (a) and (b); and

(e) all other acts which are necessary or incidental to the construction of the Existing Infrastructure;

“Future Act” and **“Native Title”** [have] the meaning given in the NTA;

“High Impact Activities” means activities in the Agreement Area which, in the opinion of the State acting reasonably, will involve Vegetation Clearance and/or Excavation Works; excluding:

(a) Vegetation Clearance in areas that have previously been subject to Vegetation Clearance or Excavation Works;

(b) Excavation Works in ground that has previously been subject to Excavation Works; and

(c) Excavation Works in landfill;

“Native Title Party” means Barry Fisher and Alfred James Lacey on their own behalf and on behalf of the Ewamian People;

“NTA” means the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth);

“Procedural Acts” means those acts identified in Schedule 4 that may be carried out by the State within the Agreement Area in accordance with clause 10;

“Protocol” means the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Protocol agreed to by the parties to manage and protect Aboriginal cultural heritage within the Agreement Area;

“Public Holiday” has the meaning given in the *Acts Interpretation Act 1954* (Qld);

“Registration” means the date on which this Agreement is Registered [on the *Register of Indigenous Land Use Agreements*];

“RNTBC” means the Ewamian People Aboriginal Corporation, ICN 7950;

“Routine Acts” means those acts identified in Schedule 4 that may be carried out by the State within the Agreement Area in accordance with clause 7;

“Significant Acts” means those acts identified in Schedule 4 that may be carried out by the State within the Agreement Area in accordance with clause 11;

“State” means the State of Queensland;

“Vegetation Clearance” means the removal by machinery of native vegetation by disturbing root systems and exposing the underlying soil.

Parties to the agreement and their contact addresses:	
State of Queensland, acting through the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Services (State) PO Box 2066 Cairns QLD 4870	Ewamian People Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC (RNTBC) Barry Fisher and Alfred James Lacey on behalf of Ewamian People (Native Title Party) PO Box 1535, Mareeba QLD 4880

Responses to an application to register an ILUA—where the application has not been certified:

Any person claiming to hold native title in relation to land or waters in the area covered by the agreement may wish, in response to this notice, to make a native title determination application or equivalent application under a law of a state or territory in respect of any part of the area. **The application must be made by 17 July 2024.** If that application is registered on the Register of Native Title Claims, the registered native title claimants must be a party to this agreement before it can be registered.

Details of the terms of the agreement are not available from the National Native Title Tribunal. For assistance and further information about this application, call Sylvia Jagtman on 07 3052 4248 or visit www.nntt.gov.au.

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'System not broken': NRL talks down obstruction fears



THE NRL has moved to clarify the obstruction rule, with league bosses saying the current interpretation was designed to prevent milking for penalties.

Obstruction has been under the microscope this season following several key calls.

In round 4, the Sydney Roosters were denied a potential game-winning against Penrith after the Roosters' decoy runner Jared Waerea-Hargreaves collided with Panthers fullback Dylan Edwards.

Joey Manu's subsequent try in that same play should have been awarded, with Edwards unlikely to have covered enough ground from the point of contact to make a tackle. Roosters players later claiming the obstruction rule could be exploited, with players able to 'buy' penalties by colliding with decoy runners.

Claims the obstruction rule is too black-and-white can be traced to 2013, when the NRL moved to codify what constituted obstruction.

Previously, obstruction had generally been determined at the discretion of match officials, without

a framework to which players could adhere. But the rules still say: *the referee or review officials can determine the significance of contact initiated by the block or flat runners ... in impeding a defender's involvement in a try scoring play.*

NRL football boss Graham Annesley said the rules, which give indicators for obstruction and a chance for referees to apply discretion, were the best way to deter NRL stars from playing for penalties.

"How do we prevent (playing for penalties) from being incentivised as an option? You make sure that if

there is a doubt about whether a player would get there or not, in some cases, they don't get the benefit of that collision," he said.

"If we make these decisions completely black-and-white, or too black-and-white, then that encourages milking, because players will say, 'I'm not going to get there so I'm just going to run into a lead runner'; that way there's a fair chance that the try will be disallowed.

"We don't want to encourage that. We don't want to see milking."

Annesley said the ARL Commission would review the

obstruction rule in the off-season, but he was satisfied it remained fit for purpose.

"Over 11 years, this has stood the game in good stead," he said.

"We're going to have debates about some of these things but we've got to be careful not to throw the baby out with the bathwater.

"If this can be tweaked in any way to make it clearer, particularly to make it easier to officiate (it will be examined).

"(But) the system is not broken.

The fact is, they're not getting it wrong all the time. They mostly get it right." – AAP



Carl Webb played in the NRL from 2000-2011.



Brisbane Broncos forward Patrick Carrigan was awarded the first Carl Webb Medal. He is here with Webb's children (from left) Hunter, Brooklyn, and Carter. Pictures: Supplied

Carl Webb Medal honour

By KRIS FLANDERS



CARL WEBB was a giant on and off the football field and his legacy continues with a medal struck in his honour in games between the two Queensland teams he played for.

Webb played 66 games with Brisbane and 115 for North Queensland in a career that spanned the years 2000-2011. (He also played six games for Parramatta in his final season in the NRL – and two for the Indigenous All-Stars 2010, 2011)

The first Carl Webb Medal will be presented to the best player in games between Brisbane Broncos and North Queensland and the first one was presented in round 4 when the two teams clashed at Lang Park.

The award was named in memory of the tough forward who lost his four-year battle with Motor Neurone Disease (MND) in December last year.

Pat Carrigan will forever carry the honour as the game's first Carl Webb Medallist, when the burley forward was judged best-on last weekend.

"It's super special, I don't even know how to put it into words, to be honest," Carrigan said after the game.

"I was just a kid, six or seven years old watching him play and I was lucky enough to spend some time with him at the back in the last year, so it means everything."

Carrigan played 73 minutes in which he ran the ball for 212m, broke three tackles and produced 41 tackles in defence for Brisbane. He was a standout and rightly deserved the medal in the Broncos' 38-12 win.

"He (Carl Webb) was massive for the club and to see his family here and his kids here, that was pretty special," Carrigan said.

"(Before the game, coach Kevin Walters) spoke about it obviously, it's a always a big game, the XXXX Derby and, I guess, he just touched on that it was going to become a memorial game for 'Charlie'."

Webb's family was at the match and they took part in the pre-game celebration of his life. His children, Hunter and Brooklyn, delivered the match-ball, while eldest son, Carter, took part in the coin-toss.

A guard of honour was made for the players when they entered the ground for the match, and a minute-silence was observed before kick-off.

Other tributes included local barber, Jimmy Rodd, who was set up in the 'Fan Zone' area for fans wanting to etch Webb's iconic Queensland Maroons' 'Q' into their

haircuts.

And XXXX, the beer that Queenslanders love, produced 42 limited-edition cartons which had: "We Give A XXXX About MND - Cheers to Charlie" emblazoned on them.

These were auctioned off to raise monies for the Carlow Webb Foundation.

Former Brisbane teammate and club legend, Darren Lockyer, said Webb fought for every inch on the field and was a fighter in his MND battle.

"I think for him, when he was diagnosed with MND, he chose a path, and that was to make a difference," Lockyer said.

"He lived his final years with plenty of positivity about making a difference and I think that was the key for him about this foundation, was creating that legacy.

"I'm sure that his family would be proud and I'm sure he'd be proud by looking down."

Obstruction ruling is a nightmare situation that needs urgent attention

WHAT a nightmare this obstruction rule is! It seems from week to week, game to game that there is not a match that goes by without fans and commentators left scratching their heads at some of the calls made on obstruction. Is it going to cost a team a grand final win? Could be.

We only have to go back to round 4 and the clash between Penrith and the Roosters (see report at top) as an example and it wasn't even the first contentious

call this season; it's safe to say that it won't be the last, either.

Common sense must prevail into some of these rulings, surely.

The old shepherd rule, where you ran behind your teammate, was always a 'no-no' and players



Kris Flanders

knew if-when they had deliberately or accidentally done so. But new rules have been written about obstruction and while it may seem clear-cut to the game's rule-makers, every week there just seems to be different calls made about it.

Also, because of how it's being called, it could lead to players now taking a dive if there is even so much as the slightest contact. This will only slow the play down, not to mention frustrate the players, coaching staff and, of

course, us, the fans!

No-one wants players stooping to that level – diving! – and playing for a penalty or stopping what should be a legitimate try.

Do we need more former and recently-retired players in the bunker to help judge these calls, and other contentious issues? They've been there, they've played the modern game and they know that some things aren't just always 'black and white' on the field. Some common sense needs to come into play here. It

just would make perfect sense to make sure the correct decision is made, and that tries or calls, especially with obstruction, isn't making this part of the game a frustrating experience.

**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.*

Buffaloes seek greener pastures at Palmerston

By JACKSON CLARK



DARWIN Buffaloes – one of the oldest football clubs in the Northern Territory – is proposing to relocate from Darwin's northern suburbs to satellite city Palmerston, 30km away. A survey was created online last week to gauge stakeholders' thoughts on the 'significant proposal'.

"This decision is not taken lightly, and as such, we seek the input of our valued players, volunteers and members who are the backbone of our club. Your feedback is crucial in guiding the

committee's final decision," the survey read.

The club has been linked to a relocation to Palmerston for over a decade; this move, however, appears much more likely to eventuate.

Former Buffaloes Premier League coach and club legend Cameron Stokes believes there are many benefits to the proposed move.

"Obviously that's been in the pipeline for a little while now, but I think in terms of the future for our footy club, it's a great move," he said.

"We're a footy club with a wonderful proud history but it's been a long time with no home

base, so that's something that the club is working hard to move into.

"If we can produce that in the next couple of years I think that would be very good for the club.

"Palmerston is a developing area and there's a large population out there with untapped talent."

Palmerston is a satellite city near Darwin with a growing population and plenty of young families.

The move would see the Buffaloes finally have a home base of bricks and mortar, potentially in the suburb of Woodroffe and in partnership with the Palmerston Cricket Club.

There are currently two NTFL clubs located past the Territory's

fabled 'Berrimah line' – Palmerston Football Club (Magpies) and Southern Districts Football Club (Crots).

While the Magpies have struggled for success at Premier League level, the team boasts a healthy junior base of 16 teams across five grades during the recently completed 2023-24 season, nearly double the amount fielded by the Buffaloes.

The Darwin Buffaloes finished the 2023-24 NTFL season in sixth position (of nine teams) with eight wins from 16 matches.

The club has also advertised for a new senior coach with Stokes having stepped down after four years in the role.

The AFL drugs policy that lacks punch

THE reaction from the wider community after former AFL club doctor at the Melbourne Football Club Zeeshan Arain and former president Glen Bartlett



Shelley Ware

blew a whistle on alleged secret testing regimes to protect players from missing games due to illicit drug use has been mixed. Some believe it and some don't.

For the majority of us in our regular jobs, if we were found to be doing our job while under the influence of illicit drugs we would be in trouble quick-smart, with an immediate dismissal. For me as a teacher, that would certainly be the case. But for AFL players, well, it seems they operate under a different system to the rest of us.

What is in place for them, under the AFL's illicit drug policy (2005; updated 2015), is protecting their well-being and health *against* the consumption of illicit drugs. Also, players are covered under the AFL's anti-doping code which prevents players from using performance-enhancing drugs from a banned-substance list. Basically, the players live by a simple rule: if they are unsure, don't ingest it; talk to the club doctor before doing so.

There is also a three-strike system which, personally, doesn't work for me. It just feels like a road toward disaster.

I have also never heard of anyone getting to a third strike in the AFL, which may seem odd when you consider the number of people in wider society, of which the players are also from, dabble with illicit drugs.

The AFL remains confident in their current drug-testing regime and are standing by the process they have in order to protect players from illicit drug use and to stop them playing under the influence.

But... it seems the AFL is flying the old 'nothing to see here' flag. Even though they stand by their system, many are poking holes in it, and the hits keep coming.

I know many players in the AFL, I have worked in and around the football industry since the 1990s, and there are many stories where better care could have been taken of players during their time playing in the AFL. These stories are not mine to tell. A few brave souls have begun to share their stories in the hope that others don't follow on that path.

This can only be a good thing.

***Shelley Ware is a proud Yankunytjatjara and Wirangu woman from Adelaide. She appears on AFL.com.au's Colour Of Your Jumper.**



North Melbourne's Jy Simpkin is perfectly placed – front-and-centre – in a marking contest during the Kangaroos and Brisbane Lions Gather Round (round 5) match at suburban Norwood Oval in Adelaide at the weekend. Picture: Peter Argent

Gather Round these parts for a feast of footy



AFL chief executive Andrew Dillon has stopped short of guaranteeing Gather Round will remain in South Australia beyond the existing deal, as state premier Peter Malinauskas pushes for a future game in the Barossa wine region.

The league's feature round, which includes all 18 clubs in nine games across four days, will be based in Adelaide and surrounds until at least 2026 under an agreement reached with the state

government last year.

Western Australia looms as the most likely to make a move to snatch hosting rights from SA, with New South Wales and Queensland appearing set to continue sharing Opening Round after a successful first edition this year.

"We'll assess how this (Gather Round) goes, but all the indicators are hugely successful and we're going to build on it over the next couple of years," Dillon said.

"What we're seeing now is our

fans want something that's bigger than the footy games.

"We're going to continue to see innovations like Gather Round and Opening Round as we continue to evolve our fixture."

Inner-suburban Norwood and Mount Barker in the Adelaide Hills again hosted AFL matches in Gather Round, despite fierce lobbying from local venues following last year's inaugural Gather Round.

Malinauskas is eager to showcase the Barossa by hosting future matches in the renowned

wine region.

"The AFL and the (state) government, we've been working closely on that proposition," Malinauskas said.

"We hope that's what happens.

"That's what we've been working towards since day dot, so we'll wait and see how that unfolds."

SA reportedly paid about \$15 million to host the first instalment of Gather Round last year, reaping \$85 million in hospitality and other economic benefits.

Beale heads west to join Force



WALLABIES veteran and former NSW Waratah Kurtley Beale has signed a short-term deal with the Western Force until the end of the Super Rugby Pacific season.

The 35-year-old utility back joins the last-placed Force (1-6) after returning to the field for the first time in 14 months in mid-March for Sydney club side Randwick.

His comeback came a month after a jury in a Sydney court found him not guilty of sexual offences against a woman at a Bondi pub.

Beale's move to Perth is timely for the Force, who will be without injured fullback Harry Potter, set to undergo syndesmosis

surgery that is likely to end his season.

"I'm excited to join the Force and I'm looking forward to making the move to Perth with my family," Beale said.

"There's enormous potential across the Force's playing group and I'm eager to support the



Kurtley Beale.

momentum they're building.

"I know I have plenty to offer and I'm grateful for the opportunity to continue playing the game that I love."

Western Force coach Simon Cron said he was looking forward to calling on Beale's experience.

"With the recent injury to Harry Potter the door opens for Kurtley to join our squad," Cron said.

"He will add valuable experience and rugby brains to our playing group."

"Having coached 'KB' before, I know he is a player who will always help to develop young talent and add to the team's leadership on field."

Western Force chief executive Niamh O'Connor said the club saw Beale as an

integral part of plans for future success.

"We know where we want to take the club and Kurtley is an exciting addition in our plans for growth and success," O'Connor said.

"Throughout our discussions with Kurtley, he's shown us his burning determination and passion for the game."

"He's very keen to make the most of this opportunity to play Super Rugby again."

Beale made his Wallabies debut in 2009 and was nominated for IRB international player of the year in 2011.

Beale began training with the Force playing group in Perth following the men's squad's upcoming five-day bye week.

- AAP



Mia Clifford lines up for the Melbourne Rebels in the 2024 Super Rugby W season. Pictures: Getty Images.



Queensland Reds' Lori Cramer.



Western Force recruit Renae Nona.



Queensland Reds' Madi Schuck.



Melbourne Rebels' Hayley Glass.

Expectations rise in new Super Rugby W season



THE 2024 Super Rugby Women's season has created the biggest stage yet for some of Australia's best athletes to showcase their skills – among them several Indigenous players looking to make their mark – and with a closer alignment with Super Rugby Pacific delivering 13 double-header fixtures.

Back-to-back champions Fijian Drua are hunting a historic three-peat in 2024 under new coach and former Fiji captain Mosese Rauluni.

The Queensland Reds, featuring Lori Cramer and Madi Schuck, also with a new head coach in Grant Anderson, are out for revenge after falling just short in last year's final.

The Western Force have been boosted

by a number of international signings to elevate their expanding professional program, with Renae Nona also crossing from the Reds in the off-season.

The Rebels, with deadly duo Mia Clifford and Hayley Glass, have recruited former Wallaroos skipper Grace Hamilton and are out to cause some upsets in 2024.

Bolstered by a trio of returning Wallaroos, the NSW Waratahs are looking

to reassert their dominance after a disappointing semi-final exit in 2023.

And enjoying a largely settled squad, the ACT Brumbies are on the rise with recent Test debutants Faitala Moleka and Tabua Tuinakauvadra leading the way.

**Every game of the 2024 Super Rugby Women's season is broadcast live, on-demand and ad-free on Stan Sport.*

Warring parties meet at AHRC in football racism row



FORMER Hawthorn star Cyril Rioli flew into Melbourne from Darwin last week to take part in conciliation sessions with current AFL coaches Alastair Clarkson and Chris Fagan.

Rioli was among the first to raise allegations of systemic racism at the Hawthorn Football Club during his playing days there.

Those allegations were levelled at former Hawthorn trio of Clarkson (senior coach), Fagan (assistant coach) and Jason Burt (head of player welfare).

Rioli was joined by other former players who had also raised serious concerns of systemic racism at the club.

The sessions at the Human Rights Commission in Melbourne is the first since the explosive racism saga blew up in grand final week in 2022.



Alistair Clarkson (left) and Chris Fagan, former coaches at AFL club Hawthorn.

The two-day talks were held also in a bid to avoid having the issue moved to the Federal Court, where it would be heard publicly.

Clarkson, Fagan and Burt have all

denied any wrongdoing.

The conciliation session is seen as a step toward a satisfactory resolution for the former players, coaches, the club, and the AFL.



Cyril Rioli. Pictures: supplied.

Rioli played 189 AFL games over a 10-year spell with Hawthorn from 2008.

He retired at the end of the 2018 season at age 29, perhaps with at least three more seasons still left in him. – with AAP



The First Nations Gems team played at the 2024 NRL National Women's Championships in March and were coached by Veronica Dorante. Pictures: supplied

Finding treasures among Gems

By KRIS FLANDERS



VERONICA DORANTE was left speechless when she was offered the job to coach the First Nations Gems team at the NRL's national women's championships on the Gold Coast in March.

The Indigenous side played against teams representing NSW City, NSW Country, Queensland, Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia, Northern Territory, the Australian Defence Force RL and, adding an international flavour, Ahi Ka Aotearoa, Fiji and Papua New Guinea.

"I don't think I have enough words to describe the experience of being involved with this side; when I was offered the position I was flabbergasted and couldn't believe it," Dorante said.

"Once we got into camp, the girls were just beautiful – the authenticity of every player and coaching staff was amazing."

The championships were played across four days and was brought forward from its normal month of May to March to allow NRLW talent scouts to attend.

The Gems defeated Victoria 26-6 in round 1, recorded a tough 8-4 victory over Fiji in round 2, were defeated 16-4 by Queensland in round 3, before rounding out the tournament with a 12-0 win over PNG in round 4.

"It's a great space for our First Nations players coming through, a place where



Gems coach Veronica Dorante (at left) and Gems players (from left) Vanique Malayta, Kayla Shepherd, Leila Murphy-Doyle and Chloe Buttigieg.

they can access elite coaching and league minds," Dorante said.

The coach said there was a lot of potential across the teams at the

tournament but that some of her Gems could make the step to the NRLW.

"Tanika Newton was one of the players I was really impressed with – she was

exceptional," she said.

"Our captains, Jess (Howard) and Tazmyne (Luschwitz) were amazing and led the team strongly; they're very experienced."

"Tallara Bamblett was one of our most consistent and was named in the team of the tournament; she delivered magic whenever she could to get us out of sticky spots – brilliant!"

Dorante, 41, is in good company as coach of the Gems.

The Indigenous All-Stars women's 2024 coach and Jillaroos assistant coach Jess Skinner is a graduate of the Gems coaching program.

"The cultural aspect of the side to was something special and a week that I'll never forget and hope to be part of again in the future," Dorante said.

A mother of three who has been coaching for five years, Dorante received a great deal of enjoyment from helping young players come through, discover their talents and nurture their progress in the game.

"I helped out a lot with girl's rugby league here in Mackay, it's definitely my passion," she said.

"For me, coaching a team and watching players develop their skills, challenging themselves, find their confidence and bring that to a team... that's where I get the most satisfaction."

"Bringing the girls together, forming a great culture, bonding... that's always a focus of mine when I coach a side."

Mitchell secures fourth title



Championship-winning basketballer Leilani Mitchell secured her fourth WNBL title when the Southside Flyers defeated Perth Lynx recently. Picture: Getty Images



LEILANI MITCHELL is living the dream on and off the court after having secured her fourth WNBL championship.

The mother of two is one of three mothers in the Southside Flyers team – joining the great Lauren Jackson, and Carley Ernst – which secured the 2023-24 WNBL championship after defeating Perth Lynx 115-81 to win the three-game series 2-1.

Mitchell proved her quality in the series, scoring 14 points with three triples in game three to win her fourth title.

This also is the franchise's fifth championship, and second since the rebrand from the Dandenong Rangers.

The Flyers were led by the legendary Jackson who may have been the headline act but the Flyers could very well lay claim to being the most decorated WNBL championship-winning team of all after securing the title in emphatic fashion.

It is a remarkably decorated team even before you consider the players' feats in the WNBA and international basketball.

All-time great Jackson is now a six-time WNBL champion having won her first title since 2010 after notching her first win back in 1999.

Ernst hit three triples in a two-minute burst of the third quarter to win a second championship.

Captain Bec Cole is now also a two-time champion while Maddy Rocci won a third championship and there are emerging talents too like Nyadiew Puoch and Louise Brown.

Cheryl Chambers is now a three-time championship winning coach and couldn't be prouder of her team.

"They're a great group, they were awesome and I know how much they wanted it," she said.

"I know we had a pretty rough start to the year so it's so great to see that we were able to come together and get over the line.

"You go on a journey with a group of girls who are really special, so I'm just rapped for them and for us, and for our families and supporters."

It might have been a heartbreaking way to lose a second grand final in three years for the Lynx, but first-year captain and 2022 MVP Anneli Maley was emotional afterwards about what her move to Perth has meant.

"Thank you to my girls for showing me how to fall in love with the game again," she said.

"I've never played for a club that has supported their players as much, so thank you so much, and congratulations to the Southside girls." – with AAP

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Palm Island's junior Rugby Sevens team which played at Townsville recently. Picture: Alf Wilson

Palm Island 7s make a mark

By ALF WILSON



PALM Island is renowned for producing quality rugby league players but what is believed to be a first for the Aboriginal community

was a team of young islanders playing in a rugby union carnival.

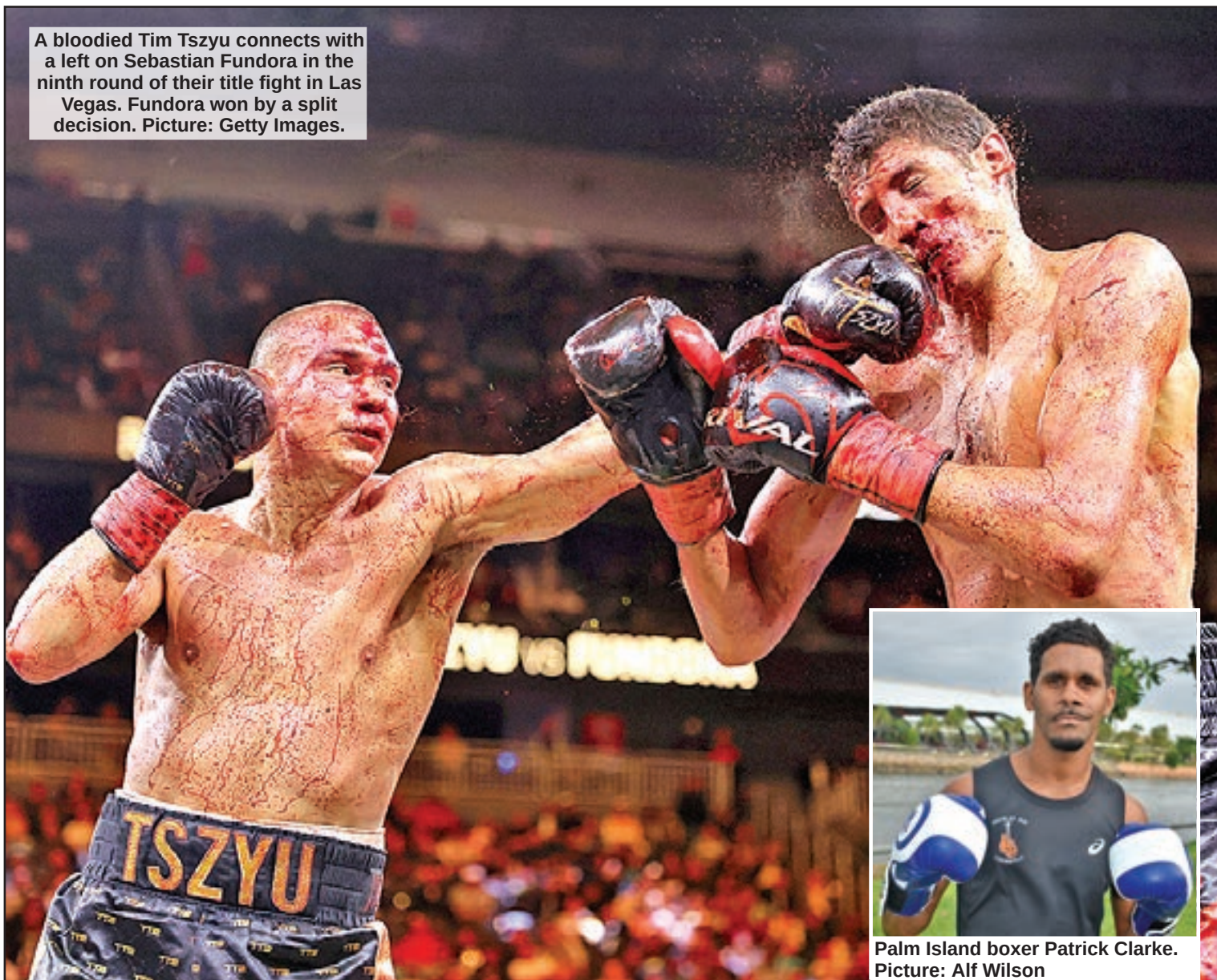
The junior team played in the popular Sevens version of the game in Townsville recently.

The team went undefeated throughout to make it to the grand final where they lost by

one try. To put that result in context, none of the students had ever played a real game of rugby union before the Sevens carnival.

The team were made up of students from Bwgcolman Community School (11-12 years).

A bloodied Tim Tszyu connects with a left on Sebastian Fundora in the ninth round of their title fight in Las Vegas. Fundora won by a split decision. Picture: Getty Images.



Palm Island boxer Patrick Clarke. Picture: Alf Wilson

Sustainable sport in times of climate crises's

WELL, not long now; just a few more years; a couple more degrees; a big, final surge should do it then all hell should break loose. Not sport, but the weather because, yep, the weather outside is definitely weather, and if we don't do anything about it since the last time we spoke about it and still did nothing about it then the weather outside will just keep on weather-ing outside until it is inside, upside, bringing all the downsides.



Darren Moncrieff

Forgive the sarcasm but there exists the very real possibility for irreversible and catastrophic change in the environment, which is old news, like last week's footy results. The first thing to go when the environment does will be recreation – our precious sport games – but I'd imagine at that time no-one would actually care because, you know, holy-hell, the weather!

The fact is, while there is no one singular item, individual or organisation that can save our precious environment, sport can do its part as a collective. Sport leaves behind it a massive carbon-footprint but so does 21st Century living. So while we're all here, an answer, in my mind at least (and for whatever that's worth these days, heh!) lies with individuals within sport.

But for those sports stars willing and able to use their public profile for our precious Earth, and beautiful Country, maybe lending their images and voice for a 30-second ad during sport could at least begin a push for sports-loving folk – the masses that go to games each weekend – toward small, incremental changes in areas like recycling, composting food-waste, etc, and bringing along family and friends with them in this push.

Another way forward is instead of buying things we don't need to impress people we don't like (I love that cliché) we can just use whatever spare money we have to 'buy experiences', like, err, going to a sports game.

It was Clean Up Australia Day a few weeks ago and please don't tell nobody but I slept in and missed it all. Shame, hey! But I like to think I make up for it by how I live; I do what I can.

Capitalism has done a number on Mother Earth and we humans (and animals) will be collateral, with sport first. But while we breathe air, it is never too late to begin to make change.

**Darren Moncrieff is a Wadjarri-Thakarri/Yinggarda man from Kuwinyardu (Carnarvon) in WA*

Clarke draws lessons from Tszyu's first loss

By ALF WILSON



PALM Island's Patrick Clarke knew exactly the difficulty boxing champion Tim Tszyu faced in Las

Vegas after the Australian suffered his first loss there.

Tszyu copped a bad cut from an elbow by American Sebastian Fundora in their title fight last week, which affected his vision. A bloodied Tszyu lost the fight on a split-points decision by the

judges.

The day before, in Townsville, Clarke received a deep cut above his eye in his bout with Hunter Iaone in the 'Battle of the Port'.

Clarke, 30, was stopped in the fifth round, with the decision going to Iaone.

"I received the cut over my right eye in the third round and couldn't see fully after that," Clarke said.

"Hunter landed a heavy left hook in the fifth which I didn't see and the fight was stopped.

"I know how that would have

affected (Tszyu), but I am not making excuses for losing and it was a tough fight."

Clarke was delighted with several people from Palm Island travelling to Townsville to watch him fight, which was held on a significant day.

"My fight-date coincided with what would have been the birthday of my long-time trainer on Palm, Uncle Ray Dennis, who died last year, and I thought about him," Clarke said.

Tournament promoter Matty Rooney from Knuckles Boxing

Gym said Clarke was a bit rusty after not having a bout since last August.

"Patrick fought like the real warrior that he is and put on a good fight," he said.

"I will be getting him more regular bouts from now on."

Clarke trains on Palm Island where he also mentors young boxers. In Townsville he trains out of Knuckles Gym.

Dubbed the *Pride of Palm Island*, Clarke's record sits at 2-9 since making his professional debut in August 2020.



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‘Dizzy’ eyes Pakistan coaching gig



AUSTRALIAN cricket's first male Aboriginal Test player Jason Gillespie is reportedly close to making a call on his next career move – coaching Pakistan.

The 71-Test fast-bowler, who made a memorable 201 not-out against Bangladesh in 2006, has quit as coach of South Australia's Sheffield Shield and Big Bash League teams after almost a decade in the role.

There have been reports the Pakistan Cricket Board had reached out to Gillespie regarding the vacant coaching position, given his sudden resignation in South Australia, but he remains coy.

"I am incredibly proud of what we achieved together at the SACA, and I will always cherish those memories," Gillespies said of his departure



Jason Gillespie – could he become the new coach of the Pakistan national cricket team?

from the Redbacks and Adelaide Strikers teams.

"I have no doubt that SA cricket has a bright future.

"Looking forward, I am excited to explore new opportunities in the sport and pursue the next chapter in my career."

Wilson, Hickey Gangurrus win at 3x3 Asia Cup



NGARRINDJERI woman Ally Wilson and Wiradjuri and Gamilaroi-Gomeri man William Hickey led Australia to a triumphant FIBA 3x3 Asia

Cup championship in Singapore last weekend.

Wilson and Hickey were part of the respective four-person 'Gangurrus' women's and men's teams that swept past formidable opposition to claim double honours at the popular tournament, cementing Australia's status as a powerhouse nation in the sport. Australia's double triumph was a repeat of our feat in the 2019 tournament.

● More coverage, next edition.

William Hickey (front row, left), Ally Wilson (front row, centre) and the Aussie Gangurrus men's and women's basketball teams celebrate their FIBA 3x3 Asia Cup success in Singapore at the weekend.

Picture: FIBA / Basketball Australia



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