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The Voice of Indigenous Australia

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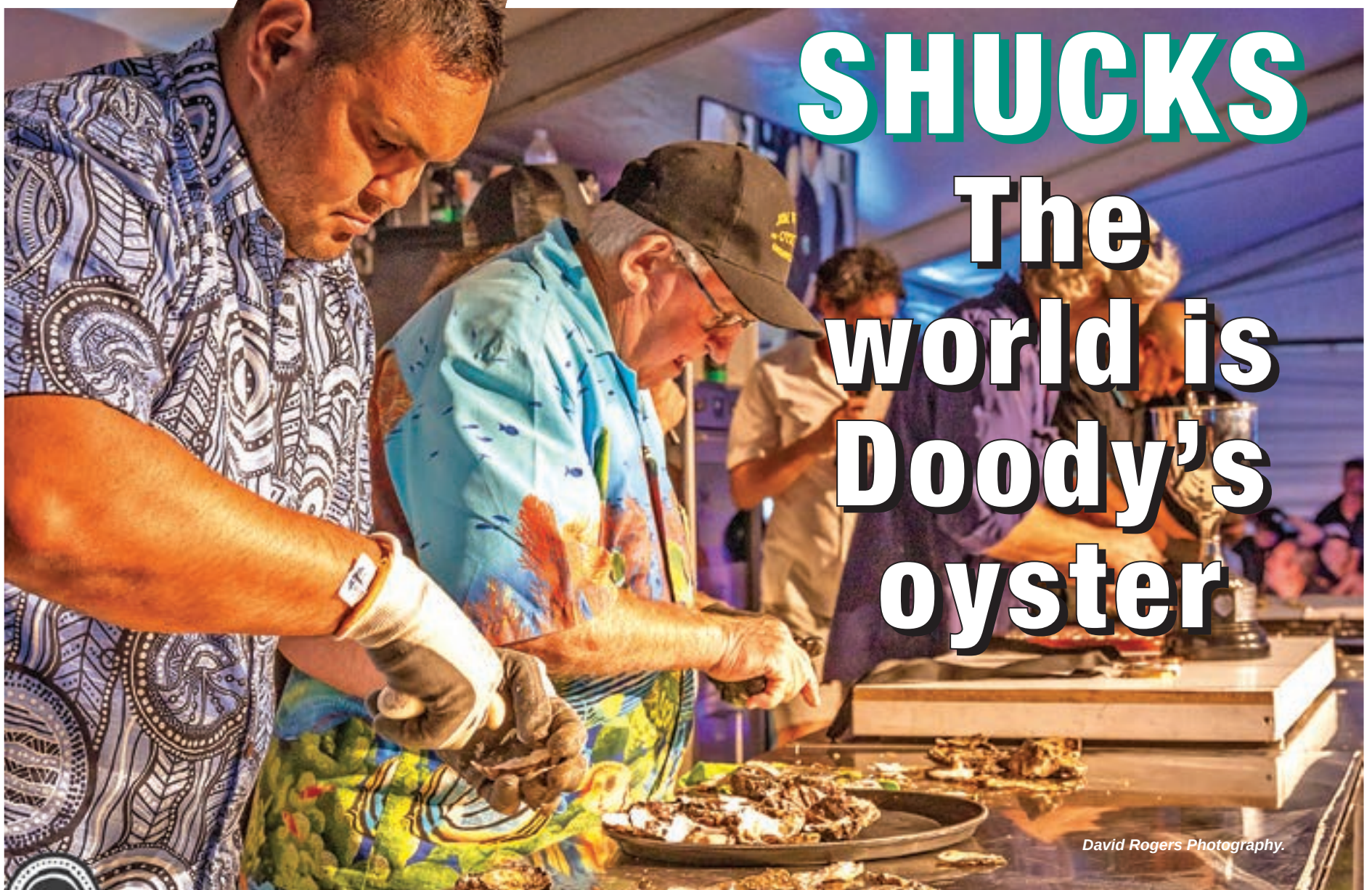
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SHUCKS The world is Doody's oyster

David Rogers Photography.



After winning the shucking competition at last year's Narooma Oyster Festival, Gerard 'Doody' Dennis travelled to Ireland to compete among the best in the world. Now he's sharpening his skills once again, hoping to take out the competition at this year's festival, which takes place May 3-4. [Full story, page 5.](#)

Springs of discontent

By NICK PATON



WALKING through Todd Street Mall in Mparntwe/Alice Springs at 9.30am on a

Monday, it's hard to believe the tired-looking shopping strip was once a bustling tourist mecca.

But these days, most of the shutters on the shops are down, the mall is all but deserted, broken glass is scattered along footpaths, and there's a high level of security and police presence roaming

the streets. And that's just during the daytime.

If you're lucky though, you may even be greeted with a chilling spray of blood spatter on a roller shutter as you enter the mall.

When approached by the *Koori Mail*, an Arrernte woman in the mall who asked to be referred to as 'Ms Arrernte', said what's happening in Mparntwe recently – in terms of the negative portrayal of Aboriginal people there by certain media organisations – 'is just disgusting'.

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- Editorial, page 20



Blood-splattered shutters greet the weary traveller in the heart of Todd Mall, Alice Springs.

Elders crying to be heard



IN Alice Springs, Aboriginal Elders are crying out to be heard and say that unless the voices of the community are listened to, the cycle of over-policing and crime is doomed to be repeated.

Arrernte man William Tilmouth, the founding chair of Children's Ground, an Aboriginal organisation that focuses

on prevention, early intervention and empowerment rather than crisis and deficit says Aboriginal people are the most policed people in the world and also subjected to the greatest injustice, racism and oppression.

"We have a history of over-incarceration of our people and over-representation in the criminal justice system," he said.

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Who is Bruce Pascoe riling up now? See page 19

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Archie Moore has major win at Venice Biennale

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Why Gary Lang is passionate about dance

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MY FAMILY

Patricia Harry (Warraber Island) TS



It was an emotional family time for myself and two sons Tony jnr and Roman, and four daughters Simona, Sylvia, Jophina and Kelita when we gathered to remember my late husband and their father Tony Harry senior.

It was during the Zenadth Kes volleyball carnival (April 4-7) when people travelled from many different islands to participate and compete.

Tony, who sadly passed away last September, was much loved and respected on Warraber and around the Torres Strait and beyond.

A memorial trophy in his honour was presented to an individual award winner in the ladies division, and it was donated by Ella Kris who had been a work colleague of Tony and a friend.

Tony got involved in a lot of sports in this region and represented Torres Strait down south.

He was a very good husband for me and a great father for our children. He had a heart of gold and wanted to see our youth get into sport.

Tony was known as a very humble and caring person and a quiet achiever and volleyball was one of his favourite sports. He always played at carnivals and social games.

This carnival was an emotional event for us because he is not with us and seeing his sons playing for the first time.

One of our sons Roman got men's player of the carnival. So it was emotional for me as well as exciting to see our achievements. I can say we miss having Tony around us. We will always love and remember him for who he was.

The Tony Harry memorial trophy was presented to Lottie Misick for being the best server in the women's division.

Lots of family and friends who knew Tony came from other places including Poruma, Masig, Darnley, Murray, Saibai, Yam, Hammond Islands and Thursday Islands. It attracted more than 400 visitors, who arrived on Warraber early, before the carnival commenced.

Everybody enjoyed a big welcome feast at the local sporting oval and a farewell feast after the games.

All available accommodation on Warraber was booked out but there was lots of good food and family time.

Many visitors were billeted on Warraber with family and friends and it was very busy here during the carnival.

The conditions this time were perfect for small boat travel. This was a wonderful family event for us.

Tony Harry jnr, Simona Harry, Mrs Patricia Harry, Lottie Misick, Sylvia Harry, Roman Harry, Jophina Harry and Kelita Harry.

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 VISITORS

You never know who is going to drop by the Koori Mail offices in Lismore for a yarn. Television personality Miriam Margolyes rolled up for a chat with the boss, Naomi Moran, during the filming of her current series, *Miriam Margolyes Impossibly Australian*, and more recently, the outgoing Governor General of Australia, David Hurley, and his wife Linda, paid a visit.

● Miriam Margolyes *Impossibly Australian* can be seen on ABC Iviv.

● Any mistakes in the last edition should be addressed to our fill-in proof reader, 'Dave'.



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Matty gets motivated to take on the push-up challenge for mental health

By NICK PATON

WARNING: Readers are advised this story mentions themes of suicide and self-harm.



REGISTRATIONS are now open for The Push-Up Challenge, Australia's largest mental health and fitness event.

From June 5-28, participants will take on 3,249 push-ups across 24 days, putting the spotlight on the tragic number of lives lost to suicide in Australia in 2022.

Media star, Indigenous & LGBTQIA+ advocate and Health & Wellness Influencer Matty Mills, a proud Kamilaroi man, is taking part in this year's challenge.

He said the challenge is a great way to get fit, connect with your community, and learn about mental health – all while honouring lives tragically lost to suicide.

"When you look at the amount of people who took their own lives in 2022, it really is a shocking statistic," Matty told the *Koori Mail*.

"It's just an astounding figure."

"Talking about mental health can be a really tough thing for our people and really is something that can affect a lot of us," he said.

Mind blowing

"As a young Blakfella, I know that suicide is something that is quite common in our communities and is the leading cause of death for Blakfella's under 25, which in itself is absolutely mind blowing."

The Push-Up Challenge is a free event, and participants can choose to fundraise and support beneficiary partners Lifeline or Headspace, or the charity which runs the event, Push for Better Foundation. Fundraising is an optional part of the challenge.

"I'm taking part in this, even though the initiative isn't being directly aimed at our communities, because it's about the wider conversation across the nation and the impact this event can have in raising awareness," Matty said.



Media personality, Indigenous & LGBTQIA+ advocate and Health & Wellness Influencer Matty Mills is taking part in The Push-Up Challenge this year to raise awareness for better mental health.

"The 3,249 push-ups does sound like a really large number, but you can do this on your own, or with a group or team, and so you can break down the push-ups and complete the initiative without feeling too

overwhelmed," he said.

"But one of the best things about taking part in the challenge is that every day when you're doing your push-ups and heading towards that goal, you are

provided with a mental health fact, so each day you learn something new about mental health awareness and the common misconceptions out there, but also some of the statistics and current figures on suicide, which can be quite alarming."

In 2023, more than 215,000 participants completed 300 million push-ups and raised over \$14.7 million for mental health.

Important cause

"This is just such an important cause," Matty said.

"I'm going to use all the platforms I can, whether it's through TV or through my podcast, radio, or my social media, so I can get the word out there," he said.

"From the profile that I created through the Push-Up Challenge App, I will be able to share important information, my progress, and people will be able to donate.

"The money that is raised will then go towards services that provide specialised types of care, and will also provide funding for mental health programs for the work that needs to be done on the ground."

Matty said it's terrifying to think that in a country like Australia, the statistics on suicide are so high.

"Suicide doesn't just affect the people whose lives are taken by it," Matty said.

"It also affects their family and loved ones and friends and community who are left behind."

"I'm getting involved in this challenge to show the younger Mob out there who might have those dark thoughts, or struggle with their mental health, or they feel as though they're not valued in this world, that we can give them a different message and let them know that there are different types of services out there that they can turn to," Matty said.

"These services can really help people get through the day-to-day and can stop an individual, or many people, from taking their own lives."

Register for The Push-Up Challenge as an individual, team, or get your whole workplace, club, gym or school involved at www.thepushupchallenge.com.au

Death of 10-year-old boy in state care 'a tragedy'



THE parents of a 10-year-old boy who took his own life in state care were made to jump through "hoop after hoop" in their failed bid to be reunited, an advocate says.

The child, who cannot be named for legal reasons, died on Friday night in Perth while under the care of the Department of Communities.

WA Premier Roger Cook said the death was concerning and a tragedy and he would support expediting the coronial inquest.

National Suicide Prevention and Trauma Recovery Project director Megan Krakouer said the boy was removed from his parents' care four days before Christmas in 2020 when they were living in a tent.

She said they had created a stable home in the years since and were working with the department in an attempt to reunite their family but it had been unsupportive and judgemental.

Hearts broken

"Their hearts are broken," she said on Thursday. "They are good people, respectful people, loving people."

Ms Krakouer, who is acting for the parents, said they felt there had been an incredible power imbalance and the department had ignored them as they attempted to reunite their family.

"They made them jump through hoop after hoop after hoop," she said.

"Some of the words they used

were 'grooming' and 'manipulation' and they also said ... they were being looked down upon."

Ms Krakouer said the first time the boy's parents had been permitted to see him as a couple since he was removed from their care was at a morgue.

She said the department had failed the family.

"Twenty-six case managers over four years and there was not even a cultural safety plan," she said.

Mr Cook said the boy's death was "very sad" and had left him with "cause for reflection".

"It's always horrible when you see a young child resort to what must be the most desperate act, which is the act of taking one's own life," he said.

"(It) makes you wonder what

else we can do to make sure that we keep young people safe."

The Department of Communities said it could not comment on individual cases.

"The death of any child or young person is a tragedy which has a devastating impact on the families, friends and communities involved," a spokesman said.

Coronial inquest

"Any death of a child in care automatically triggers a coronial inquest and we support all matters of this nature being investigated."

Deputy Prime Minister Richard Marles said it was "impossible not to be moved by" the boy's death and it was a "tragic circumstance".

"It certainly does speak to the fact that we have enormous

challenges going forward in relation to closing the gap," he told ABC TV.

Indigenous Affairs Minister Linda Burney said the death was "shocking, heartbreaking and demands deep reflection".

"My heart goes out to the family and community in WA that has lost a son so young," she posted on X.

Senator Lidia Thorpe called on the federal government to implement the recommendations of the 1997 Bringing Them Home report.

"Minister Burney and the Prime Minister are failing to protect First Nations children," she said.

"They should be deeply ashamed of the news of this young boy's death."

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Alice Springs celebrates festival of lights



THOUSANDS of people attended opening night at this year's Parrtjima – A Festival in Light, and as the free 10-night festival rolled

on, thousands more turned out to soak up the spectacular installations under star-studded desert skies.

From April 12-21, both locals and tourists flocked to the Alice Springs Desert Park to watch the night sky above Mparntwe/Alice

Springs light up against the backdrop of a 300-million-year-old canvas, the MacDonnell Ranges. Full story and pictures, page 43.

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Class updates

I've been a teacher for 25 years and I have seen the slow and gradual increase of First Nations history and beauty being celebrated in the national curriculum. It's been frustrating and hard to be a part of a system that for more years than not, simply didn't teach or talk about First Nations perspectives in classrooms. Years of putting NAIDOC posters on staffroom tables, only to be ignored and thrown away.

Unfortunately, there have been decades where it was easy and never questioned when a teacher would simply not teach anything to do with First Nations history and culture. I know of children aged 19 now, who have never heard of the Stolen Generations – that's usually what teachers get right.

The national curriculum is as good as the teacher using it, especially when it comes to teaching First Nations perspectives.

In 2021 we saw cross-curriculum priorities that were exciting, but often overlooked by teachers as there was no true accountability for them.

To those of you who have never looked at a curriculum, teachers use it to help them create their ideas and resources for what they want to teach. More times than not, they choose what they are comfortable teaching.

First Nations people know that education and truth telling in schools will make a huge difference in the fabric of



Shelley Ware

Australia moving forward. We need the rest of Australia to connect to the beauty and understand the impacts of colonisation, so they can identify their privilege and the role they play in creating real change in equity and equality.

Finally, last year we saw a new standard that was going to keep our children safe. Teachers are required (mandated) to make sure that First Nations children feel culturally safe at school.

This has been embraced by many and is doing wonders for our children, but too many have ignored it because they don't have a connection or knowledge of First Nations cultures and people – or feel they don't have enough First Nations students at their school to worry about it.

Now, we see some hopeful and exciting times ahead. There

was a review of the national curriculum recently and an updated curriculum that included First Nations voices was released.

They have done a fantastic job of updating the national curriculum, when you open it up, First Nations perspectives are at the top of the lists of what teachers are required to teach, in every year level.

There are more First Nations stories, history, people, culture and celebrations of blak excellence than we have ever seen. It's actually really exciting.

Now we have to get teachers up-to-date. There are huge things happening in schools, but a big part of it needs to be the self-education of teachers.

They have to put the hard work in, so the schools are culturally safe for our children – and children from different cultures are connecting to the truth, which will bring empathy and understanding.

They will also connect to the beauty and intelligence of our culture and people.

So I remain hopeful and still believe that education is going to be the difference.

This change in our national curriculum is a big step forward and I am excited to see where it takes schools and our children in the future – especially when they become adults who can vote and make decisions that affect us all.

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

Doody proves the world is his oyster

By MARION WILLIAMS



HOW did a Gamilaraay man from Walgett, some 460 kilometres from the coast, end up representing Australia at the world oyster opening championship?

As Gerard 'Doody' Dennis says, "being Aboriginal from the black soil plains and representing Australia in opening oysters is quite ironic". Perhaps his great-grandmother, a Yuin woman who was stolen from Wallaga Lake, passed something down to him.

Mr Dennis moved to Batemans Bay when he was 14. Through school he did work experience at T & J Lucas Oysters and then worked weekends at Batemans Bay Oysters. He loved the work – it was physical and out on the water – so started a two-year traineeship for a Certificate IV in Aquaculture with C & J Single Seed Oysters. He completed it at Batemans Bay Oysters where he did quality tests and sampling.

"Jimbo (Yiannaros of Batemans Bay Oysters) could see I could open oysters. He said there is money to be made and directed me to the Surfside processing plant," Mr Dennis said. "I opened some oysters and that was how it started in 2007."

Some nine years later he entered Narooma Oyster Festival's shucking competition. He went on to be placed second once, third once and win all the others. He competed in the World Oyster Opening Championships in Galway, Ireland, for the first time in September 2023.

Narooma Rocks runs the Narooma Oyster Festival. Narooma Rocks chair Cath Peachey travelled with Mr Dennis to Ireland.

"Doody was an outstanding ambassador, not just for Aboriginal people, but also for the whole country. There is a fantastic parade along the cobbled streets of Galway and he proudly walked along with both flags," Ms Peachey said.

When the competition entrants introduced themselves, she said Doody was by far the most articulate and the only one who thanked his sponsors. His



Gerard 'Doody' Dennis won last year's oyster shucking competition at the Narooma Oyster Festival and is hoping to repeat the performance at this year's event. Picture: David Rogers Photography.

interest and passion saw him being invited to judge the Irish championships. From that he learnt what was important to the competition judges. That was valuable because the European flat oysters at the world championships were very different from the Sydney rock oysters that Mr Dennis had mastered.

World championship

The world championship is huge and prestigious. Tickets cost \$150. Mr Dennis said he was not nervous until he saw the other entrants practising. "I thought I suppose I should get over there and learn how to do it, but I was more interested in watching them and seeing their techniques," he said.

The atmosphere at the championships was different too. "People aren't yelling your name. They are yelling 'go Australia'. That blew my mind. Deep down, while I was shucking oysters, I was smiling," Mr Dennis said.

With his big build, many people thought he was an Islander. Once corrected, there

was considerable interest in his Aboriginality. Ms Peachey said he was the perfect person to educate them. "Doody has a very nice way that brings them along on the journey," she said.

Mr Dennis now works as an engagement officer for Southern NSW Local Health District to make healthcare facilities and services more inclusive. He is involved in several projects, notably the planned Eurobodalla Regional Hospital, and works with several community programs, including Aunty Jean's, a program for Elders between Batemans Bay and Moruya with chronic disease.

"My main focus with the hospital is the future care and management of the Aboriginal artefacts on the site and employment opportunities. It is a pilot project about including Aboriginal knowledge into the build, its architecture and landscaping," he said.

Come cheer on Mr Dennis at this year's Australian oyster shucking championships at the Narooma Oyster Festival on Saturday, May 4.



Doody and his wife Sammy fly the flags in Galway. Picture: Cath Peachey

'No one is keeping count' of murdered Indigenous women



ABORIGINAL and Torres Strait Islander women haven't just vanished from their homes, families and Country – they have disappeared, an inquiry was told.

Witness after witness in a Darwin hearing of the Senate inquiry into missing and murdered First Nations women and children detailed how racial stereotypes, lack of cultural understanding, inadequate resources, disadvantage and grossly inappropriate policing mean that Indigenous victims of violence are falling through the cracks.

Rachel Neary, coordinator of the Kungas (Women) Stopping Violence Program run by the North Australia Aboriginal Justice Association (NAAJA) in Alice Springs, works with Indigenous women who have been in prison

and have a history of violent offending.

Ms Neary told the inquiry that all the women she works with also have been victims of violence.

"Our clients will tell us regularly that when they're in prison they feel like they've been forgotten and like they don't exist," Ms Neary said.

"Though alive, incarceration means they have little or no access to family, Country and culture and services.

Disappeared

"They have, for all intents and purposes, also been disappeared."

Prison is the antithesis of Aboriginal traditional ways of justice, which are primarily centred around restoring relationships, not isolation, Ms Neary said.

"There are also overlaps with women who have disappeared into alcoholism as a way of dealing with the domestic violence and trauma

that they have experienced, often compounded by childhood and adult unresolved grief and trauma," she said.

"These women are often so isolated and the cycles of attending rehab centres and prisons and living lives with homelessness, experiencing extreme levels of violence.

"As an example, one of our elderly homeless clients who struggles with alcohol dependency, had her eye removed last week following her husband hitting her with a stick and while she's not murdered or missing, the world around her is slowly disappearing, just like meaningful health has disappeared from her life."

Dr Chay Brown, a specialist domestic family and sexual violence researcher affiliated with the Australian National University and Tangentyere Council in Alice Springs, said the Northern Territory

has the highest rate of domestic violence in the country – and among the highest in the world.

Violence in the NT disproportionately affects First Nations women, who are eight times more likely to be assaulted than non-Indigenous women and almost 13 times likely to be killed by their intimate partner.

Fraction of the story

"As shocking as these figures may be, they only tell a fraction of the story or the very tip of the iceberg," Dr Brown said.

"And this is because approximately only 10 per cent of domestic family and sexual violence is reported to formal agencies like police.

"And when it comes to intimate partner violence or domestic violence homicides, the reality is that no one is keeping count."

Rachael Hill, from the North

Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Service (NAAFLS), said in the 49 communities they work in, there are only 19 safehouses for women fleeing violence and only three of those were Aboriginal controlled organisations.

"These are chronically underfunded, understaffed and undervalued yet when properly funded, they were a source of employment, a symbol of women's rights and a source of community pride, such as the Galiwinku women's space," she said.

Takeaway message

"The one takeaway message ... is that the only way to tackle domestic violence in our 49 remote communities is community.

"Community controlled and community led solutions, in NAAFLS' view, everything else will be temporary, transcendent and transactional."

– AAP

Springs of discontent flow through the town of Alice

By NICK PATON



WALKING through Todd Street Mall in Mparntwe/Alice Springs at 9.30am on a Monday, it's hard to believe the tired-looking shopping strip was once a bustling tourist mecca.

But these days, most of the shutters on the shops are down, the mall is all but deserted, broken glass is scattered along footpaths, and there's a high level of security and police presence roaming the streets. And that's just during the daytime.

If you're lucky enough though, you may even be greeted with a chilling spray of blood spatter on a roller shutter as you enter the mall.

When approached by the *Koori Mail*, an Arrernte woman in the mall who asked to be referred to as 'Ms Arrernte', said what's happening in Mparntwe recently – in terms of the negative portrayal of Aboriginal people there by certain media organisations – 'is just disgusting'.

"What, so we're going to blame all of the town's troubles on some kids? And some smashed windows?"

"Kids trashing things happens in every town and every city in this country, so why is the media putting all the focus on our community?" she said.

"Has anyone asked the questions 'why' the kids are roaming the city streets at night? Why aren't they at home with their parents? Well, the answers are all there, and for some of these kids, not all, but for some of these kids it's safer for them to not be around a parent who may be affected back at the town camp," she said.

"So the kids, they come in here to town, just so they don't have to be around that person or environment, but there's nothing for them to do in town – and so they run amok."

Visible trauma

Ending just last week, Alice Springs youth spent almost three weeks under curfew.

The emergency measure was introduced on March 27 in the wake of a series of violent incidents, including an attack on an Alice Springs pub and a brawl involving up to 150 people.

It meant between 6pm to 6am, young people under the age of 18 couldn't enter the CBD without a "lawful purpose".

As mentioned in a recent report by ABC news, crime – and the influx of children into jails and the criminal justice system – might be the visible trauma in Alice Springs, but there are many other areas of trauma that First Nations leaders argue go drastically underfunded.

The shocking, unacceptable deaths of dozens of Aboriginal mothers, for example.

Or the long-term impacts of The Intervention on families in Central Australia, which some research suggests, led to a drop in school attendance and birth weight.

Often omitted from mainstream



Todd Street Mall in Mparntwe/Alice Springs used to be a thriving tourist destination for people passing through the town.

reporting is that many of the teenagers who have broken into houses and businesses over the past few years in Alice Springs are the children of The Intervention, a shockingly racist policy brought about by the then Howard government.

These kids have grown up under heated political debates over alcohol policy, hand-wringing about over-crowded housing, income management, and forced school attendance.

Ms Arrernte said that with the issues facing the town, 'everything is interconnected'.

"No curfew is going to stop these kids causing trouble in town, it's their parents who have that responsibility to teach these kids the difference between right and wrong, but if their parents are suffering from the effects of The Intervention, forced government policy, intergenerational trauma, alcoholism, or drug addiction, and the kid doesn't feel safe back at the town camp with them – then it's a stalemate. What's the kid supposed to do?"

But even though declaring 'parents need to take responsibility' might feel like an easy answer, it's politicians at the end of the day who are responsible for decisions that have negatively impacted Aboriginal people for decades.

Tragically, a lot of Aboriginal families have had parental responsibility stripped from them and in fact, entire Indigenous communities have had limited power over the policies that affect them.

Representation

"Look around," Ms Arrernte said.

"Where's our representation here as Aboriginal people? Yeah, they've spent money paying for a couple of bright murals in the mall, but that's it?"

"What have our young ones got to be inspired about in town when there is nothing to honour them? Or our people – the Traditional Owners of this Country?"

"There is nothing for these kids



The only representation of Aboriginal people on ANZAC Hill is a tiny sign depicting its traditional name.

to do in town. The NT Government are in the middle of spending \$5 million dollars 'revitalising' the CBD with ugly shade shelters and things like that, but wouldn't some of that five million be better spent on investing in us, as Arrernte people?"

"You could do something like create 50 ongoing, new, Ranger positions for Aboriginal people in the city with that kind of money, where they would take care of the gardens and streetscapes, or care for Country programs, or even just talking to tourists in the mall – telling them all about the town's ancient Arrernte history?"

"I really do think it's on purpose that we remain unseen."

Near the mall, on a sacred Arrernte dreaming site, sits a massive ANZAC memorial, aptly named 'ANZAC Hill', built in 1939 to honour the First World War.

The traditional Arrernte name for the hill is 'Untyeyetwelye'.

"And yet, there's nothing to represent us Mob up on that hill," Ms Arrernte said.

"Nothing. None of our diggers who served, none of our people who were conscripted into those wars, it's just white people's names and their stories," Ms Arrernte said.

"It's just one example, but how is the next generation of young Mob here supposed to be OK about that? And take pride? Where is the representation of Mob on that hill, and what the sacred site means to us as

Arrernte people? Where are the names of the Black soldiers?"

It's only in recent times that a small wooden sign was added to the existing 'Lions Walk' sign at the bottom of the hill, barely visible unless up close, to honour the traditional name of the hill.

The Aboriginal flag and the Torres Strait Islander flag now fly permanently on the hill next to the Australian flag – except on ANZAC Day.

"There's hundreds of ANZAC memorials like this one all over Australia – hundreds – and I'd like to see Untyeyetwelye [ANZAC Hill] handed back to the Arrernte so that the young ones can get involved in turning it back to what is a very sacred site for us Arrernte Mob," Ms Arrernte said.

"Just imagine that, kids actually taking pride in their culture because they can see that they, and their ancestors, are being honoured in a massive way," she said.

"Surely that's going to give these kids a sense of pride and self-worth?"

"But – you can't be what you can't see."

Ms Arrernte said she would like to see a huge statue up on ANZAC Hill, of an Arrernte Elder, maybe even one of her matriarchs, for everyone to see.

"Or maybe it's a cultural sculpture, so that people can learn about the true history of this place, and the Arrernte people, when they pass through.

"This will give our Mob a real sense of belonging to this place, and purpose to get up in the morning, because they will be taking care of a sacred site, talking to tourists up there on the hill about our statue, and most importantly, they can begin to take pride in a town their ancestors have called home for thousands of years."

"But this is just one example of making us blakfella's more visible in our own town, in a positive way, as opposed to how we are often portrayed – which is in a negative way."

Solutions

In a recent interview with Indigenous Community Television, Alice Springs town councillor, Alyawarre man Michael Liddle, echoed the sentiment saying the council should build a statue of an Arrernte ancestor somewhere in Alice Springs to honour its Traditional Owners.

He hopes the statue will make people show more respect for Country, and the town of Mparntwe, and the Arrernte people.

"What we're missing here in Mparntwe is the presence of a man who belonged to this Country, who was the head person, who played the role of a head identity of senior Arrernte people from a long time ago," he said.

"When you look around now you see the missing of Arrernte men, the existence of these men is sort of extinguished," he said.

"The existence of Arrernte men, who can speak about Country ... has diminished."

With so many strong ancestors to choose from, Councillor Liddle said there's only one person he has in mind for the statue who stands out as the best choice.

"There's an old senior man, who was a chief informant in the early days of colonisation, and the English name given to him is 'King Charlie', and the line that he held for this Country was as Owner.

"I've spoken to the family and descendants who belong to that old man here in town and the family get really enthused by the idea."

"And so I think it's high time that we need to balance up the history of Mparntwe Alice Springs."

Like the war memorial upon on ANZAC Hill, Councillor Liddle said other groups have had their ancestors empower their own people through positive representation, so why not the Arrernte people?

"We need some goodness to happen here and some recognition of the Aboriginal people that belong to this Country," he said.

"And that hasn't happened."

"What we need is a profile around this place, and that's sort of missing, and we need to invigorate that."

For this idea to become a reality, the next step, Councillor Liddle said, is for fellow councillors to approve the idea of a statue at the next Council meeting.

● Editorial page 20

Children failed by system, say First Nations groups



Youth in the outback town of Alice Springs were under a night time curfew for weeks. (AAP file pic)



IN Alice Springs, Aboriginal Elders are crying out to be heard and say that unless the voices of the community are listened to, the cycle of over-policing and crime is doomed to be repeated.

Arrernte man William Tilmouth, the founding chair of Children's Ground, an Aboriginal organisation that focuses on prevention, early intervention and empowerment rather than crisis and deficit says Aboriginal people are the most policed people in the world and also subjected to the greatest injustice, racism and oppression.

"We have a history of over-incarceration of our people and over-representation in the criminal justice system," he said.

"The damage that this does and how this response perpetuates trauma in our families and in our culture."

Youth in the outback town of Alice Springs have been under a night time curfew for weeks since violence broke out after a funeral.

The curfew lifted on Tuesday, April 16, coinciding with school going back.

Children's Ground wants to see comprehensive government investment into learning, health, culture and wellbeing and says policies that promote punitive measures will see history repeat.

"This is a created condition from generations of neglect," Mr Tilmouth said.

"Anyone walking into any community or town camp or homeland will be struck by the abject lack of community facilities, infrastructure, resources and opportunities and the devastating overcrowding.

"Our children and young people have been failed by the system and that must be addressed now."

The Ngaanyatjarra Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Women's Council, an Anangu-led organisation that delivers health, social and cultural services in Central Australia, says young people deserve the best possible chances in life.

"Whilst we understand there is currently a crisis with the rates and extent of youth crime in central Australia, we believe a greater

investment in early intervention and support for families that are struggling, and a whole of systems review in to education, employment, housing and health, is the start to a brighter future," the council said.

"We know that when young people and their families are supported and given an equal platform to meaningfully participate in their communities, they can thrive.

"Under the current backdrop of extreme economic disadvantage, limited educational and employment opportunities and the hurdles of cultural and language differences, it is no surprise that there is a level of frustration amongst young people living in remote communities."

Both organisations run successful programs that work with families and communities, taking a holistic approach.

Calling for support

And both say they have been repeatedly calling for support – but those calls are not being heeded.

"Generations of families have been forced into economic poverty and young people are struggling," Mr Tilmouth said.

"We have known this for decades and we have presented solutions for decades.

"Children's Ground is giving people that agency, that voice, that choice in how they want to do things."

Legal and human rights organisations too have repeatedly raised concerns that focusing on police and 'tough-on-crime' rhetoric will only make things worse.

The North Australian Aboriginal Justice Agency has warned that focusing too much on policing risks potential disaster.

"Given the over-policing of Aboriginal Territorians that has already contributed to an unacceptably high rate of incarceration, any investment in policing resources must be matched with a commensurate investment in the criminal justice system, including courts and specialised legal services," the agency said.

"As we said previously, the Northern Territory is facing significant challenges when it comes to crime

and offending and we need evidence-based solutions with an eye on the longer term – intensive support programs, diversion, education, and related services – not knee-jerk reactions and bandaid policies."

For decades the women's council has continually called for bilingual and strengthened educational opportunities for young people out bush and more support for youth services offering meaningful activities in remote Central Australian communities.

The organisation's youth service engages young people through sport and social programs, case management and educational opportunities – all the things young people in urban and regional centres have ready access to.

The council is calling for the creation of real and meaningful work opportunities out bush, like their Iwara (internship) program that works with young Anangu, aged 18-25, to develop an understanding of the workplace, building confidence and practical skills for jobs like literacy and administration.

But, although Iwara is a successful initiative with many graduates now employed, the program is always in jeopardy because of chronic underfunding, and relies on donations and savings.

"We know that investing in families is a more cost effective way to create a harmonious community in Alice Springs, but it relies on governments to partner in this deeper and sustainable vision," the council spokesperson said.

The way Children's Ground works is to focus on interconnectedness, bringing family, culture, education and health together, and the organisation is also advocating for major systemic changes.

"We've lived in this country for as long as anyone can remember, some use the timeframe of 65,000 years - and you must have learned something in that time," Mr Tilmouth said.

"Aboriginal people learn from nature and, as a result, we survived that length of time.

"Under this western model of colonisation, we struggle." – AAP

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Lifelong love for dancing



Gary Lang.

By LIINA FLYNN



GARY Lang's earliest memory of dancing was when his mother put some music on, lifted him up

onto the table – and wearing her wedding dress, held his fingers and twirled around.

Gary's childhood memory of dancing with his mother was just the start of his lifelong love of dance. Now the Larrakia man is at the helm of his own dance company that he started six years ago. Now his NT Dance Company is touring Australia with his its new work *The Other Side of Me*, and is set to perform at the Garrmalang Festival this May.

Heritage

With a white father and a mother with Aboriginal and Philipino heritage, Gary grew up in the Northern Territory.

He told the *Koori Mail* that before he started the NT Dance Company, his first profession was as a hairdresser. Then, at the age of 21, Gary went to NAISDA Dance College, then danced with three other companies, including Bangarra.

"But I was disheartened when I sustained an injury and I came home to Darwin to look after grandma," Gary said.

"Then one day I was driving along with a friend who pulled up to the back of a dance studio. My friend pulled out tracksuit pants for me and said 'you're here to teach dance'.

"So I did. Then I formed the NT Dance Company."

It wasn't all easy though, because in order to keep the

company afloat, Gary worked four jobs, including his original trade as a hairdresser.

"It was only in the last three years that I've started to receive a wage from the dance company," he said.

Stolen Generations

Gary's latest production *The Other Side of Me*, is a dance duet, set in a prison.

The work was inspired by the story of a young Aboriginal man, born in the 1960s in the Northern Territory, who was removed from his family and taken to an orphanage in Alice Springs.

It was there that a missionary and his wife adopted him and took him to live in Cornwall, England.

Gary created two characters to tell the story in stage – one Aboriginal and one white. He describes them as "two sides of the same coin".

"The lady from the UK who told me the story was penpals with one of the boys," he said.

"She wanted to create his story in theatre and thought dance would be the best way to honour his writings.

"So, I read all his letters to her and could hear his voice through his words, and feel what he was feeling.

"Their foster mother said at the time, she thought she was doing a good thing. The government told her, change their names and wipe away their identities.

"Now, that is the crime. Both boys eventually died in custody after living dysfunctional lives – in and out of prisons.

"My Auntie Josie told me if I was going to tell a story about

the Stolen Generations, that I needed to make it about all the Mob this has happened to.

Jail

"So I talked to my young nephew who's been in jail and had mentored other young people.

"He set the scene for me and said, in jail the day routine never changes, but the main head-f**k is at night – when you're by yourself and there's nothing but the idle chattering of memory ticking over.

"*The Other Side of Me* is all about the head-f**k they experience after coming down from drugs and alcohol and they are in jail."

Gary's advice for anyone coming to see the 45-minute dance production with a question and answer session at the end is: "don't come with preconceived ideas".

"You'll resonate with the story, particularly if your soul or life has experienced any of the emotions the performers go through," Gary said.

"It offers insights into the mind of a man struggling to re-evaluate his life in light of his and First Nations Australian origins on the other side of the world.

Other Side of Me

Gary said the two dancers in the show are his nephews – one an Indigenous man and one a non-Indigenous man – and they interplay on the stage through dance.

"The Indigenous boy is like spirit," he said. "Others cultures may call it a guardian angel who looks after you. The other boy is the one having a mind-f**k.

"It's powerful to see two strong men on stage dancing, owning their space in an intensely physical show."

With an original musical composition as the backdrop, Gary said the show combines classical music with modern dance moves and energy.

"I ask the dancers to dance to a Tina Turner song, then keep that same energy and dance to classical music in the same way," he said.

Cultural protocol

Gary said when he's working on a new creative production he always follows protocol and asks permission from traditional custodians before using cultural content.

He also likes to take his team out onto Country, where they can immerse themselves in the sights sounds and smells and find inspiration.

Gary and his team returned to North East Arnhem Land to work with cultural advisor Banula Marika to gather permissions and audio recordings to use manikay (ancestral songs of Arnhem Land) as the foundation for the coming compositions.

"The cultural Elders show them the land, so when they start to create the music and lighting design, they know the through their senses what touches them," he said.

The essence

"They feel the essence of the land and get an understanding of it – how the sunset breaks through the bush, the smells."

When he's not working on creating new productions, Gary runs workshops in remote

Aboriginal communities, bringing creative opportunities to young people there.

He's been working with the Yirrkala community and said staying in the community for a longer period of time was the key to all work with remote communities.

"When I go there, I stay for five weeks at a time," he said. "The first week, the community is just getting to know you, then we start creating a show.

"Continuity is important, so the community knows you will come back again the next year."

Advice

Gary's advice to other Indigenous creatives is to have the "greatest courage" in what they strive for.

"I hope I can inspire people to do what they want to do," he said.

"Remember that what people think of you is none of your business. If someone points at you, always look at the other three finger-pointing back at themselves.

"When young people come to dance, don't put down those who have before you, because you too will be there one day.

"And always remember you've gotta pay the bills, so do the work you need to do to make it happen."

Gary Lang and the NT Dance Company have partnered with BlakDance as tour producer to take *The Other Side of Me* on national tour.

● As well and playing at Garrmalang Festival in Darwin from May 22-25, the show plays in Perth at the Heath Ledger Theatre on April 30 and May 1 and 2.



Scenes from the *Other Side of Me*, which features two of Gary Lang's nephews as the dancers. The show combines classical music with modern dance moves and energy.

Emma returns to country with new album

By ALI MC



AFTER eight years fronting the soul-funk outfit The Putbacks, Emma Donovan has just launched her new solo album, *Til My Song is Done*.

The record is a return to her childhood singing country and gospel music, and an ode to the family members who inspired her.

"It's a family kind of thing," she told the *Koori Mail*. "I grew up singing country. I want to make my family proud."

Donovan describes her family members recording songs on an old cassette player; those tapes would be passed through the hands of many families, the songs eventually sung by young Emma on local stages.

"We'd be waiting for nan and pop to visit because we knew the latest cassette of Uncle Roger or Uncle Col would be travelling down," she said. "Those cassettes were like gold."

The Gumbaynggirr, Dhangutti, Nagujaa and Bibbulman singer has come a long way since those childhood days, as part of the Stiff Gins and Black Arm Band, and The Putbacks.

However, the introspection of Covid lockdowns – when her touring schedule with The Putbacks was halted – led her to rediscover her love of those old songs and begin writing the new material.

"The songs had been floating around for as long as when we were in COVID. Some of the ideas started from then," Donovan said, explaining that while normally she would co-write music with members of The Putbacks, on this occasion she wanted to branch out on her own.



Emma Donovan.

Picture: Ian Laidlaw

"Creatively, I wanted to try and start off most of these tunes, as much by myself as I could," she said. "The simple ideas, simple chords, old familiar melodies I've grown up with."

Tribute

Til My Song Is Done features a personal dedication to her mother, which she sung at her funeral.

"There is also a song called *Sing You Over*, which is about singing somebody into the afterlife. When my mum passed, I sang it for her," she told the *Koori Mail*.

Country and gospel music has long woven through the experiences of First Nations' communities across the continent, a reflection of the old mission days.

Such was the case for Emma Donovan's grandparents.

"Before my grandfather was writing these gospel tunes and country tunes, he was living on the mission in Bowraville," she explained.

And he met my nan that came from another mission over in Burnt Bridge in Kempsey. They knew the same songs, these old church songs from the mission days."

Donovan described how the older generation identified with the hard and sad themes that are often found in country and gospel music, and the stories that are told through the lyrics.

"Country music gives us an opportunity to tell hard stories. Our Mob identify with that, you know," she said. "These songs are old, sorry songs

and these Mob – these old fellas – identified with that. They were drawn to that through their life."

Although much of *Til My Song is Done* is rooted in country and gospel, the album also contains the rock'n'roll track *Blak Nation* and also a hidden gem at the end of the record, *Yibaanga Gangaa* (*Sweet By and By*) sung in Gumbaynggirr language.

As part of the album launch, Emma is also touring regional areas, bringing the music back to the communities.

Passion

She said while she appreciated the opportunity to perform at the big festivals, her passion still lay in performing for community.

"When I think of artists like Aunty Rubin and Uncle Archie, they went to the people, they went to the ob," she said.

"Making that connection with our communities and Mob, that's the long-time dream," she said. "That's the ultimate dream for me: sharing my music in any blackfella community."

Importantly, the talented vocalist is passionate about sharing her family story as well.

"The whole thing behind having a solo album too is acknowledging my roots and the legacy of nan and pop," Donovan said.

"They never ever walked into studios. These cassettes pop had, you can hear him pushing the little type deck down, and recording himself. So this album, it means a lot about my family history."

Emma Donovan's new album *Til My Song Is Done* is out now.

● For tour dates and orders go to www.emmadonovan.com

Kids allegedly kept in cells while Don Dale was on fire



CHILDREN were left calling for help in their locked cells during a riot at the troubled Don Dale Youth Detention Centre in Darwin, it's alleged.

It's claimed that despite nearby buildings being on fire staff had left the facility, leaving young people locked inside accommodation blocks.

Northern Territory Children's Commissioner and Larrakia woman Shahleena Musk confirmed she was inquiring with Territory Families about children who were left locked in their cells during a riot on April 3 where boys wielding weapons banged on cell doors and smoke could be smelt from nearby structure fires.

Allegations

She said her office was "undertaking preliminary inquiries" into several allegations.

"The Office of the Children's Commission has visited the (centre) since the incident ... and noted a number of concerns," she said.

"We are working closely with Territory Families to gather more

information including sharing our concerns regarding the conditions and treatment of young people."

A staff member at Don Dale Youth Detention Centre, who could not be named for legal reasons, said one young girl who was left locked in her cell during the incident was terrified.

It was the first time in nearly three years that NT Police's elite Territory Response Group were called to the detention centre after 16 teenagers took control of the defunct adult prison.

The staff member at Don Dale said during the 17-hour-riot teenage detainees allegedly stuffed paper towels into toasters and set fire to a number of buildings including the administration and education blocks. The young people also left messages throughout the facility that read "Don Dale sucks".

They then climbed on top of the facility and wrote SOS on the building's roof.

Minister for Territory Families Ngaree Ah Kit told media no young people were injured during the incident, but it's understood at least one teenage girl injured her wrist

jumping off the roof.

Ms Ah Kit said as police arrived a number of young people made their way onto the roof "which is absolutely dangerous".

"It was never designed for children...it was an adult prison," she said.

Territory Families chief executive Emma White confirmed the number of young people incarcerated at the facility had

"I would like to send you to Don Dale, but I can't, it's crap."

almost doubled ahead of the riot, rising to 44.

It is also understood that following the incident several children were placed "at risk" due to ongoing self-harm concerns.

Furthermore, one child was taken to Royal Darwin Hospital following a serious-self harm incident. A spokesperson for Ms Ah Kit's office confirmed the child was taken to hospital but said the department would not comment on individual cases.

Danila Dilba, the Aboriginal health service that provides primary health care to young people in Don Dale said they had not been able to access the clinic for several days after the facility was secured.

Danila Dilba chief executive Rob McPhee said medical staff had "limited access to young people through their cells".

"The children in Don Dale are some of our most vulnerable. The incident highlights the gross inadequacy of the current facility, the critical need for the new facility to be brought online and the importance of preventing and diverting young people away from the justice system and detention."

Access denied

North Australian Aboriginal Justice Agency (NAAJA) principal lawyer Jared Sharpe said his lawyers following the riots were refused access to their clients for over a week.

"One young person who was involved in the incident was kept locked down for three full days ... our lawyer was unable to speak to him privately and said he could hear kids yelling and screaming,"

Mr Sharpe said. "It is a disturbing."

Last week children waiting in the back cells of Darwin's Youth Court could be heard again screaming and kicking the walls of the cells.

Very harsh

Inside the courtroom the department's prosecutor Lajita Allan-Agnew told Judge MacDonald that current conditions inside the facility were "very restrictive and very harsh".

Judge Greg MacDonald then turned to a young person and said, "I would like to send you to Don Dale, but I can't, it's crap."

Territory Families declined to answer if any children had been left inside the cells while it was evacuated, and how many hours children were now being left in their cells each day.

Instead, the department's acting senior director of communications Amy Sloan said operations had returned to normal.

"Given the damage to the recreation and education blocks, and to ensure the safety of all people within the detention centre while the repairs are being carried out, some adjustments to programs and activities have been made," Mr Sloan said.

– AAP

Seeking applications for Treaty Commissioner

The NSW Government is seeking three suitably qualified Treaty Commissioners to design and undertake consultation with Aboriginal Communities to determine whether treaties or agreement making processes are desired.

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Applications close 8 May 2024.



news



Cleveland Dodd's grandmother Glenda Mippy, grandfather Stewart Dodd, mother Nadene Dodd and aunty Julie Dodd. The heartbroken family of WA's first juvenile to die in youth detention hope an inquest will lead to an overhaul of the justice system. (AAP Image)

Coroner says prison wing is inhumane



A CORONER has expressed alarm over the "unlivable, disgusting and inhumane" cells in a prison wing where a teenager died after self-harming.

Cleveland Dodd was found unresponsive in the early hours of October 12, 2023 inside his cell in Unit 18 at Perth's Casuarina Prison, becoming the first juvenile to die in detention in Western Australia.

The 16-year-old had made eight threats to self-harm and numerous requests for medical treatment in the hours before he was discovered and taken to hospital.

He died eight days later.

Coroner Philip Urquhart on Friday, March 12, shared his preliminary observations as part one of the inquest came to a close, following more than a week of evidence that he said "breached" the unit's closed doors.

The coroner said the unit, inside a maximum-security prison built for adults, was unfit for housing youth detainees and they could not be treated in a way that reflected the community's values.

He also raised concerns about the system for monitoring detainees deemed to be at risk of harming themselves and said there was serious doubt it could be done in Unit 18.

"Unlivable, disgusting and inhumane, just three

descriptions of the conditions of cells at Unit 18 by 2023," he said.

"What also concerns me is that many of these cells had no running water not just for the odd day, or odd hour but lengthy periods of time."

Mr Urquhart also noted evidence about the lack of staff training and junior staff filling senior roles, along with the extensive use of confinement that resulted in some detainees spending more than 20 hours per day in their cells.

"The evidence again coming to me is that it wasn't just on the odd occasion," he said.

"It was day in, day out and on some of the evidence week in and week out."

The coroner also put the Department of Justice on notice and told the court it had failed to provide requested information.

He read out a series of questions he wants answers to before the inquest resumes on July 22, including how it is that Unit 18 was chosen as a place to house children.

"This is the end of part one of the inquest but it's only just begun," he said.

"We have so much more to look at and I will do my very best to find answers."

The inquest also heard that every Unit 18 cell had damage that detainees could have used to inflict injuries on themselves.

A damaged air vent in the ceiling has been linked to Cleveland's fatal injury.

The unit's management team was aware of the damage and it was scheduled for repair on October 11, but that didn't happen.

Mr Urquhart said he inspected Unit 18 after the teen died and found damage to the air vents in seven of the 16 cells he examined.

The inquest has been told other cells had exposed wiring and broken plumbing, and were filthy.

Cleveland's cell had no running water and he also made multiple calls from his cell in an agitated state asking for drinking water, before he was found motionless.

The inquest has heard night shift staff ignored those requests because a senior officer had informed them Cleveland had been given six cups of water with his dinner and his cell was not to be unlocked.

But CCTV footage shows Cleveland was given only three cups of water when his evening meal was delivered to his cell about 6pm, along with a bladder of milk.

Cleveland's threats to self-harm on October 11 and 12 started after his fifth request for water was ignored.

The United Nations stipulates "drinking water shall be available to every prisoner whenever he or she needs it".

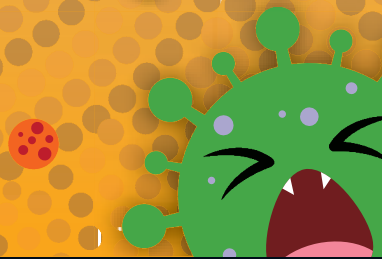
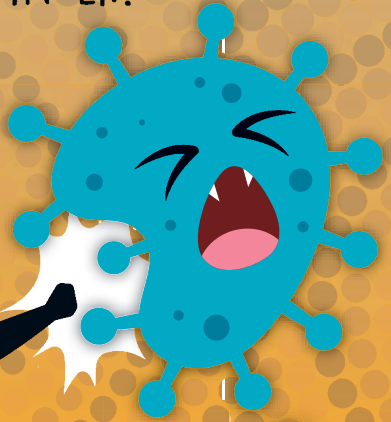
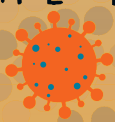
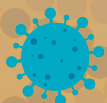
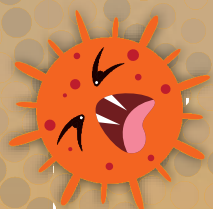
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Treaty talks centre on future negotiations with government



ABORIGINAL leaders tasked with brokering a statewide treaty have pinpointed how future relevant negotiations with the

government could be conducted.

Indigenous leaders at the helm of historic Victorian treaty talks have pinpointed how future negotiations with the government could function.

The First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria, a democratically elected group tasked with negotiating a statewide treaty, shared the insight ahead of talks with the government later this year.

Co-chair of the assembly Rueben Berg said a taxpayer-backed self-determination fund would enable different Indigenous groups to enter their own treaty negotiations with the government.

"The self-determination fund has that broader aspiration around building wealth and prosperity for our communities," the Gunditjmara man told the Yoorrook Justice Commission recently.

"I would say that aligning with some of those future aspirations and the capacity to have a fund that is completely controlled by First Peoples for the purpose of



Ngarra Murray (right) and Rueben Berg of the First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria speak to media ahead of giving evidence during the second of four weeks of hearings by the Yoorrook Justice Commission related to land, sky and waters for the First Nations people in Melbourne. (AAP pic)

First Peoples – it's a strong model to be able to move forward with."

Yoorrook is creating an official public record on the impact of colonisation on Aboriginal people in Victoria and will recommend actions to address historical and ongoing injustices.

It will inform the state's treaty negotiations.

Treaty aims to provide a path to negotiate the transfer of power and resources for First Peoples to control matters impacting their lives, the assembly said.

Mr Berg said the use of any potential funding structure already lagged Australia's international counterparts.

"These are not outlandish things

that are being considered," he said.

"These are things that sit within the context of a standard way of approaching these sorts of considerations from a global perspective."

Assembly co-chair Ngarra Murray also addressed the commission and detailed how the ownership of land, water and

resources was central to treaties.

"That is what (Indigenous Victorians) will look at and consider around reform in regards to their Country," the Wamba Wamba, Yorta Yorta, Dhudhuroa and Dja Dja Wurrung woman said.

"But we'll look at barriers we can remove around specific law reform.

"And there's a lot of issues that we hear from Traditional Owners and community that shouldn't wait just for treaty to activate."

In an earlier statement, Mr Berg said the assembly was still in the process of gathering ideas and feedback from Indigenous communities.

"The priorities we'll take into the first round of talks are firming up and are very likely to focus on transferring relevant decision-making powers from government to First Peoples," he said.

In 2023, Yoorrook called for Victoria to set up a standalone child protection system and give Aboriginal people the right to self-determination in the criminal justice system. They were among 15 recommendations still under consideration, with the state government's long-awaited response to an interim report widely slammed by Aboriginal and legal groups earlier in April. – AAP

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Venice left wanting Moore



TRACING his Aboriginal relations back 65,000 years, Indigenous artist Archie Moore has drawn on his

“connection to place” in his winning entry at a major European art exhibition.

Moore designed the Australian pavilion, called *kith and kin* at the Venice Biennale and took out the Golden Lion award for best national contribution.

He is the first Australian to take the gong.

His work is written in chalk on the pavilion’s dark walls and ceiling and took months to complete.

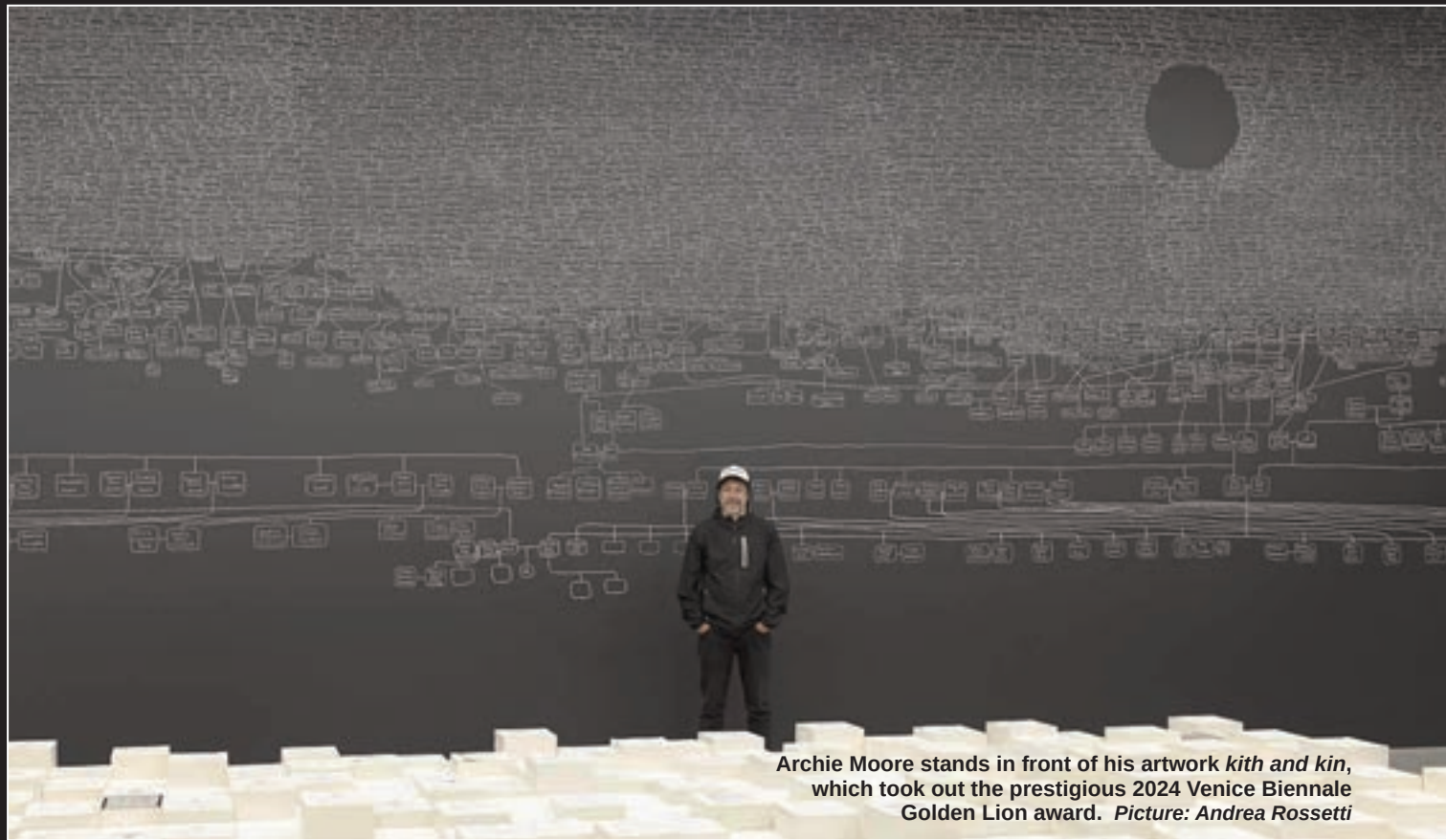
In an interview before his win, Moore said the project’s name took inspiration from the old English definition of the word kith.

“(It means) countrymen, or one’s own land, which I saw as an Indigenous understanding of connection to place,” he said.

Both Ancestry.com and state archives were used to research Moore’s own history as part of the work.

More than 500 documents, mostly coroner’s reports about Aboriginal deaths in custody, made up a floating installation in the work. This was above a pool of water which Moore said reflects his own family tree and pays homage to similar installations often found at shrines and memorials.

Moore said the white chalk



Archie Moore stands in front of his artwork *kith and kin*, which took out the prestigious 2024 Venice Biennale Golden Lion award. Picture: Andrea Rossetti

used to etch much of the work was a way to “reference the school curriculum”.

“When I went to school there was nothing mentioned about Indigenous history, it was all about the colonial project, agriculture, those kind of things and nothing about my own Indigenous history,” he said.

Federal Arts Minister Tony Burke said Moore’s work

showed the power of Australian art and storytelling “going right back to the first sunrise”.

“Australian stories help us to understand ourselves, know more about each other, and let the world get to know us.

“That’s exactly what this artwork does,” Mr Burke said.

This year’s biennale focuses on the experience of foreignness and the themes of migration and exile.

Under the title *Foreigners Everywhere*, being and feeling foreign will play an important role, the organisers said.

Curator Adriano Pedrosa invited 330 artists from various countries with numerous works. In addition, more than 80 countries are taking part with their own national contributions.

An international art audience is expected in the

Giardini, the Arsenale and other venues in the historic northern Italian city for the 60th edition of the exhibition which runs until November 24.

Alongside the *documenta* in the German city of Kassel, the Venice Biennale is considered the most important presentation of contemporary art and attracts artists and guests from around the world.

–AAP

Cattle Compensation Advisory Committee (CCAC)

Chairperson and Committee Members

The CCAC is a statutory ministerial advisory committee whose primary role and function is to advise the Victorian Minister for Agriculture on expenditure from the Cattle Compensation Fund and related matters concerning Victoria’s cattle industry.

Expressions of interest are sought for the role of chairperson and up to 8 committee members for a 3 year term.

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

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

Other desirable experience includes:

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

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

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

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

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



Apply at boards.vic.gov.au and search for CCAC
Closing date for applications is 12 May 2024

Authorised by the Victorian Government,
1 Treasury Place, Melbourne

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Fish Passage: Reconnecting the Northern Basin Project

Join us at an upcoming community information session.

The Water Group in the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water is inviting community members and stakeholders from across the Bourke Shire region to come along to an information session on Phase 1 of the Fish Passage: Reconnecting the Northern Basin Project.

The fish passage project seeks to improve connectivity across the Northern Basin to support native fish migrating along river systems to complete key life stages and to avoid drying habitats during droughts.

Phase 1 of the project involves addressing barriers to fish passage by installing fishways at three priority weir sites, including Banarway Weir, Calmundi Weir and Louth Downstream Weir. This effectively reinstates 370km of fish passage along the Barwon-Darling River system.

The information session is an opportunity for the community to learn more about Phase 1 of the project, ask questions and provide feedback to the team.

The session will be held on **Tuesday 7 May 2024** from 10am to 12pm at Louth Tennis Club (30 Bloxham Street, Louth).

We look forward to sharing project updates and to hearing your views. Registration is not required.

For more information on the fish passage project:

visit water.nsw.gov.au/fish-passage-project

email nbt@dpie.nsw.gov.au | call 1300 081 047.

SB1452

Mayors raise housing issues

By CHRISTINE HOWES



HOUSING issues are highest on the agenda of Queensland's recently elected local government mayors and councillors, Palm Island Mayor Alf Lacey says.

Queensland's 17 Indigenous mayors have worked together, initially with the Local Government Association of Queensland, to meet with the prime minister and then with state government ministers and departments, to advocate for their communities over the past two weeks.

They have hit the ground running.

But the result, Lockhart River Mayor Wayne Butcher said, was not as positive as they had hoped it might be.

Cr Lacey and Cr Butcher were invited by the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) to meet Prime Minister Anthony Albanese at the Queensland Media Club earlier this month.

Opportunity

Mayor Lacey said they took the opportunity to question the PM around housing.

"Wayne and I took the opportunity to pursue the prime minister further on investment for housing in our communities," Mayor Lacey said.

"We want an investment similar



Palm Island Mayor Alf Lacey and Lockhart River Mayor Wayne Butcher working together to lobby Prime Minister Anthony Albanese for housing assistance.

to the Northern Territory, who have \$4 billion."

The question, put to the prime minister by MC Lydia Lynch, read in part: "When will your government announce a similar deal for Queensland?"

Mayor Lacey said the answer was a work in progress.

"There are negotiations still happening between the states and Commonwealth," he said.

"From our point of view, we want to be at the table for those negotiations.

"Hopefully we'll see a better

outcome for our communities then."

Mayor Butcher said a week later, after lobbying the Queensland State Government, they were headed back to Canberra.

"We're not having any success there in talking to the state," he said.

"So, we're trying to get the feds to commit to some more remote housing funds."

He said they needed a long-term commitment.

"There's no commitment," he

said. "Nothing on the horizon.

"The reality is we need a big injection, and investment from the federal government, to assist the state.

"We're just playing catch-up with the new builds, now they have given the state money to renovate existing dwellings but not new ones.

"Our biggest worry is overcrowding – we need new houses, renovating existing, already overcrowded housing, isn't doing any favours."

He also said the offer of

'modular' or 'kit homes' – homes that were built elsewhere and then shipped to the communities – wasn't suitable for every community.

"That's not a solution that works for everywhere, we're not interested in it in Lockhart, we're interested in building homes from scratch, from design to the last screw on the roof, because it's beneficial for employment opportunities," he said.

"There's also business opportunities, so we don't want those modular homes that add no benefit to our local economy or our employment."

Mayor Lacey said the modular homes didn't make any sense for most of their communities.

"It goes against the grain in terms of economic opportunities and more jobs for our community," he said.

Main issue

"Our main issue is to ensure that most of that money is spent on the ground in our community."

Mayor Butcher said while their own communities were front and centre of their negotiations, they were also conscious of other remote regions in Queensland, such as Coen, Normanton, Winton and beyond, which also suffered housing issues.

"Our First Nations people are desperate for additional housing tools, we have to think about these countrymen elsewhere too," he said.

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Closing the gap, one hole at a time

By MARION WILLIAMS



JIMMY Bell is hoping the inaugural Aboriginal versus Maori golf tournament next week in Shellharbour, NSW, becomes an annual event. He also hopes that the tournament might inspire Aboriginal youth to take up golf and one day play at the highest professional level.

Mr Bell, from Dharawarra Country, has been playing golf for some 25 years. He has played at Aboriginal golf tournaments around Australia.

Every December he holds a large event, the Illawarra Aboriginal Golf Day. Last year a Maori member of his golf club joined them. Mr Bell says Australia has a big contingent of Maori golfers.

"After the golf he asked if I would like to have a challenge between Maori and Aboriginal players. He selected his side and I did the same," Mr Bell says.

Early on Friday, May 3, 24 Maori and 24 Aboriginal players will tee off at The Links Shell Cove golf course for the tournament. The Aboriginal side has been selected to represent most traditional areas of NSW and includes a 15-year-old, and golf legend John Delaney who is in his late 80s.

"We want the inaugural one to be a success so everyone in the team has to have a handicap," Mr Bell says. The four-hour, stroke, invitational event will play 18 holes. It will be followed by lunch featuring Maori Elder guest speakers.

Life lessons from golf

Mr Bell took up golf on his mates' recommendation "to escape the world. You are out there concentrating on yourself and the game. I can just unwind and talk about life in general with mates while having a hit."

Golf comes with etiquette. "You must always be honest and speak clearly. Players know they must be good on the golf course, and they take those qualities into their life and work," he says.



Contesting the National in Perth in 2022 with Malcolm Towney (second from left) and Jimmy Bell (far right).

Wiradjuri man Malcolm Towney is "very humbled and very honoured" to captain the tournament's first Aboriginal team against the Maoris. He had always dabbled in golf and joined the Queanbeyan Golf Club in 2009 to play competitively.

Mr Towney loves every aspect of golf. "I love the challenge and I take lessons from it into my own life. If you do a bad shot, learn from it and move forward. Don't repeat it."

He enjoys the camaraderie and how golf tests his skills and his character.

Another sport to excel in

Mr Towney wants more events like this tournament to "open up golf to our Mob as the first sport of choice. Not everyone can play league, AFL or box so let's open up another sport and another platform where we can excel."

Mr Bell wants to encourage Aboriginal youth to play. "There aren't any Aboriginal golfers at the highest level but we have a lot of fantastic

players in their teens on really low handicaps. Given the opportunity to play in major tournaments they could be like Tiger Woods," he says.

Mr Bell has played at St Andrews and Donald Trump's Turnberry golf course in Scotland and wants others to do the same. "If those young people were given mentors and have the opportunities, I am confident we could have someone playing at the highest professional level. Golf is about eye/hand coordination which comes naturally to Aboriginal people so we can excel at any sport with a ball," Mr Bell says.

Mr Towney wants to see his people reach the level of Lionel Rose, Cathy Freeman and Johnathan Thurston. "Why can't we have that in golf? People with that profile and ability which infiltrates into the community and has a ripple effect."

Events like this are the way to get there. "The more opportunities we create, the better our Mob will be. We will close gaps," Mr Towney says.



Michael Bell, Malcolm Towney, Candice Bell and her son Zelden Bell in the background.



Malcolm Towney, Alby Ryan and Warren Towney.



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development, Communications and the Arts

Positions Vacant – ABC and SBS Boards

Applications are invited to fill one upcoming non-executive Director vacancy on each of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) and the Special Broadcasting Service (SBS) Boards. These are part-time positions for up to 5 years. The boards have different selection criteria and applicants interested in both positions must submit separate applications for each.

The successful candidates must understand the role of the ABC and/or the SBS, its Charter, and place in the Australian community. Substantial knowledge of at least one of these fields is essential: media industry, business or financial management; corporate governance; cultural industry and/or cultural policy.

Digital technology and innovation have also been identified as important competencies for both boards.

Candidates for the SBS position must have an appropriate understanding of the interests of employees as well as an understanding of the communication needs of Australia's multicultural society.

An independent Nomination Panel will assess candidates and provide a shortlist for each position to the Minister for Communications. The Minister will make recommendations to the Governor-General, who appoints non-executive Directors to the ABC and SBS Boards.

Due regard will be given to gender, diversity and geographic balance.

For further information visit

www.infrastructure.gov.au/abc-sbs-board-appointments.

Applications close at 12pm AEST 6 May 2024.

www.infrastructure.gov.au

2646SD-4658

Push to close Kati Thanda



VISITORS would no longer be able to set foot on one of Australia's premier tourist destinations under a proposed plan to protect its cultural significance for Traditional Owners.

Kati Thanda-Lake Eyre is the continent's largest lake. Every few years it breaks out into a spectacular kaleidoscope of colours when flooding rains from Queensland fill the immense saltwater basin, transforming the bleak desert landscape into an oasis of flowers and birds and attracting scores of tourists.

But it is a sacred site for the Arabana people, who have lived in the region for millennia and are the lake's native title holders.

Under a proposed management plan, all

recreational access to the lake bed would be banned out of respect for Arabana culture.

Their lore considers it dangerous to visit the lake without the guidance of cultural authority.

Swimming, driving, boating and landing aircraft on the lake are already banned, but the new plan would prevent visitors setting foot on its bed without permission.

Arabana proud

Arabana Aboriginal Corporation chairwoman Bronwyn Dodd said her people were proud to share Kati Thanda-Lake Eyre but urged visitors to respect their Ularaka (stories), lore and culture.

"We have a responsibility to look after the lake and in turn it looks after us," she said.

"Preservation of this lake is also the preservation of our

culture."

National Parks and Wildlife Service program director Jason Irving said the South Australia government was committed to its partnership with the Arabana people.

"The request for visitors not to enter a sacred cultural site is made in recognition and respect for Arabana culture and to ensure the safety of visitors," he said.

Kati Thanda-Lake Eyre is one of a number of culturally significant sites in SA to enforce strict rules around entry to visitors, including Koonalda Caves in the Nullarbor, Sacred Canyon in Ikara-Flinders Ranges, and Ngaut Ngaut Conservation Park.

Feedback to the proposed management plan is open to the public until July 19 via the SA Department for Environment and Water website.

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Island mayors sworn in

By CHRISTINE HOWES



THE largest and possibly the most remote Indigenous Council in Australia is also one of the most stable, the results of the recent local government elections in Queensland have indicated.

Torres Strait Island Regional Council (TSIRC) mayor Phillemon Mosby was one of only two incumbent mayors to be re-elected out of more than eight who tried across the 17 Aboriginal and Torres Strait shire councils across the state.

The other successful incumbent was Mayor Wayne Butcher in Lockhart River, with unsuccessful re-attempts including in Aurukun, Northern Peninsula Area, Wujal Wujal, Yarrabah, Pormpuraaw, Hope Vale, Kowanyama and Cherbourg – all of which have new or returning mayors.

TSIRC has a massive 15 councillor divisions, each representing their island communities, from Mer, or Murray Island, in the far east to Hammond, next to Thursday Island, in the west.

Thursday and Horn Islands, and several others in the southwestern corner of the Torres Straits, were governed by the



Mayor Phillemon Mosby and 13 Councillors sworn in at the Bulmba-ja Art Centre in Cairns on Monday last week: L-R: Div 8 Cr Seriko Dorante; Div 9 Cr Aggie Hankin, Div 5 Cr Ranetta Wosomo; Div10 Cr Kabay Tamu; Div 4 Cr Keith Fell; Div 11 Cr Francis Pearson; Mayor Phillemon Mosby; Div 12 Cr Ted Mosby; Div 3 Cr Chelsea Aniba; Div 13 Cr Rocky Stephen; Div 7 Cr John Levi; Div 14 Cr Nixon Mye; Div 15 Cr Bob Kaigey and Div 1 Cr Dimas Toby (front). Missing Div 2 Cr Torenzo Esala & Div 6 Cr Iona Manas).

much smaller Torres Shire Council.

Cr Mosby said four of the 15 TSIRC councillors ran uncontested, five were re-elected and there were six new councillors on board.

"We welcome them," he told a crowd of about 100 family members, colleagues and friends after the swearing-in ceremony in Cairns last week.

"I'm deeply humbled and honoured to be entrusted to serve a second term."

TSIRC CEO James William said the number of re-elected councillors was an endorsement.

"I think it is an endorsement of our leaders and our community has trust and faith," Mr William said.

Complex business

"It's a complex business, and as CEO I know they work tremendously hard and I'm very proud to welcome them."

For the first time a woman – Division 5 Councillor Ranetta

Wosomo, representing Badu Island – has taken on the position of deputy mayor.

At the swearing-in ceremony, Cr Wosomo said she was grateful for the support of her husband, families and friends.

"I've had a lot of families throughout the Torres Straits reaching out and supporting me throughout this election process," she said.

"I will be advocating to the best of my ability.

"As you can see there are 15

divisions, so I ask for your patience.

"We've got so many issues throughout the islands from Mer to Boigu, our councillors, their hearts are in the right place.

"Eso [thank you] to the mayor for his constant support, he's always encouraging us.

"We also have a good balance of spiritual advice and on council, we have excellent executives, very knowledgeable people, and we appreciate their support as well."



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:

- Wera 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/rccp-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.rccp@dpie.nsw.gov.au
- **visit:** dpie.nsw.gov.au/reconnecting-river-country-program

Sheep and Goat Advisory Committee (SGCAC) Chairperson and Committee Members

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

Expressions of interest are sought for the role of chairperson and up to 8 committee members for a 3 year term.

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

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

Other desirable experience includes:

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

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

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

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

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



Apply at boards.vic.gov.au and search for SGCAC
Closing date for applications is 12 May 2024

Authorised by the Victorian Government,
1 Treasury Place, Melbourne

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Voters rejected because 'they are not Aboriginal'

By JILLIAN MUNDY



THE vast majority of people applying to vote in the upcoming Aboriginal Land Council of Tasmania (ALCT) elections have

had their applications objected to, on the grounds they are not Aboriginal.

While receiving a letter questioning their Aboriginality initially came as a shock to some, those who the *Koori Mail* spoke with considered the process was working as it should.

But if amendments waiting to go before the newly elected Tasmanian parliament are passed this will change.

Established under the Aboriginal Lands Act 1995 as a statutory body, ALCT holds title to returned Aboriginal land on behalf of the Aboriginal people of Tasmania and delegates who manages it.

The elections, conducted by the Tasmanian Electoral Commission, are held every three years for membership onto the eight-person ALCT.

People who are over 18, live in Tasmania and are Aboriginal, as determined by the widely accepted three-part definition – Aboriginal ancestry, self-identification as an Aboriginal person and communal recognition – are eligible to vote and be elected.

New applicants are placed on a publicly available preliminary roll and absolutely anyone can object, rightly or wrongly, to someone's eligibility – just as they can for any person on any Australian or state electoral roll.

Currently there are about 600 people on the ALCT roll.

This year a further 102 applied. During the objection period which closed last Friday, April 19, the vast majority were objected to, many by more than one person.

The Electoral Commissioner Andrew Hawkey has already sent letters to many of them explaining they have until May 6 to lodge a submission on the matter, which he will consider alongside advice from a review committee and the Tasmanian Archives Office.

The committee made up of seven Aboriginal people from the ALCT roll includes people 'widely accepted as being of high standing in the Aboriginal community' and 'having expertise in Aboriginal genealogy and history' – in other words people who no doubt are Aboriginal and know the ins and outs of Aboriginal families and community.

The *Koori Mail* called out to people on social media whose applications had been objected to.

Palawa/Gunaikurnai singer/songwriter and cultural safety consultant of Lutruwita Dewayne Everettsmith said he was fine with receiving an objection.

"It's a laughable scenario but



Preminghana Camp is an example of returned Aboriginal land. There are worries over the future management and access to returned Aboriginal lands if amendments to the Aboriginal Lands Act are passed when they go back to parliament this year.



Manager of ALCT, Palawa woman Rebecca Digney.

I'm happy to do it because it legitimises grass-roots culture and exposes lies," he said.

"When you have knowledge of culture, Country, blood line and you know who you are, these types of objections are just a matter of politics, they are just about trying to undermine us, it is the make-up of the politics of Aboriginality that the Liberal government in Tasmania have created.

No consistency

"There is no consistency from a policy point of view, they are not dealing with truth telling."

Palawa/Bundjalung law student Tyenna Hogan was another, she took no offence to the objection either.

"I think it is an important mechanism to ensure all people voting in elections are Aboriginal," she said.

Palawa woman, Nicole Smith said when she opened the letter it felt like a punch in the chest but understood the objection was purely political.

"It's government dictating who's Aboriginal and who isn't."

Manager of ALCT, Palawa woman Rebecca Digney's application was also objected to.

"It's an important part of the process in terms of maintaining the integrity of the elections and making sure it's legitimate and authentic Aboriginal people are on

benefit from giving their evidence, in favour of people saying 'I've always known it', 'I felt it in my heart'.

"And the court said, 'ok, well even though we've heard the evidence from the archivists who said there's no link between you and any Aboriginal ancestor, you seem very genuine in your belief, so for this purpose, we'll say that you're Aboriginal'."

Unlike the rulings she sees no significant problems with the lands act.

"It's not broken, there's no need for reform," Digney said.

"The approvals are a difficult process, but that's because it's a safeguarding process, how else can you make sure that only Aboriginal people are participating in elections set up for Aboriginal people."

"In 2016 the Liberal government caused controversy when they removed the requirement for people to have an Aboriginal family tree to identify for purposes of accessing Aboriginal specific government services.

"They hope through their amendments to apply the same lower standards to the Aboriginal Lands Act."

Aboriginal people have had to pick their battles with the effects of the 2016 policy.

"We've pushed back and said, hang on all land is different, if you want them to access Aboriginal education workers go for it, but you can't take away our land again, the second time in 200 years.

"Our people marched the streets for that land, our people sat in on that land for over a decade before it was returned," she said.

"The first time our people marched the streets loud, proud and black they were chanting – 'what do we want? Land rights!' "When our people petitioned the queen (of England) in the 1800s it was for land."

Digney says Mr Jaensch, who

has retained his portfolio following last month's Tasmanian election, is not acting in the interests of the Aboriginal community.

She is angry and frustrated that despite tri-partisan support for reforms to Aboriginal Heritage legislation he has told her the government will push on with reforms to the Aboriginal Lands Act.

"It's going to benefit this very small group of people who can't establish they're Aboriginal yet want to get involved in Aboriginal Affairs," Digney said.

"What we've got at the moment is a government who says, these poor white fellas that tick the box, they're not getting anywhere, they keep knocking on the door and they keep getting told to go away, so we'll step in and we'll make it easy for them."

Fearful

Should they stack the ALCT, she says grassroots Aboriginal people are fearful their land could be taken away twice.

Those whose entry onto the electoral roll were objected to will know the outcome of their reviewed application by the end of May.

The ALCT elections are scheduled for September.

In 1999 and 2004 they were delayed because of objections to eligibility ending up in court. Commissioner Hawkey said his office will be busy but he is confident the 2024 elections will run on time.

Digney feels good about the 2024 ALCT elections but fears what future ones may bring.

"It may be the last time that we have an Aboriginal land council, that's constituted of Aboriginal people. I'm fearful of that and losing the land.

"It just seems to me like a really concentrated political campaign of disempowering our people."

To date less than one percent of Tasmania has been returned to Aboriginal people.



Some of the runners who took part in the Deadly Runners colour fun run in Narooma.

Ready, set, go deadly!

By MARION WILLIAMS



NAROOMA'S Bill Smyth Oval was full of laughter, fun and colour for the Deadly Runners fun run. Around 50 people, ranging from primary school kids to seniors, registered for the colour fun run on Saturday, April 13.

The fundraiser received great support from the broader community. Some Narooma High School staff also ran – such as deputy principal Joseph Harper and staff member Paddy Penton. Paddy had just had a procedure on his leg, but the 69-year-old did not let that deter him.

Annette Christo, also 69, travelled from Queanbeyan to join the run.

She is one of the original Deadly Runners that started in Queanbeyan in 2014.

Annette has completed five half-marathons, one full marathon and ran in the 10-kilometre event at the Canberra Running Festival on April 7.

Beginnings

Georgia Weir started Deadly Runners when she was a young mother with four children.

"I was struggling with mental health and addiction, and I was feeling very helpless," she said.

"I started running in 2012 as a last resort because I was willing to try anything to help manage. It was amazing and had a profound impact on my life."

When she realised the impact running could have, she got some qualifications. Georgia now has a Certificate IV in Fitness and Athletics Coaching and is an accredited running coach with Athletics Australia.

"I wanted to remove a lot of the barriers for people such as the cost of a personal trainer," she said. "I offered it for free because I wanted to pass it on and share the experience that running gave me."

Georgia, her husband Michael and their five children, moved to Narooma in February 2023, where Georgia started a Deadly Runners Narooma group.

When the community at Wallaga Lake village heard about it, they wanted a group too – and both groups now run three times a week.

Coaching

Trevor Thomas, Georgia's assistant coach, has coached more than 100 sessions in Narooma and Wallaga Lake. That meant his Mob could complete their first five-kilometre run and get the distinctive Deadly Runners singlet.

Georgia said Deadly Runners has 40 to 50 members across NSW, ACT,



Deadly Runners founder Georgia Weir with original member of the Queanbeyan group, Annette Christo.



Paddy Penton didn't let having a procedure on his leg stop him from taking part in the Deadly Runners colour fun run.



Deadly Runners assistant coach Trevor Thomas with niece Noah, nephew Joseph and daughter Lynara.



Runners assemble to start the run, still wearing white t-shirts.



Auntie Vivienne Mason of Narooma and Annette Christo.

southern Queensland and the Northern Territory.

Keep healthy

Annette runs to keep fit and healthy.

"My dad died of diabetes and my mother died of a heart attack, so I want to show my kids how to be healthy," she said.

Malcolm Towney was another early member of the original Queanbeyan group.

"I did a fun run for the first time in my life in my 40s and within a week I did a five-kilometre run," he said.

"I had never done one since school and I have never felt so good in all my life."

A keen golfer, Malcolm said Deadly Runners got him into the physical aspect of golf and made his mind clearer.

Michael Weir said it is pretty special when his people go to running events,

cross the finishing line and get medals.

"There are mental and physical health aspects but sometimes they are running with cousins, mothers or uncles so it is very social and supportive and encouraging," he said.

Where the magic happens

"That is where the magic happens.

"It is getting our people together in a positive space. That is not very common.

"This is just First Nations people in a healthy activity three times a week, having a yarn and running in our singlets.

"The running bit is a bit of a bribe to come and then special things happen."

Watching from the sidelines was Auntie Ros Field, chair of Gulaga National Park Board of Management – and her sister Vivienne Mason.

"It has changed the life of so many young people in the community," Auntie Ros said.



Trevor Thomas with Narooma runners group member Harley Ladmore.

Bruce rides controversy

By LIINA FLYNN



BEING a professional shit-stirrer is something Bruce Pascoe is proud of.

"I'm proud to have brown arms," he laughed.

Under his humour is a man driven by his passion for education and creating a better future for his people.

Bruce has become one of the more controversial authors in Australia. With his best-selling book (and documentary) *Dark Emu*, Bruce's research and ideas have stirred the colonial pot when it comes to thinking about how Aboriginal people have lived in Australia. His own past and journey to discovering his Aboriginal heritage has also brought him criticism over the years.

Bruce spoke to the *Koori Mail* about his life, writing and the way forward for the future.

Black Duck

With his partner Lyn Harwood, Bruce now lives happily on his farm in southern Victoria. Growing Indigenous and native foods, such as grains and tubers, the farm is home to his Aboriginal social enterprise Black Duck Foods.

Bruce's mission is to bring back Indigenous agricultural practices and give back to the Indigenous community.

His new book *Black Duck* (co-written with Lyn) is inspired by the farm and Bruce will talk about the book (as well as First Nations issues) at the upcoming Melbourne Writers Festival, May 6 to 12.

Bruce said *Black Duck* explores a way forward for Australia to create a sustainable future through better agricultural practices.

"Lyn and I wrote the book to be a reflection of Country and how to improve the environment and make a better way forward," Bruce said.

"We need to learn from the old ways of Aboriginal people. If we look at Aboriginal spirituality, we believe the Earth is our mother – and we don't rob the rivers of water, or desecrate the soils.

"White fellas are cynical about this idea, but cultures who believe it treat her differently and don't dominate our mother.

"Once people lose contact with Country, they are not making a relationship with her, and understanding the animals.

"I love the Country and Country is kind to me."

Bruce's journey to growing native Australian grains has controversial roots.

Dark Emu

His earlier book *Dark Emu* explores the concept that Aboriginal people traditionally were not just hunter gatherers, but employed successful farming techniques for grains and fishing.

"I challenged the assumptions that historians had made about our people," he said. "Aboriginal people made possum skin cloaks to make their lives richer and better.

"They made fish traps and used pottery. Pieces of it have been found in midden sites. They traded stones to other people – there's an old sandstone mine where many stones were taken away and traded to others so they could grind and make better flour.

"No money swapped hands – it was an exchange between groups who respected each other."

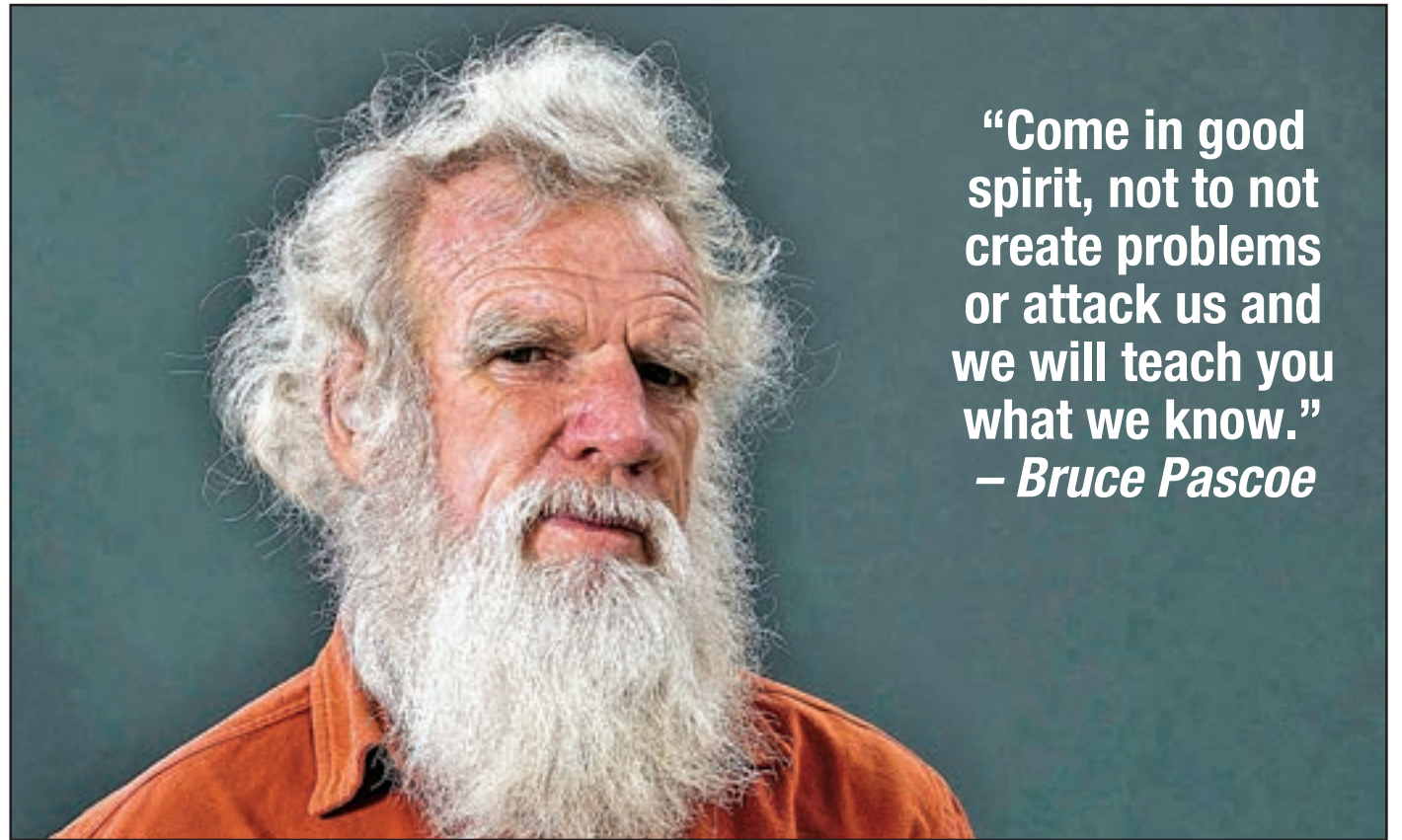
Dark Emu became a best-seller, but Bruce received criticism for his ideas and was challenged by many academics and researchers.

"I felt besieged and eventually made a documentary about *Dark Emu* to," he said.

The journey

Bruce's journey to discovering his Aboriginal roots and becoming a writer started when he was in primary school.

"My sister and I copped abuse, growing



"Come in good spirit, not to not create problems or attack us and we will teach you what we know."
– Bruce Pascoe

up in a country town in Mornington," Bruce said. "Being called nigger lips, I didn't understand that it was an insult.

"I remember being at school, I was built like a grasshopper. I was fighting this big lad when we should have been in class.

"I got in trouble, but that was the beginning of my journey of searching and I went to my family to nut it out.

"Only one of my uncles talked to me about it and everyone else pretended to have no idea and to forget it.

"I was close to my Auntie Zelda and she knew language. Later I was asked to record that language.

"I travelled with her a lot and supplied her with basket grass. When she told me a story about the war and I thought she meant World War II, she told me to go to the library and learn about our ways.

"She'd never spoken to me like that before.

"My Uncle Banjo also encouraged me to find out more about my identity because I was I was swinging and needed to make up my mind about who I was.

Shake up

"In the library, I read texts about the Eumeralla Wars in Victoria and was so ashamed that I didn't know about the frontier wars.

"That old lady sharpened me up – so I read more and worked harder.

"I needed to honour the old people.

"My grandmother insisted that I went to school, to get out from the bottom of the pile.

"I loved reading and listening to stories with my mentor Auntie Faith, who taught me how to structure a story. Then I wrote my first short story."

Bruce went on to work as a deck-hand on a boat, and he loved to dive for crayfish and abalone.

"Out at sea, you see aspects of coast that no-one else sees," he said. "I felt a connection to the Country on the south coast. It embraced me and it was such a big call, I live there now."

Finding roots

When he was researching his family history, Bruce said he went back to Tasmania and visited the communities there.

"I spoke to families we shared names with," he said. "I was fortunate that a man said to me I was related through the Arnolds family.

"I got a phone number of what turned

out to be relatives – but a lot were not happy to see us. They had spent their whole lives denying their Aboriginality. They have a right to do that, but it was sad.

"We need to be sensitive about it because we can do damage by blowing their cover."

While Bruce's discovery of Tasmanian family roots sparked a controversy – and not everyone agrees with his claim – Bruce said he could trace his family ancestry on Tasmania back to two years after the colony was established.

The other family connections he found through his research was with the Bunurong people of the Kulin nation of Victoria, and the Yuin of southern New South Wales.

Family connections

Bruce now proudly identifies as a Koori man – and he's one of many rediscovering their Aboriginal ancestry later in life.

"It's happening more as more records are available and people are coming forward," Bruce said.

"It's important that people understand that if they have found Aboriginal connections, they need to have proof of that. I don't believe in self identification. You do need to have a physical record of it, or have local people speak on your behalf.

"The problem with the Stolen Generation is that they can't always provide that.

"As long as people don't start calling themselves an Elder and they help the community, it's ok. They need to be part of the community and respectful.

"I went on SBS TV and was interviewed about my identity and it was a disgrace.

"After talking to me for hours about my findings, they just said I'm not Aboriginal.

"I think the more important conversation is 'why does a person with a low percentage of Aboriginal blood want to identify as Aboriginal?'

"My answer is because I'm obliged.

"For years, I asked for help from older Aboriginal people who went out on a limb for me when I needed to prove my heritage – and I'm obliged to them for life.

"I'm proud of all my family – 80% is Cornish and English – and we stick with all our Mob."

Change is coming

As the face of Australia changes and more people are coming out about their Indigenous roots, Australia is also

changing on a wider political level

When it comes to the failed referendum on the Voice last year, Bruce said he sees the outcome as "one step forward, half a step back."

"I knew it wouldn't get up because people in my town were not meeting my eye – the signals were strong," he said.

"Now, we know where we stand – 60% don't want us recognised and we know education is vital.

"We need to go somewhere though, so what's next? We keep doing what the old people did in the 1930s. They had it worse than us now, trying to put a case for change to government. Racism was worse and they endured a rough ride.

"Now, we need to talk to younger people about the strength of our culture, the future and lessons that can be learned from Aboriginal people through spirituality, agriculture, environment and decency.

"I'm an old school old teacher and we need to keep bringing our stories into classrooms, so kids understand the nature of Country."

Advice

Bruce's advice to others is to become a part of your community.

"Talk to aboriginal people without being a critic of them," he said. "We have enough critics without our own people doing it too. We need to be constructive.

"I always encourage Aboriginal kids to stay at school and get a job. I tell them our ancestors were the best educated people on the planet. They spoke more languages and used bigger words than people do today."

Visit the farm

Bruce invites anyone who wants to come, to visit him on the farm to look, swim and catch fish.

"But come in good spirit, not to create problems or attack us and we will teach you what we know," he said.

"We share food and cook with the grains we grow here. My farm manager is a good cook and has adapted machinery to make the grains into lasagne sheets and he makes kangaroo stew lasagne.

"The majority of people who come here are Aboriginal and we talk about our experiences and hopes.

"We build bridges together when we sit down and create healing on the land – it's good healing women's Country."

For more information, visit blackduckfoods.com.au

Danny Eastwood's view



A YARN WITH...



Shann-Lloyd Doolan

Happy Valley community, Queensland

Quote



Country music gives us an opportunity to tell hard stories. Our Mob identify with that, you know. These songs are old, sorry songs and these Mob – these old fellas – identified with that. They were drawn to that through their life.”

– Gumbaynggirr, Dhangutti, Nagujaa and Bibbulman singer, Emma Donovan

● See page 9

Unquote

Focus on people not the policing

Imagine if our politicians focussed on the causes of illness, social unrest, and delinquent behaviours rather than just treating the symptoms, or reacting with anachronistic responses such as calls for greater police numbers. Think of what could happen with evidence-based solutions that focus on improving community life that are long term, properly funded and not just short-term political fixes.

With intensive support programs, diversion, education and related services, the troubles of remote places like Alice Springs might go some ways towards being resolved.

But for this to happen, the focus must be on listening to the people who know. People such as Arrernte man William Tilmouth, the founding chair of Children's Ground, an Aboriginal organisation that focuses on prevention, early intervention and empowerment rather than crisis and deficit.

Mr Tilmouth speaks with experience when he says that Aboriginal people are the most policed people in the world, and also subjected to the greatest injustice, racism and oppression.

“We have a history of over-incarceration of our people and over-representation in the criminal justice system,” he said.

He said the damage done by such injustice perpetuated trauma throughout families and communities.

Of course, the results of that type of



OUR SAY

trauma are played out by the disgruntled, and disenfranchised youth roaming the streets late at night in almost every town across the country.

Alice Springs is certainly not alone with its social troubles.

But the cries for help to the law and policy makers appear to have fallen on deaf ears for too many decades.

There is no doubt that remote and regional people have a lot of things stacked against them. Poor housing, lack of education and employment opportunities, and inadequate services.

Remote and regional people are already doing it tough, and more police won't fix any of that.

The North Australian Aboriginal Justice Agency is spot on when it warns that focusing too much on policing risks potential disaster.

“Given the over-policing of Aboriginal Territories that has already contributed to an unacceptably high rate of incarceration, any investment in policing resources must be matched with a commensurate investment in the criminal justice system, including courts and specialised legal services,” it said.

It's time to focus on people, not police.

KOORI MAIL 100% ABORIGINAL-OWNED

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

Favourite bush tucker?

Porcupine.

Favourite other food?

Mud crabs very tasty.

Favourite saltwater food?

Fish especially grunter.

Favourite non-Indigenous food?

KFC.

Favourite drink?

Orange juice.

Favourite music?

Pink Floyd.

Favourite sport?

Boxing and rugby league.

Favourite holiday destination?

Japan where the puppets perform.

Favourite Movie?

Scarface.

What do you like in life?

Seeing young First Nations youth succeed.

What don't you like in life?

Racism makes it difficult for us to move forward.

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

The late and great David Gulpilil the actor from *Storm Boy*.

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

Family and friends.

Who or what inspires you?

Listening to music especially which is created by our people.

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

Form special groups which can educate our young people and keep them out of detention or jail.

Wesley's inspiration comes from Country

By LIINA FLYNN

FOR writer and director Wesley Enoch, coming back to live on Country in Minjerribah (North Stradbroke Island) was a way of staying connected to his late father after he passed.

"Dad worked for the sand mining company until he said it was time to get off the island and we moved to Logan," Wesley told the *Koori Mail*.

"Working for the sand mining company was a terrible choice for him to have – but it was that or have nothing to feed the family."

Wesley said that after spending his life devoted to theatre, he was glad to move back to the island – and sees changes as tourism replaces mining as the major economy.

"House prices there have gone up, and now we need to work out how to make sure the island always has a black personality," he said.

"We need to make sure we don't lose the right to live on Country. Native Title is good and also a curse – and it means we have more responsibility."

Wesley, a Quandamooka man, said living on Country is inspiring him to write about being there.

"I have a suite of work I'm writing and the personality of the place is affecting me," he said. "It's in my DNA and there's lots of story telling here."

Career

Wesley's list of accolades is long – as well as having written renowned works of theatre like *The Sunshine Club* and *The Sapphires*, he's directed numerous major theatre companies, two Commonwealth Games opening ceremonies and was awarded the Member of the Order of Australia in the Australia Day Honours – and that's just the top of the iceberg.

But behind his long list of achievements is a man who's always loved musicals – and who grew up acting out at school.

Beginnings

"At school in Year 7, I was a troubled, angry young person and I acted out that anger," Wesley said. "I threw a table at a teacher and was suspended from school."

"Luckily art, theatre and storytelling intervened and changed me to be more constructive than destructive."

"A teacher in the neighbouring class who didn't like my teacher said 'come into school early' and I could draw on the board as she prepared class for the day



Writer and director Wesley Enoch has spent decades devoted to the theatre.

"I felt like I had a safe place to express myself;

"I had a big voice and yelled at everyone, so they asked me to narrate a play. When the audience applauded, I felt validated."

"I found therapy in art and by the gate of 16, I was doing amateur and school theatre."

"I was obsessed with the idea of telling stories."

"These days I'm worried about kids who end up going into prisons."

"In their pasts, they didn't get to tell their own stories and weren't in charge of their own childhoods."

"If we can help people express themselves through art and culture, it can give a sense of power over who you are beyond the 'black, useless and terrible' narratives forced on us."

"When you grow up with a non-Aboriginal mother and Aboriginal father, the sense of racism is overt."

"People tell you that you are not like them. Everyone was poor and didn't wear shoes to school and we were toughened by it."

Change

In the lead up to the 1888 bicentenary, Wesley said Aboriginal theatre bloomed.

"We had a sense of joy and lifting things up and we started to look at ourselves differently," he said.

Wesley went to university

and got an arts degree and then a cadetship with a theatre company.

It was the start of his successful career.

Serious issues

In 1993, he teamed up with Deborah Mailman to write *The 7 Stages of Grieving*, which Deb acted in as sole actor. The play dealt with serious issues, from genocide to self-determination and reconciliation – and was performed around Australia, as well as in London.

Over his career, Wesley's directed the Sydney Festival, been a Sydney Opera House Trustee and member of the NSW Government's Arts Advisory Council and received his OAM in 2020, "for significant service to the performing arts as an Indigenous director and playwright".

The Sunshine Club

Wesley's 1999 play *The Sunshine Club*, which focussed on the role played by mixed-race social dance clubs after WW2, became so popular it's recently been touring Australia again.

"The young teenager in me still loves the applause in the audience," he said.

"I give them time, energy and attention and when they leave, it touches them. If they leave during a performance, you don't know what kind of day they had."

"When I directed *Stolen*,

about the Stolen Generations, the ambulance was called five times in the season because people had heart palpitations."

"An Elder said to me that telling the stories can break peoples hearts."

But *The Sunshine Club* with its songs and dancing is a fun and uplifting musical, albeit with a serious underlying message.

"We also have to be responsible for people's hearts, lift them up and give them strength and something to hope for," Wesley said.

Business nous

Even though he writes plays, Wesley said he's directed more than he's written.

"And I spent a lot of time running theatre companies," he said.

"I was the artistic director of the Queensland Theatre Company for five years."

"It takes business nous. People think artists don't know how to run things, but we grew, sold tickets and made money."

"I understand how to tell a story and non-Indigenous people want to hear from Indigenous people telling stories."

"I believe that you can change people's hearts and minds if they understand our story and understand us as human beings."

Mentoring

These days, as well as being

the inaugural Indigenous chair in the Creative Industries at QUT, Wesley runs leadership and mentoring programs for Indigenous artists.

"We need to make room for the next generation," Wesley said.

"It's even harder to make change now."

"The political mind of this country thinks multi-generational issues can be solved in ten-year periods. Policy makers say 'that's enough, we've achieved that and ticked that box'."

"But we can't solve the problems in one generation – we need three or four."

"We had a missed opportunity with the Voice referendum, so how do we get to a point of influence?"

Advice

Wesley's advice to others is to remember that you are never alone.

"Even in the darkest moments, your family are always there, even if you have lost contact with them," he said.

"My dad never understood that I was gay and had a different way of seeing the world."

"But, our relationship changed as we got older and it healed."

"It will always shift and change over time, so get over any beef you have – and talk with them and be ready to build family up from the remnants."

War blinds us from truth

It's been over six months since the October 7 attacks on Israel took place, and six months of the world watching by as this is used as a justification for an entire population being bombed, starved and deprived of their human rights.

The west has become the witness to the genocide taking place in Gaza; in all our minds are the burnt images of death and oppression, in all our hearts lies a responsibility to the women and children all over the world, and in our hands ... we must start to use them differently.

It's hard to write about anything else than the genocide at the moment. It's all-consuming. The war machine and industry is of course a great money-maker and this is the world we live within, where killing people has become profitable and acceptable. Oh, how far have we gone down the path that leads to hell? Or have we already arrived?

The argument for large war industries is that it increases our GDP but at what cost? At what cost will you take your privileged, safe life?

Do you think it fair and just that your comfort and convenience is worth thousands of human lives? Millions of more-than-human lives. When will we remove the head from the sand and see that valuing money, a piece of plastic or paper as the truest form of wealth and abundance is our biggest blind spot. Surely abundance comes from a community that is as a



Ella Noah Bancroft

whole, well and connected rather than a system that gives this to just a few individuals.

Living in this country known as Australia, the belief we deserve entitlement is deeply embedded. What is the trade for this?

How much more blood must be shed, how many more waterways poisoned, how many children orphaned to make us wake up and say enough is enough?

The screens are filled with the bloodshed and starvation of so many. Yes, in Gaza but also around the world. We are a species that has forgotten our purpose. We have forgotten the purpose of being custodians, the protectors and carers of each other, our living world, and finally ourselves. In that order.

How can we justify our capitalist

system that allows some to accumulate and waste so many resources while others are slaves that can barely get food or have access to clean water?

How did we go down such a dark path and create such an unequal, greedy and violent system to govern us?

When we think we are separate from each other and also our natural world then its easier to separate the mind of our responsibilities and duties to this planet.

We are taught to think abundance is determined by the size of the numbers that appear on your screen as your online bank balance. Why did we not get taught that abundance comes from being in connection with the living world and having responsibilities to each other to ensure everyone is well and connected?

I am baffled that in 2024 we have allowed our government to commit \$4.1 billion over the next four years to obtain more long-range strike systems and manufacture longer-range munitions in Australia, which then of course are traded and used in war zones.

It's part of the \$19 billion in funding already committed by the government towards buying more long and medium range missiles, expanding defence bases in Australia's north and the nuclear submarine plan, which also sounds totally unnatural and not in line with the law of the land.

The government will commit \$1.6 billion towards growing the defence force's capability to accurately strike targets at longer range and expand investment in long-range missile systems.

It includes accelerating the delivery of additional high-mobility artillery rocket systems and the acquisition of precision strike missiles to 'deliver multi-domain strike effects'.

The funding of \$2.5 billion for the manufacturing of guided weapons and critical components is part of its mission to improve self-reliance and acquiring more stocks of guided weapons.

The government says the investment will boost the army's artillery range from 40 kilometres to more than 500 kilometres.

This information here is useful, it shows where our tax money goes, and that we actually are complicit in funding the war though our work and then our taxes. The system is so flawed and many of us don't even know what deals our government is making. Did you also know that in Melbourne's industrial north, an Australian company plays an important role in the production of vital components for F-35 Joint Strike Fighters; the same model that Israel is using to bomb Gaza.

There is no denying that Australia is complicit in this genocide and not only that, we are providing the very weapons that are murdering human beings. Civilians.

At least 33,970 Palestinians have been killed and 76,770 wounded in Gaza in the past six months since the Hamas surprise attack that killed more than 1,000 Israeli people.

So how can we help? What can we do? We can boycott businesses that support the war, write letters to our foreign affairs minister Penny Wong and call out the lies of our politicians, we can go to rallies and read information to become informed on this system of oppression that has spread across the world like a wildfire.

You can keep your eye on Surya. Surya is a local Mullumbimby man who left last week on the Freedom Flotilla to Gaza, delivering 5,500 tonnes of food and medicine. We need as many people as possible to keep their eyes on the flotilla.

It shouldn't be dangerous to take food to starving people, but more than 200 aid workers have already been killed. So we are calling on everyone to keep their eyes on the flotilla that is making its way to Gaza. We can continue to demand that our government keep Surya safe and advocate for his safety and for the aid to reach Gaza unimpeded.

Keep your eyes on the Freedom Flotilla Coalition.

The time is now, all we have is grassroots energy.

Power to the People!

● **Ella Noah Bancroft is a Bundjalung woman and a regular contributor to the Koori Mail.**

Mentee EOI's are now open for the ODPP First Nations Mentoring Program ('the Program')

The Program has been established as part of the ODPP's commitment to improving employment outcomes for First Nations peoples by increasing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander recruitment, retention, and professional development.

Who can participate?

- Internal and external First Nations lawyers, solicitors, barristers and law students.
- Mentees will be mentored by Crown Prosecutors.
- NB: This EOI is for mentees only at this stage. Mentors will be coordinated at a later date.

What does the program entail?

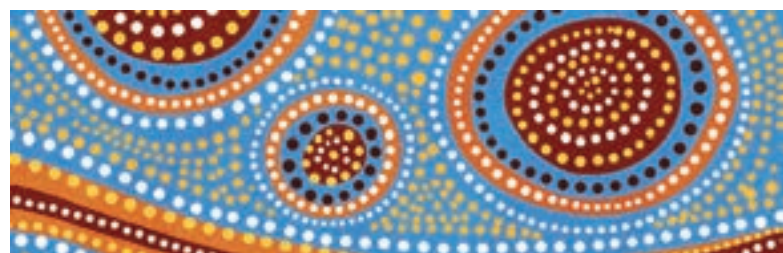
- The Program will provide mentees with access to the knowledge and skills of experienced practitioners, and opportunities to learn and develop as a legal professional in a confidential and safe environment.
- The mentoring relationship will also provide mentees with a forum to explore other facets of legal practice including wellbeing, work life balance, time management, court expectations, networking, career progression and culturally specific matters.

How to apply?

To express interest, please email ODPPFNMP@odpp.nsw.gov.au by Monday 13th May 2024 with a short description of how you meet the eligibility criteria, as outlined on page 5 of the Program document which can be found on our website: [First Nations Mentoring Program Outline-2024_0.pdf \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)

Suitability for the program will be assessed on the email application only. Applicants will be notified by the Chair of the First Nations Mentoring Program Committee after the close date as to whether they have been accepted into the program.

For more info please refer to the Program outline document on our website: Career opportunities and professional development | ODPP (nsw.gov.au)



Testimonials from 2023 mentees:

'The opportunity to benefit from the advice and support of an experienced ODPP Crown Prosecutor such as Guy Newton SC was invaluable ... and has inspired me to pursue a career in prosecution. I believe an initiative such as this is particularly beneficial for First Nations lawyers who may not have considered this possibility previously as it demonstrates that the organisation is truly welcoming and a place where we can belong. It can also break down the apprehension caused by the fear of the unknown as we are able to better understand the work of the NSW ODPP and the positive contribution we make to the community as First Nations ODDP staff.'

- Zachary Wone, 2023 Mentee.

'I am sincerely grateful for the privilege of participating in the 2023 ODPP First Nations Legal Mentoring Program. The opportunity to be mentored by a highly accomplished Crown Prosecutor is a rare and invaluable experience. Their generosity in sharing extensive experience and insights has played a pivotal role in shaping my perspective on my legal career. I extend my sincere thanks to the ODPP and the mentors for their valuable support and guidance, which has been an asset in my professional development.'

- 2023 Mentee



Dunghutti Elders Council Aboriginal Corporation (DECAC) chairperson Leo Wright, with fellow council directors Barry Vale and Clarry Hoskins, stand proudly beside the new community bus acquired with funding from Aboriginal Affairs NSW Community and Place Grants.

Grant for new wheels moves Dunghutti Mob



THE Dunghutti Elders Council (Aboriginal Corporation) RNTBC (DECAC) recently celebrated a significant milestone—the acquisition of a brand-new bus.

As part of the 2022 Aboriginal Affairs NSW Community and Place Grants Program, DECAC successfully secured funding for their project titled 'Dunghutti Community Connecting Our People to their Country.' The centrepiece of this initiative is a 22-seater bus that will play a pivotal role in enhancing community engagement and cultural preservation.

The newly acquired bus will serve multiple purposes. Its primary function is to transport Elders to significant sites and cultural events. These journeys allow Elders to maintain their custodial relationship with the lands of the Dunghutti Nation.

DECAC's vision extends beyond transportation, with the group working to empower Dunghutti people with leadership, knowledge and education to foster resilience and self-determination. Economic empowerment and independence are integral components of this vision, ensuring a sustainable

and thriving nation.

The Elders council is committed to strengthening the Dunghutti people's Native Title, honouring the continuous connection to Country and respecting the wisdom passed down by ancestors and Elders. In doing so, they lay the foundations for future generations, ensuring that the Dunghutti Nation thrives while preserving its rich heritage.

The Community and Place Grants program aligns with DECAC's mission, supporting locally driven projects within Aboriginal communities and contributing to the 17 socio-economic outcome targets outlined in the National Agreement on Closing the Gap. DECAC's new bus exemplifies the program's impact, bridging gaps and fostering community well-being.

Unlike its predecessor, the new bus boasts disability access. A fully fitted and certified wheelchair hoist, along with Q-Straints for two wheelchairs, ensures that all community members can participate in cultural journeys. DECAC's chairperson, Leo Wright, expressed optimism. "The new bus will be a great start to better things in the future for our people."

mid-year higher education 2024

YOUR GUIDE TO ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HIGHER EDUCATION

From the Classroom to the Operating Room: Emily Mason's Journey as an Indigenous Female Surgeon

For proud Gamilaroi woman, Emily Mason, the path to becoming one of the country's only Indigenous female general surgeons has been paved by hard work, determination, and the support of her community.

Her tertiary journey began back in 2015 through the University of Newcastle's Miroma Bunbilla program, an alternative pathway for Indigenous medical students. Emily went on to last year graduate a Masters of Traumatology with surgery specialisation with distinction – all while studying and working full-time.

"I definitely wouldn't have gotten through University without the help of the Wollotuka Institute - whether it was from arranging tutoring, or just having someone to have a yarn with and a cup of coffee when things were getting hard," she explained.

The Wollotuka Institute has been operating for more than 40 years as an Indigenous student support centre at the University of Newcastle, boasting the largest number of Indigenous student enrolments in the country.

While most of her days are now spent on the frontlines in emergency wards and operating theatres, Emily remembers fondly how her aspirations began, with her own visits to the doctor as a child in Port Macquarie, Birpai country, on the New South Wales Mid-North coast.

"I was very much inspired by Dr Peter O'Mara - Having a role model as my GP (general practitioner) at an Aboriginal Medical Service in my hometown, he was a big influence on me to know that I could complete medical school and could become a doctor," Dr Mason said.

In a full-circle moment, Wiradjuri man and doctor, Dr Peter O'Mara, is a former director of the Wollotuka Institute

and currently oversees the University of Newcastle's Indigenous Health Unit, Thuruu, in which the Miroma Bunbilla program runs.

"Seeing someone who had gone ahead of me, absolutely kicking goals and seeing how much of a difference he's making in the community was a big inspiration for me," Dr Mason said.

Being able to create similar change is a huge motivation for Emily Mason, who describes her current work as a general surgical senior resident medical officer as a 'privilege.'

"I feel incredibly lucky to be able to start working as a doctor within my hometown, and to be able to advocate for mob within the healthcare setting, be on the ground to help influence healthcare changes, and optimise as many things as we can to improve the health outcomes for our people," Dr Mason said.

The University of Newcastle, through innovative pathway programs and strong on-campus support, has now graduated over 100 Indigenous doctors.

In 2023 alone, 17 Indigenous students completed the medicine program, as well as 77 Indigenous health student completions.

In Awabakal language meaning 'permit... take care of', Miroma Bunbilla will again take place this year, a week-

long intensive selection process that gives aspiring doctors the chance to prove their passion, aptitude and suitability to commence a medical degree.

For Emily Mason, becoming a trailblazer in the field was never the end-goal, and she believes more First Nations people will change the system for the better.

"It's such a rewarding job. We can make such a difference to our communities, and so don't doubt that we belong in healthcare - We make such a difference," Dr Mason said.



Dr Emily Mason – Proud Gamilaroi woman

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Are you a university student looking for professional development support, including a paid internship while you study?

At CareerTrackers, we boast one of the largest communities of First Nations students, alumni and mentors.

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- Joshua Atherton, Alumni



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Yapug is a free pathway program designed to help Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people gain skills for entry into undergraduate degrees at the University of Newcastle. Supported by the Wollotuka Institute.



**OVER
100**

Indigenous doctors
have graduated¹



Scan to find
out more.

Millie
Yapug
Bachelor of Education (Primary)

2024 1024 | CRICOS Provider 001093 | 1 School of Medicine and Public Health Indigenous Unit completions as of 2021.

Family and community key to success at NIKERI Institute

Remote or regional location, family commitments or work obligations shouldn't impact your ability to access university. At the National Indigenous Knowledges Education Research and Innovation (NIKERI) Institute the Community Based Delivery (CBD) approach supports students to access on campus study blocks at Deakin University without having to relocate.

The unique learning environment at NIKERI brings together Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students from across Australia to share their individual perspectives and experiences. Over the more than 35-year history of NIKERI a special feature is the family and community connections students share. Multiple generations of families have studied together alongside siblings and work colleagues.

Cousins from Coober Pedy, South Australia, Aiden Ackland and Laura Larkins are both undertaking a Bachelor of Nursing. After conversations with Deakin graduates, they decided to apply to NIKERI Institute.

Aiden explains that they had both previously enrolled in university studies but found the nurturing community environment at NIKERI a welcome difference.

"We both have experiences of studying at other universities before here and we would have to go out and find support and try and access things that we didn't even know existed".

Laura highlighted that studying at NIKERI felt like a supportive community.

"I like that we are supported from the time we get off the plane. We get to our rooms, they make sure we're all ready. I also like that the class is taught separately to the mainstream students and that the teachers are very culturally aware."

Aiden agreed, "I think it's the mini community that we make within our class. Everyone seems to get along really well and support each other."

Bachelor of Education (Primary) student Janis Assan, a Badulaig, Maluilgal and Zenadth Kes woman from Badu Island is nearing completion of her studies. Her sister Ashley from Thursday Island has recently commenced at NIKERI Institute too. Their family connections stretch across the Torres Strait from Badu Island, Darnley Island and Saibai Island.

Like many NIKERI Institute students, Janis says her grandmother who was studying a Masters degree at the time, encouraged her to pursue university. As a result, Ashley witnessed her sisters success and was motivated to enrol too.

"I chose to study at Deakin after hearing about the great support that they offer. My sister was already studying at Deakin before I enrolled, she inspires me to complete my studies as well."

Ashley agrees that the supportive community at NIKERI is a highlight of studying at Deakin.

"The best thing about studying at NIKERI is the support from staff, meeting new people from all over Australia and the welcoming hospitality that they provide during our stay."

In addition to study support including tutoring, academic advice and social and emotional guidance there are many scholarships and other enablers available to make the decision to study a stress-free process. NIKERI Institute has a dedicated student services team available through the entire student journey, assisting with your online application, enrolment, travel and accommodation arrangements and academic engagement through to graduation.



First year Bachelor of Nursing students Laura Larkins and Aiden Ackland

Community Based Delivery

The National Indigenous Knowledges Education Research and Innovation (NIKERI) Institute provides Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians with access to flexible higher education programs. Our unique Community Based Delivery model enables students to maintain their family, work and community commitments while studying.

NIKERI Institute offers degrees in education, arts, law, nursing, social work, land and sea country management and public health alongside our growing research and Indigenous Knowledges studies.



Find out more
deakin.edu.au/nikeri
 1800 063 383

NIKERI
INSTITUTE



Deakin University CRICOS Provider Code: 00113B

“Whether you’re looking for tutoring, activities to get involved in, or just a chat, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit is there to help.”

AMY BECKETT
Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) /
Bachelor of Economics

“Diversity of culture, thought, opinion and knowledge is always important, and supporting Indigenous women in STEM will only increase this.”

KEELY PERRY
Bachelor of Biotechnology (Honours)





You Belong Here

Explore the pathways, scholarships, support and opportunities available for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students at UQ.

study.uq.edu.au/join-our-community



THE UNIVERSITY
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CREATE CHANGE

Brisbane River element from *A Guidance Through Time* by Quandamooka artists Casey Coolwell and Kyra Mancktelow

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How support from UQ set me up for success

By DARBY JONES

In 2020, I commenced my Bachelor of Arts at The University of Queensland (UQ) as an anxious, mature-aged student. As the first in my family to attend university, I had no idea what to expect or whether I could handle the demands of tertiary education.

Three years later, in December 2023, I received my degree as the valedictorian of my graduating class.

This would not have been possible without two things. Firstly, the generous scholarships I received. Secondly, the unwavering support from the UQ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit (ATSISU).

These two pillars of support helped me in the following ways.

Tailored orientation

Shortly after I accepted my offer from UQ, I received an email from the ATSISU. They welcomed me to UQ and invited me to an online introduction session, where I met many other commencing students. The presentation included useful information about what to expect from – and how to prepare for – the transition to university.

Two weeks after I had started my degree, I met with the ATSISU's Academic Support Service Coordinator. She spoke to me about my goals and aspirations before recommending majors, minors, and courses she believed I would enjoy.

With the support of the ATSISU, I felt prepared for whatever my time at UQ would bring.

Regular updates

The ATSISU emails its students a weekly newsletter called the ATSISU Weekly Bulletin. This newsletter was

a great way to stay up to date with things that are happening both on and off campus.

It includes comprehensive lists of scholarships, internships, research, volunteering, and employment opportunities, as well as information about community events happening within the ATSISU.

It was in the ATSISU Weekly Bulletin that I first discovered information about two of the scholarships I was awarded during my time at UQ (one of which covered the cost of on-campus accommodation).

A home away from home

Kev Carmody House was an amazing place to live. Being on campus really helped me get the most out of my time at UQ. The facilities are out of this world. It felt like quite a luxury to study by the rooftop pool, prepare my meals in the large industrial kitchen, and kick back in the cinema.

My room was on the fifteenth floor. I woke up every morning to the view of mountains in the distance, reminding me how far I'd come and how much further I could go.

During my time at UQ, the ATSISU and generous scholarships empowered me to focus on my studies. I wouldn't be where I am today without them.

If you're thinking about going to university, I encourage you to reach out to the ATSISU. There are so many wonderful people there who genuinely want to see you succeed.

Find out more about the ATSISU at indigenous-engagement.uq.edu.au/atsisu or by emailing atsis@uq.edu.au.

Darby Jones is a Kamilaroi writer and editor whose work has been featured in Griffith Review Online, Island Magazine, The Brisbane Times, and various other publications. For more information, visit darbyjones.au.

Engineering a promising path to university and beyond

Amy Beckett started Year 12 unsure whether she wanted to attend university.

After participating in one of The University of Queensland's (UQ) InspireU camps, however, this outlook changed.

Inspiring high schoolers to consider university

InspireU brings together Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander high school students from across the state for a week-long camp at UQ's St Lucia campus in Brisbane. The aim is to empower Indigenous students to explore their higher education options through interactive, fun and educational activities.

Attending InspireU camps helped Amy envision what her life could be like as a UQ student.

"I received lots of support at the camp and got to meet current engineering students," Amy says.

"This really helped put me in a university mindset and made me aware of the opportunities open to me, including scholarships."

Making the transition

Amy decided to undertake a double degree in engineering and economics at UQ and moved from the Gold Coast to begin her studies. Upon arrival, she was relieved to see the familiar, friendly faces of InspireU staff around campus.

"The team ensure they're around to give you support when you get to university. They're still a big part of my uni journey," Amy says.

"Whether you're looking for tutoring, activities to get involved in, or just a chat, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit is there to help."

Helping others find their way

Motivated by her own positive experience, Amy is now a student ambassador for the InspireU program. She helps bridge the gap between high school students and UQ staff.

"Students often feel more comfortable talking with me casually before approaching staff for more information," she says.

"I can also give them exposure to my field of study, so they can decide if engineering is something they're interested in."



Amy Beckett is a proud Aboriginal woman studying a Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) / Bachelor of Economics at UQ.

The role helps Amy stay engaged with the Indigenous community at UQ, and she describes it as rewarding.

"It's good to feel like I'm benefitting someone who was in my shoes a few years ago."

Gaining professional experience

Amy has gained further momentum in her studies by undertaking internships with GHD, BHP, Hatch and Boeing.

"It's given me insight into what it means to work as an engineer in different industries," she says.

"I'm much more confident in an office

setting now, and I've developed soft skills in communication and organisation."

Amy is a recipient of the Australian Indigenous Education Foundation-BHP Tertiary Scholarship, which is awarded to outstanding Indigenous students in engineering and science who aspire to become leaders in business.

"They've sponsored me for my entire degree and are the reason I could afford to relocate to study," she says.

Amy is set to have plenty of work experience and industry connections to draw on once she completes her degree. She hopes to gain work in the renewable energy sector after graduation.



Keely Perry is a proud Wiradjuri woman and UQ Bachelor of Biotechnology (Honours) graduate.

Mentoring Indigenous women in STEM

Proud Wiradjuri woman and UQ graduate Keely Perry is a keen advocate for Indigenous women working and studying in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

She graduated with a Bachelor of Biotechnology (Honours) majoring in Plant Biotechnology from The University of Queensland (UQ) in 2023 and continues to gain valuable experience in her field.

Keely recently completed a UQ School of Agriculture and Food Sustainability Kickstarter project analysing finger lime cultivar variations and storage options. She is looking ahead to early 2025 when she hopes to start her PhD.

"I'm incredibly interested in exploring the Australian native plant area, in both food and ecology spaces," Keely says.

"My family has an agricultural background. I'm a fifth-generation cattle farmer, and both my parents have always given me ample opportunities to work on the land."

Growth opportunities through internships

Keely grew up in Longreach, where she was high school captain in 2018 and worked part time as a bakery supervisor and bartender.

During Year 12, she contacted CareerTrackers, which creates yearly internship opportunities for hundreds of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. She spent the year between high school and university as a Westpac learning consultant intern, where she gained valuable skills in teamwork and time management.

While enrolled at UQ, Keely has completed internships through CareerTrackers with Origin Energy, Golder and Urban Utilities. She was also a mentor and mentee with the CSIRO Young Indigenous Women in STEM Academy.

"STEM fields should be accessible and in the purview of any Indigenous female," she says.

"Diversity of culture, thought, opinion and knowledge is always important, and supporting Indigenous women in STEM will only increase this."

Leading by example

Mentoring young Indigenous women has been an enriching experience for Keely. She has also worked with the UQ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit as a mentor and ambassador for high school students.

"The relationships I've made have been incredibly important to me both professionally and personally," she says.

"The most rewarding aspect would always be watching students become excited or fulfilled by what you get to teach or show them and knowing that

you've made an impact on them."

Keely is currently in a research assistant (community liaison and engagement) role with UQ as part of its emerging relationship with the new National Indigenous Science Translation Centre (NISTC). The centre will facilitate the translation of Indigenous science into Indigenous enterprise, and is seeking support from the federal and state government.

"My work encompasses a lot of foundational research work, not in the lab per say, but in the design of the centre and what its operation will look like," Keely says.

Parting advice

When asked what advice she would give to fellow rural Indigenous students considering moving to pursue university studies, her response was practical and straightforward:

"Really explore your options. You want to give yourself the best environment for doing the best you can at university and getting the most out of your degree."

She emphasises that there are several accommodation options available, including residential colleges, purpose-built student accommodation and private rentals. Students can choose to reside in Brisbane during the university year and move back home for the holidays, or permanently relocate. It's about finding what's right for you.

"It is your own journey, so make sure you are comfortable with it."

Pursue your pathway to medicine

The University of Queensland's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander MD Admission Pathway provides the chance for applicants to gain alternative entry into their preferred program. This pathway gives successful applicants the opportunity to add up to 5 bonus ATAR points to your score. This may be the boost you need to pursue your studies in medicine.

If you are ready to create change in your community by pursuing a career in medicine, apply to UQ.

Applications key dates

MD graduate entry:

1 August 2024

applications close

MD provisional entry:

30 September 2024

applications close

"One thing we all have in common as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples at The University of Queensland is that we strive for excellence... We don't allow adversities or roadblocks in our journey to dictate the remainder of our pathways."

Angus Loft
Kamilaroi man and
UQ Doctor of Medicine student



Find out more



At **Wirltu Yarlu**, we believe that every Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student deserves access to higher education, regardless of their background or circumstances. We are here to empower you to overcome any challenges you may face on your journey and inspire you to reach your full potential.

We understand that this journey can be tough, but we are here to provide unwavering support every step of the way. From special entry programs to academic planning and financial aid, we have everything you need to succeed at **The University of Adelaide**. Our commitment to making higher education accessible and equitable for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people is at the heart of everything we do.



Celebrating the Inspiring Achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Graduates from The University of Adelaide

The graduation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students from The University of Adelaide is a testament to the power of education and determination. It is a moment to celebrate their remarkable achievements and the bright future that awaits them.

Twice a year, Wirltu Yarlu hosts a special graduation ceremony where the students can showcase their accomplishments and discuss their exciting projects for the future. It is also an opportunity for graduates to reflect on their journey and the challenges faced along the way.

For Professor Steve Larkin, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous Engagement), graduations are a proud day. "It is a day to celebrate our graduates and to acknowledge and reflect on the importance and need of providing equitable access to university education for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People. Their academic accomplishments are a reminder of how education can transform lives and communities," said Professor Larkin.

Dr Justine Clark, PhD graduate and proud Adnyamathanha woman, is already working towards a brighter future for Aboriginal and Torres Strait islanders People. She is currently working as a Post-Doctoral Researcher in Indigenous Genomics at Telethon Kids Institute, looking at the biology and genetics of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander kids affected by cancer. "A PhD is a big undertaking, requiring lots of dedication. I'm really pleased that I've graduated. Now I move straight into my new role where I can use my degree to try to help my community with something important to me, to my identity as a cancer researcher and as an Aboriginal Person."

During the main University graduation ceremonies, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students who



Kaurna Elder Uncle Rod O'Brien, Cultural Advisor; Toni Shearing, MBA; Rigby Downs, MBA; Dr Justine Clark, PhD in Medicine Physiology; Rebecca Haynes, Bachelor of Health and Medical Sciences (Advanced); Christopher Crowe, Bachelor of Psychological Science; Professor Steve Larkin, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous Engagement)

graduate from The University of Adelaide wear a cultural sash over their graduation gown that identifies their cultural heritage as Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander or both.

Wirltu Yarlu celebrates all Aboriginal and Torres Strait

Islander graduates. Their achievements are a source of inspiration, and their success will encourage other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to pursue university education and positively impact their communities.

'Lifting Up' your career opportunities



Avah Topp, Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery students, The University of Adelaide

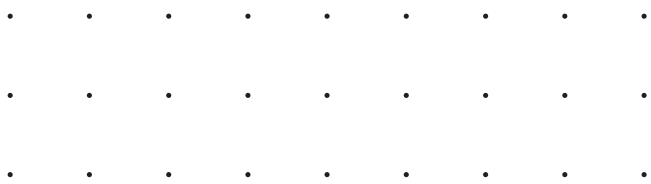
The prospect of pursuing higher education can be overwhelming. Fortunately, the Karnkanthi Education Program is here to offer a helping hand and make the journey less challenging for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. Translating to 'lifting up' in Kaurna language, this innovative program, coordinated by Wirltu Yarlu at The University of Adelaide, provides a range of services that assist High school students from years 10 to year 12/13 in navigating the complexities of tertiary education and prepare them by building on their unique personal, academic, and cultural strengths.

Avah Topp, a current student in the Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery program, believes the Program was fundamental to help her cement her chances of accessing university education. "I wouldn't be where I am now if it wasn't for the Karnkanthi Education Program. Without their support, I wouldn't have been studying medicine. It provided me with an endless number of opportunities. I would have been lost without the program", says Avah.

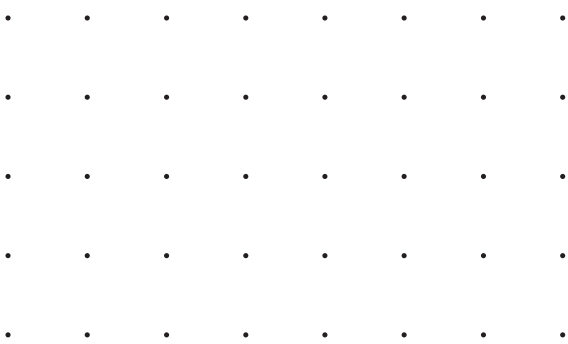
Through mentorship, academic support, and cultural connection, the Karnkanthi Education Program is breaking down barriers and providing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander High school students with the opportunity to pursue higher education, helping them to achieve their goals and seize their dreams.

The free initiative allows participants to join an ever-growing community of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people who aspire to develop their resilience and leadership skills to succeed in life. Wirltu Yarlu works closely with students to ensure sustainable academic growth and success, aiming to build their confidence in pursuing higher education pathways that will empower them for life.

Students in years 10 and 11 can apply to join the program any time of the year. Year 12 students must apply by June 30. Applicants can participate in free academic, cultural, social, and career development activities, access private tutoring for school subjects, receive financial support for educational costs, travel and accommodation, and receive student development scholarships. For more information, please email us at wirltu.yarlu@adelaide.edu.au



Moondani Toombadool Centre



Moondani Toombadool Centre offers you ongoing support from course selection right through to graduation.

Indigenous Academic Support Program (IASP)
Personalised academic tutoring to navigate your coursework successfully.

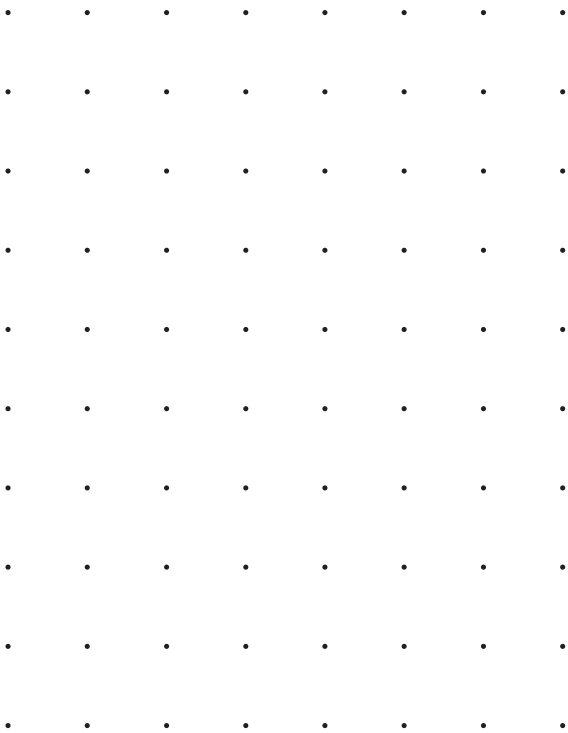
Cultural support and opportunities
Embrace and celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture through key Indigenous events, workshops, and opportunities.

Networking opportunities
Connect with peers and form friendships through MTC's Indigenous Student Lounge and Indigenous Learning Circles.

Enrolment assistance
If you need support or have any queries with enrolling in units/subjects, the Indigenous Student Services team is here to assist, ensuring a smooth process.

And as Swinburne is a dual-sector university, we have courses ranging from certificate level to PhD – so we can provide pathway options into any area of study that may interest you.

To connect and yarn/chat about your needs, please contact the Moondani Toombadool Centre:





Anita Fagg, a proud Darumbal woman returns to study at Swinburne University of Technology as a mature age student to complete a Diploma of Community Services.

Anita's returning to school to empower her community

Embarking on an educational journey later in life can be daunting, but for Anita Fagg, it's proven to be an immensely fulfilling experience. Anita, a proud Darumbal woman, made the decision to return to studies as a mature age student to complete a Diploma of Community Services at Swinburne University of Technology.

Anita works as a Community Connector for Family Services clients at the Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency (VACCA). Having recently moved into a new role, Anita was encouraged by her employer to pursue a Diploma of Community Services at Swinburne, tailored to her workplace needs and cultural background through VACCA's partnership with Swinburne.

VACCA is a state-wide Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation servicing children, young people, families, and community members. Swinburne and VACCA's partnership provides inclusive and culturally sensitive vocational training in community services, fostering workforce capability and self-determination within Indigenous communities.

When Anita attended Swinburne Orientation week, it felt like "one of those scenes in movies" as she watched the vibrant campus life and the joyful commotion of clubs vying for new members. "It was so great seeing so many different cultures, activities and clubs to become a member of," she recalls.

The vibrant campus has been one of Anita's favourite parts of returning to study. "I really love going on campus," she said. "I

"Utilise the services and support offered, even just for a unit or two. This could be the difference between deferring or withdrawing and pushing through the tough units."

often think of Billy Madison going back to school as a mature age student."

Anita quickly discovered she still loved learning just as much as she had when she studied youth work 10 years ago. She enjoyed the opportunity to engage with fellow students and colleagues from diverse backgrounds. She reflected that the mix of experiences amongst her classmates added "different dimensions to group work and discussions in the classroom".

Anita feels strengthened by the extra support available to Indigenous students at Swinburne. She reflected on the benefit of having workplace Support Worker, Auntie Lee Healy, in class adding cultural and individual support to students, which Anita has taken advantage of. Anita shared that when she was "feeling overwhelmed and confused, [Auntie Lee] checked in on me, which was really appreciated."

Anita was impressed by the facilities and support offered to Indigenous students at the Moondani Toombadool Centre.

The Moondani Toombadool Centre offers ongoing cultural and academic support for Indigenous students all the way through their Swinburne journey to ensure a positive, inclusive and successful experience.

Anita makes use of the Moondani Toombadool Centre tutoring service and has developed a great relationship with her tutor, Michelle. "Michelle has been an amazing support," Anita said. "Whether it's after dinner or a mid-morning coffee on a weekend. She guides me through my thought process to expand what I have started, without giving me the answers. This is extremely useful. We have a great rapport."

Anita appreciated the cultural spaces and places on campus, such as the Indigenous Student Lounge and the Indigenous Learning Circles, outdoor teaching and learning spaces that celebrate and inspire connection to Country and cultural exchange.

Like many of her classmates, Anita has to navigate balancing her study with her work and family commitments. "All of my class is working in the community service sector full time. A lot of us have kids and family," Anita said. She emphasised that it is important to "utilise the services and support offered, even just for a unit or two. This could be the difference between deferring or withdrawing and pushing through the tough units."

One of the game changers for Anita has

been the additional support with accommodation when she needs to attend class on campus. "VACCA support me and a few of the other students on the night before [class]. So I can walk to university in five minutes and leave my car at the accommodation. [The Moondani Toombadool Centre] provided me with an option to stay at accommodation the night after class so I can do work and look over what we learned that day. I have a husband who is visually impaired, who gets a support worker in on Wednesday nights to help with family chores. So this is a comfort for me."

Looking ahead, Anita sees herself continuing her role as a Community Connector for Family Services clients. She is excited to incorporate the knowledge and skills she has gained from her study into her role to further support her community.

For prospective students eyeing Swinburne, Anita encourages them to embrace the support systems in place. Whether it's seeking help from tutors, communicating with teachers about challenges, or tapping into the wealth of resources available, she emphasises, "they want you to pass. You have support all around you and communication is the key if you are struggling for whatever the reason."

If you'd like to have a yarn with the Moondani Toombadool Centre about your study options and what support we can offer you, please reach out at indigenoustudents@swin.edu.au.

A dream to make a difference

Written by Meni Constantinou

Growing up on a rural property in the Southern Tablelands town of Braidwood, Jallamara Gardner harboured a dream to become a lawyer or social worker focused on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities.

With the encouragement of her father and two mothers, one of whom was a mental health lawyer, she worked hard at school and stayed dedicated to making it happen.

"I'd see my mum doing her legal work and helping people with all these things, and that really inspired me," says Jallamara, a proud Gunditjmara and Gumbaynggirr woman.

"I remember thinking, 'Wow, I want to do that. I want to help people in situations, people experiencing disadvantage, and kids in the justice system who don't have that support network around them.' Since then, I've had this dream to become an Aboriginal social worker or lawyer, to really help to make a change."

And yet, as a schoolkid in a small town that lacked the opportunities of the big city, sometimes her dream seemed out of reach.

"I love Braidwood," she says. "It's beautiful and a great place to live and grow up. But there aren't a lot of opportunities there."

When the time came for high school, Jallamara and her mums decided she should transfer to St Clare's College, a Canberra-based Catholic school for girls. This required a longwinded daily commute and multiple bus transfers, with Jallamara setting off at sunrise and returning home to Braidwood at nightfall.

"The travel was really hectic and it took a couple of years to fully adjust to that whole new school, city lifestyle thing – but in the end, it was so worth it," she says.

Since graduating from high school in 2023, Jallamara has embarked on a Bachelor of Social Work at ACU, with a plan to join the double degree program with a Bachelor of Laws.



Jallamara Gardner is a proud Aboriginal woman who is making the most of her opportunities.

She was also awarded an ACU Accommodation Scholarship, aimed at students from rural or remote areas who face barriers to higher education.

Jallamara now lives in Canberra at ACU's new on-campus Blackfriars Residence, and travelling to class is a breeze.

"Getting that scholarship has honestly changed my life," she says. "Instead of commuting for hours each day to get to Canberra, I'm living here on campus. I've met lots of friends and other Aboriginal students, so I just feel like I fit in. Sometimes it's hard to believe I'm on my way to a career in law and social work. I just love it so much."

When she's not in class, Jallamara enjoys spending time at ACU's Dhara Daramoolen unit, an on-campus hub that provides students with a culturally safe space that promotes positive Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander identity.

Although she was raised on Yuin country, Jallamara forged a connection with her own country and culture during trips to visit family members in Victoria and other parts of NSW.

"My mums and my dad always used to say, 'This is where you're from, and don't ever forget that. This is your country and these are your people'," she says. "They really enforced that strong cultural feeling on me, making sure that I embraced my identity and knew who I was. It allowed me to be strong and proud, and I've always held onto that."

While she considers herself lucky to have had opportunities to study and pursue her interests, Jallamara remains conscious of the challenges that many others face.

"A lot of us Aboriginal kids get told that we'll never amount to much, that we won't get the chance to achieve the things that other kids do, and I feel a strong urge to challenge that," she says.

"I want to help those people and communities that don't have good access to opportunities, who don't have the support network, because I think that these days, a lot of Aboriginal people want to challenge those old stereotypes and turn them around."

"We can pursue the careers we want to pursue. We can go to university and become lawyers and social workers. And if we succeed and achieve our dreams, maybe we can show other Aboriginal kids that they can do it, too."



River to Reef with Sam Thaiday: a new ACU podcast

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omny.fm/shows/river-to-reef-with-sam-thaiday/playlists/podcast

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Western Sydney University empowers Indigenous students in health

Western Sydney University is celebrating a significant achievement as record numbers of Indigenous students embark on their journey towards health degrees and careers.

In 2024, Western Sydney University welcomes more than 330 new Indigenous students with over 120 of these students commencing study in health courses such as Paramedicine, Physiotherapy and Nursing. This achievement not only highlights the dedication and talent of these students but also represents a significant step forward in addressing the shortage of qualified Indigenous health professionals.

Western Sydney University Indigenous Engagement Officer, Amelia Corr said that it is fantastic to see such strong numbers of mob engaged in study across diverse health degrees, with the milestone leading to a positive, long-term impact across the broader community.

"Not long ago, you would predominantly see Indigenous faces in education classrooms. Now we are everywhere, excelling in degrees including Paramedicine, Occupational Therapy, Nursing and Physiotherapy," said Ms Corr.

"I'm pleased to see so many Indigenous students gaining entry to these courses through our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Entry Pathway. One of the most remarkable aspects of this achievement is the ripple effect it is poised to have on Indigenous health outcomes as these students progress through their studies and eventually enter the workforce as qualified healthcare professionals. I know that the future of Indigenous health outcomes will be in good hands."

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Pathway Entry Program provides a way for mob to enter degrees at Western by completing an entry assessment. Importantly, this entry program looks at capacity for success, rather than prior educational journeys or ATARs.

Indigenous student Andrew Webster, who is in his second

year of a Bachelor of Paramedicine at Western took part in the Pathway Entry Program and would encourage others to apply to embark on their own journeys towards their dream careers.

"After researching the Paramedicine degrees available, Western seemed to be the best option for me with the staff, facilities and support on offer," said Andrew.

"I had an excellent experience with the Program, with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Pathway Program team going above and beyond to give me extensive and continued support as they helped to guide me through my options and understand the process, particularly what was required of me to enter the degree which I desired."

With the appeal of helping people during their most vulnerable times and working in high pressure situations drawing him to the role, after graduating Andrew plans to gain experience in regional and metropolitan areas, while moving up the ranks in the Ambulance Service to deliver the best healthcare to those who need it most.

Growing up on Dharug land, Andrew said he feels a great sense of pride to be able to study a health degree that allows him to share his knowledge to break down barriers and drive change in the community.

"There are differences between Western medicine and First Nation values that sometimes don't align, so it's important for mob to be put into positions where they can help their communities and combine both modern medicine and traditional values to ensure the best health outcomes for everyone," he said.

"Hopefully, I can be a great model to another Indigenous person and empower them to give back to their community in their own way."

For more information on the Entry Program and upcoming Assessment Days, please visit the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Pathway Entry webpage.



Bachelor of Paramedicine student Andrew Webster





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Darcy, Bachelor of Arts

CQU to host Australian-first First Nations student research conference

CQUniversity will host an Australian-first conference for First Nations research higher degree students on Darumbal lands (Rockhampton) this July.

Titled Guwal Jilbay, meaning 'yarning research', the inaugural three-day event invites First Nations research students and their supervisors, from the Northern Australia Universities Alliance and Regional Universities Network, to attend.

CQUniversity Deputy Vice-President of Indigenous Engagement Professor Adrian Miller said that as part of CQU's ongoing commitment to reconciliation, the University was working to improve the participation and success of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and strengthen research opportunities and partnerships that are high-impact and beneficial to people and communities.

"I'm thrilled to officially announce this conference that will be the first of its kind for this country," Professor Miller said.

"Guwal Jilbay aims to address the isolation that

regional and rural First Nations research students and their supervisors experience," he said.

"Participants will be inspired and walk away with new skills, stronger goals, larger networks, collaboration opportunities and a fresh passion for their research projects.

"We know that many Indigenous researchers from rural and remote areas face unique challenges and are often called upon by their home communities to address seemingly impossible issues. Guwal Jilbay Yarning Research is here to show you you're not alone on the journey. By connecting with others, students can benefit from the strengths and wisdom of Indigenous ways of knowing, doing and being."

Professor Miller said CQUniversity was well-placed and equipped to highlight the unique voice and impact of regional and rural research communities.

"With the creation and ongoing success of the Jilbay First Nations RHD Academy, we



are best-placed to lead the charge in increasing retention and completions of First Nations RHD students and inspire other universities to support similar programs to assist students to succeed in a culturally safe space.

"My hope is that the success of this event will lead to an annual conference."

Guwal Jilbay will be held from July 16-18 at CQUniversity's Rockhampton North Campus.

"Guwal Jilbay aims to address the isolation that regional and rural First Nations research students and their supervisors experience. Participants will be inspired and walk away with new skills, stronger goals, larger networks, collaboration opportunities and a fresh passion for their research projects."

– CQUniversity Deputy Vice-President of Indigenous Engagement Professor Adrian Miller

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Opportunity creates Success



Jake Morris and Hollie Taggart at the Tamworth UNE Centre

Gamilaroi woman, Hollie Taggart is looking forward to enrolling in her Bachelor of Social Work at UNE soon. Nearing the end of her studies in the TRACKS Program, an enabling course for First Nations people at UNE, Hollie says the TRACKS course has “really improved my academic writing”.

Hailing from Tamworth, Hollie explains that “At first I did the course to improve my skills but the more I got into it I believed I could do the degree I really want. I want to be a Social Worker. Since I was a little kid I have wanted to help my community – to advocate for them. As a qualified social worker, I will have that opportunity.

Just three weeks after talking with Jake Morris, Tamworth local and Stakeholder Engagement Coordinator at UNE Tamworth, Hollie decided to sign up for TRACKS. “I already knew Jake and he encouraged me to believe that I could do this. He talked about what the TRACKS course could do for me and wow, now I have nearly finished the program.” Jake Morris says “Hollie has shown great resilience and her effort has been the bench mark for our Tamworth cohort. Hollie is a pleasure to be around and always has a smile on her face and a willingness to have a yarn. She has given me more drive to work harder to get more of our

people in to be a part of the TRACKS program.”

As an online student Hollie quickly learnt new ways of learning. “My use of technology and computers has improved out of sight. I have classes online yet we can also attend a group study session at the UNE Centre, once or twice a week. I feel like I can just walk into the Tamworth Centre and get help when I need it. I was shaky at the start but I kept going and learnt how to put my thoughts on paper and my current marks prove that I can do this”. Hybrid learning opportunities are an important aspect of the TRACKS course. Hollie is seen as a real leader in the study group showing all how to get in and get the job done, with a great attitude and impeccable time management.

Being able to stay on country and work in her community has made the whole journey more comfortable and relaxed. Hollie says “I have help and support from my partner, and this helps me focus a lot more. I dropped out of school at Year 10 and this course has built my confidence.”

As part of the program Hollie is currently completing a university degree level unit in social work and is working at the Dept of Community Justice as a case worker.

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Indigenous leadership central to design of new college



The University of Technology Sydney (UTS) is excited to announce that its new National First Nations College (NFNC) will be designed by Greenaway Architects, Warren and Mahoney, and OCULUS.

Professor Robynne Quiggin, UTS Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous Leadership and Engagement) said Indigenous voices were central to the entire design competition process, in keeping with the University's philosophy of Indigenous self-determination.

Accordingly, key elements of the design competition brief were prepared by an Indigenous Australian architect; each of the six shortlisted teams appointed an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander architect or suitably qualified designer as Cultural Design Lead who met with local Indigenous knowledge holders for an on-site Welcome Ceremony and an opportunity share to local cultural knowledge.

"The College aims to create an

environment where students – Indigenous and non-Indigenous – can thrive and celebrate Indigenous identity and culture, while setting a new benchmark for excellence in Indigenous education and research," Professor Quiggin said.

Cultural Design Lead of the winning team, Jefa Greenaway of Greenaway Architects, a descendant of the Wailwan and Kamilaroi peoples of northwest NSW, said the College will become a global exemplar of how we think about a college specifically aligned to the needs of First Nations people.

"We're building on the deep legacy of Indigenous knowledge in order to come up with a new model of what a First Nations college is in the 21st century," said Mr Greenaway.

"We've sought to really infuse the legacy and history of Indigenous people, trailblazers, warriors who have come before, so we're not starting from a clean slate. We're acknowledging not only the deeper history, but also the more recent histories

around Aboriginal activism and the College's proximity to places like Redfern, which were very much an incubator for Indigenous activism and civil rights," he said.

The National First Nations College will be built on Gadigal land at Harris Street, Ultimo.

As well as being home to students, the building will showcase contemporary Indigenous art, film, performance and storytelling, and strongly acknowledge Traditional Custodians and local communities.

Intended inclusions:

- Accommodation for 250+ students with a mixture of units
- Internal community spaces and neighbourhood amenities
- The Arts Centre, including public arts and performance spaces
- Precinct heart to accommodate informal gatherings, cultural events and smoking ceremonies
- Student art studio, media and music room
- Multi-purpose room, quiet study



The National First Nations College will be built on Gadigal land at Harris Street, Ultimo.

areas, meeting rooms, offices and student support spaces

- Communal kitchens and dining
- Extensive native gardens and landscape features.

Architectural Design Lead, Simon Topliss of Warren and Mahoney, said:

"We are privileged to be working on this project, which brings Traditional Custodian insight to the forefront through a bold and contextual design response.

The design expresses Indigenous culture through its form and

function, and supports a new generation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island leaders to build culture, community and pride," said Mr Topliss.

Bob Earl, from OCULUS, has been selected as Landscape Design Lead.

"Our team's deep collaboration was always embedded in Country and committed to a people focused approach setting out to enrich the student experience and celebrate the power of Country in a contemporary urban context," said Mr Earl.



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From Napranum to the national stage

Kyezaya Namai-Sabatino knew starting his career early was a smart move and his decision to study at TAFE Queensland ended up changing his life.

Kyezaya, 18, lives in the Aboriginal community of Napranum, a remote coastal town in far northern Queensland, and knew from a young age that he wanted to pursue a trade career.

"I have always had an underlying passion for diesel fitting," Kyezaya said.

"Growing up, I was fascinated by big trucks hauling bauxite from mines and wondered what it would be like to work on trucks and see them up close."

Kyezaya jumped at the chance to complete work experience at a mine which triggered his decision to start his career early.

While still in high school, Kyezaya began a school-based traineeship, juggling his senior studies with a Certificate II in Engineering (MEM20105) at TAFE Queensland.

"I knew taking on a traineeship would help set me up for life after school and it has led to some wonderful opportunities."

Kyezaya's dedication to his training earned him a swag of awards in 2023.

He was named the best School-based Apprentice or Trainee of the Year at the Australian Training Awards, as well as the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Trade Student of the Year at the TAFE Queensland Cairns Trade Excellence Awards.

"Completing my traineeship has allowed me to pursue my dream of working on trucks, and it has given me a platform to show my people in my community that there are wonderful opportunities in vocational



education and training (VET)."

"The award recognition fuels me to keep excelling and kicking goals to better myself and encourage others to learn more about VET pathways and the opportunities available."

After completing Year 12 and his certificate II studies, Kyezaya gained credit towards

an apprenticeship and began a

Certificate III in Engineering - Fixed and Mobile Plant Mechanic (MEM31419) using free apprenticeships for under 25s funding.

"My training provides me with in-depth knowledge and understanding of how the big machines operate and work along with all the little mechanisms that help the machine run efficiently," Kyezaya said.

"I like how my practical training is specific to my work tasks, this allows me to be

familiar with new jobs I may face in the workshop.

"My TAFE Queensland training has also improved my social skills, taught me how to succeed in team environments, equipped me with the ability to adapt to change, and built my resilience to overcome challenges."

With a few years of working on trucks under his tool belt, Kyezaya is as passionate as ever about his career path – even if it means waking up before the sun for a 12-hour shift.

"My typical workday starts at 4am getting ready and travelling to the mine workshop for a 6am start," Kyezaya said.

"I have a wide variety of tasks on any given day, whether it be scheduled services or breakdowns out in the field."

"I look forward to working on any machine in general and familiarising myself with all the tasks undertaken in each service or component changeout."

"What I love about my industry is that people from all walks of life meet up and you never know who you will encounter or what friends you will make."

"In the future, I want to obtain an auto electrician apprenticeship to become a dual-traded tradesman and work wherever I can while travelling and building a portfolio of investment properties."

"I want to show my community and others that there are no limits to what you can do and, no matter your background, everyone has the power to achieve their greatness."

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Teela Reid- Fighting for Change

Teela Reid is a proud Wiradjuri and Wailwan woman, lawyer, activist and storyteller who says her path is eternally guided by the direction of her ancestors. This path has taken Teela on a trail-blazing journey of advocating for Aboriginal land rights, dismantling systemic racism in Australia, and elevating the voices of First Nations people that is vitally important for all generations.

Teela initially started her career as a teacher but after being selected as an Australian Youth Delegate to the United Nations (UN) was inspired to make a career change into law so that she could pursue advocacy for First Nations peoples.

Teela says she saw studying law as her chance to understand and challenge the system that has lawfully disempowered her people and weaponised racism. "I'm the first generation to have access to formal education. I saw studying law as a chance to better understand these systems and empower my people."

Teela graduated with her Juris Doctor (JD) from UNSW in 2015. "UNSW's Juris Doctor is a challenging, yet rewarding program that has the potential to change your career and life trajectory. It's such a huge life decision to embark on postgraduate studies, but one that will change your life and open up an expanse of career paths that would have not otherwise been available," she says.

"I looked for a law school that had an ethos and a philosophy that aligned with my values. I chose to study at UNSW because it genuinely started from a good place at the leadership of Hal Wootten. They also had Indigenous academic support programs and a visible presence of Indigenous students at the law school.

Since graduating Teela has been appointed Special Counsel - First Nations Justice at the Environmental Defenders Office and is the inaugural Lawyer in Residence at the University of Sydney Law School, where she



Photo by: Jakayla Reid

maintains relationships with international law schools. Teela is also the co-founder of Rebellious Lawyers Australia, which supports the concept of 'movement lawyering' – a model through which Australian lawyers can better support movements that address social injustice and systemic change. She has worked as a senior solicitor in Aboriginal Land Rights litigation at Chalk & Behrendt, as a criminal and civil lawyer at Legal Aid NSW and is also the co-founder of Blackfulla Bookclub, a platform and community space that celebrates First Nations stories. Teela was also a working group leader on s 51(xxvi), the Race Power, in

the Constitutional dialogue process that culminated in the Uluru Statement from the Heart which was the catalyst for the historic Indigenous Voice Referendum in 2023. She has been widely recognised for her public advocacy work to end systemic racism including being named the 2020 UNSW Young Alumni, 2021 Future Shaper by Time Out Sydney, 2022 Voice of Now by Marie Claire and gaining a spot on Marie Claire's 2023 Power List.

Now that the referendum is over, Teela is determined to use her knowledge and passion to keep advocating for change in Australia to empower and shape First Nations knowledges. "The question of Australia's legitimacy remains as a consequence of the nations failure to recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the 2023 referendum – we are the only democracy that refuses to recognise its Indigenous peoples. Despite this, we know there is a groundswell of Australians prepared to seek truth and justice, so it is important we maintain the momentum and consolidate the goodwill of many who want to live in a more equal world - this requires reckoning with and respecting the rights of Indigenous peoples consistent with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

My whole upbringing has been defined by the notion of reconciliation. I don't think this framework is tenable any longer in a nation that is yet to come to terms with the truth of its history, this is evidence by the rejection by Australians at the referendum." she says

"I am now focused on how we, as a nation, protect the unique rights and inherent wisdom of First Nations peoples who have cared for this country since time immemorial. All Australians have an obligation to understand the truth of our history and tread lightly on this country; without country, there is no people."



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Left: The much-loved *Grounded* installation is a popular staple at Parrtjima. Pictures: Nick Paton



Arelhe Urrperle, a six-metre-tall wandering puppet, enchanted both children and adults alike.

Parrtjima shines light on strong connections

By NICK PATON



THOUSANDS of people attended opening night at this year's Parrtjima – A Festival in Light, and as the free 10-night festival rolled on, thousands more turned out to soak up the spectacular installations under star-studded desert skies.

From April 12-21, both locals and tourists flocked to the Alice Springs Desert Park to watch the night sky above Mparntwe/Alice Springs light up against the backdrop of a 300-million-year-old canvas, the MacDonnell Ranges.

Celebrating this year's theme, 'The importance of interconnectedness across First Nations culture', curator for Parrtjima, Rhoda Roberts AO, a Widjabul Wiyebal woman, said one of the best things about Parrtjima is that it's a light festival like no other.

"The theme for this year's Parrtjima festival centred around 'interconnectedness', and when we think of interconnecting we think of our ancestors, our matriarchs, and the story of Country," she said.

"And when you look out at something like the *Ranges Light Show*, it's all about illuminating the Red Centre, and the landscape that has an effect on everyone who visits."

Parrtjima's famous large-scale light installations this year were more brilliant than ever and will continue to grow thanks to ever-evolving new technology.

This year's *Ranges Light Show* saw almost two kilometres of the 300-million-year-old MacDonnell Ranges come to life through a spectacular light and sound show, featuring additional



Parrtjima curator, Aunty Rhoda Roberts AO.

projection space to enhance the immersivity of the experience.

Grounded, a staple installation projecting animated Indigenous art onto the red sand of the region, accompanied by a soundscape, was even more interactive – adding a fun new dimension to this much-loved installation.

The festival also introduced a brand-new, large-scale light and art installation, *Tjoritja Cockatoos*.

Guests were given a lesson about Western Arrernte Country while listening to the calls of black cockatoos through Vanessa Inkamala's art installation, in the style of the Hermannsburg School of watercolour, which was brought to life through animation and sound.

Continuing the legacy of her great uncle Albert Namatjira, this installation represented the cyclical and seasonal work of Country, leaning into the festival's 2024 theme.

"Everything is interconnected," Aunty Rhoda said.

"We connect with Country, rain and water, everything is living, and we want an interconnectedness because whether it's our kinship systems, whether it's the way we paint, we



Arrernte young people stand alongside a new installation, *Arrernte*.



The festival introduced a brand-new, large-scale light and art installation called *Tjoritja Cockatoos* by Vanessa Inkamala.

are always interconnected with the seasons, and with our culture, and our structures of family."

New installations included *Arrernte*, a series of illuminated cars, and *Honouring*, an immersive passageway paying homage to great Arrernte leader, the late Dr MK Turner OAM.

"This year we also had an unexpected installation, and when people think of installations they think of something mounted on the ground," Aunty Rhoda said.

"But we wanted to show some of the extraordinary work by visual theatre wizards, Erth."

Arelhe Urrperle, named by the Parrtjima Festival Reference Group, was a large-scale wandering puppet, six metres tall and weighing 600kg.

"She delighted people of all ages as she strolled through Alice Springs Desert Park, sharing language and stories by expert puppeteers who trained local Indigenous performers in how to operate her," Aunty Rhoda said.

"With this particular installation we hear the stories, in language, of the Country here, of the Ranges, and the honey ants, and it's just amazing how the young children gravitated toward her."

For the first time in the festival's history, Parrtjima hosted a three-night marketplace, showcasing food and products from local Aboriginal businesses.

Called Northern Territory Indigenous Business Network (NTIBN) Buy Blak Market, the marketplace was a collaboration with Desart, the peak arts body supporting Central Australian Aboriginal art centres.

As part of the music program, visitors were treated to a range of performers including multi-award-winning singer/songwriter Shellie Morris, ARIA award-winning R&B artist Miiesha, Coloured Stone, and Red Centre glam-rock band Mulga Bore Hard Rock, who famously supported rock legends KISS on tour in 2022.

The annual talks program included heartfelt conversations with Floyd Doyle and Dr Josie Douglas, screenwriter and producer Aaron Fa'aoso, health researcher Roxanne Ngarulya Highfold, TV presenter Marcellus Enalanga and art historian Professor Gregory Lehman.

Proud Yanyuwa and Wardaman woman Dr Shellie Morris AO said the theme of Parrtjima this year was all about 'walking together'.

"At this year's festival we are experiencing things together," Ms Morris said.

"We are sharing and listening to each other's stories and that is just so important for our Country," she said.

"Parrtjima has been an amazing experience for everyone, and there truly is nothing else like this in the entire country."



Winning artwork turns on the word



GRASS Tree – Growing Together by Gulumeridjin (Larrakia), Wardaman and KarraJarri Saltwater artist Jenna Lee is an

insightful and revealing work, winning her the Open Prize in the Waterhouse Natural Science Art Prize.

Since 2002, the South Australian Museum's biennial competition has encouraged established and emerging artists to turn their gaze to the natural world, inviting contemporary artists to think about the natural environment and the human impacts on it.

Playing with words, literally written on the page in black and white, as well as metaphors of growth, regeneration and reinvention, Lee's winning sculpture *Grass Tree – Growing Together* reconstructs the pages of a decades-old dictionary of Aboriginal words and place names, reimagining them into forms of the native Grass Tree.

"By transforming a flawed Aboriginal word dictionary into a pair of Grass Trees, I draw parallels between First Peoples' linguistic resilience, and this plant's ability to rise from ashes," Lee said.

"This work celebrates the enduring spirit of both traditional language and flora in the face of their ecologies' near destruction."

The judging panel commented that *Grass tree – Growing Together* exhibited a moving connection to nature, culture, and art, while speaking to the colonial tensions inherent in western traditions of natural history.

"The words and knowledge gathered in publications like *Aboriginal Words and Place Names* were often recorded by missionaries, explorers, and anthropologists with a range of motivations, that rarely considered the agency and cultural authority of the people they were studying," the panel reported.

"Despite these inequalities, collections and archives like those in the South Australian Museum are now being reclaimed by First Nations communities to celebrate and revive language and culture. By cutting up and reshaping these pages and the knowledge they hold, Lee's winning work is a physical embodiment of that



GRASS tree – Growing Together by Jenna Lee. Picture: Silversalt and Hazelhurst Art Centre



Emerging Prize winner Andrew Gall and his 3D-printed shell necklace, *Coming Together* (pictured centre). Pictures: Andrew Willis

process of interrogation, reappropriation, and renewal."

Queensland-based pakana artist Andrew Gall won the Emerging Prize category for his 3D-printed shell necklace, *Coming Together*.

Gall said his work – the first time a traditional kanalaritja shell necklace

has been made using 3D-printed porcelain – asks probing questions about climate change, as rising ocean acidity imperils the shells that form an essential part of this sacred cultural practice.

"My research was informed by published knowledge and first-hand accounts of pakana 'shell stringers', the custodians of kanalaritja," Gall said.

"I developed a process to make 3D-printed porcelain shells, so they look, feel and act like the natural shells, and are safe from climate change and its devastation."

The judges said the understated beauty of *Coming Together* reveals a depth of meaning.

"Gall's work finds the similarities between the process of 3D-printing, and the natural cycles through which shells are made," the said.

"Its beauty belies the technical precision of its creation, from the sheer number of shells to their rich colour and the pearlescent finishes. Gall has embraced new technology, but shell each has a sense of individuality and a clear connection to this diminishing natural resource."

The 2024 competition shortlist is testament to the rich diversity of art practice today, including fine delicate works made in glass and porcelain, detailed watercolours, pen and ink and pencil drawings, found objects, 3D-printed structures, and vessels and other constructions formed from clay, as well as large linen canvasses displaying the now-familiar central desert designs depicting Tjukurpa/Country, painted with acrylic.

Winners were announced at the launch of the art prize exhibition, April 11, which showcases the artworks of all winning and finalist works, at the South Australian Museum, until June 10. A cash prize of \$30,000 was awarded for the Open category, supported by IAS Fine Art Logistics, while \$10,000, supported by Hill Smith Art Advisory, went to the Emerging Artist winner. A \$5,000 People's Choice prize, sponsored by the K&S Langley Fund, will be awarded by public vote, with the winner to be announced at the end of the exhibition.

For more about the Waterhouse Natural Science Art Prize and exhibition please visit, samuseum.sa.gov.au/c/waterhouse

Music is a family affair



The first instalment in a new First Nations series that combines conversation, storytelling and song opens tonight, April 24, at the Sydney Opera House.

Across three separate nights, *Generations and Dynasties* will explore the rich tapestry of storytelling in First Nations culture, passed down from parents to children and among siblings.

In an intimate showcase of the diversity of the musical talent of three esteemed First Nations families, the series celebrates the important role of family and community in First Nations artistry. Each session includes conversation, performance and q&a.

Will Jarrett (Wire MC) and sons Tasman Keith and Sammy J (Kapital J) – in conversation with Michael Hutchings (Arrernte heritage), Wednesday, April 24.

Gumbaynggirr men who grew up on the Bowraville Mission and in Sydney, the Jarrett family are synonymous with hip-hop.

Wire MC (Will Jarrett) is one of the most important figures in the development of hip-hop in this country, helping to forge a path for First Nations artists with his uncompromising stance on what it means to be an Aboriginal man.

Following in his footsteps, his sons, Tasman Keith and Sammy J, are fast on the rise in the music industry, frequently working as co-collaborators. Both independent artists who forge their own path while remaining true to their roots, Tasman is an award-winning rapper and singer-songwriter, while Kapital J is an acclaimed producer and DJ.

Deline Briscoe, Naurita Briscoe, Merindi Schrieber, Felicity Schrieber, Kiara Briscoe, Shennaye Briscoe, Merindi Ingram and JadeAmali Leuga – in conversation with Jess Beck (Luritja Nation), Wednesday, May 1.

The three sisters from Kuku Yalanji Country – the Daintree Region of Far North Queensland – have been forging careers in music and as cultural workers for over two decades. Their journey as performers began as a trio, starting as a folk infused group before breaking out into their own distinctive solo careers as artists, singers and songwriters.

Now the sisters are joined in their artistry by the next generation, with Deline's daughters Merindi and JadeAmali, Naurita's daughters Kiara and Shennaye, and Merindi's daughter Felicity appearing on the line-up for this special evening.

Troy Cassar-Daley and daughter Jem Cassar-Daley – in conversation with Michael Hutchings (Arrernte heritage), Thursday, May 9.

With five ARIA Awards and 40 Golden Guitars to his name, Gumbaynggirr/Bundjalung man Troy Cassar-Daley has been sharing his musicianship and love of storytelling for over 30 years.

Jem Cassar-Daley has come into her own as a contemporary indie-pop artist with a world-class sound. Her captivating performances and songwriting craft have garnered her numerous accolades, including being named the 2022 QMA Indigenous Artist of the Year.

All three presentations will be held in the Utzon Room at the Sydney Opera House, starting at 7pm, providing intimate conversation, live performance and q&a. For more information or to book tickets please go to sydneyoperahouse.com/generations-and-dynasties



The Jarrett family.



The Briscoe sisters.



Cassar-Daley father/daughter.

A creative call to heal Country



RECLAIM the Void is a project born from the expression of pain and grief of Ngalia Elders in Leonora, Western Australia, over 'those gaping mining holes left all over our Country'.

With the gaping holes being recognised by the traditional custodians as literal wounds to Country, the idea emerged to seal one of the holes as a symbolic act of healing the scarred land.

Over ten years, conceptual artist Vivienne Robertson and the Ngalia Heritage Research Council Aboriginal Corporation's Kado and Deeva Muir, based in Leonora, developed the collaborative project.

Seeking to raise awareness of the story of Country and its importance in Aboriginal culture in both its physical and spiritual dimensions, the project carries within it the desire for healing.

Ngalia cultural leader Kado Muir says of the project, "We're working at a cultural and sacred level, creating a community of people each weaving their stories, contributing to an artwork that makes a statement about reclaiming the spirit of earth."

As the project developed, the decision was made to lay the artwork directly on Country, rather than try to 'seal' a mining hole, which would have required huge infrastructure and restricted access. The artwork is to be made from thousands of circles of woven fabric that have been created by many volunteer-hands from around the country, with the vision of using

the woven circles to create a large-scale 'dot' artwork, inspired by passed Ngalia cultural leader DW's original painting Tui.

Volunteers to join the Assemblage

In July this year, volunteers are invited to contribute to the project to assemble the artwork. The assemblage will be held at the WA Museum Boola Bardip where, over 5 days, the 3,000 handwoven rugs will be tied together as the component dots forming the vast artwork.

Also included in the Assemblage event is a special Concert in the Rugs with Gina Williams and Guy Ghouse, supported by Reclaim the Void project-artist, sacred singer Lucy Ridsdale, on Friday July 5. Concert tickets are \$33, with limited places.

The Assemblage opening event is on July 3, with talks from project collaborators, Kado Muir and Vivienne Robertson.

Assemblage volunteering sessions run from July 4-8, with morning and afternoon sessions available – bookings are required, but it is free.

Reclaim the Void is supported by Arts Impact WA, the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries, Lotterywest and the thousands of volunteers who have already given of their hands and hearts.

Be part of this extraordinary collaborative artwork.

For more information about the project or to book to volunteer for the Assemblage visit reclaimthevoid.com.au/



Community artist Sandy McKendrick ties together some of the thousands of individual circles, woven by volunteers from communities around Australia, at a creative development session run as part of the Reclaim the Void project.



Jannawi Dance Clan perform on the Sydney Opera House Forecourt, DanceRites 2023. Picture: Joseph Mayers

Prepare to dance-off



IT'S time to register your dance group for the annual DanceRites competition, a celebration of First Nations dance, music and culture, held on the Opera House Forecourt.

The two day event is Australia's only national dance competition for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander groups, demonstrating the diversity in dance tradition and culture from communities around the country.

DanceRites 2023 saw the largest on-site presentation since the competition began, with over thirty nations and clans represented and twenty-one dance groups performing.

The competition is an

opportunity for First Nations dance groups like no other, with a tried and tested format which returns for DanceRites 2024.

Over the two days, each dance group accepted into the competition will present a Cultural Dance and Song Cycle, representing their local storytelling and language.

Groups are also welcome to perform an optional 'Wild Card' dance to showcase their unique style.

A panel of First Nations dance experts will judge the entries on their song, skin markings, and engagement with language and culture, as well as their technical dance skills, with \$22,000 awarded to the overall winner, one runner-up group awarded \$6,000 and a separate \$5,000 prize for the best

'Wild Card' dance.

Two Rites of Passage awards, \$4,000 each, will also acknowledge outstanding contributions to revitalising cultural knowledge and practices.

After reviewing applications, the DanceRites team will advise successful groups of their acceptance into the competition. Numbers are limited, so organisers encourage groups to register as early as possible.

Registration forms can be found online, at www.sydneyperehouse.com/dancerites/register, along with competition conditions and entry requirements – which include uploading a video of your dance group performing.

For help to fill out the

registration from, contact the DanceRites team via email at dancerites@sydneyperehouse.com

Since the first DanceRites festival in 2015, more than 1,600 performers from over 100 dance groups have participated in the celebrated First Nations event that helps to safeguard cultural practices. Upholding the site as a meeting place for storytelling, ritual celebration and dance, DanceRites continues the traditions that have taken place over tens of thousands of years on Bennelong Point, known to its custodians as Tubowgule.

DanceRites is on at The Sydney Opera House Forecourt, October 19-20. DanceRites performer registrations close 5pm (AEST) May 22.

Screen Australia funding round – deadline looms



A NEW round of funding for First Nations screen-practitioners seeking to develop their skills and portfolio is open for applications now.

FIRST NATIONS DOCUMENTARY DEVELOPMENT and FIRST NATIONS TV DRAMA DEVELOPMENT funding is intended to provide First Nations screen practitioners with the opportunity to create written and/or visual materials that will make projects as strong as possible when competing for production finance.

FIRST NATIONS FEATURE DEVELOPMENT funding aims to support striking and engaging storytelling by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander filmmakers with demonstrated experience, who want to extend their craft and their ideas in the longer feature format.

Screen Australia also provides internship opportunities as well as grants for documentary production and travel which can be applied for at any time.

The deadline for this round of funding is 5pm AEST, May 2. Information and applications for all funding opportunities is available at screenaustralia.gov.au/funding-and-support/first-nations/deadlines

Dance offers unique approach to unwrap challenging ideas



SILENCE, from groundbreaking First Nations dance company Karul Projects, is one of two new works to be presented in May as part of *UnWrapped*, the Sydney Opera House's series dedicated to uncovering the best independent creators.

Led by proud Minjungbal-Yugambah, Wiradjuri, and Ni-Vanuatu man Thomas E.S. Kelly as director, choreographer, writer, and performer **SILENCE** interrogates Australia's ongoing conversations around sovereignty and the silence of inaction.

"**SILENCE** embodies my motto of remembering the past to better understand the present and to move forward into the future," Kelly, artistic director of Karul Projects, said.

"So often the conversation surrounding Treaty and land rights is swept under the rug, but through **SILENCE** we pull these unresolved conversations back on the table."

Premiering at Brisbane Festival in 2020 and returning now from an extensive national tour, **SILENCE** challenges Australia as a nation that does not formally recognise its sovereign people in a Treaty.

As a powerful multi-disciplinary work, it uses elements of both contemporary and cultural dance, with

perfectly balanced moments of comedy, theatre and music.

This series of *UnWrapped* has been co-curated by Sydney Opera House's director of programming Fiona Winning and head of First Nations programming,

Michael Hutchings (Arrernte heritage).

SILENCE is on at the Sydney Opera House Studio, May 8-11.

For more information and tickets, please visit sydneyoperahouse.com/dance/unwrapped-silence



An Insta opp for content creators



APPLICATIONS are now open for the Instagram Australia First Nations Creators Program.

The program will be delivered through a partnership with Screen Australia's First Nations Department and Instagram Australia.

Held at Instagram HQ in Sydney, it will provide in-person training, practical workshops, mentoring, career connections, equipment and content funding for up to 15 emerging First Nations digital creators.

To enter, applicants must submit a 30-second to one-minute video about themselves.

The content should include their social accounts, some detail on the type of content they create, as well as sharing their inspirations and goals, and what they hope to gain from the program.

Creators must be over 18 years of age and identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander.

They must have a public Instagram account, as well as experience in social media or digital video content creation, and be available to attend a 2-3 day in-person program in Sydney in July 2024.

For more information, visit screenaustraliafunding.smartygrants.com.au/itpmv49hwgbz

Culture needs protection

NATURALLY, First Nations arts and cultural artists and workers have the right, and deserve, to make a rewarding and ethical living from our cultural output and artistic works. In this column, we're taking a broad look at the theme of 'cultural currency' and the challenges facing First Nations arts and cultural workshop practitioners and their experience(s) in work which engages with an audience directly.

Felicity Chapman is a descendant of the Stolen Generations with First Nations family connection to Tinnenburra Station in Western Queensland (a large station, crossing six different boundaries). Today she's based in Airlie Beach, Ngaro Country.

Felicity runs weaving workshops and is a facilitator for groups and events. In this practice, her first emphasis is linking with local Traditional Owners wherever she works. Acknowledging that the ongoing nature of cultural learning means her own education is continuing process, Felicity engages participants with her Stolen Generations history, which echoes with our collective history, expressing what retracing and reconnecting has taught her.

JW-J: What would you say first inspired you to share your culture with a broader audience in the ways you do?

FC: I'd already been looking into and learning about my family's past—through the clouds of colonialism, and loose, but valuable links, discoveries and dead-ends of the Stolen Generations history. And it was 2018 when I entered into the art

opinion



Jack Wilkie-Jans

industry specifically; after becoming quite ill due to a ruptured brain aneurysm.

It was through this health journey that I had to find a new way to make a living. I had to do something creative, and also rehabilitate myself—and patterns in nature always mesmerised me. I secured some funding, luckily, and began reclamation of old weaving practices through a consolidated project. I reached out to Elders and other traditional weavers and began the engagement practice I continue with today.

JW-J: How do you protect your Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property (ICIP) rights while also sharing knowledge about traditional techniques and culture with non-Indigenous audiences?

FC: I once enlisted Terri Janke (Indigenous law firm) to design a legal disclaimer which I issue to non-Indigenous participants before they can register with my workshops. This is highlighting



Weaving practitioner Felicity Chapman raises concerns about the protection of Indigenous culture and intellectual property.

the protections of ICIP. It's a very formal approach, but also I follow my intuition and say 'no' more than 'yes'...

JW-J: Have you ever felt pressured to "give up" more of yourself and your culture than you're comfortable with?

FC: Definitely! I've been told by non-Indigenous people that I "need to" teach them what I know, so that they can go and run a business of their own... Our practices are apparently safer in white hands than ours. It feels like colonisation happening directly to me, again. I'm not prepared to sacrifice any more of what we know and are reclaiming.

JW-J: What are some challenges faced by First Nations arts and cultural practitioners in your line/field?

FC: I'm often speaking and working with Mob who have experienced the 'poacher approach' to 'including' First Nations people in non-Indigenous programmes—which isn't correct, culturally or even in terms of protocols. Some of our people do take up in that world—I support some of them, after the fact, after they've been used and their culture stolen—but most struggle against it. It's a challenge—our people are still being taken advantage of.

JW-J: What tips can you recommend to our readers on how to identify propa cultural facilitators and workshop leaders? Is there an ethical framework we should enquire about?

FC: The best way for non-Indigenous people to engage with any cultural practice, which

is available to them, is just to buy our created works and support our artists. But when it comes to workshops etc, if you're an event or organisation, look to your local Aboriginal corporation or Elders Group to see if there are locally-recognised practitioners. Trading Blak have great indexes of recognised First Nations providers.

Always enquire about whether Mob doing cultural work actually have references from the local Traditional Owners (or are one themselves), if their work is culturally-specific to an area. Consider: Is what a facilitator offers, from a cultural sense, actually appropriate for the public—let alone a mixed group (such as teaching didgeridoo to women, or members of opposite sexes painting up participants, as a prevalent example)? For me, in some areas across the country, weaving is men's business, so if I'm invited to such a place to present, I wouldn't be able to do so. I always touch-base with local Traditional Owners and seek permission—I don't blindly accept offers.

To see Felicity's work visit her website *Deadly Weavers* at deadlyweavers.com.au or her Facebook page, facebook.com/DeadlyWeavers.

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.

event listings

TASMANIA

Between Waves

Continues the Yalingwa exhibition series devoted



Picture: Mel Serjeant

Family-friendly opera tells the story of the sky



A LONG time ago the sky was a blanket on the land. The earth was in darkness and the people were afraid. It was a very sad state of affairs and would have stayed that way except for the courage of Parrwang the magpie.

And so the scene is set for *Parrwang Lifts the Sky*, the celebrated opera for children and families that tells the creation story of the sunrise based on a traditional story from Wadawurrung Country.

The opera is written by Yorta Yorta composer and soprano Deborah Cheetham AO and stars acclaimed First Nations soprano

Sarah Prestwidge in the lead role.

Parrwang Lifts the Sky is presented by the Victorian Opera and is showing at the Malthouse Theatre in Naarm/Melbourne from May 10 –18.

For more information or to book tickets please visit, victorianopera.com.au/production/parrwangliftsthesky/

Hermannsberg Potters Marna Mapa Mpaarama – making plenty of bush foods

when: until May 4
where: Bett Gallery, nipaluna/Hobart
info/bookings: bettgallery.com.au/

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Revealed 2024

when: May 10 - Aug 4
where: Fremantle Arts Centre
info/bookings: fac.org.au/

Meeyakba Shane Pickett: Six Seasons

One of the foremost Nyoongar artists of his generation.
when: until August 25
where: WA Museum Boola Bardip, Perth Cultural Centre, Perth
info/bookings: visit.museum.wa.gov.au/boolabardip/meeyakba-shane-pickett-six-seasons

Songbird

Yirra Yaakin Theatre Co
An intimate tale of heartbreak, forgiveness, shared memories and sweet melodies.
when: April 23 - May 4
where: Subiaco Arts Centre
info/bookings: see What's On at yirrayaakin.com.au/

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

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

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

VICTORIA

The Country Road and NGV First Nations Commissions: My Country

A national, biennial mentorship and exhibition program pairing emerging Australian First Nations artists and designers with one of eight esteemed industry mentors.

when: until Aug 4
where: The Ian Potter Centre: NGV Australia, Fed Square
info/bookings: ngv.vic.gov.au/exhibition/country-road-ngv-first-nations-commissions/

JSXH MVIR: Forever I Live

when: until July 14
where: Koorie Heritage Trust, Birrarung Building, Federation Square
info/bookings: koorieheritagetrust.com.au

Melbourne Design Week at the NGV – First Nations programming

when: May 23 – Jun 2
First Nations/Our Culture in Glass
This exhibition showcases the development and progression of First Nations glass artists and designers through the Glaas Inc Glass Program.
where: Australian Centre for Glass Design, Prahran

Willie Weston and Lisa Waup – A Case for Materiality

Willie Weston and mixed-cultural First Nations artist and curator Lisa Waup present an installation at Agency Projects, showcasing the diverse opportunities and outcomes afforded by embracing materiality through collaboration.
where: Agency Projects, Collingwood

Indigenous Design Thinking and Relationality – The Possum Skin Cloak Project

A reconfiguration of design thinking from an Indigenous position, based

on relationality and Indigenous ways of knowing.

when: May 28-31 (four sessions)

where: Victorian Pride Centre, St Kilda

Rubbish on the Shore

A cross-cultural think-tank that explores design solutions for ghost net and associated marine debris impacting Indigenous communities and Sea Country across Northern Australia

when: May 28

where: Great Hall, NGV International, Southbank
info/bookings: Book tickets for *Rubbish on the Shore*, all other events listed here are free, with no booking required.

For more about the projects or to see the full MDW at the NGV program visit designweek.melbourne/program/

NEW SOUTH WALES

Silence

when: May 8-11
where: The Studio, Sydney Opera House
info/bookings: sydneyoperahouse.com/dance/unwrapped-silence

Biennale of Sydney: 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/

Cast in cast out

Display inspired by Dennis Golding
when: until 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: until Aug 25 and

Coomaditchie: The Art of Place

when: until Aug 25
where: Museum of Sydney, corner of Phillip and Bridge St, Sydney
info/bookings: mhnsw.au/

Generations and Dynasties:

Jarrett Family; Briscoe Sisters; Cassar-Daley father/daughter
when: Apr 24; May 1; May 9
where: Utzon Room, Sydney Opera House
info/bookings: sydneyoperahouse.com/first-nations

Enliven Fuse

Boomalli member artists exhibition - emerging and senior artists from NSW language groups
when: May 9 - Jul 13
where: Flood St, Leichhardt
info/bookings: boomalli.com.au

Emma Donovan - Songs, Stories and Soul from Family and Country

when: May 16
where: Warners Bay Theatre, Warners Bay
info/bookings: bandsintown.com/e/105238970-emma-donovan-at-warners-bay-theatre

Thelma Plum

— headlining VividLIVE
when: May 29
where: Joan Sutherland Theatre, Sydney Opera House
info/bookings: sydneyoperahouse.com/vivid-live/thelma-plum

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

18th Adelaide Biennial of Australian Art: Inner Sanctum

when: until June 2
where: Art Gallery of South Australia
info/bookings: Free entry, visit agsa.sa.gov.au/whats-on/exhibitions/ and follow the links

Waterhouse Natural Science Art Prize

Bringing together a rich and diverse survey of works that map the intersection of nature, science, and art.
when: until Jun 10
where: South Australian Museum, North Terrace, Adelaide
info/bookings: samuseum.sa.gov.au/c/waterhouse

NOTHERN TERRITORY

Bass in the Grass – line-up includes King Stingray and J-Milla
when: May 18

where: Mindil Beach
info/bookings: bassinthegrass.com.au/

52 Actions

when: until June 2
where: Museum and Art Gallery Northern Territory, The Gardens, Darwin
info/bookings: magnt.net.au/

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/

QUEENSLAND

Emma Donovan: Songs, Stories and Soul from family and Country

when: May 2
where: Tank 5, Tanks Arts Centre, Cairns
info/bookings: tanksartscentre.com/

You and Me

UMI Arts member's annual group exhibition.
when: until May 10
where: UMI Arts gallery, Cairns
info/bookings: For more go to 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-museum.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/

37

A play by Nathan Maynard Melbourne Theatre Company
when: Until May 4
where: Queensland Theatre, South Brisbane, Brisbane Area
info/bookings: For tickets and info visit queenslandtheatre.com.au/plays/37

Matriarchs

By Olivia Adams (dance)
when: May 22-25
where: MetroArts New Benner Theatre, West End, Brisbane
info/bookings: metroarts.com.au/event/matriarchs/

INTERNATIONAL

kith and kin

Archie Moore's presentation at the 60th International Art Exhibition – La Biennale di Venezia
when: until Nov 24
where: Australia Pavilion, 60th International Art Exhibition – La Biennale di Venezia
info/bookings: kithandkin.me

Employment

EXECUTIVE • PROFESSIONAL • POSITIONS VACANT



Zancott Knight and Mine Power Solutions employees at the Olympic Dam site. Zancott Knight collaborated with Indigenous Business Australia in order to transition away from traditional banking institutions.

\$1 billion business boost



MORE than \$1 billion in contracts have been supported through the IBA Performance Bond Trust. Indigenous Business Australia (IBA) have announced this as a milestone achievement for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander success, saying it has grown since the bonds were introduced in 2018.

IBA now supports over 500 performance bonds valued at almost \$60 million – with contracts valued at over \$1 billion.

It's a substantial increase since 2020, when after two years IBA had supported over 170 bonds worth \$12 million, and contracts valued at nearly \$202 million.

Performance bonds are

issued to the beneficiary of a contract as security against the other party being unable to meet obligations specified in the contract.

Banks often require a 100% cash deposit as security for the bond, which ties up considerable amounts of working capital.

Bond partnerships

IBA assists Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses by issuing bonds directly to the buyer, in cases where the business may not have the required level of security to provide a bond facility for their contracts.

The bond partnership that took the contract's value to over \$1 billion was through Mine Power Solutions. It's an Indigenous-owned and

managed diversified construction, mining and electrical contractor which has been successful in winning contracts at Olympic Dam.

Mine Power Solutions managing director Cameron Buzzacott is a long-standing IBA customer. He is the initial performance bond customer through one of his other ventures, Zancott Knight.

"In mid-2018, Zancott Knight strategically decided to collaborate with IBA, transitioning away from our traditional banking institutions for bond requirements," he said.

"Being IBA's first client, this bond was pivotal for both companies.

"For Zancott Knight, it was a turning point as it not only streamlined the process of bond origination but also freed up

working capital to grow our business."

Minimal security

IBA chief executive Kirsty Moore said "IBA's Performance Bond Trust has assisted First Nations contractors across the country to participate in a wide variety of contracts including mining, civil works, construction, facility upgrades and renewable energy construction by guaranteeing their capacity to complete projects while requiring minimal security".

"We're extremely proud of this milestone figure – it ultimately contributes to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander business growth which is positive for everyone."

Cameron agrees. He adds, "This growth has strengthened our market presence and

allowed us to seize new opportunities and execute more projects, enabling Zancott Knight to navigate the competitive landscape with confidence and agility.

"We are honoured to have partnered on two major milestones, from the first bond in 2018 with Zancott Knight to the bond with MPS that tipped the \$1 billion threshold in 2024."

The Performance Bond Trust is administered by IBA who provide bonds directly to an Indigenous-owned business or alternatively provide capital to enable the business to secure a bond from a mainstream bank. When kicked off in 2018, IBA co-invested \$10 million in the facility along with National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA) matching a further \$10 million.

Your guide to employment

Welcome to the *Koori Mail's* Indigenous Job Opportunities section. Each edition we publish scores of employment advertisements from around the nation. To be part of this section, simply give our advertising staff Chris or Stuart a call on (02) 66 222 666, email advertising@koorimail.com or see our website – www.koorimail.com

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DEPARTMENT OF THE SENATE

Indigenous Liaison Officer

The Department of the Senate invites applications for the role of Indigenous Liaison Officer. The Indigenous Liaison Officer will support the work of the Senate Committee Office to improve the way secretariats and committees engage with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, networks and organisations.

The Indigenous Liaison Officer will establish and maintain effective professional networks with stakeholders, particularly Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and organisations. The Indigenous Liaison Officer will promote and facilitate culturally appropriate communication between Senate committees and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, and provide advice on cultural protocols and matters affecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. All tasks require the Indigenous Liaison Officer to exercise sound judgement, manage a range of stakeholder expectations, and navigate politically and culturally sensitive issues.

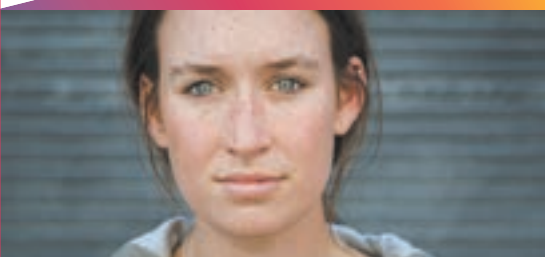
To apply, you are asked to provide a one-page pitch setting out the skills and experience you would bring to the role. You are also asked to provide a copy of your résumé.

The filling of this position is intended to be an Affirmative Measure under Section 8(1) of the *Racial Discrimination Act 1975* and is restricted to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants. You may be asked to provide evidence, including a statutory declaration, of your cultural identity if shortlisted for the role.

For further information about the role and to apply visit:
https://www.aph.gov.au/About_Parliament/Employment/Department_of_the_Senate

For position inquiries, email: HRM.Sen@aph.gov.au

Applications close Sunday, 26 May 2024



VICTIMS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, ABORIGINAL ENGAGEMENT WORKER (AEW)

Full Time Ongoing based in Mildura or Swan Hill

Working in the Victims Assistance Program as an Aboriginal Engagement Worker (AEW): Support community on their journey of recovery and help mitigate the impacts of crime. Based at Mildura or Swan Hill.

What is VAP?

The Victims Assistance Program aims to:

- Provide quality services that support the needs of victims so they can recover and thrive.
- Assist and advocate on behalf of victims navigating the criminal justice system to enable victims to be informed and empowered.
- Establish and maintain collaborative working relationships with key stakeholders to support the delivery of seamless and accessible services to victims of crime.

For further enquiries contact

Danielle McManus on 03 5440 1100 or email Danielle.McManus@anglicarevic.org.au

To view PD and application details, please visit [careers on our website](#).

Applications close: 5th May 2024

1300 889 335 | anglicarevic.org.au

BETTER TOMORROWS

Fast-Act 539458_v3

I work for NSW



NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service is hiring!

Senior Field Officer (Grade 1/2) Aboriginal Identified, Mungo National Park

- Salary (\$74,220 to \$78,618) plus superannuation and 17% loading for working weekends & public holidays
- The successful candidate may be eligible for additional financial support on top of their salary package. This may include a remote area allowance and additional subsidies such as relocation support
- On-Park housing will be provided for the successful candidate
- Full-time ongoing role

About the role

This is an Aboriginal Identified role where Aboriginal identity, cultural knowledge or connections are a genuine aspect of the role.

Positions are specifically noted under the provisions of the *NSW Anti-discrimination Act (1977)*. Join the team with NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service and contribute towards the conservation of the natural environment, flora, fauna and Aboriginal heritage. This role is based in Mungo National Park, staying in the on-park housing provided. The role will also supervise the work of field officers and contractors to implement works and maintenance programs on occasions. You'll be joining a supportive team undertaking a diverse range of tasks to enhance and preserve the natural and cultural heritage of our parks. This will include leading a team in the field to maintain and construct park facilities; protect cultural sites; undertake pest and weed control programs; and assist with fire management activities such as mowing, slashing, grading, hazard reduction burns and wildfire response. You will also have a cultural association with the Barkandji/Paakantyi or Mutthi Mutthi or Ngiyaampa Aboriginal community.

Applications Close: Monday 6 May 2024 at 11:55pm

Enquiries: To find out more about this exciting opportunity and potential future roles with NPWS call Vincent Wright on 0428 713 768.

Applications are to be lodged online at iworkfor.nsw.gov.au
Senior Field Officer Identified role – Please search job reference number **535020**

SB1574



Premier and Cabinet



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

RA0535



Part-time member of the Board of Legal Aid NSW to represent bodies that provide community legal services

Under the provisions of the *Legal Aid Commission Act 1979*, the responsibility for administering the delivery of legal aid throughout NSW is vested in Legal Aid NSW.

The Attorney General is seeking applications from qualified persons for appointment as a part-time member of the Board of Legal Aid NSW for a term up to 26 September 2025.

The NSW Government is committed to providing greater opportunities for the community to participate in its decision making process and supports diversity in appointments to boards and committees. To ensure an equitable representation, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, women, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, young people and people with disabilities are all encouraged to apply. In particular, the Attorney General would strongly encourage and preference applications from suitably qualified and experienced Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people.

To represent bodies, whether incorporated or unincorporated, that provide community legal services: Applicants should be persons with a knowledge of legal aid services and experience in establishing and maintaining bodies providing community legal services. Applicants need not be legally qualified but qualifications in a relevant discipline would be advantageous.

Note: Probity checks will be conducted.

Applications in Word or PDF addressing the above selection criteria, accompanied by a detailed curriculum vitae and the names of at least two referees, must be completed online.

Applications close: 11.59pm on Friday, 3 May 2024

This is a readvertised role and all previous applications will be brought forward for consideration.

If you would like to discuss this opportunity further please contact:
Ms Bronwyn McCutcheon, A/Executive Officer, Legal Aid NSW,
(02) 9219 5986, or bronwyn.mccutcheon@legalaid.nsw.gov.au

LP2188



chief executive officer Kununurra, WA

- Advance an Aboriginal-led development & reform agenda in the East Kimberley
- Suits place-based, advocacy or Aboriginal community organisation backgrounds
- Attractive salary package, vehicle & relocation allowance, based in Kununurra

The Organisation

Binarri-binyja yarrowoo (BBY) was established in 2016 as the backbone organisation for Empowered Communities in the East Kimberley, to facilitate Aboriginal people developing and leading their own plans for change.

A collaboration framework for Aboriginal-led development and reform, Empowered Communities initiatives take place in 10 regions across Australia. Within each region a coalition of local Aboriginal organisations work together to develop and achieve an Aboriginal empowerment agenda.

In the East Kimberley, BBY works with 29 member organisations to set priorities aimed at empowering Aboriginal people to participate equally in the regional economy, value their culture, educate their children, look after their older people and lead long and healthy lives.

The Area / Benefits

Kununurra is a vibrant regional town in the majestic Kimberley region of Western Australia. Its close vicinity to Lake Argyle, Keep River National Park and the Gibb River Road offer an unparalleled outdoor lifestyle and opportunity to explore this beautiful region.

The Role

Leading a highly skilled and collaborative team and providing overall operational management, you will drive the organisation's growth and provision of neutral advice, technical expertise and trusted support to members and the board.

You will confidently lead advocacy to influence policy development and reform, advancing the empowerment of Aboriginal people and families in the East Kimberley to achieve economic, social and cultural development and enhancing the Empowered Communities brand and vision.

Responsibilities include:

- Strategic advice to the board on policy and political issues
- Management of key government, NGO, corporate and community relationships
- Compliance, funding and associated reporting requirements
- Budget, financial, outsourced services and business planning management
- Best practice governance and risk management, including participatory governance arrangements with member organisations

Skills Required

You are an influential and inspirational leader who brings an understanding of the context in which Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations, or other communities in remote and challenging environments operate.

You're an advocate for self-determination of Aboriginal people, politically astute, have the ability to work under Aboriginal management and your experience also includes:

- Strategic leadership and financial accountability at an organisational level
- High level governance, compliance and risk management
- Negotiation and management of government and non-government funding
- Delivering advice to a board or management committee
- Success building trusted and respectful relationships with a broad range of stakeholders across government, community members and partner organisations

If you are inspired by the opportunity to impact the empowerment of Aboriginal people in the East Kimberley, please submit your resume and cover letter responding to the skills required section of the advertisement above to cv@ngorecruitment.com or speak with Hayley Martin on 02 8243 0570 for further information.



PBC Implementation Officer

Widjabul Wia-bal Gurrumbil is seeking a PBC Implementation Officer to join the Corporation. This part time role will assist in building the capacity of the organisation to achieve Native Title aspirations.

Based in Lismore, reporting to the Board and working closely with the Implementation Consultants, this role will be the first employee of the Corporation and be responsible for assisting with the implementation of a grant funding program over a period of 12-18 months.

Qualifications or experience in business administration, working autonomously but achieving goals in a team environment will be required along with a current driver's licence.

Aboriginal people and in particular Widjabul Wia-bal persons are strongly encouraged to apply.

For further information on the role, receive a copy of the position description and apply please contact Peter Marin on 08 8363 7755 or email: peter@mlcscorporate.com.au

Applications close 5.00pm on Friday 17 May 2024



Aboriginal Caseworker/Tenant Advocate Grafton NSW

The Northern NSW Aboriginal Tenants Advice and Advocacy Service (NATAAS) are seeking to employ an Aboriginal Tenants Advice and Advocacy Case Worker based in Grafton. The successful applicant will provide advice, advocacy and community education to Aboriginal communities within the coverage area.

Applicants must be of Aboriginal descent, able to work with minimal supervision, able to manage own workload and have a current driver's licence. We are seeking someone who has case management experience and if they have a working knowledge of the NSW Residential Tenancies Act 2010 this will be held in high regard.

If you are interested in this role please submit your application against the selection criteria. Your application should highlight your experience in case management of Aboriginal clients in a community services environment and should include your resume.

The selection criteria and duty statement for this position can be obtained by ringing Vic Webb (02) 6643 4426.

For further information regarding the position please contact Brett Webb on (02) 6643 4426.

Applications close at 5pm Friday 10th May 2024 and should be marked "Confidential" and either mailed to: The Manager, NATAAS, PO Box 1075, Grafton NSW 2460 or emailed to info@aboriginaltaap.com.au.

Starting Salary: \$93,858 Gross with Salary Sacrifice.

Note: *Aboriginality is a genuine occupational qualification and is authorised by S140 of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1987 (NSW).*



finance manager

- Give a voice to the needs and concerns of First Peoples with disabilities
- Work closely with the COO to develop financial processes, policies & capacity
- Bella Vista head office location with hybrid flexibility

The Organisation

First Peoples with disability and their families are amongst the most seriously disadvantaged and disempowered members of the Australian community. Governed by First Peoples with lived experience of disability, the First Peoples Disability Network Australia (FPDN) is an organisation of and for Australia's First Peoples, their families, and communities.

FPDN proactively engages with communities around Australia and individuals internationally, advocating for the recognition, respect, protection and fulfilment of their human rights. Established informally in 2010, the founders are the leaders of the Aboriginal disability movement who have been working to uphold the rights of their people since the 1960s. The role would ideally be based in Sydney or Canberra.

Culture & Benefits

- Quickly growing and inclusive First Peoples organisation
- Generous salary including tax effective packaging
- Western Sydney location with some WFH flexibility

The Role

Reporting to the COO, you will play a key role in supporting the financial operations of the organisation, ensuring accuracy, compliance, and efficiency in financial processes, funding requirements and reporting.

You'll oversee all day-to-day transactional services with functional responsibility for accounting, accounts payable, accounts receivable and payroll and collaborate across the organisation as well as with external stakeholders to enable effective financial performance at all levels.

Specific responsibilities include working alongside the COO to create and establish end-of-month and end-of-year processing timelines, ensuring targets are met, and that balance sheets are reconciled on a timely basis. You will also manage cash flow and provide regular updates to the COO and wider executive team.

Skills Required

You are a finance and accounting professional with experience working within complex organisations. You have hands-on experience in organising and documenting financial information related to multiple funding grants, ensuring compliance with grant requirements and reporting deadlines, and working with budget holders to enhance financial literacy and outcomes.

With knowledge of Australian taxation and Office of Consumer and Business Affairs requirements, and experience within the financial environment of a not for profit, Indigenous or disability services organisation, you also bring:

- Expertise in contemporary financial management and audit processes
- Proficiency in financial software and MS Office particularly MS Excel
- Experience with databases and accounting systems
- A track record in communicating effectively with Indigenous people, stakeholders and organisations

If managing and building the financial functions of an organisation which positively impacts First Peoples living with disability appeals to you, then please submit your expression of interest including a cover letter responding to the skills required above and a resume to cv@ngorecruitment.com or call Hayley Martin on 02 8243 0570 to discuss your interest.



head of people & culture

- Give a voice to the needs and concerns of First Peoples with disabilities
- Develop, shape and champion a best practice people and culture strategy
- Suits a hands-on human resources specialist with a human services background

The Organisation

First Peoples Disability Network Australia (FPDN) is a national organisation of and for Australia's First Peoples with disability, their families, and communities.

FPDN's purpose is to promote respect for human rights, secure social justice, and empower First Peoples with disability to participate in Australian society on an equal basis with others. They are the custodians of the narratives of First Peoples with disability, their families and communities and recognise this important responsibility. FPDN works for the recognition, respect, protection and fulfilment of the human rights of First Peoples with disability and their families.

Benefits Culture &

- Quickly growing and inclusive First Peoples organisation
- Generous salary including tax effective packaging
- Western Sydney location with some WFH flexibility

The Role

Working closely with the COO, board and senior leadership team, you will move the organisation forward on critical aspects of people and culture. You'll develop and implement effective, best practice people and culture frameworks, policies and procedures and drive a values-based, high-performance workforce to deliver outcomes for clients and stakeholders.

This is both a strategic and hands on role, with end-to-end responsibility for the employee lifecycle encompassing talent acquisition, learning and development, employee relations, contracts management, day-to-day HR support and WHS.

Specifically, you will:

- Develop and implement best practice P&C strategy, processes, and infrastructure
- Champion and drive a culture of performance, accountability and development across the organisation
- Influence best practice disability employment including access, inclusion and reasonable adjustments
- Oversee and manage employee relations and industrial relations matters
- Ensure cultural safety and sensitivity are woven into how FPDN operates

Skills Required

You will identify as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person and you'll have developed your career as a true HR generalist within an Indigenous, disability, health or human services environment.

With unwavering focus on social equality for First Peoples, you bring proven ability to translate strategy into action whilst managing the detail of day-to-day operations, together with a track record of achieving team engagement and improvement across people and culture organisationally.

Your experience also includes previous success in:

- Developing and implementing best practice P&C initiatives, policies and processes
- Managing and developing people to maximise effectiveness and well-being
- Overseeing contract management
- Ensuring high quality compliance processes and risk management

If you are a passionate people and culture leader with a desire to positively impact First peoples living with disability, please submit your resume and cover letter responding to the skills required section of the advertisement above to cv@ngorecruitment.com or speak with Hayley Martin on 02 8243 0570 for further information.





VICTORIA POLICE

ABORIGINAL COMPLAINTS SUPPORT OFFICER

VICTORIA POLICE, PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMAND
DOCKLANDS LOCATION

VPSG4 SALARY RANGE \$92,332 - \$104,762

As an Aboriginal Complaints Support Officer, you will utilise your contemporary knowledge of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history and culture to contribute to the development, implementation and ongoing improvements of the Victoria Police complaint handling service for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. This is an extraordinary opportunity to improve outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Working within the Command, you will provide support on cultural matters likely to impact their interaction with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as victims and complainants. This role is most suitable for an experienced professional who has a passion for providing culturally safe support and improving the outcomes for others.

As an employee of Victoria Police, you will have access to a range of benefits. For further information, please contact David Markum on 0447 012 486 or david.markum@police.vic.gov.au.

For position descriptions and details on how to apply, please visit the Victorian Government careers website (Careers.vic.gov.au).

R40540



VICTORIA POLICE

SPECIALIST SENIOR EDUCATOR

VICTORIA POLICE, PEOPLE DEVELOPMENT COMMAND
VICTORIA POLICE ACADEMY, 1 VIEW MOUNT ROAD, GLEN WAVERLEY

VPSG5 SALARY RANGE \$106,534 - \$128,897

This Specialist Senior Educator will be required to manage and lead the development and/or application of a range of education and training programs relating to the Victorian Aboriginal Community including culture, history and current policing issues affecting the community.

The Specialist Senior Educator will be required to plan, develop, and deliver sessions as required with a focus on system reform and practical changes to laws, policies and education and supports the organisation wide uplift in the delivery of the Aboriginal Cultural Awareness Training (mandatory).

As an employee of Victoria Police, you will have access to a range of benefits. For further information, please contact Anne Rudd on (03) 9265 3139 or Anne.Rudd@police.vic.gov.au.

For position descriptions and details on how to apply, please visit the Victorian Government careers website (Careers.vic.gov.au).

R40577



Northern Rivers Community Legal Centre (NRCLC) is recruiting into 2 positions

Legal Information Officer

Northern Rivers Community Legal Centre

Fixed Term 6 or 12 months Up to 35 hours per week

The position is banded at SCHADS Level 3 with a salary range of \$71,320.22 to 76,477.39 per annum pro rata (dependent upon qualifications, skills and experience), plus superannuation and leave loading. PBI Salary Packaging is also available.

Applications close at 9am on Monday 15 May 2024.

Interviews will be held on a rolling basis as applications are received

Tenant Advocate

Northern Rivers Tenants Advice and Advocacy Service (NORTAAS)

Permanent 28 hours per week

The position is banded at SCHADS 5 with a salary range of \$93,858 to \$98,111 per annum pro rata (dependent upon qualifications, skills and experience), plus superannuation and leave loading. PBI Salary Packaging is also available.

Applications close at 9am on Monday 15 May 2024.

NRCLC is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Aboriginal and Torres Strait peoples and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds are strongly encouraged to apply

The Northern Rivers Community Legal Centre (NRCLC) has been operating in Lismore since 1996. NRCLC has grown from a free legal service to a centre that offers wrap around support to clients and communities which includes the Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service (WDVCAS), Tenants' Advice and Advocacy Service (TAAS), Disaster Recovery Team and Social Work Team.

For further information about the position and to apply, please visit our website

<https://northernriversclc.org.au/work-or-volunteer/>

Enquires should be directed to recruitment@northernriversclc.org.au

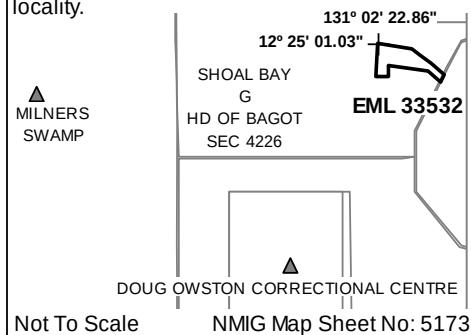
NOTICE OF PROPOSED GRANT OF AN EXTRACTIVE MINERAL LEASE

NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

The Honourable Mark Monaghan MLA, the Northern Territory Minister for Mining, C/- Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade, GPO Box 4550 DARWIN NT 0801, hereby gives notice in accordance with section 29 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Commonwealth) of the intent to do an act(s) namely to grant the following extractive mineral lease application.

The application to which this notice applies:

Extractive Mineral Lease 33532 sought by OSTOJIC GROUP PTY LTD, ACN 009 629 805 over an area of 26 Hectares depicted below for a term of 10 years, within the KOOLPINYAH locality.



Nature of act(s): The grant of an extractive mineral lease under the *Mineral Titles Act 2010* authorises the holder to extract or remove (whether by quarrying or other means) from, on or below the natural surface of the land, extractive mineral for a term not exceeding 10 years and to seek renewal(s). The term for which it is intended to grant the extractive mineral lease referred to in this notice commences from the date of grant. Further information about the act may be obtained from the Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade, GPO Box 4550, Darwin NT 0801 or Centrepont Building 48-50 Smith Street Darwin NT 0800, telephone (08) 8999 5322.

Native Title Parties: Any person who is, or becomes a "native title party" within the meaning of the *Native Title Act 1993* is entitled to the negotiation and/or procedural rights provided in Part 2, Division 3, Subdivision P of the *Native Title Act 1993*. Under section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993*, persons have until 3 months after the notification day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to this notice. Enquiries concerning becoming a native title party should be directed to the National Native Title Tribunal, GPO Box 9973, Brisbane QLD 4001, or telephone (07) 3307 5000.

Notification Day: 24 April 2024

NOTICE OF PROPOSED GRANT OF EXPLORATION PERMIT GEOTHERMAL

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 Exploration Permit Geothermal (EPG) shown below under the *Geothermal Energy Act 2010*.

Nature of Act(s): Grant of Exploration Permit Geothermal under the *Geothermal Energy Act 2010* authorises the holder to explore for geothermal energy for a maximum term not exceeding five (5) years, with the possibility of renewal for terms not exceeding five (5) years.

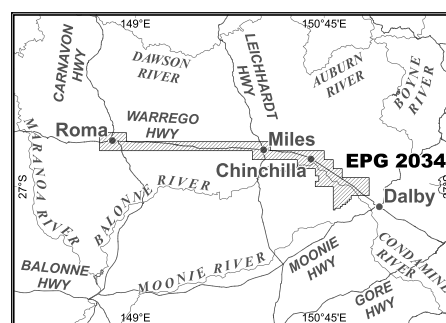
Name and Address of person doing Act(s): It is proposed that the Exploration Permit Geothermal be granted under the *Geothermal Energy Act 2010* by the Minister for Resources, PO Box 15216, City East, Queensland, 4002.

Native Title Parties: Under the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) any person who is a "native title party" is entitled to certain rights in relation to the proposed grant of Exploration Permit Geothermal. Under section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth), persons have until three (3) months after the Notification Day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to this notice. Enquiries in relation to filing a native title determination application may be directed to the Federal Court, Brisbane Registry, Level 6, Harry Gibbs Commonwealth Law Courts Building, 119 North Quay, Brisbane, Queensland, 4000. Telephone: 1300 720 980 or Email: nativetitleQLD@fedcourt.gov.au. Enquiries in relation to the registration of a native title determination application may be directed to the National Native Title Tribunal, Brisbane Registry, Level 5, Harry Gibbs Commonwealth Law Courts Building, 119 North Quay, Brisbane, Queensland, 4000. Telephone: (07) 3052 4040.

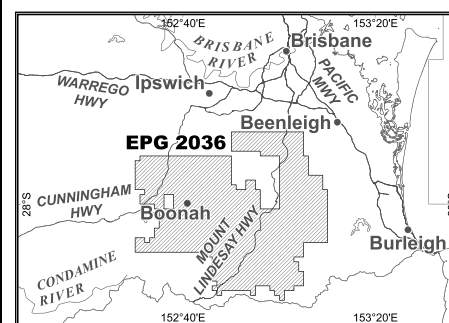
Further Information: May be obtain from the Department of Resources, Petroleum Assessment Hub, Level 4, 1 William Street, Brisbane, Queensland, 4000. Telephone: (07) 3199 8118 or Email: petroleumhub@resources.qld.gov.au.

Notification Day: 8 May 2024

EPG 2034 applied for by WITHIN ENERGY PTY LTD ACN 652 405 831, over an area of 1223 sub-blocks (3744 km²) spanning across from Roma to Dalby, in the locality of Maranoa Regional Council and Western Downs Regional Council.



EPG 2036 applied for by WITHIN ENERGY PTY LTD ACN 652 405 831, over an area of 863 sub-blocks (2612 km²) spanning across from Aratula to Canungra, in the locality of Ipswich City Council, Logan City Council and Scenic Rim Regional Council.



For your advertising needs email: advertising@koorimail.com



COMMUNITY
BROADCASTING
ASSOCIATION OF
AUSTRALIA

Expressions of Interest

First Nations Journalist Role in Canberra

Only applicants who are of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent can submit their interest.

- Are you passionate about storytelling and covering political issues from a First Nations' perspective?
- Fixed Term, 12 months
- \$80,000 Package (capped relocation costs will be considered)

The Community Broadcasting Association of Australia in partnership with the National Indigenous Radio Service and the Koori Mail are looking for expressions of interests from Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander

journalists to join our small news team in Parliament House, Canberra. Whether you are an experienced journalist looking for a chance to tell real stories for the community or looking to build your skills in this area, send us a short letter about your passion for storytelling and political issues, your relevant skills, and your ability to lead stories and work in Canberra with a small team.

To express your interest, submit your short letter to the News Director by emailing jobs@cbaa.org.au by COB 12 May 2024.

The filling of the position of First Nations journalist is intended to constitute a special measure under section 8 and Article 1(4) of the Schedule of the Racial Discrimination Act 1975 (Cth) and section 27 of the Discrimination Act 1991 (ACT). The position is therefore only open to applicants who are First Nations persons.



your
COMMUNITY HEALTH

Executive Assistant

Aboriginal Identified Role

Provide high level executive support to the CEO and YourCH Board of Directors. Maintain cross organisational support to Executive Leadership Team.

- Be part of a fun, dynamic and supportive environment
- Attractive salary packaging, progressive leave options and excellent organisational culture.
- Full time, ongoing position based in the inner north

About the role

Provide high-level administrative and secretarial support to the CEO and Board, as well as organising meetings, minute taking, preparing reports and routine correspondence. Provide this support with a commitment to YourCH values and the ability to quickly acquire knowledge of its services and goals. Represent YourCH in a professional manner, demonstrating a high level of integrity and client-focused attitude.

Apply Now!

To find out more about his role or to apply:



yourcommunityhealth.elmotalent.com.au/careers/YourCH/

If you still have any queries about the role please contact Kent Burgess (he/him), Chief Executive Officer on 0417 417 346 or kent.burgess@yourch.org.au

NOTICE OF AUTHORISATION MEETING FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING AMENDMENTS TO THE WAMBA WEMBA PEOPLES NATIVE TITLE CLAIM VID14/2022

Date: Saturday, 18 May 2024

Venue: The Grain Shed, 2 King St, Swan Hill VIC 3585

Registration: Open 9:00 am

Information Session: 11:00 am

Authorisation Meeting: 2:00 pm

Massar Briggs Law will hold a Native Title Authorisation Meeting on Saturday 18th May 2024, to authorise amendments to the Wamba Wemba Native Title Determination Application VID14/2022. This is an important meeting where binding decisions about the Wamba Wemba Native Title Application (VID 14/2022) are proposed to be made.

WHO SHOULD COME TO THIS MEETING:

This notice invites all eligible members of the Wamba Wemba Native Title Claim Group as described below to attend this meeting. The Wamba Wemba Native Title Claim group is comprised of those Aboriginal persons who are descended from one or more of the following apical ancestors:

1. Ernest McGee (c. 1876)
2. George Allen (c. 1882)
3. Edward Joachim
4. Richard and Sarah Wilson/Crow (daughter Agnes Edwards aka Queen Aggie Crow) (c. 1873 – 1928)
5. Jemima Burns (c. 1854-1934)
6. William Day (c. 1840 – 1900)
7. Mary/Margaret Smith (married to John Ingram)
8. Walin & Kathleen/Kitty (early 1800s)
9. Robert Taylor (c. 1850 – 1915) and David Taylor (c. 1852 – 1929)
10. Edward Firebrace (c. 1855 – 1921)
11. Henry Edwards (c. 1866 – 1949)
12. Sarah Smith (c. 1858 – 1941)
13. Sarah Moore/Mayne (early 1800s)
14. Mary Tattambo (c. early 1800s – 1874)
15. Koombra Campbell (aka Alick) (c. 1848 – 1923)
16. William Sampson (c. 1851 – 1926)
17. John Moore
18. Eliza Edwards

PURPOSE OF THE AUTHORISATION MEETING:

The purpose of this meeting is to consider, and if appropriate, make decisions about the following:

- To adopt and agree on the decision-making process to be used for making decisions at the meeting;
- To adopt and agree any conditions the claim group wishes to impose on the authority of the Applicant;
- To confirm the boundaries of the Wamba Wemba Native Title Application (VID14/2022) as set out below;
- To endorse the proposal to remove Sarah Moore / Mayne (also known as Sarah Mein) from the list of Apical Ancestors in the current Wamba Wemba "claim group description" and this proposed amendment to the Form 1 Wamba Wemba Native Title Application (VID14/2022) to reflect this change in group description of the Wamba Wemba Peoples; and
- To authorise and confirm the Applicant for the amended Wamba Wemba Native Title Application.

REGISTERING FOR THE MEETING

A Registration Form will be required to be completed by all those participating in the Authorisation Meeting. Registrations will be open from 9am Saturday 18th May at the venue: The Grain Shed, 2 King St, Swan Hill VIC 3585.

In addition, individuals may seek a copy of the registration form in advance by contacting Massar Briggs Law via email at wamba@massarbriggslaw.com.au.

PROXIES

Those people who are or may be eligible to attend but are unable to do so should request a proxy voting form from Massar Briggs Law by email wamba@massarbriggslaw.com.au.

ASSISTANCE TO ATTEND

Some limited assistance may be available for the meeting and lunch and refreshments will be available during the day. Enquiries for assistance should be made to wamba@massarbriggslaw.com.au

FURTHER ENQUIRIES

Any further enquires in relation to the information above may be made to wamba@massarbriggslaw.com.au

Authorised by Jason A Briggs BA/LLB (MELB)

Principal Solicitor

Massar Briggs Law

8 Fitzroy Street, St Kilda

info@massarbriggslaw.com.au

Uniting



Operations Manager for Western NSW

About the opportunity

Join our dynamic team at Uniting Communities Directorate and take the lead in delivering impactful outcomes across a diverse range of high-quality programs throughout Western NSW. Based in Dubbo, NSW, this permanent full-time position offers a unique opportunity to drive positive change as we deliver our 10-year strategy to grow our impact and disrupt entrenched disadvantage.

As a pivotal member of our senior leadership team, you'll be instrumental in ensuring the successful delivery of contracted outcomes, while championing a culture of excellence and quality. Your role will involve overseeing program operations, strategic planning, budgeting, and reporting, all with a focus on meeting funding requirements and exceeding stakeholder expectations.

Who we are

At Uniting, we're committed to empowering children, young people, and families to thrive in safe and supportive environments.

About You in the role

As the ideal candidate, you'll hold a Bachelor's degree in a relevant field and possess proven financial and program management skills.

Your ability to lead, motivate, and inspire teams, coupled with your cultural sensitivity, will be essential in driving meaningful change.

Additionally, your experience in establishing strategic partnerships and engaging with external stakeholders will be invaluable in supporting our ongoing efforts to deliver culturally appropriate services, particularly for First Nations people. We actively encourage applications from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander candidates. In return, we offer a supportive work environment, ongoing professional development opportunities, and the chance to be part of a team dedicated to creating positive social impact.

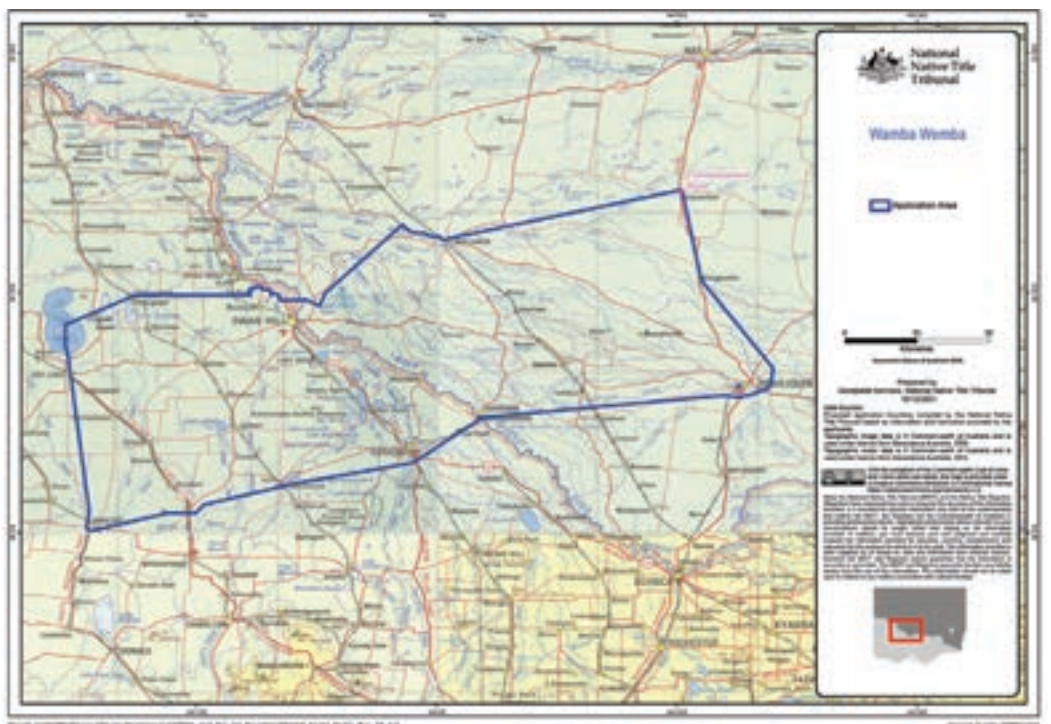
If you're passionate about making a difference and possess the skills and experience we're looking for, we encourage you to apply.

To apply for this exciting opportunity, please visit the Uniting Careers website Uniting Careers. <https://careers.uniting.org/jobs/operations-manager-western-nsw-dubbo-nsw-australia>

If you have any queries, don't hesitate to reach out to Alex Sullivan from Uniting's Talent Acquisition Team asullivan@uniting.org / 0466 801 937

First Nations children and families are overrepresented in the child protection system and our services in Western NSW. Appropriate cultural knowledge and understanding is important to deliver effectively in this role. This is a targeted position and applications from First Nations people are encouraged.

Closing date: 11:55pm, Wednesday 15th May, 2024



Public Notice and Registration of Interest
41 Auburn Road Auburn NSW
Consultation for Aboriginal Cultural Heritage
Assessment Report

Auburn Village Development propose to redevelop Auburn Shopping Village that is located at 41 Auburn Road in Auburn for mixed retail use and shop top housing. The proposal includes provision of affordable housing (Housing SEPP). An Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (ACHAR) is to be prepared for the proposal that follows the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (DECCW 2010). The Proponent would like to invite expressions of interest from Aboriginal people to participate in consultation and to be involved in the development of the project ACHAR.

Contact details for the Proponent are:

Auburn Village Development
E: info@hmc.com.au
c/-
Dominic Steele (DSCA)
E: Dominic Steele dsca@bigpond.net.au
The registration period closes on 21 May 2024
The consultation period closes on 21 June 2024

Public Notice and Registration of Interest
36 Lyn Parade Prestons NSW
Consultation for Aboriginal Cultural Heritage
Assessment Report

National Integrated Creative Solutions & Environmental Risk Assessors Pty Ltd propose to develop a block of land at 36 Lyn Parade in Prestons for industrial warehousing. An Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (ACHAR) is to be prepared in accordance with the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (DECCW 2010). The Proponent would like to invite expressions of interest from Aboriginal people to participate in consultation and to be involved in the development of the project ACHAR.

Contact details for the Proponent are:

Nicolas Israel
National Integrated Creative Solutions & Environmental Risk Assessors Pty Ltd
E: 20nicolas15@gmail.com
c/-
Dominic Steele (DSCA)
E: Dominic Steele dsca@bigpond.net.au
The registration period closes on 21 May 2024
The consultation period closes on 21 June 2024

Notice of applications for
determination of native title in
Western Australia

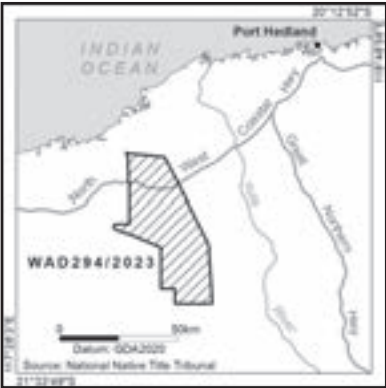
Notification day: 8 May 2024



These are applications by native title claim groups which are asking the Federal Court of Australia (Federal Court) to determine that they hold native title in the areas described below.

If you want to become a party to any of these applications, you must file a Form 5 (Notice of Intention to become a Party) with the Federal Court, **on or before 7 August 2024**. Further information regarding how to file a Form 5 is available from www.fedcourt.gov.au. After **7 August 2024**, you will need to seek leave from the Federal Court to become a party.

Under the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) there can be only one determination of native title for a particular area. If a person with native title rights and interests does not become a party to any of these applications, there may be no other opportunity for the Federal Court, in making its determinations, to take into account those native title rights and interests in relation to the areas concerned.



Application name: Raylene Button & Ors on behalf of the Kariyarra Pirnthurruna Native Title Claim Group and State of Western Australia
Federal Court File No: WAD294/2023
Date filed: 17 November 2023
Registration test status: The Native Title Registrar has *accepted* this application for registration

Description: The application area covers about 1,293 sq km and is located approx. 77 km south west of Port Hedland.
Relevant LGAs: City of Karratha and Town of Port Hedland



Application name: Ivan Turner & Ors on behalf of the Jaru #3 Native Title Claim Group and State of Western Australia
Federal Court File No: WAD334/2023
Date filed: 21 December 2023
Registration test status: The Native Title Registrar has *accepted* this application for registration

Description: The application area covers about 5,103 sq km and is located approx. 30 km east of Halls Creek
Relevant LGA: Shire of Halls Creek

For assistance and further information about these applications, call Claire Smith on 08 6317 5333 or visit www.nntt.gov.au.

For your advertising needs email: advertising@koorimail.com



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	38/3827	EAST LAVERTON EXPLORATION PTY LTD	28BL	114.1km N'ly of Laverton	Lat: 27° 35' S: Long: 122° 25' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	45/6896	MINING EQUITIES PTY LTD	2BL	80km SW'ly of Marble Bar	Lat: 21° 32' S: Long: 119° 5' E	EAST PILBARA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	52/4333	STANIFER PTY LTD	58BL	98.3km E'ly of Peak Hill	Lat: 25° 24' S: Long: 119° 40' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	52/4334	STANIFER PTY LTD	46BL	82.7km E'ly of Peak Hill	Lat: 25° 30' S: Long: 119° 32' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	57/1435	ROX (MURCHISON) PTY LTD	70BL	113.8km S'ly of Sandstone	Lat: 28° 59' S: Long: 119° 3' E	SANDSTONE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	16/3443	MCAULIFFE, Bernard James	165.24HA	12.8km SW'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 27' S: Long: 120° 58' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE, KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	16/3446	WILLIAMS, Penelope Gaye	170.88HA	28.8km N'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 30° 41' S: Long: 121° 7' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	24/5710	KING, Alex Bruce	164.41HA	4.5km W'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 26' S: Long: 121° 16' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	24/5728	FLEMING, Leo Glenn REID, Gordon Trevor	168.57HA	9.9km SE'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 30' S: Long: 121° 23' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	24/5730	FLEMING, Leo Glenn	37.15HA	15.2km S'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 34' S: Long: 121° 16' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	25/2765	ARDEA EXPLORATION PTY LTD	120.69HA	33.6km E'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 49' S: Long: 121° 48' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	25/2766	ARDEA EXPLORATION PTY LTD	94.57HA	32.9km E'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 49' S: Long: 121° 48' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	25/2793	MCKAY, Glenn Michael TERRY, Dean Anthony	120.65HA	37.6km NE'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 30° 54' S: Long: 121° 52' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	25/2801	FLEMING, Leo Glenn	62.55HA	37.7km NE'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 30° 55' S: Long: 121° 54' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	26/4191	NEWMONT EXPLORATION PTY LTD	197.88HA	16.5km SE'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 50' S: Long: 121° 36' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	26/4192	NEWMONT EXPLORATION PTY LTD	198.23HA	18km SE'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 50' S: Long: 121° 37' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	26/4193	NEWMONT EXPLORATION PTY LTD	200.90HA	17.1km SE'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 49' S: Long: 121° 37' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	26/4194	NEWMONT EXPLORATION PTY LTD	189.78HA	15.3km SE'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 49' S: Long: 121° 36' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	26/4739	MAHONEY, Lyndon Scott	94.93HA	17.6km SE'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 49' S: Long: 121° 38' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	27/2579	FLEMING, Leo Glenn	191.89HA	63km E'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 22' S: Long: 121° 58' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	27/2580	FLEMING, Leo Glenn	46.19HA	62.8km NE'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 25' S: Long: 122° 0' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	27/2582	SACILOTTO, Claudio Nelson	191.97HA	62.5km E'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 21' S: Long: 121° 58' 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: 24 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 **24 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. **24 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

Notice of a non-claimant application for determination of native title in New South Wales

Notification day: 8 May 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 **7 August 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 7 August 2024**. Further information regarding how to file a Form 5 is available from www.fedcourt.gov.au. After **7 August 2024**, you will need to seek leave from the Federal Court to become a party.



Applicant's name: Coffs Harbour and District Local Aboriginal Land Council
Federal Court File No: NSD241/2024
Non-native title interest: The applicant holds an estate in fee simple in relation to the application area but, pursuant to s 36(9) of the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983* (NSW), the applicant's interest is subject to any native title rights and interests which existed in relation to the land immediately prior to its transfer to the applicant
Order sought by applicant: Native title does not exist in relation to the area of land and waters in the State of New South Wales comprised in and known as Lot 494 DP755557
Description: The application area covers about 2.31 ha and is located over Lot 494 on DP755557 in the suburb of Raleigh
Relevant LGA: Bellingen Shire Council

For assistance and further information about this application, call Vasile Tiano on 02 8067 2158 or visit www.nntt.gov.au.

Geographical Names Act 1966

The Geographical Names Board is seeking public comment on a proposal from Cumberland City Council to name the following:

Dyin Ngurra for a reserve in Merrylands Civic Square located between McFarlane Street and Merrylands Road, in the suburb Merrylands, Cumberland Local Government Area (LGA).

The proposal can be viewed and submissions lodged on the Geographical Names Board website at gnb.nsw.gov.au from 23 April to 23 May 2024. Alternatively, written submissions may be mailed to the Secretary, Geographical Names Board, 346 Panorama Avenue, Bathurst, NSW 2795.

In accordance with Section 9 of the *Geographical Names Act 1966*, all submissions lodged may be subject to a Government Information (Public Access) application and may be viewed by a third party to assist the Board in considering this proposal.

Narelle Underwood
Chair

For more information:
visit gnb.nsw.gov.au
346 Panorama Ave,
BATHURST NSW 2795

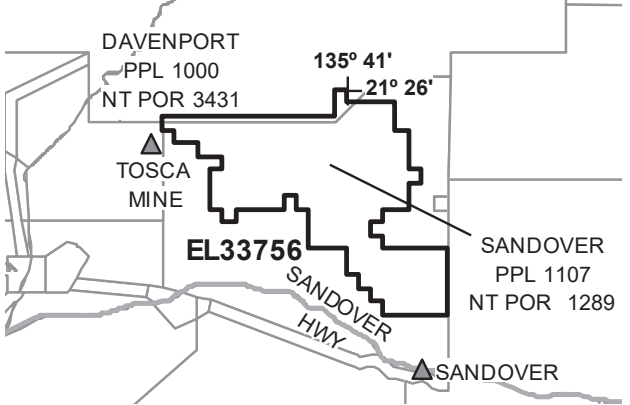
NOTICE OF PROPOSED GRANT OF EXPLORATION LICENCES

NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

The Honourable Mark Monaghan MLA, the Northern Territory Minister for Mining, C/- Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade, GPO Box 4550 DARWIN NT 0801, hereby gives notice in accordance with section 29 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Commonwealth) of his intent to do an act, namely to grant the following exploration licence applications.

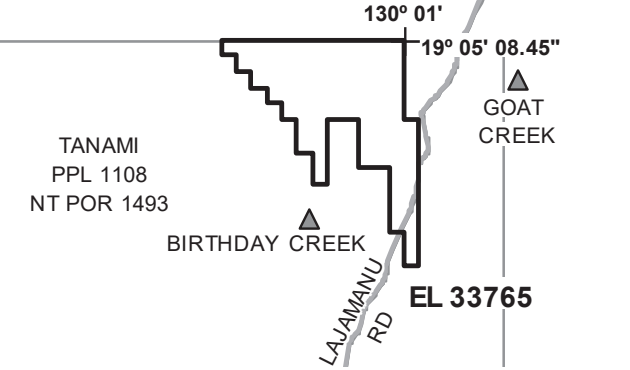
Applications to which this notice applies:

Exploration Licence 33756 sought by GEMPART (NT) PTY LTD, ACN 081 859 896 over an area of 181 Blocks (567 km²) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the SANDOVER locality.



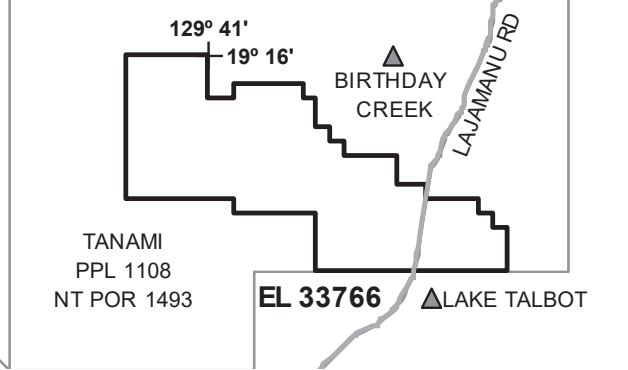
Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 6054

Exploration Licence 33765 sought by PURE EXPLORATION PTY LTD, ACN 669 443 636 over an area of 78 Blocks (248 km²) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the BREADEN locality.



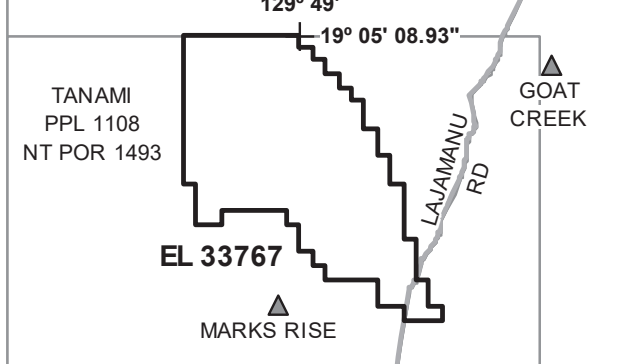
Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 4859

Exploration Licence 33766 sought by PURE EXPLORATION PTY LTD, ACN 669 443 636 over an area of 217 Blocks (700 km²) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the BREADEN locality.



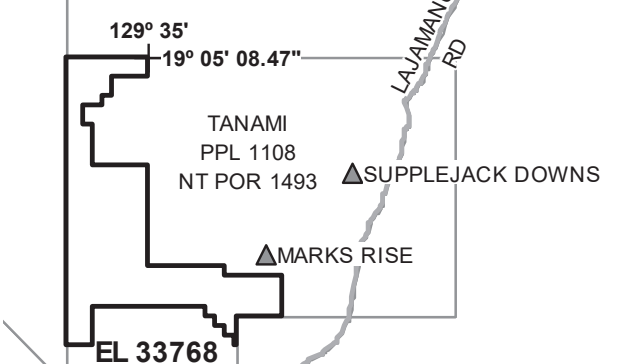
Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 4859

Exploration Licence 33767 sought by PURE EXPLORATION PTY LTD, ACN 669 443 636 over an area of 231 Blocks (745 km²) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the BREADEN locality.



Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 4859

Exploration Licence 33768 sought by PURE EXPLORATION PTY LTD, ACN 669 443 636 over an area of 250 Blocks (767 km²) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the BREADEN locality.



Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 4859

Nature of act(s): The grant of an exploration licence under the *Mineral Titles Act 2010* authorises the holder to conduct activities in connection with exploration for minerals for a term not exceeding 6 years and to seek renewal(s). The term for which it is intended to grant the mineral exploration licences referred to in this notice commences from the date of grant. Further information about the act may be obtained from the Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade, GPO Box 4550 Darwin NT 0801 or Centrepont Building 48-50 Smith Street Darwin NT 0800, telephone (08) 8999 5322.

Native Title Parties: Any person who is, or becomes a "native title party" within the meaning of the *Native Title Act 1993* is entitled to the negotiation and/or procedural rights provided in Part 2, Division 3, Subdivision P of the *Native Title Act 1993*. Under section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993*, persons have until 3 months after the notification day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to this notice. Enquiries concerning becoming a native title party should be directed to the National Native Title Tribunal, GPO Box 9973, Brisbane QLD 4001, or telephone (07) 3307 5000.

Expedited Procedure: The Northern Territory Government considers that the acts are acts attracting the expedited procedure as defined in section 237 of the *Native Title Act 1993*. The exploration licences referred to in this notice may be granted unless an objection is made by a native title party to the statement that the act is one which attracts the expedited procedure. Such an objection must be made to the National Native Title Tribunal within 4 months of the notification day.

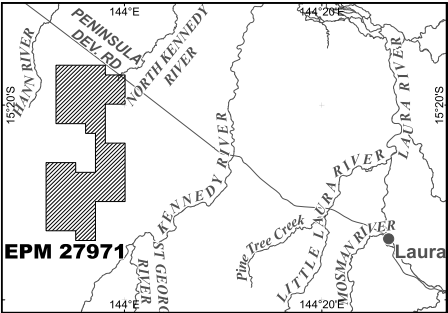
Notification Day: 24 April 2024

NOTICE OF PROPOSED GRANT OF EXPLORATION PERMIT FOR MINERALS

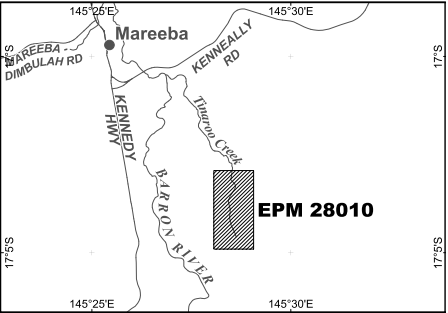
NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

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 the Exploration Permit for Minerals (EPM) shown below, subject to the provisions of the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld).

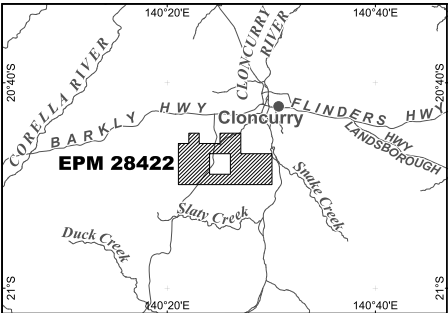
EPM 27971 applied for by RHUMB RESOURCES PTY LTD, ACN 650 249 924, over an area of 92 sub-blocks (303 km²), centred approximately 55 km North West of Laura, in the locality of the Cook Shire Council.



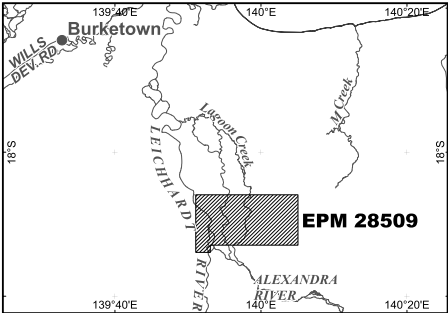
EPM 28010 applied for by Francis William COLLINS, over an area of 2 sub-blocks (6 km²), centred approximately 9 km South East of Mareeba, in the locality of the Mareeba Shire Council.



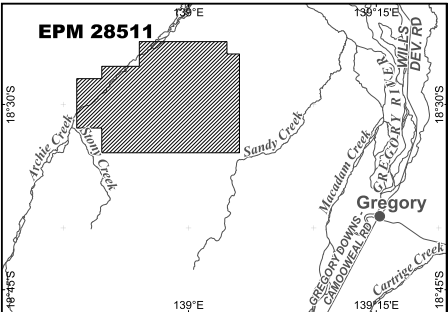
EPM 28422 applied for by RIO TINTO EXPLORATION PTY LIMITED, ACN 000 057 125, over an area of 32 sub-blocks (102 km²), centred approximately 12 kms South West of Cloncurry, in the locality of the Cloncurry Shire Council.



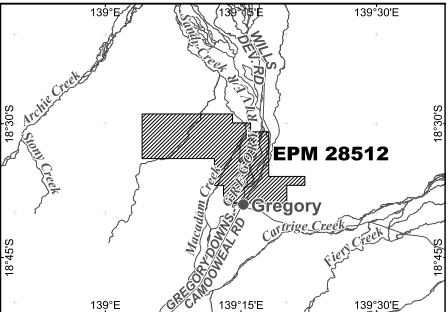
EPM 28509 applied for by ANGLO AMERICAN EXPLORATION (AUSTRALIA) PTY LIMITED, ACN 006 195 982, over an area of 100 sub-blocks (325 km²), centred approximately 66 km South East of Burketown, in the locality of the Burke Shire Council and Carpentaria Shire Council.



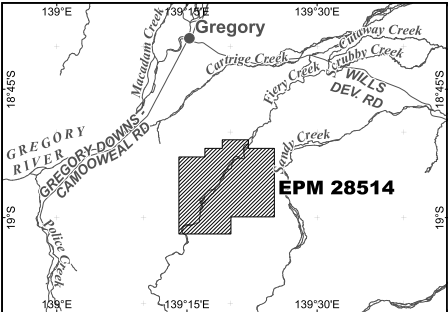
EPM 28511 applied for by ANGLO AMERICAN EXPLORATION (AUSTRALIA) PTY LIMITED, ACN 006 195 982, over an area of 100 sub-blocks (324 km²), centred approximately 33 km North West of Gregory, in the locality of the Burke Shire Council.



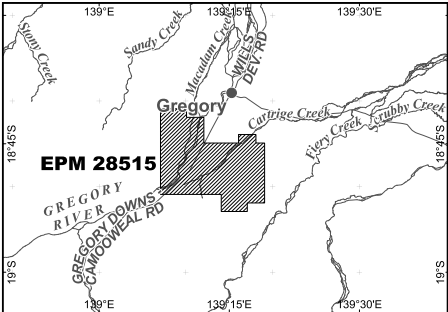
EPM 28512 applied for by ANGLO AMERICAN EXPLORATION (AUSTRALIA) PTY LIMITED, ACN 006 195 982, over an area of 100 sub-blocks (324 km²), centred approximately 11 km North West of Gregory, in the locality of the Burke Shire Council.



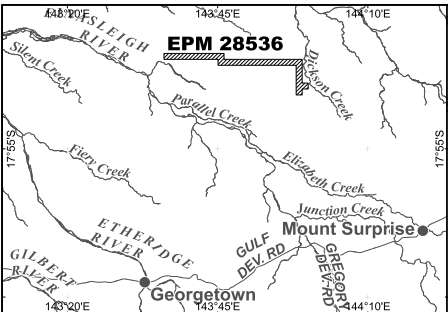
EPM 28514 applied for by ANGLO AMERICAN EXPLORATION (AUSTRALIA) PTY LIMITED, ACN 006 195 982, over an area of 100 sub-blocks (323 km²), centred approximately 33 km South Southeast of Gregory, in the locality of the Burke Shire Council.



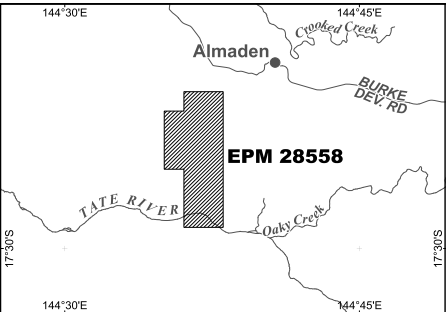
EPM 28515 applied for by ANGLO AMERICAN EXPLORATION (AUSTRALIA) PTY LIMITED, ACN 006 195 982, over an area of 100 sub-blocks (324 km²), centred approximately 19 km South Southwest of Gregory, in the locality of the Burke Shire Council.



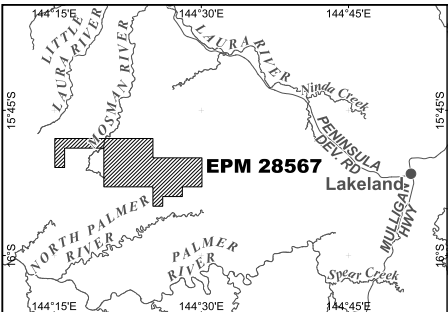
EPM 28536 applied for by FMG RESOURCES PTY LTD, ACN 095 546 428, over an area of 30 sub-blocks (97 km²), centred approximately 75 km North Northeast of Georgetown, in the locality of the Etheridge Shire Council and Mareeba Shire Council.



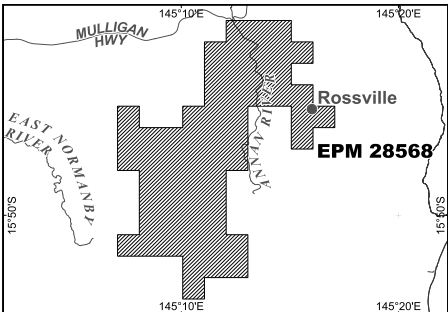
EPM 28558 applied for by FMG RESOURCES PTY LTD, ACN 095 546 428, over an area of 17 sub-blocks (55 km²), centred approximately 11 km South West of Almaden, in the locality of the Mareeba Shire Council.



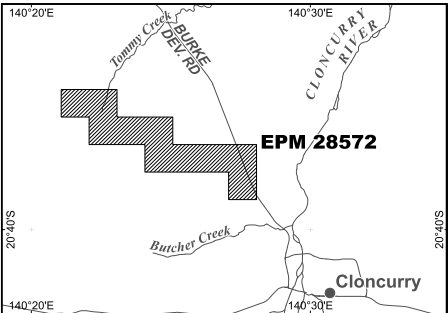
EPM 28567 applied for by LARRAMORE RESOURCES PTY LTD, ACN 660 669 134, over an area of 51 sub-blocks (167 km²), centred approximately 52 km West of Lakeland, in the locality of the Cook Shire Council.



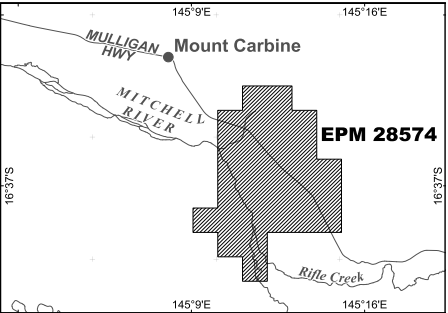
EPM 28568 applied for by FMG RESOURCES PTY LTD, ACN 095 546 428, over an area of 58 sub-blocks (191 km²), centred approximately 8 km West of Rossville, in the locality of the Cook Shire Council.



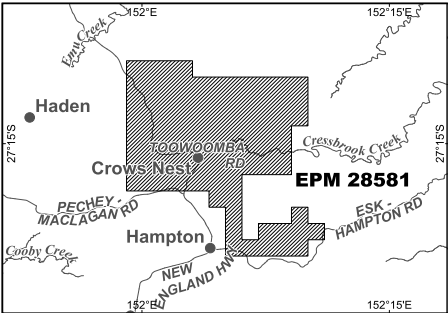
EPM 28572 applied for by CLONCURRY INDUSTRIAL MINERALS PTY LTD, ACN 609 084 022, over an area of 10 sub-blocks (32 km²), centred approximately 14 km North West of Cloncurry, in the locality of the Cloncurry Shire Council.



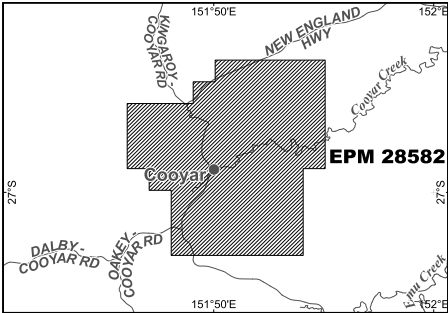
EPM 28574 applied for by VIKING HOARD PTY LTD, ACN 661 079 518, over an area of 29 sub-blocks (95 km²), centred approximately 11 km South East of Mount Carbine, in the locality of the Mareeba Shire Council.



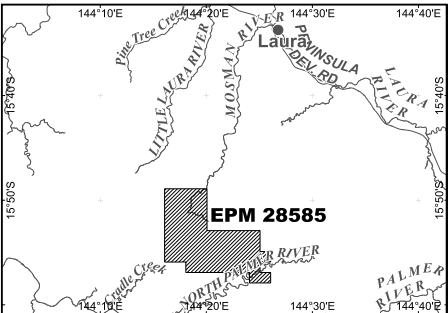
EPM 28581 applied for by FMG RESOURCES PTY LTD, ACN 095 546 428, over an area of 88 sub-blocks (268 km²), centred approximately 3 km North East of Crows Nest, in the locality of the Somerset Regional Council and Toowoomba Regional Council.



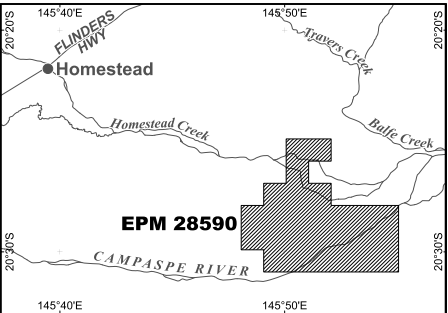
EPM 28582 applied for by FMG RESOURCES PTY LTD, ACN 095 546 428, over an area of 63 sub-blocks (192 km²), centred approximately 3 km North East of Cooyar, in the locality of the South Burnett Regional Council and Toowoomba Regional Council.



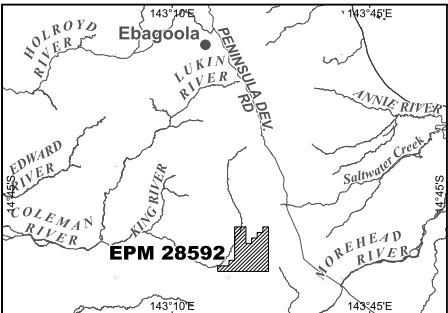
EPM 28585 applied for by LARRAMORE RESOURCES PTY LTD, ACN 660 669 134, over an area of 53 sub-blocks (174 km²), centred approximately 40 km South Southwest of Laura, in the locality of the Cook Shire Council.



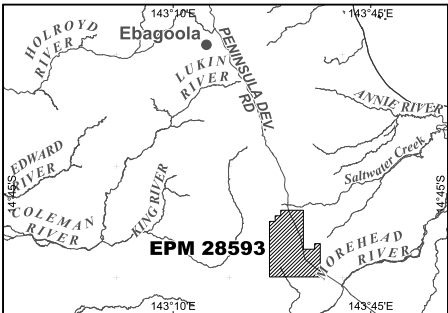
EPM 28590 applied for by DEMETALLICA OPERATIONS PTY LTD, ACN 108 925 284, over an area of 26 sub-blocks (83 km²), centred approximately 23 km South East of Homestead, in the locality of the Charters Towers Regional Council.



EPM 28592 applied for by FMG RESOURCES PTY LTD, ACN 095 546 428, over an area of 46 sub-blocks (152 km²), centred approximately 70 km South Southeast of Ebagooola, in the locality of the Cook Shire Council.



EPM 28593 applied for by FMG RESOURCES PTY LTD, ACN 095 546 428, over an area of 85 sub-blocks (281 km²), centred approximately 72 km South East of Ebagooola, in the locality of the Cook Shire Council.



Nature of Act(s): The grant of the Exploration Permit for Minerals under the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld), authorises the holder to explore for minerals for a term not exceeding five (5) years with the possibility of renewal for a term not exceeding five (5) years. It is proposed to grant and renew the Exploration Permit for Minerals subject to the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld) and the Native Title Protection Conditions.

Name and Address of person doing Act(s): It is proposed that the Exploration Permit for Minerals 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 Exploration Permit for Minerals. Under section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth), persons have until three (3) months after Notification Day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to this notice. Enquiries in relation to filing a native title determination application may be directed to the Federal Court, Brisbane Registry, Level 6, Harry Gibbs Commonwealth Law Courts Building, 119 North Quay, Brisbane, Queensland, 4000. Telephone: (07) 3248 1100 or Email: qldreg@fedcourt.gov.au.

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.

Expedited Procedure: The State of Queensland considers the grant of the Exploration Permit for Minerals to which this notice applies, is an act attracting the Expedited Procedure. The Exploration Permit for Minerals may be granted unless, within a period of four (4) months after the Notification Day a native title party lodges an objection in respect of the individual Exploration Permit for Minerals with the National Native Title Tribunal against the inclusion of the statement that the State considers the grant of that Exploration Permit for Minerals is a future act attracting the Expedited Procedure. Enquiries in relation to lodging an objection should be directed to the National Native Title Tribunal, Level 5, Harry Gibbs Commonwealth Law Courts Building, 119 North Quay, Brisbane, Queensland, 4000. Telephone: (07) 3052 4040.

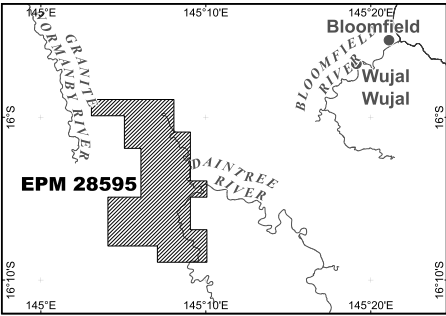
Notification Day: 8 May 2024

NOTICE OF PROPOSED GRANT OF EXPLORATION PERMIT FOR MINERALS

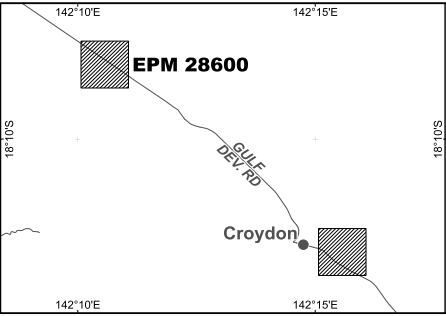
NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

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 the Exploration Permit for Minerals (EPM) shown below, subject to the provisions of the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld).

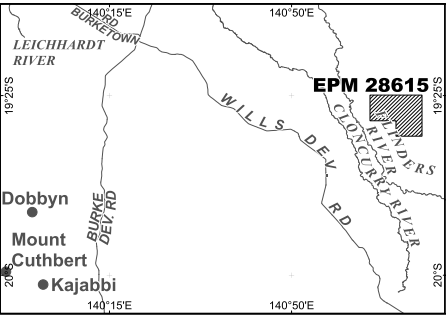
EPM 28595 applied for by XRINGER PTY LTD, ACN 655 325 518, over an area of 41 sub-blocks (134 km²), centred approximately 24 km South West of Wujal Wujal, in the locality of the Cook Shire Council and Douglas Shire Council.



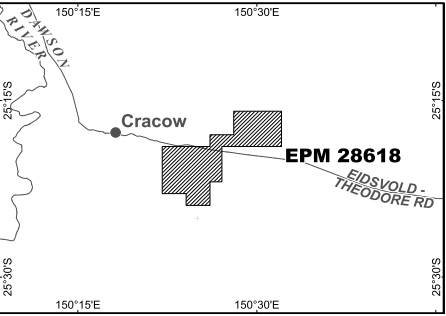
EPM 28600 applied for by CRATER GOLD MINING LIMITED, ACN 067 519 779, over an area of 2 sub-blocks (6 km²), non-contiguous over 2 areas, centred approximately 10 km North West and 1.5 km South East of Croydon, in the locality of the Croydon Shire Council.



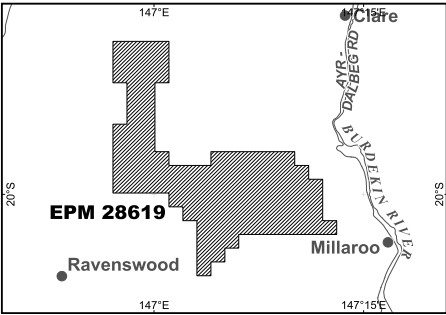
EPM 28615 applied for by AUSVAN BATTERY METALS PTY LTD, ACN 639 665 151, over an area of 65 sub-blocks (209 km²), centred approximately 135 km North East of Kajabbi, in the locality of the McKinlay Shire Council.



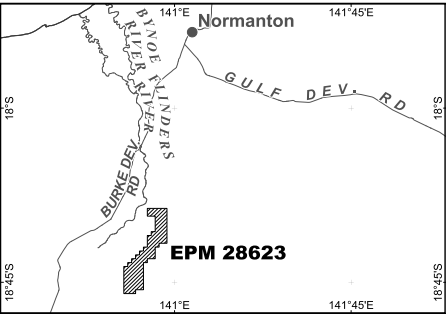
EPM 28618 applied for by GREEN CRITICAL MINERALS LIMITED, ACN 118 788 846, over an area of 35 sub-blocks (108 km²), centred approximately 19 km East Southeast of Cracow, in the locality of the Banana Shire Council and North Burnett Regional Council.



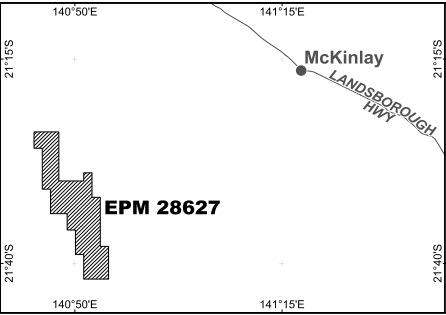
EPM 28619 applied for by RAVENSWOOD GOLD PTY LTD, ACN 637 527 309, over an area of 100 sub-blocks (321 km²), centred approximately 21 km North East of Ravenswood, in the locality of the Burdekin Shire Council.



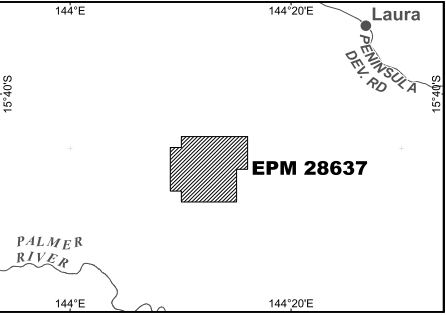
EPM 28623 applied for by AIC COPPER PTY LTD, ACN 651 088 256, over an area of 92 sub-blocks (298 km²), centred approximately 105 km South Southwest of Normanton, in the locality of the Carpentaria Shire Council.



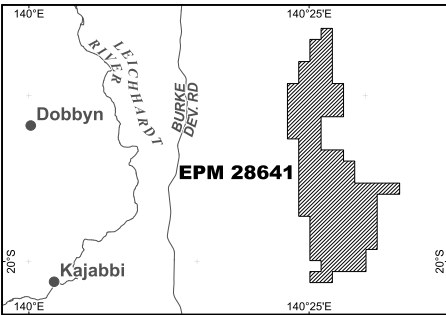
EPM 28627 applied for by TP-1 PTY LTD, ACN 661 887 690, over an area of 65 sub-blocks (207 km²), centred approximately 54 km South West of McKinlay, in the locality of the Cloncurry Shire Council and McKinlay Shire Council.



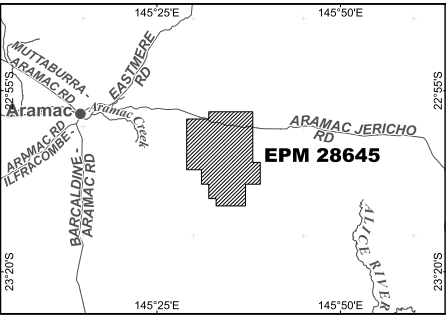
EPM 28637 applied for by RHUMB RESOURCES PTY LTD, ACN 650 249 924, over an area of 37 sub-blocks (121 km²), centred approximately 35 km South West of Laura, in the locality of the Cook Shire Council.



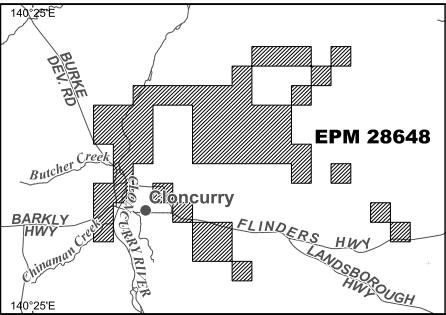
EPM 28641 applied for by MT CUTHBERT RESOURCES PTY LTD, ACN 140 474 693, over an area of 100 sub-blocks (322 km²), centred approximately 46 km North East of Kajabbi, in the locality of the Cloncurry Shire Council.



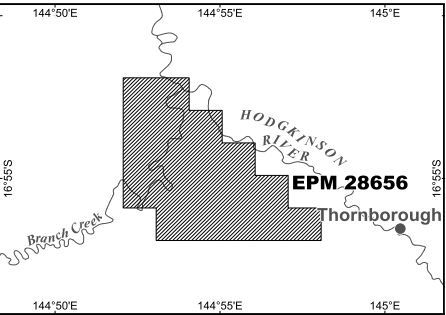
EPM 28645 applied for by ACTIVEX LIMITED, ACN 113 452 896, over an area of 100 sub-blocks (315 km²), centred approximately 35 km South East of Aramac, in the locality of the Barcaldine Regional Council.



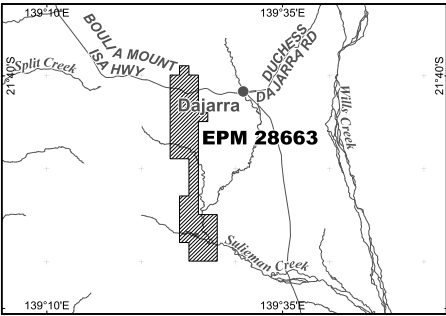
EPM 28648 applied for by TNC MINING PTY LTD, ACN 652 408 378, over an area of 53 sub-blocks (169 km²), non-contiguous over 4 areas, centred approximately 8 km North East of Cloncurry, in the locality of the Cloncurry Shire Council.



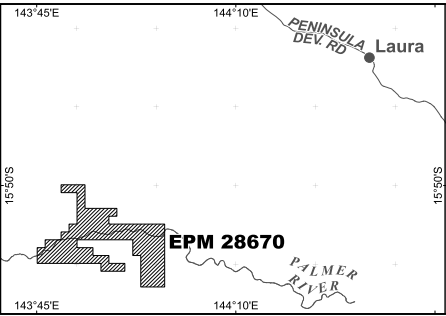
EPM 28656 applied for by STIBNIGHT SB QUEENSLAND PTY LTD, ACN 663 559 466, over an area of 19 sub-blocks (62 km²), centred approximately 11 km West Northwest of Thornborough, in the locality of the Mareeba Shire Council.



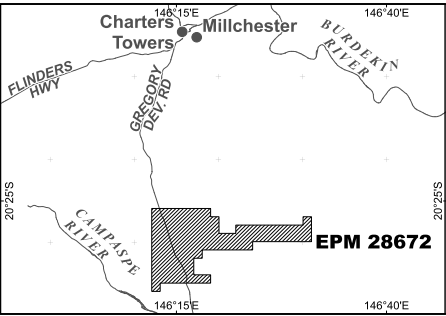
EPM 28663 applied for by XIRLATEM PROJECTS (QLD) PTY LTD, ACN 663 916 630, over an area of 55 sub-blocks (174 km²), centred approximately 14 km South West of Dajarra, in the locality of the Cloncurry Shire Council.



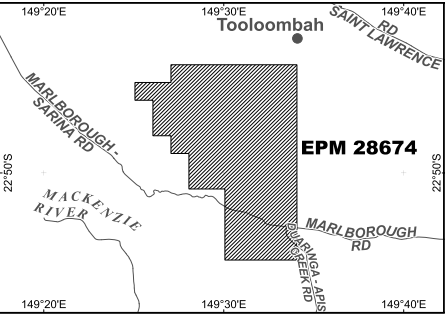
EPM 28670 applied for by AURUM VALE PTY LTD ACN 608 719 955, BMAX HOLDINGS PTY LTD, ACN 155 625 835, Mayra Eugenia FOSTER and Stuart Valentine FOSTER, over an area of 82 sub-blocks (269 km²), centred approximately 69 km South West of Laura, in the locality of the Cook Shire Council.



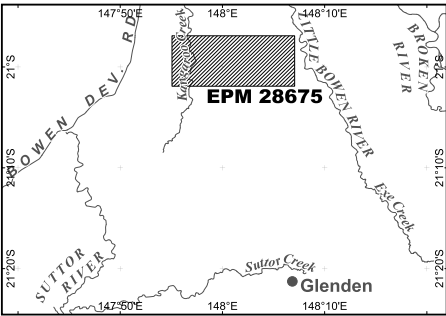
EPM 28672 applied for by ROX 1 PTY LTD, ACN 649 500 916, over an area of 88 sub-blocks (282 km²), centred approximately 44 km South of Millchester, in the locality of the Charters Towers Regional Council.



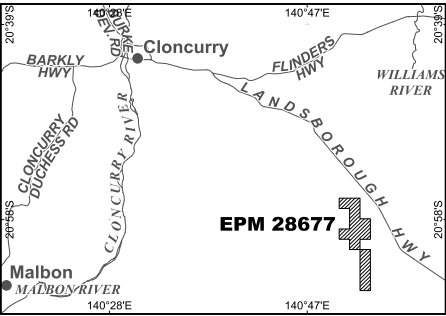
EPM 28674 applied for by ANGLOGOLD ASHANTI AUSTRALIA LIMITED, ACN 008 737 424, over an area of 67 sub-blocks (211 km²), centred approximately 11 km South West of Toooloombah, in the locality of the Isaac Regional Council and Livingstone Shire Council.



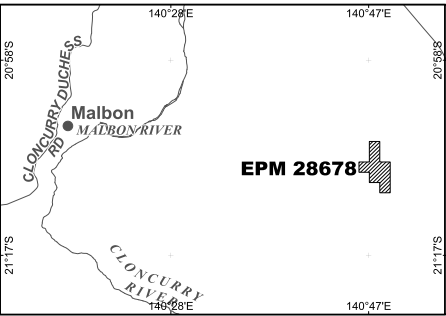
EPM 28675 applied for by ULARA RESOURCES PTY LTD, ACN 664 116 769, over an area of 60 sub-blocks (191 km²), centred approximately 42 km North Northwest of Glenden, in the locality of the Isaac Regional Council and Whitsunday Regional Council.



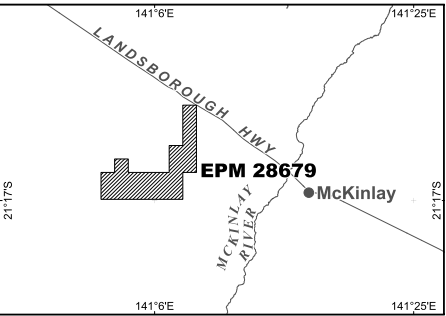
EPM 28677 applied for by AIC COPPER PTY LTD, ACN 651 088 256, over an area of 13 sub-blocks (41 km²), centred approximately 48 km South East of Cloncurry, in the locality of the Cloncurry Shire Council and McKinlay Shire Council.



EPM 28678 applied for by AIC COPPER PTY LTD, ACN 651 088 256, over an area of 8 sub-blocks (25 km²), centred approximately 51 km East Southeast of Malbon, in the locality of the Cloncurry Shire Council and McKinlay Shire Council.



EPM 28679 applied for by AIC COPPER PTY LTD, ACN 651 088 256, over an area of 20 sub-blocks (63 km²), centred approximately 18 km North West of McKinlay, in the locality of the McKinlay Shire Council.



Nature of Act(s): The grant of the Exploration Permit for Minerals under the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld), authorises the holder to explore for minerals for a term not exceeding five (5) years with the possibility of renewal for a term not exceeding five (5) years. It is proposed to grant and renew the Exploration Permit for Minerals subject to the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld) and the Native Title Protection Conditions.

Name and Address of person doing Act(s): It is proposed that the Exploration Permit for Minerals 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 Exploration Permit for Minerals. Under section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth), persons have until three (3) months after Notification Day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to this notice. Enquiries in relation to filing a native title determination application may be directed to the Federal Court, Brisbane Registry, Level 6, Harry Gibbs Commonwealth Law Courts Building, 119 North Quay, Brisbane, Queensland, 4000. Telephone: (07) 3248 1100 or Email: qldreg@fedcourt.gov.au.

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.

Expedited Procedure: The State of Queensland considers the grant of the Exploration Permit for Minerals to which this notice applies, is an act attracting the Expedited Procedure. The Exploration Permit for Minerals may be granted unless, within a period of four (4) months after the Notification Day a native title party lodges an objection in respect of the individual Exploration Permit for Minerals with the National Native Title Tribunal against the inclusion of the statement that the State considers the grant of that Exploration Permit for Minerals is a future act attracting the Expedited Procedure. Enquiries in relation to lodging an objection should be directed to the National Native Title Tribunal, Level 5, Harry Gibbs Commonwealth Law Courts Building, 119 North Quay, Brisbane, Queensland, 4000. Telephone: (07) 3052 4040.

Notification Day: 8 May 2024

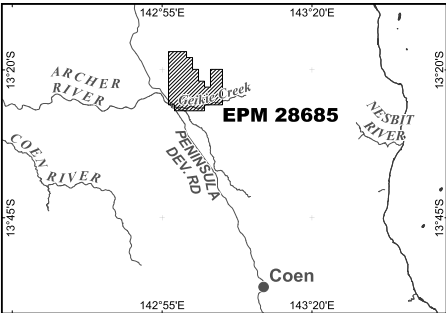


NOTICE OF PROPOSED GRANT OF EXPLORATION PERMIT FOR MINERALS

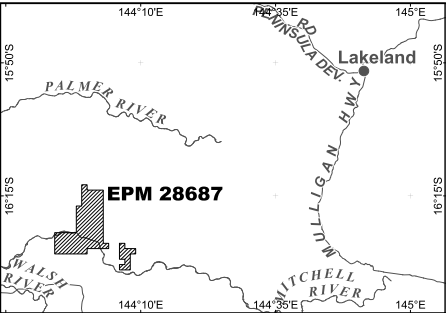
NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

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 the Exploration Permit for Minerals (EPM) shown below, subject to the provisions of the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld).

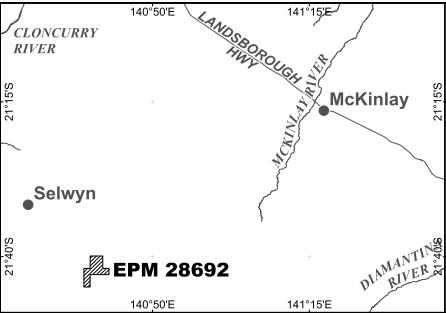
EPM 28685 applied for by QUEENSLAND MINING PTY LTD, ACN 622 184 150, over an area of 65 sub-blocks (216 km²), centred approximately 67 km North Northwest of Coen, in the locality of the Cook Shire Council.



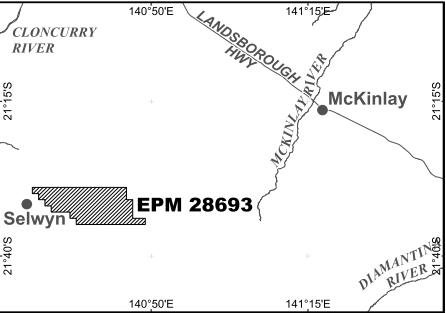
EPM 28687 applied for by BMAX HOLDINGS PTY LTD, ACN 155 625 835, Mayra Eugenia FOSTER and Stuart Valentine FOSTER, over an area of 81 sub-blocks (266 km²), non-contiguous over 2 areas, centred approximately 106 km South West of Lakeland, in the locality of the Mareeba.



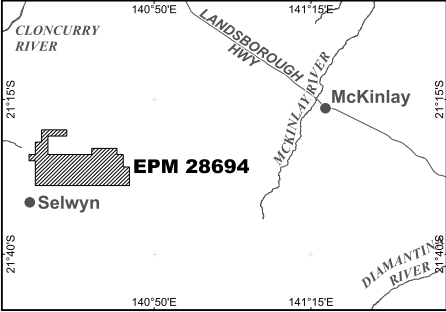
EPM 28692 applied for by Steven WOCKNER, over an area of 10 sub-blocks (31 km²), centred approximately 25 km South East of Selwyn, in the locality of the Cloncurry Shire Council.



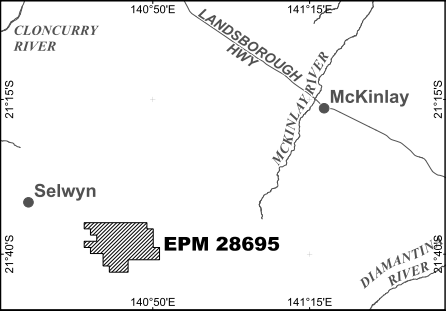
EPM 28693 applied for by SWANSANDS PTY LTD, ACN 082 250 735, over an area of 77 sub-blocks (245 km²), centred approximately 16 km East of Selwyn, in the locality of the Cloncurry Shire Council.



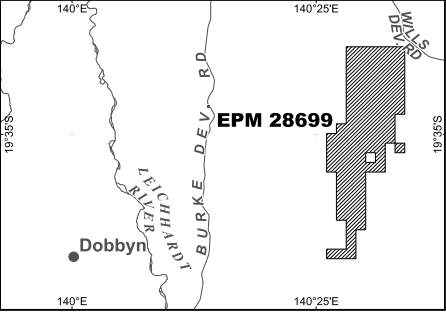
EPM 28694 applied for by SWANSANDS PTY LTD, ACN 082 250 735, over an area of 87 sub-blocks (277 km²), centred approximately 17 km North East of Selwyn, in the locality of the Cloncurry Shire Council.



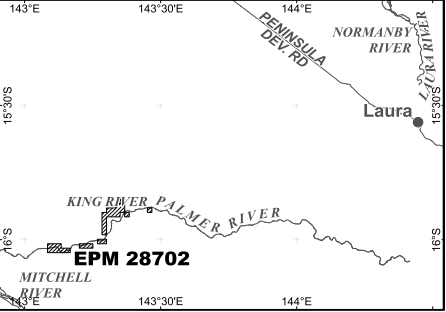
EPM 28695 applied for by SWANSANDS PTY LTD, ACN 082 250 735, over an area of 67 sub-blocks (213 km²), centred approximately 26 km South East of Selwyn, in the locality of the Cloncurry Shire Council.



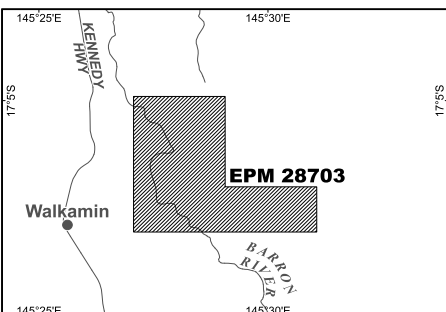
EPM 28699 applied for by BOOMARRA MINERALS PTY LTD, ACN 600 326 261, over an area of 100 sub-blocks (322 km²), centred approximately 57 km North East of Dobbryn, in the locality of the Cloncurry Shire Council.



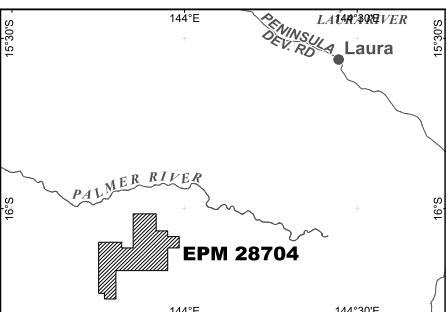
EPM 28702 applied for by PALMER GOLD NQ PTY LTD, ACN 124 046 144, over an area of 30 sub-blocks (98 km²), non-contiguous over 5 areas, centred approximately 125 km South West of Laura, in the locality of the Cook Shire Council.



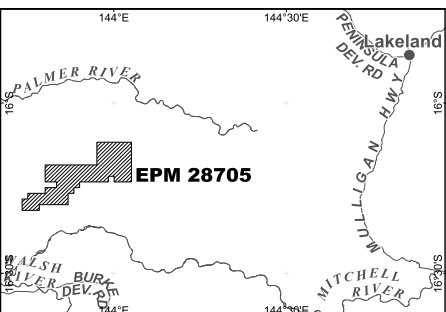
EPM 28703 applied for by Ian Earl WALLACE, over an area of 8 sub-blocks (26 km²), centred approximately 5 km North East of Walkamin, in the locality of the Mareeba Shire Council.



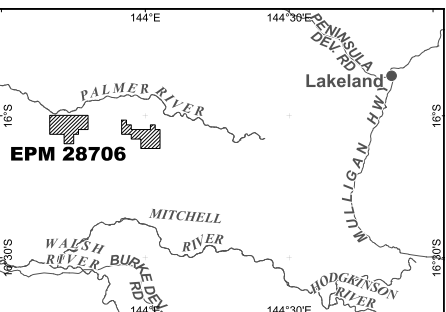
EPM 28704 applied for by BMAX HOLDINGS PTY LTD, ACN 155 625 835, Mayra Eugenia FOSTER and Stuart Valentine FOSTER, over an area of 100 sub-blocks (328 km²), centred approximately 84 km South West of Lakeland, in the locality of the Cook Shire Council and Mareeba Shire Council.



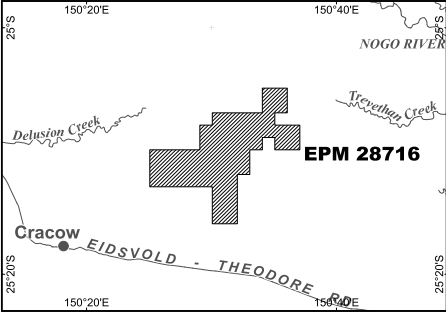
EPM 28705 applied for by BMAX HOLDINGS PTY LTD, ACN 155 625 835, Mayra Eugenia FOSTER and Stuart Valentine FOSTER, over an area of 95 sub-blocks (312 km²), centred approximately 108 km South West of Lakeland, in the locality of the Cook Shire Council and Mareeba Shire Council.



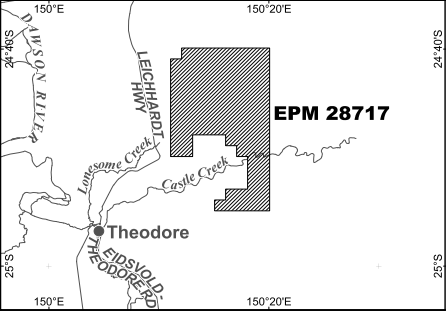
EPM 28706 applied for by BMAX HOLDINGS PTY LTD, ACN 155 625 835, AURUM VALE PTY LTD, CAN 608 719 955, Mayra Eugenia FOSTER and Stuart Valentine FOSTER, over an area of 60 sub-blocks (197 km²), non-contiguous over 2 areas, centred approximately 108 km South West of Lakeland, in the locality of the Cook Shire Council.



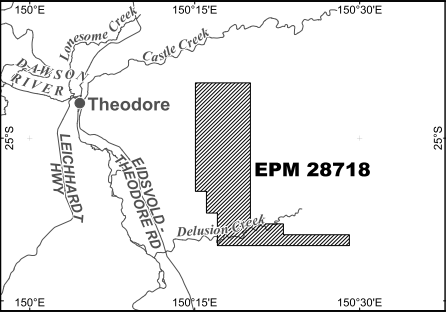
EPM 28716 applied for by GREEN CRITICAL MINERALS LIMITED, ACN 118 788 846, over an area of 53 sub-blocks (164 km²), centred approximately 26 km North East of Cracow, in the locality of the Banana Shire Council and North Burnett Regional Council.



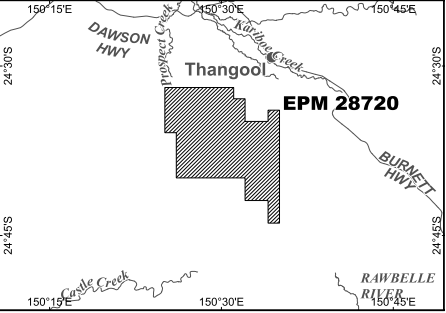
EPM 28717 applied for by TERRAIN MINERALS LTD, ACN 116 153 514, over an area of 97 sub-blocks (301 km²), centred approximately 27 km North East of Theodore, in the locality of the Banana Shire Council.



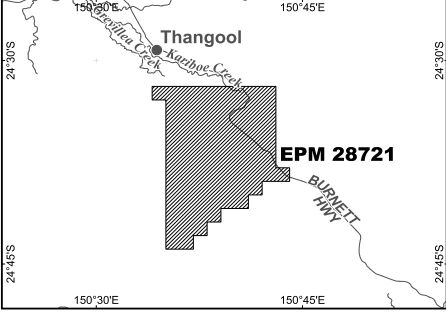
EPM 28718 applied for by TERRAIN MINERALS LTD, ACN 116 153 514, over an area of 79 sub-blocks (245 km²), centred approximately 23 km South East of Theodore, in the locality of the Banana Shire Council.



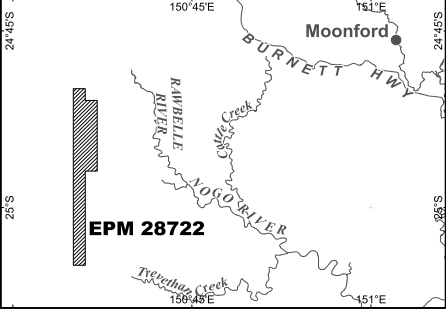
EPM 28720 applied for by TERRAIN MINERALS LTD, ACN 116 153 514, over an area of 75 sub-blocks (233 km²), centred approximately 14 km South West of Thangool, in the locality of the Banana Shire Council.



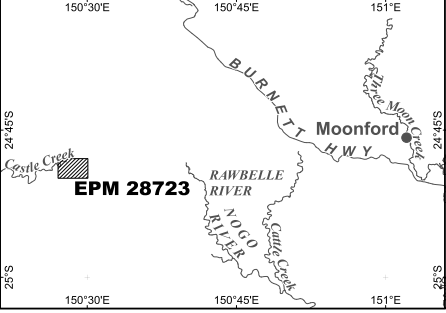
EPM 28721 applied for by TERRAIN MINERALS LTD, ACN 116 153 514, over an area of 80 sub-blocks (249 km²), centred approximately 15 km South East of Thangool, in the locality of the Banana Shire Council and North Burnett Regional Council.



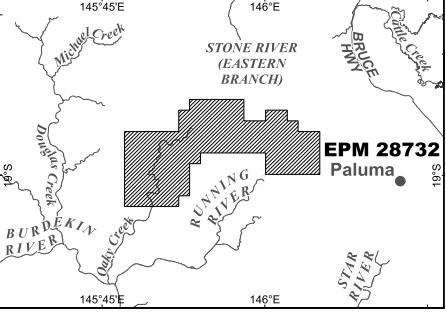
EPM 28722 applied for by TERRAIN MINERALS LTD, ACN 116 153 514, over an area of 21 sub-blocks (65 km²), centred approximately 48 km South West of Moonford, in the locality of the Banana Shire Council and North Burnett Regional Council.



EPM 28723 applied for by TERRAIN MINERALS LTD, ACN 116 153 514, over an area of 6 sub-blocks (18 km²), centred approximately 57 km West Southwest of Moonford, in the locality of the Banana Shire Council.



EPM 28732 applied for by ROX 1 PTY LTD, ACN 649 500 916, over an area of 100 sub-blocks (323 km²), centred approximately 31 km West Northwest of Paluma, in the locality of the Charters Towers Regional Council and Hinchinbrook Shire Council.



Nature of Act(s): The grant of the Exploration Permit for Minerals under the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld), authorises the holder to explore for minerals for a term not exceeding five (5) years with the possibility of renewal for a term not exceeding five (5) years. It is proposed to grant and renew the Exploration Permit for Minerals subject to the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld) and the Native Title Protection Conditions.

Name and Address of person doing Act(s): It is proposed that the Exploration Permit for Minerals 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 Exploration Permit for Minerals. Under section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth), persons have until three (3) months after Notification Day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to this notice. Enquiries in relation to filing a native title determination application may be directed to the Federal Court, Brisbane Registry, Level 6, Harry Gibbs Commonwealth Law Courts Building, 119 North Quay, Brisbane, Queensland, 4000. Telephone: (07) 3248 1100 or Email: qldreg@fedcourt.gov.au.

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.

Expedited Procedure: The State of Queensland considers the grant of the Exploration Permit for Minerals to which this notice applies, is an act attracting the Expedited Procedure. The Exploration Permit for Minerals may be granted unless, within a period of four (4) months after the Notification Day a native title party lodges an objection in respect of the individual Exploration Permit for Minerals with the National Native Title Tribunal against the inclusion of the statement that the State considers the grant of that Exploration Permit for Minerals is a future act attracting the Expedited Procedure. Enquiries in relation to lodging an objection should be directed to the National Native Title Tribunal, Level 5, Harry Gibbs Commonwealth Law Courts Building, 119 North Quay, Brisbane, Queensland, 4000. Telephone: (07) 3052 4040.

Notification Day: 8 May 2024





Queensland's Reuben Cotter – with bub – at last year's State of Origin presentations. Picture: Getty Images

My tips for Origin teams

GAME 1 of the 2024 State of Origin series are just over a month away but coaches Michael Maguire and Billy Slater may already have their squads picked out.

Will the Blues stick with a similar side that won game 3 last year? Does Josh Addo-Carr make the Blues backline after spending time out with injury and concussion? There's a host of top wingers and only two spots. Maguire has talked up the prospects of Dragons flyer Zac Lomax as a potential Origin debutant. Cody Walker was great for NSW in game 3 last year but South Sydney side is struggling, which could harm his chances. What about Latrell Mitchell? He's had a patchy 2024 and has been suspended. Can Bradman Best retain his spot in the centres for NSW? He made a wonderful Origin debut last year. With all that said, here's my NSW team for game 1:

1. Dylan Edwards 2. Brian To'o 3. Bradman Best 4. Tom Trbojevic 5. Josh Addo-Carr 6. Nicho Hynes 7. Nathan Cleary 8. Jake Trbojevic 9. Api Koroisau 10. Reagan Campbell-Gillard 11. Liam Martin 12. 13. Isaac Yeo 14. Latrell Mitchell 15. Junior Paulo 16. Can Murray 17. Jacob Saifiti

The Maroons have won the past two series and Slater would love nothing more than to make it three. There's some headaches about what the Queensland forward pack will look like given there's been a host of injuries to some key big men in clubland. Tino Fa'asuamaleaui, Tom Gilbert and Coen Hess have all suffered ACL injuries while Jai Arrow (shoulder) hasn't played since round 1. That means tough forwards like Reuben Cotter and David Fifita will be called upon to stand up and play some big minutes.

I've got a few bolters for the Maroons: Xavier Savage – brilliant. Parramatta's J'Maine Hopgood – a workhorse. The Dolphins Josh Kerr – great forward. Jamal Fogarty – a match-winner, but where would he play? Well, here's my Queensland team:

1. Reece Walsh 2. Xavier Coates 3. Valentine Holmes 4. Selwyn Cobbo 5. Xavier Savage 6. Cameron Munster 7. Daly Cherry-Evans 8. Reuben Cotter 9. Harry Grant 10. Lindsay Collins 11. David Fifita 12. 13. Patrick Carrigan 14. Ben Hunt 15. Josh Kerr 16. J'Maine Hopgood 17. Christian Welch

**Kris Flanders is a proud Gumbaynggirr man who has 25 years' experience working in Indigenous media with ICAM, Living Black and NITV where he was the sports presenter. He is a passionate writer and sportslover.*



Kris Flanders

French connection a boost for Wigan Warriors

By TOM LAW



IN the aftermath of Wigan's World Club Challenge victory over Penrith in February much talk was reserved for Bevan French.

The Bill Ashurst Player of the Match (after the former player of both clubs) was a measured presence in the halves, including setting up the first try of the game with a cut-out pass, and his performance sparked Australian discussion about a potential NRL return.

However, such talk has, for the moment at least, been put to rest, with the signing of a new four-year deal that takes his time with the reigning Super League and World Club champions to the end of 2028.

French's previous contract was due to expire at the end of the season, and in the aftermath of the game against Penrith, he was non-committal about his future.

"My next step isn't really something that's crossed my mind at all, I'm more focused on what tonight brought and what the rest of this season can bring," he said in the post-match press conference.

"That's what my manager's for – he'll sort all of that out."

And now he has. The reigning Steve Prescott Man of Steel Player of the Season, who has now won everything to be won with Wigan – the Challenge Cup, the Super League, and now the World crown – joins Wigan's manager Matty Peet in committing to the club for the long term, with the head coach signed to an eight-year contract.

French's veteran teammate Willie Isa told local newspaper *Wigan Today* that the extension was 'also a great signing for Super League in general'.

"Not just Wigan fans," Isa said, "but the whole competition enjoys watching players like Bevan and Jai Field.

"It's important that we keep those kinds of stars here in the Super League and grow the game."

The desire to grow the game is no small reason why global sports consultancy company IMG was brought in by the sport on a 12-year contract to boost the profile of the competition.

A controversial grading system that assigns clubs either an 'A', 'B', or 'C' grading based on a variety of on- and off-field criteria has put paid to the traditional notion of promotion and relegation that permeates British sporting culture; the idea is that it allows clubs to plan long-term, become more sustainable, and increase revenue to ensure not just survival, but competitiveness, in both the wider entertainment landscape, and in comparison to the NRL.

In February, Australian media earmarked the likes of French and Field as potential recruits for new NRL expansion sides, pointing out that the wages on offer in the UK



Wigan's Bevan French is swamped by teammates after scoring a try for the Warriors in the English Super League. Pictures: Getty Images

pale into insignificance compared to the NRL's.

The NRL's \$12.1m salary cap (2023) was three times as much as its European equivalent. Undoubtedly, French would be a beneficial player to any club, such is his skill and versatility, being able to play in the halves and across the backline.

French has also made no secret of his desire to return to the NRL, and signing such a long-term contract for Wigan does not preclude that possibility. What it does is ensure that if an Australian club does come knocking, then a hefty and well-deserved payout to Wigan will have to be offered.

The fact of the matter is that the game is bigger, better financed, and more professional in Australia than in the UK. In terms of media saturation, the NRL is covered like the Premier League is in England, drawing in revenues from a wider fanbase across much more of the country, with a higher standard of living. In contrast, it was only this year that Super League began televising every fixture, and when IMG released their grades, only seven clubs – Catalans, Hull FC, Hull KR, Leeds, St Helens, Warrington and Wigan – received an 'A' that guarantees a place in Super League.

IMG hopes that the prospect of a guaranteed seat at the top table, along with the long-term stability that provides, can drive the clubs themselves to make the necessary improvements to their sustainability; since IMG have come on board, multiple new



Bevan French on the march against Penrith in February.

investors have come into the sport, most notably at Hull KR, third-tier Oldham, and at Wigan.

That strategy includes reaching out to a new audience, both geographically beyond the northern heartlands, and to a younger demographic more inspired by individuals rather than teams per se.

It's a sentiment echoed by Isa. "The next generation needs superstars to look up to; it's learning about Bevan and Jai Field, about their backgrounds

and where kids can relate to them," he said.

For the long-term health of the sport in the northern hemisphere, the hope is that IMG, the clubs, and the wider game in general can take the opportunity to boost their profiles, become more competitive, and get to a point where the conversation and relationship with the Australian game is not so one-sided.

Two back-to-back World Club Challenge triumphs doesn't hurt either.

Family, friends, home key to footy success

By JACKSON CLARK



ADELAIDE Crows star Danielle Ponter is feeling fit and refreshed after returning to the Top End for a football stint during the AFLW's off-season.

The two-time AFLW premiership player (2019, 2022) and 2023 All-Australian suited up for her beloved St Mary's in the Women's Premier League for the 2023-24 NTFL premiership season in Darwin.

Ponter, 24, played a starring role in the Saints' finals campaign. Unfortunately for her, though, St Mary's fell short in the season-decider, losing to PINT in a low-scoring, weather-affected thriller, 4.3 (27) to 3.4 (22).

The Maranunggu-Anmatjerre woman and gun forward-midfielder said it was a 'massive thing' for her to come home.

"Coming up here definitely helps me a lot," Ponter said.

"Not only the football, but I come back and get to spend time with family.

"I do that for a bit, (and) when it comes time to play footy down there (in the AFLW), I've not just physically done that work, but I am also mentally refreshed – I've had that time with family and I am ready to go.

"It is a massive thing for me to come back."

Ponter finished with 10 disposals – including six contested – and kicked a goal in the grand final while managing strong attention from the Queenants.

Season 9 of the AFLW is set to begin during the last weekend in August, in the pre-finals bye-round of the men's season.

Ponter is one of the stars of the AFLW. She kicked a career-high 20 goals in Season 8 and was damaging for the Crows when injected into the midfield.

She said the Crows were working hard ahead of the AFLW season.

"The season with the Crows looks exciting, I am keen to see after all this time how we pull up," she said.

"We are such a competitive side."

Danielle Ponter returned to play for St Mary's in the Women's Premier League in Darwin. Picture: AFLNT



Finlayson pays a hefty price for slur

By PETER ARGENT



PORT Adelaide forward Jeremy Finlayson remains contrite about calling an opposition player a

homophobic slur two weeks ago, while also feeling the full brunt from the AFL Tribunal.

Finlayson, one of Port's seven Aboriginal players, was whacked with a three-week suspension.

But there are those in the industry who said it reeks of a double-standard.

In the pre-season, North Melbourne coach Alastair Clarkson was fined \$20,000 and a suspended two-match ban for a similar slur at an opposition player.

Chief executive of the AFL Players' Association Paul Marsh has called for an urgent review of the AFL's sanctioning framework.

"We believe the AFL is 'consistently inconsistent' and there are double standards in its approach to dealing with players compared to others on behavioural matters," Marsh said in a statement.

"This issue highlights the lack of clarity on how the AFL handles these situations.

"We want this to be the catalyst for an urgent review of the sanctioning framework.

"If this type of conduct is a three-week sanction for a player, it should be for everyone involved in the game.

"This should be clear to everyone in the industry up-front, rather than the open-ended approach that is currently in place."

Finlayson, 28, has played 112 games across a career that began in 2016.

He first played for Greater Western Sydney – 66 games, 90 goals – and played in the club's first grand final – in 2019 – against Richmond.

In the post-season of 2021, he moved across to Port Adelaide where he will soon play his 50th game.

In 2023, he was the club's leading goal-kicker, with 38 majors.

JUH takes leave from Dogs



JAMARRA Ugle-Hagan's withdrawal from the Western Bulldogs' clash with St Kilda last round was for "personal reasons" the club had said in a statement.

Star forward Ugle-Hagan was a shining light with three goals in the Bulldogs' upset loss to Essendon, which left the team reeling with a 2-3 record.

But the 22-year-old sat out the match against St Kilda at Docklands Stadium last week. At time of print, no timeline

has been put on his return.

AFL clubs have provision for players to take leave, for personal or family reasons – or both – during the season, and they remain supportive, as does the league.

On the eve of the 2021 season, Port Adelaide's Sam Powell-Pepper informed his teammates and coach he needed several weeks away from the club and football.

The powerful midfielder was recovering from injury at the time.

"Along with the rehabilitation of my broken hand, there are other parts of my life that need

some work right now," Powell-Pepper had said.

"I appreciate the support of the club, my coaches and teammates with this."

Also in 2021, then St Kilda ruckman Paddy Ryder was granted personal leave to spend time with family and Elders in his community.

In 2020, Ugle-Hagan became just the second Aboriginal footballer chosen at No.1 in the AFL's national draft. A year later, Jason Horne-Francis was the third Aboriginal footballer as the No.1 draft pick. Des Headland in 1998 (Brisbane Lions) was the first.



Jamarra Ugle-Hagan. Picture: WBFC

Due diligence: 101 – What the AFL must do to keep our numbers up

WHEN Tanya Hosch, the general manager of inclusion and policy at the AFL, called a meeting with the recruiting and club-list managers from all 18 clubs, it was to discuss the general decline of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander footballers at the top level. The conclusion? More needs to be done at club and grassroots levels to turn these numbers around.

There has been a 19.1% drop-off of Indigenous players in the AFL and the league's executive general manager of football, Laura Kane, said they couldn't put a finger on the exact reason, or reasons, why.

This is where the disconnect happens.

Community consultation is what is needed.

We, in the community, know why. Time and again our young men are overlooked. What I am hearing is that we are "too high-risk" or we are "not fit enough".

The AFL needs to stop picking the easy, low-hanging fruit and actually put the effort and



Shelley Ware

commitment into young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders players from all communities.

In the last three drafts, I personally know of a number of Aboriginal players who were ready to be drafted. They were, and are, as good, if not better than, some of the current crop of recently drafted players in the AFL now. But they were overlooked, and it's hit hard.

At some point, these young men will give up on their dreams.

Clubs need to make real commitments to First Nations players; take us out of that 'too-hard basket' and put in support at the grassroots level to the top

level. And, if and when things get too hard, don't let them go; invest in their development as human beings, not just as footballers; be their champion, someone who takes an interest, who can help make real change off the field.

I do believe this will be a generational change because racism – conscious and sub-conscious – still plays a huge role in our players' lives, and certainly how they progress in the game.

Get the right people involved. Those who think too old-school, who maybe played the game years and years ago, cannot dictate how this ought to be done.

New ideas, open minds – this

is what's needed.

Clubs should, at the very least, have community consultation high on the agenda. Do your due diligence, complete your case studies and listen. This is certainly not a time to tell Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people what they need and need to do, it's time to listen to the reality of what is truly happening and make some serious changes for our players to succeed at the highest level.

**Shelley Ware is a proud Yankunytjatjara and Wirangu woman from Adelaide. She appears on AFL.com.au's Colour Of Your Jumper.*

'Davo' Hickey – a Hawk on the rise



WILLIAM 'Davo' Hickey's ascension in basketball was rewarded this month with elevation to the Illawarra Hawks' roster.

The Wiradjuri and Gamilaroi-Gomeri man led the Australian Gangurru men's team to gold at the recent FIBA 3x3 Asia Cup in Singapore.

Hickey banged in 27 points in the tournament and provided plenty of

highlights for the appreciative crowd.

This month, Illawarra have exercised the second-year option of Hickey's agreement.

"'Davo' was a standout player during the NBL24 season, particularly going into the finals series," Hawks' general manager of basketball, Mat Campbell, said.

"His ability to remain agile on the court and defend from multiple positions is a key component to our roster."



William 'Davo' Hickey was a standout for Australia at the FIBA 3x3 Asia Cup where the Gangurru men won gold. Pictures: FIBA

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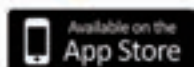


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Kurtley Beale made his return to Super Rugby via the Western Force. Picture: Getty Images

Beale debuts for the Force



KURTLEY Beale played his first Super Rugby match in more than four years after the 95-Test Wallaby made his debut for the Western Force against the Crusaders at Perth Oval.

The 35-year-old was picked up as an injury replacement by the Force after being

cleared of sexual assault in February, allegations he always denied.

The former Waratahs talent, who last played in France for Racing 92 in 2022, still harbours hope of a Test return.

And now that he's back in Super Rugby he has his chance to impress new Wallabies coach Joe Schmidt. – AAP

Aussies be Ballin '24



The Gangurrus women's Ally Wilson, Sam White from the Rollers, Boomers' Chris Goulding, Tess Madgen from the Opals, and the Gangurrus men's Will Hickey at the Ballin '24 announcement in Melbourne last week. Picture: Basketball Australia

Historic Origin series born from fiasco



THE May 16 clash between NSW and Queensland at Lang Park will be the first time a women's stand-alone

State of Origin match has been played at the Brisbane venue. It will also mark the start of the first three-game series in women's Origin history.

Last year the two-game Origin series was drawn 1-1, but the Maroons won on for-and-against. It left a sour taste for both states. The NRL's decision to go to three games was born partly from last year's fiasco.

The Blues' Jaime Chapman recalled the aftermath of last year's result as a turning point.

"Last year we both won a game and it was the weirdest feeling I have ever felt," she said.

"We won the second game, but to see the Maroons up there celebrating was quite bizarre.

"Now it is exciting; we can only go forward with three games."

Indigenous All-Star Chapman has been a star in the NRLW and thrives in the Origin arena.

"Origin is so different to any other game with the rivalry," she said. "It is tough. It has that bit of 'mongrel', and you can let out all your aggression on the field against Queensland." – AAP



Jamie Chapman.

Major international series ahead for national teams



BASKETBALL fans will have much to look forward to in July with a major international series featuring Australia's top teams against China and Japan at John Cain Arena.

Dubbed *Ballin '24*, over four nights from 2-5 July, the Boomers, Rollers, Gliders and 3x3 Gangurrus men's and women's teams will come together for a massive series in

preparation for the Paris 2024 Olympics and Paralympics.

A stack of domestic and international talent is locked in for the series.

The Boomers and Opals will battle Team China offering a prime opportunity for audiences to see Australia's best players on home soil.

Australia's 3x3 Gangurrus, the current FIBA Asia Cup Champions, and featuring Ally Wilson and Will Hickey, will play

against the might of Team China.

Australia's wheelchair stars will face Japan, with the Gliders and Rollers alternating across the schedule.

"Australia is a global powerhouse in basketball, to have all our national teams in Melbourne playing at the same venue is a win for fans," Basketball Australia chief executive Matt Scriven said.

Ballin '24 schedule

Tuesday, 2 July: 11am

Boomers Shootaround, 3x3, Gliders and Rollers; 7.30pm Boomers vs China;

Wednesday, 3 July: 11am

Opals Shootaround, 3x3, Gliders; 7.30pm Opals vs China;

Thursday, 4 July: 11am

Boomers Shootaround, 3x3, Coaches Clinic & Rollers; 7.30pm Boomers vs China;

Friday, 5 July: 11am

Shootaround, 3x3, Gliders & Rollers; 7.30pm Opals vs China.

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Palm Island warrior calls time on pro career

By ALF WILSON



PALM Island professional boxer Patrick Clarke has made the difficult decision to hang up his gloves and retire.

Clarke, 30, told the *Koori Mail* he made the decision for health and family reasons.

"I have been boxing both as an amateur and professional for 17 years and the time is right to retire," he said.

"I want to spend more time on Palm with my sons, Patrick jnr, and Ernest."

What turned out to be Clarke's final bout resulted in a fifth-round TKO loss to Hunter Iaone in Townsville earlier this month.

The courageous and blood-spattered Clarke fought on after receiving a deep cut above his eye in an earlier round.

After a long and celebrated amateur career Clarke's pro record stands at 2-9.

But he won't be lost to boxing and will join Palm Island trainer Chris Evers as a mentor to youngsters at the local PCYC gym, and in Townsville at the Knuckles Boxing Club with Matty Rooney.

The urge for boxing, however, remains strong.

"I don't think so, but you never know," Clarke said of a possible return.



Palm Island's Patrick Clarke trades blows with Hunter Iaone in Townsville earlier this month; the bout turned out to be Clarke's final as a professional. *Picture: Supplied.*



Canberra United's A-League Women's team's future has been secured.

Canberra granted A-League lifeline



THE ACT government has stumped up \$200,000 to help secure Canberra United's place in the next A-League Women (ALW) season.

But Canberra football's governing body is doubtful on the capital's inclusion in the A-League Men (ALM) for next season.

Capital Football had previously raised doubts it could continue financially backing the club and hoped a bidder would take over operations of both the men's and women's sides.

Despite the funding government coin – and their promise they will play ALW in 2024-25 – Capital Football still estimate the club have a \$200,000 shortfall.

After narrowly avoiding the women's side being forced to sit out next season, the funding is a massive win for Canberra's football community.

Securing ALW all-time leading goal-scorer Michelle Heyman is a key priority, with the 35-year-old's value sky-rocketing after her recent return to the Matildas side.

Canberra were selected by the Australian Professional Leagues as one of two preferred expansion locations for the 2024-25 ALM season.

But unlike the franchise for Auckland FC – which was bought by American billionaire Bill Foley and has Steve Corica as inaugural coach – United have yet to confirm an owner. – AAP

Peris returns, Williams in for Tri-Nation tournament



Brooke Peris made her long-awaited return for the Hockeyroos at the weekend. *Pictures: HA*



FIT-AGAIN Hockeyroo Brooke Peris admits the fear and nerves were still there even after

playing her 200th Test for Australia at the venue where it all began 10 years ago.

The 31-year-old had been stuck on 197 caps this year due to injury, missing the side's eight-game Pro League tour of India in February.

A high injury also ruled Peris, the cousin of former Olympic hockey champion-turned track sprinter Nova, out of the 2022 World Cup and Commonwealth Games.

But she made a successful return to the Australian national women's team for games against China, Japan and Australia A in Perth at the weekend for crucial pre-Olympic fixtures.

"I've been waiting for a long time for this moment but it's good to be back with the girls," the Darwin product said on the eve of the tournament.

"I've been delayed; a lot of rehab, but glad to be back with the girls."

"I can't believe it's gone this fast, but it's been a journey, a 10-year journey and maybe there's

more to come.

"I remember how scared and nervous I was (debuting). Ten years later I'm still very scared and nervous."

"I don't know if that's a good thing but I'm looking forward to it."

Peris' teammate, Mariah Williams, has cemented her spot in the Hockeyroos' squad for the Paris Games.

The Hockeyroos hosted top-10 nations Japan and China this month at the inaugural International Festival of Hockey.

The tournament fills a gap in the Australian calendar after no Pro League fixtures were scheduled on home soil during the Olympic year.

Peris, Williams and the Hockeyroos had several fixtures against Japan (20, 24, 28 April) and China (21 April) at Perth Hockey Stadium.

Hockeyroos squad: Alice Arnott, Jocelyn Bartram (gk), Maddison Brooks, Jane Claxton, Claire Colwill, Rebecca Greiner, Greta Hayes, Stephanie Kershaw, Amy Lawton, Rosie Malone, Kaitlin Nobbs, Brooke Peris, Aleisha Power (gk), Hattie Shand, Lucy Sharman, Karri Somerville, Renee Taylor, Mariah Williams, Grace Young. – AAP



Mariah Williams has cemented her spot in the Hockeyroos' squad ahead of the Paris Games.

Fit again, Kyah dares to believe in fairytale



KYAH Simon believes A-League Women underdogs Central Coast can go all the way, and that her body can help them get there.

Simon played a full 120 minutes in the Mariners' gutsy elimination-final win over Melbourne Victory which sets up a two-legged semi-final with Sydney FC.

Simon, 32, was contentiously picked for last year's Matildas' World Cup squad, despite having not played since tearing an ACL in October 2022.

Multiple setbacks meant she never appeared in her home tournament, then missed a large chunk of the Mariners' season.

"That's the most minutes I've played since getting back, it felt good," she said.

"I still try to appreciate those small wins; if we need to go into more extra-time at least I know that my body is capable."

Simon relished every minute of reuniting with the team she started her career at over 15 years ago.

"Full-circle moment – as I said from the day that I signed – (I'm) really proud to wear this jersey, this crest on my chest."

Simon hasn't closed the door on a national team return, either.

"The goal is always to get back to that level," she said.

"But (I'm) just taking each game as it comes and appreciating and enjoying the ride." – AAP



Kyah Simon has made a winning return to the field for the Central Coast Mariners.
Picture: Getty Images

Anxiety is pro sports' greatest challenge

LIKE in the public eye as a pro athlete is certainly not for everyone. The scrutiny is next-level, as is the accountability to be virtually squeaky clean off the field with an agenda-driven, tabloid-bein' mainstream media a constant threat to anyone's sanity.



Darren Moncrieff

How the athletes do it, I do not know – the little that I do know is also not much, but what I actually do know is that professional athletes are nowadays more open about the whys and hows of their mental well-being, which is a good thing. Of course, it's not like they can slink off quietly for some much-needed time-out; media interests are such that their every movement is noted and reported on, either as that night's leading sports bulletin on TV, or as an ALL CAPS BACK PAGE HEADLINE, complete with candid photo of said athlete looking out of sorts. Yeah, nah – I couldn't do it, which is why I tips me 'lid to those brave enough to speak out about their personal battles.

Former Aussie women's cricket team captain Meg Lanning was forthcoming about her battles with mental-health. In later months she has spoken much about why. The self-imposed pressure she put herself under was intense. And just last week, AFL footballer Jamarra Ugle-Hagan withdrew from the game citing personal reasons. It came on the back of a starring performance where he lived up to his No.1 draft selection.

But then there are the stories that you and I are not privy to, of the countless professional athletes suffering in silence, of the many thousands of people playing in state-level leagues and competitions, of country sportspeople and bush carnival Mob without access to the resources that can help them.

It takes bravery to admit weakness. Meg's and Jamarra's public statements are commendable. If their bravery in doing so can help others see that it is not the end of the world, then these are steps in the right direction.

The greater game we are 'playing' is life. Life is for real. Life is for keeps. How we each live our lives is a whole range of personal choices but we don't live in a vacuum. We have family, friends, and community that draws much from our presence. People are missed when they're not with us anymore; if their absence is self-inflicted, very much more so.

Reach out, speak up. You are never, ever alone.

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Got something to say? Then say it!
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Sexism in sport still a thing



NEW research shows that despite Matildas soccer mania gripping the nation during the 2023 World Cup, women

footballers in general face an uphill battle gaining widespread acceptance in Australia and overcoming entrenched sexism.

Sport is still overwhelmingly considered a male domain – particularly codes that have traditionally been played by men, such as AFL football.

Two recent studies by University of South Australia researchers* demonstrate how the media, sponsors, funding bodies and marketers make it very difficult for elite AFL sportswomen to get the exposure and financial backing their male counterparts receive.

The findings show that older adults with more conservative attitudes view women as inferior athletes to men, which influences the wider public, according to UniSA PhD candidate Mackenzie Glazbrook who led the studies.

"These stereotypes are often present regardless of the quality of the sport being played," Glazbrook says.

"There can be an assumption that women's sport will be less entertaining, which sometimes translates to low crowds."

Despite being the most renowned sporting competition in Australia, the AFL only admitted women as professionals in 2017 – almost 160 years after the men's game was launched.

In the past decade, there has been a 790% increase in women

New research shows just how far Australian sport has to go



Despite women's sport proliferating in recent years, backward thinking and community prejudices remain. Picture supplied

playing AFL football, and female community teams have grown from 205 to 2,540 since 2010, but the players still have a long way to go to reach parity with men.

The differences include a shorter season of 10 rounds in the AFLW, which does not allow all teams to play each other; a requirement to play in the warmer months to avoid conflicting with the men's game; and players are relegated to lower-level ovals.

There's also a big wage gap. The average AFL player salary is \$519,000, whereas AFLW players are paid \$82,000 on average.

"Our research shows that men, former competitive athletes and older adults are more likely to hold

negative attitudes towards women's sport," said co-author Dr Stephanie Webb.

Although the research found growing support for the AFLW, media interest remains low, particularly from commercial outlets.

Minimal coverage means fewer opportunities to demonstrate their prowess and engage the public.

The results are a stark contrast to the fever that gripped Australia last August, with the 2023 Women's World Cup making history in ticket sales and creating a media frenzy in Australia.

Glazbrook says the studies were done prior to the World Cup, and that nationalism may have played a role in their popularity, with teams

representing entire countries, evoking a sense of unity.

"It has been very exciting to witness the success and popularity of the Matildas campaign and we are hopeful their success will flow through to women's sport more broadly in Australia," Glazbrook said.

"The record-breaking consumer engagement for the Matildas emphasises how important media coverage and adequate financial backing is for women's sport.

"What we know is that high quality and frequent media coverage engages the public and challenges the perception of men's sport as superior."

The researchers argue that increasing funding, wages and media support for AFLW teams would allow players to focus solely on their football careers and hone their skills without needing additional income to survive.

"We need to change outdated perceptions," Glazbrook said, "and this would be a good start, along with the development of a full competition season."

***AFLW and the gender gap: an analysis of public attitudes towards the Women's Australian Football League is published in the Australian Journal of Psychology and involved a community survey with 171 people; Kick like a girl: a qualitative exploration into community perspectives surrounding the Women's Australian Football League is published in Sport in Society and included a community survey of 300 people.**



Gabby Coffey of the Melbourne Vixens.



Sunshine Coast Lightning's Lisa Mi Mi.
Pictures: Getty Images; Netball Australia



Donnell Wallam of the Queensland Firebirds.

Super start for Super Netball-ers



RISING out of the chaos of last year's battle over a new pay deal, the flurry of line-up changes and the addition of a new team means this Super Netball season promises to be more unpredictable than ever.

In Adelaide, the season opened with sharp-shooter Donnell Wallam and the Queensland Firebirds travelling south to play champions Adelaide Thunderbirds.

In Victoria, Alice Springs-born Gabby Coffey will be looking to build her exceptional talents at the Melbourne Vixens.

Queensland, Sunshine Coast's Lisa Mi Mi – younger sister of former Firebird, Jemma – will join Liz Watson, Ava Black and Mahalia Cassidy in making up the Lightning midcourt in 2024.

In 2024, the eight-team Super Netball is a 14-round season that culminates in an August finals series. It is televised entirely on Pay-TV.

BOOMTIME!

McDowell-White, Mills, Pinder vie for Olympic berth



AN unprecedented number of First Nations basketballers are among the first intake 22-player squad that will be up for selection for the Australian Boomers at the Paris 2024 Olympics.

The initial squad will be refined before a training camp in July with a final 12 selected to meet the world's best at the Olympics in late July-August.

Seasoned NBA pro Patty Mills, who led the Boomers to Olympic bronze at the Tokyo 2020 Games, is joined in the squad by next-wave NBL stars Will McDowell-White and Keanu Pinder.

The Boomers squad contains 10 players from the Tokyo Games which – including Mills – is Joe Ingles, Josh Green, Matisse Thybulle, Dante Exum, Jock Landale, Chris Goulding, Matthew Dellavedova, Duop Reath and Nick Kay.

A pack of young guns will also be in contention for a spot at the Olympics, featuring international talents Josh Giddey, Dyson Daniels, Jack White and Xavier Cooks as well as US college enigma Johnny Furphy who starred for the Kansas Jayhawks in the Big 12 this season.

Also from the NBL is DJ Vasiljevic and Rocco Zikarsky, both named after solid domestic campaigns and key performances for the Boomers against Korea and

Indonesia at the recent 2025 Asia Cup Qualifiers.

The most notable omission is Ben Simmons, who will unfortunately have to wait for his Olympics debut due to a back injury forcing a late withdrawal. Simmons was all-in for Paris until the injury emerged recently.

Brian Goorjian will lead the Boomers to a fourth Olympics as head coach and is determined to use learnings from recent performances as a catalyst of evolution.

"The World Cup in 2023 marked a new beginning for the Boomers," said Goorjian.

"We were able to introduce some new faces and identify areas that we needed to advance and improve.

"We've been actively monitoring the Aussie players across international leagues in USA, Europe and Asia as well as domestically in the NBL and we're confident in the potential chemistry of this list.

"The complexity of international tournaments like the Olympics is that you have a relatively short window to train and prepare, so you have to identify and implement a style works fast and amplifies the collective skill set.

"There's always a correlation made of our offensive play with European styles, which is interesting considering there isn't a whole lot of exposure to the Euro system with our players.

"What we have experienced, is the

emergence of Australians at the top level overseas and the evolution of the NBL as a world-class league with high-powered scoring offenses, so we want to drive a game that is familiar but unique to our group."

The road to Olympics glory for the Boomers became clearer in March with Australia drawn into Group A for the Paris Games.

The Boomers will face Canada and the winners from the Greece Qualifying Tournament (one of Greece, Slovenia, New Zealand, Croatia, Egypt and the Dominican Republic) and the Spain Qualifying Tournament (one of Spain, Lebanon, Angola, Finland, Poland and the Bahamas).

Despite being referenced externally as the 'Group of Death' the level of opposition adds to the motivation for Goorjian.

"We're going to play 'Aussie ball' and we're going to go at them with all we've got," he said.

Boomers Paris 2024 Olympic squad: Chris Goulding, Joe Ingles, Nick Kay, Dante Exum, Johnny Furphy, Patty Mills, DJ Vasiljevic, Sam Froling, Rocco Zikarsky, Duop Reath, Josh Giddey, Will Magnay, Dyson Daniels, Josh Green, Will McDowell-White, Jack McVeigh, Keanu Pinder, Xavier Cooks, Jack White, Matisse Thybulle, Jock Landale, Matthew Dellavedova.



Will McDowell-White.



Patty Mills.



Keanu Pinder.