



Koori Mail

The Voice of Indigenous Australia

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A panoramic view of Bells Beach in Victoria where the Australian Indigenous Surf Titles were held recently. Picture: Paul Connolly.

WAVE WARRIORS



Ocea Curtis after winning the Women's division. She also took out the Junior Girls. Picture Chris Worthy.



IT'S like a modern-day corroboree only with waves, wax and fibreglass 'weapons'.

The return of the Indigenous Surf Titles at Djarrak/Bells Beach, on Wadawurrung Country in Victoria, recently featured fierce battles in the surf, and plenty of catching up and yarning on the sand as 96 surfers gathered from around Australia for the event.

The standout performance of the weekend went to Landon Smales of Noosa, Queensland, who pulled off two perfect 10 scores in both the Junior Boys Short Board and Men's Long Board heats, going on to take out the finals of both divisions.

And in the tightly-contested Women's division, 15-year-old Ocea Curtis of Lennox Head reigned supreme, as well as taking out the Junior Girls.

Men's Open winner Otis Cary summed up the feeling of most competitors, when he said: "Winning is just a plus; for me, winning is being here with everybody, so to take it out is just an extra little bonus!"

● Full story, more pics on back page and page 53.



Landon Smales is carried ashore after winning the Junior Boys shortboard division. Picture: Chris Worthy.



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MY FAMILY

Rani Johnson – Darnley Island



Rani Johnson with her husband Darren sitting in the Townsville Hospital garden area.

On most weekends I go camping on Palm Island with my husband Darren Johnson and our nieces and our nephews and other family visit us there.

It is at “Small Bay” and they go hunting and bring us fish and we have a great time together.

Others just come along and visit and we love that.

We are both members of big families and there are hundreds of Johnsons’ here on Palm Island where we know most of the residents.

Darren, who is known by many here on Palm by his nickname of “Ducky”, also has many extended members in the James and Clay families.

I have Darnley Island descent also and lots of family members amongst the Sam, Miller and Geia Mobs.

Darren grew up at Yarrabah where he has a lot of family and friends and I have many at the Northern Peninsula Area in the far north and in the Torres Strait.

I was raised at Tully which is south of Cairns and also have lots of friends there.

We lived at Bamaga and Hope Vale communities a while back and came back to Palm Island when Darren got sick and needs to travel to Townsville on the Sealink ferry. That is a good trip and the last time the sea was calm but before that it was rough weather.

When staying at Townsville while Darren has treatment at hospital, we see many people including your photographer who saw us sitting in the garden area there.

It was so peaceful and good to yarn to the *Koori Mail* about many community events over there including rugby league, football and boxing.

There are many good boxers and footballers on Palm including some of our relatives. Living on Palm is wonderful with the beautiful sea and shore and so many locals who we yarn to.

Having such a great family makes life very happy.

SHARE YOUR FAMILY WITH OUR READERS

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

OUR CHILDREN



Members of the Dusty Feet Mob, who travelled from Port Augusta to Adelaide in South Australia for a National Sorry Day 2024 event at Colebrook Reconciliation Park – formerly the Colebrook Children’s Home – in Eden Hills, Adelaide, on Sunday, May 26. Story and more photos, pages 28-29.

Koori Mail

Postal Address
PO Box 117, Lismore, NSW, 2480

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

STAFF

CEO: Naomi Moran – ceo@koorimail.com

Editor: Darren Coyne – editor@koorimail.com

Newspaper Advertising: advertising@koorimail.com

Job Web Advertising: webads@koorimail.com

Accounts: accounts@koorimail.com

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It's not us that have to reconcile: Briggs



MORE than 2,800 people turned out for the biggest ever National Reconciliation Breakfast held in Adelaide at the start of National Reconciliation Week (NRW) 2024.

The sold out Reconciliation SA event at Adelaide Convention Centre on May 27 was intended to create space for genuine conversations and bring to life the theme for NRW 2024 – Now More Than Ever.

And so it did, both amongst the audience and through a range of speakers, with many referencing the impact of last year's unsuccessful referendum.

Following a welcome to Kurna Yerta by Auntie Rosalind Coleman, Reconciliation SA Co-Chair Helen Connolly set the scene, noting that relationships between First Nations people and the wider community had been tested since last year's breakfast, 'with stronger ones formed, new ones made and some lost'.

"While the result of the referendum was not the outcome we were all working towards, it does shed light on Australian society. We have more work to do, deeper conversations and deeper listening are required," Ms Connolly said.

Fellow Co-Chair Jeremy Johncock acknowledged members and families of the Stolen Generations in attendance, noting National Sorry Day had been observed a day earlier.

Mr Johncock said there are more than 33,600 Stolen Generations survivors Australia-wide – about 2,100 of them living in SA – and nearly half of all First Nations people in the state descend from survivors.

He said intergenerational trauma continued across generations and there was more work to be done in supporting those impacted.

Before a moving video tribute to Stolen Generations survivor, the late Lowitja O'Donoghue AC CBE DSG – who was a founding member of Reconciliation SA – musician Rob Edwards performed one of the inspiring advocate's favourite songs *We Shall Overcome*.

There were also performances by APY rappers Dem Mob and dance group Of Desert & Sea.

In his candid and powerful keynote speech, Yorta Yorta rapper, writer, author and actor Adam Briggs emphasised the ongoing fight for justice and rights for First Nations people.

During the referendum campaign, he went viral on social media championing the proposed constitutionally-enshrined First Nations Voice to federal parliament.

But with 60 per cent of referendum voters ticking 'No' on their ballot papers, Briggs ventured that reconciliation as we know it

had been 'obliterated'.

"I just have to say this...it's not blackfellas that need to reconcile. It's not. Never has been," he said.

"A lot of us are still grieving, a lot of blackfellas are burnt out on top of everything else we're already doing.

"I see fractiousness that (the referendum) has caused or exposed or at least reminded us how far away we truly are... If it's our job to make this place better for our kids, we've failed dismally.

"It's Australia that has to reconcile with itself. It has to reconcile its history truthfully."

Briggs said tangible action was needed, and authenticity over tokenism.

Aboriginal Affairs Minister and Attorney General Kyam Maher said the referendum debate and vote, "although important and necessary, had put a little tear in the fabric that holds us together".

"And that, my friends, is why this movement... this idea of sharing, understanding, learning – Reconciliation – is just as important, maybe more important than before."

Minister Maher commended Reconciliation SA on its strong stance in the face of some SA local government councils scrapping acknowledgments of Country.

● Check out pages 28-31 for more stories and pictures from Reconciliation Week around the nation.

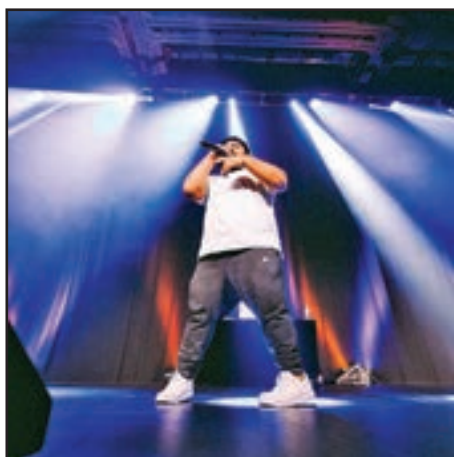


Photos by Samuel Graves, courtesy Reconciliation SA

Musician Adam Briggs gave the keynote address, telling the crowd "It's Australia that has to reconcile with itself... reconcile its history truthfully."



From left, Dem Mob's Jontae Lawrie, Basso Edwards, Matt Gully and Elisha Umuhuri performing *The Struggles*. Gully told the *Koori Mail* the song was about 'the struggles we all face with reconciliation in colonised states all over the world with the factors that impede it'. The group encouraged those in the audience to shine the torches on the mobile phones to illuminate that "we can come together and make the change if we try... one light may not be able to shine the way for everyone but once people start doing it, it becomes contagious."



Elisha Umuhuri from Dem Mob.



Attendees took the opportunity to be cleansed with smoke before the event.



Aboriginal Affairs Minister and Attorney General Kyam Maher.

Baker Boy portrait picked by Archibald packers



THE annual unveiling of Australia's most prestigious art prize has kicked off with a portrait of an Indigenous rapper nabbing the staff-favourite award.

Matt Adnate's dramatic portrait of Baker Boy – Yolngu rapper Danzal Baker – took out the the \$3000 Packing Room Prize as finalists in the Archibald awards were publicly revealed last Thursday.

Accepting the honour at the Art Gallery of NSW, the former graffiti artist said he could never have dreamed of clinching such a coveted award after spending the first 10 years of his career “just painting letters”.

Behind him hung the paintings of 57 finalists for the annual \$100,000 Archibald Prize, the nation's premier award for portraiture.

“Growing up as a graffiti artist I never dreamed of being able to even name one of my artworks in a place like the Art Gallery of NSW,” Adnate said.

The rap music fan added that he listened to Baker Boy while he painted.

“When you're painting, you're listening to eight-to-10 hours of music a day,” Adnate said.

“He's an inspirational figure, not only is he an incredible musician but he also won Young Australian of the Year and he's just in his 20s.”

The finalists included the highest-ever number of Indigenous artists among the cohort selected from more than 1,000 entries.

Baker Boy said it was an honour to be included in the collection after his portrait



Matt Adnate's portrait of Yolngu rapper Danzal Baker has won the Archibald Packing Room Prize. Picture: Bianca De Marchi/AAP

took out the packers prize, which has been judged for more than 30 years by gallery staff who receive, unpack and hang the entries.

“Matt's work tells stories, he captures great strength and vulnerability, but most importantly his work amplifies the voice of

those he paints, which is very powerful,” he said.

A total of 138 finalists were announced for the Archibald, Wynne and Sulman prizes on Thursday.

The Wynne Prize recognises either landscape paintings depicting Australian

scenery or figure sculptures by local artists, while the Sulman Prize is for subject painting, genre painting or murals.

The winners of the three main prizes will be announced on June 7, with the exhibition running from June 8 until September 8.

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Everything feels different now

After the referendum a lot feels different. I've written before that interactions with the wider community feel different and as time goes by the negative and painful thoughts of the referendum are still there but enter my mind in those interactions less and less.

This Reconciliation Week did feel different to those of the past and as we know, we all have different feelings about, what reconciliation mean to us moving forward.

For some there has been a complete rejection of reconciliation and for others there are stronger boundaries for what we give of ourselves. Then there are those who took a deep breath and it was business as usual, to continue to work hard for a reconciled nation. Of course, there were those in our community that didn't want the referendum for the many different reasons.

No one can tell you how to feel, it's a personal and physical reaction that will take time for many to move on from. I took more than a deep breath, I needed to really process the anger I felt. Personally I just can't bear the thought of living with raw anger on a daily basis, I knew I had to work hard to process those emotions to be well. I let anger fuel my drive but in a positive way, that doesn't make me unwell by consuming my every thought and action as



Shelley Ware

that is not a way I wish to live.

There were notably less positive corporate interactions personally and on my socials, I feel many are still working out their connection to the beauty of our cultures and the truth of our history and their role in reconciliation.

I often do keynotes and share my thoughts on our people and education. I thought about whether I would do them this Reconciliation Week and I knew I still wanted to give and I chose to do them. I still want to play my role in storytelling and truth telling for reconciliation week and beyond.

After one of my talks, I had a non-Aboriginal man say to me “Thank you I needed today”. He went on to tell me how deflated he was by the referendum results and that as an ally he was unsure of what to do next. He left

there understanding as an ally, he still plays a role in reconciliation. So, to me it's worth the fight and these ongoing conversations that he will now have with others, the impact they will have, then my time was worth it.

I also took to my social-media accounts this Reconciliation Week to pay tribute to special individuals in my life who have played a role in my view of reconciliation. I shared a little of their stories and their impact on me.

People like my poppa Edmund Ware who knew working together was the way forward for our people before many others, and my non-Aboriginal mum Jan Ware who faced terrible racism when she married my father but they overcame it with love and supported our connection to culture and community. All the people I shared created a safe place for me to learn and create my own thoughts on reconciliation, through their lives and actions and how they lived and loved.

As people we have some healing to do and we will do it at our own pace. We have to be mindful to not judge others and feel our way is the only way. I choose to give with boundaries that keep me safe but with a whole heart for our people, so our future generations don't have to and they can live, love and be free to be whomever they want.

Family still feel the pain of Kumanjayi's death

By KEIRA JENKINS



KUMANJAYI Walker's family have told an inquest into his death the teenager is still much loved and missed.

The 19-year-old Warlpiri Luritja teenager was fatally shot by then-constable Zachary Rolfe in the remote community of Yuendumu in 2019, during an attempted arrest.

Mr Rolfe was acquitted of murder during a five-week trial in 2022 and he is no longer serving as a police officer in the Northern Territory.

In videos played to the Alice Springs court on Wednesday, Mr Walker's family described the pain they have felt since his death.

"We are still sad, we are still thinking about him," his grandmother Alice Walker-Nelson said.

"This Yuendumu was upside



Kumanjayi Walker.

down. We wouldn't think about anything, just crying.

"We didn't know what to do."

Mr Walker's aunt Serita Lane said on the night of his death she went to Alice Springs Hospital, after being told he might have been flown there for treatment.

She said she didn't know he had already died when she arrived.

When Ms Lane got the call

from family that he'd passed, she said she fell to the floor, crying.

"We didn't have a chance to say goodbye to him," she said.

"I was really in pain and sorry and crying ... Inside my heart is still crying."

NT Police commissioner Michael Murphy was probed on the culture within the force during his evidence to the inquest on Wednesday morning, admitting he knew about racist award certificates handed out to tactical group officers months before they were revealed at the inquest.

Mr Murphy said he had first been made aware of the awards in August 2023.

He told reporters in February 2024 he did not know about the racist awards, following evidence from Mr Rolfe mentioning the certificates.

In questioning from counsel assisting Peggy Dwyer Mr Murphy agreed it was the case that his answer was misleading but he had not

intended it to be so.

He told the inquest he had "regrettably" not taken action when the certificates were first brought to his attention.

Dr Dwyer went on to ask the commissioner about the response he gave in the same press conference, saying he had not seen racist conduct in the police force.

"It is effectively gaslighting members of the Aboriginal community who have experienced racism and complained about it when you deny that there is any racism in the NT Police Force, do you accept that?" Dr Dwyer said.

"Yes I do, and we're taking steps to address that," Mr Murphy replied.

The commissioner also told the inquest if given the opportunity again he would not overturn a disciplinary action against a sergeant who shared an explicit photo of an Aboriginal woman to a group chat with other

officers in Alice Springs.

The officer had been demoted and transferred to Katherine by the Professional Standards Command following the incident in 2022.

Mr Murphy said he had been contacted by the NT Police Association to review the decision. He reversed the demotion and moved the officer to Darwin.

"Reflecting on it now and what's come to light and some of the concerns around racist conduct and messaging I think the position could have stayed," Mr Murphy said.

"If I had the file again to make a determination ... I probably would have kept it the same or maybe firmer sanctions."

Coroner, Elisabeth Armitage, concluded taking evidence on Wednesday and is expected to hand down her findings in the coming months.

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Former cop insists NT police not 'genuine racists'



A FORMER member of the Northern Territory's Tactical Response Group says during his time as an officer, offensive language and jokes were commonly made throughout the NT Police Force.

Carey Joy said, in a statutory declaration filed to an inquest into the death of Kumanjayi Walker in the remote community of Yuendumu, racist comments were seen as "acceptable and a means of venting stress" within the police force.

"I would estimate not a week would go by where I wouldn't hear what the general public would describe as racist, offensive or homophobic," he said in the statement.

Despite this, Mr Joy said a "genuinely racist" person would not choose to work within the NT Police Force.

"I feel I have never worked with or known a genuine racist within the ranks," he said.

"I have no doubt heard and taken part in sharing offensive, racist, homophobic and other dark humour jokes and comments, in poor taste throughout my career and life."

Kumanjayi Walker was fatally shot by then-constable Zachary Rolfe in November 2019, during an attempted arrest.

Mr Rolfe, who was a Tactical Response Group (TRG) member, was acquitted of murder during a five-week trial in 2022 and he is no longer serving as a police officer.

The inquest into Mr Walker's death, which finalised its hearings on Wednesday, examined the culture within the NT Police Force, revealing racist language and jokes made by officers and

a series of offensive certificates handed out to TRG officers.

In his statement, made public last Friday, Mr Joy admitted taking part in the awards ceremonies where the certificates were handed out and making comments that could be deemed offensive, but said he does not consider himself a racist.

Mr Joy also referred to a TRG book, labelled "the book of truths" where "silly, funny or offensive" comments made by officers were recorded.

He recalled a comment he made in Katherine, during his time as a TRG officer, which was recorded in the book.

"We observed there were large numbers of intoxicated people walking across the road, on the footpaths and everywhere," he said. "As we drove past a large group I made the comment 'it looks like someone popped a pinata full of drunk

...' (and I then believe I used a derogatory term to refer to Aboriginals [sic])."

Mr Joy said his fellow officers laughed and told him "that's going in the book".

He insisted in his statement, TRG officers are "genuinely not racists" as multiple members were married to Indigenous people, had Indigenous family members or children.

Mr Joy said NT police officers are faced with "staggering volumes of the most horrific scenes/ injuries and trauma" that most people would not understand.

"Consideration needs to be given to an individual's need to cope with these frequent horrors, their subsequent needs to vent, share their emotional trauma, use dark humour as a coping mechanism, their needs to constantly desensitise themselves and process incredibly horrific exposure," he said.

—AAP

Ben finds pride in hometown mural



FROM growing up queer and isolated to featuring in a mural with his husband, Indigenous performer Ben Graetz has come full circle in his home town.

When Ben Graetz's aunty took him to see a production of *Hair – The Musical* at the Darwin Entertainment Centre as a teenager, he was hooked.

It was this moment that inspired the Iwaidja, Malak Malak and Badu Island man into the performing arts.

"I'd always really enjoyed art and particularly drama, but that show was the first time I'd seen a professional production," Mr Graetz said.

"It just moved me like I'd never been moved before."

Mr Graetz said he'd had a beautiful upbringing in Darwin, surrounded by family, but he'd always felt isolated as he grappled with his identity.

"Being queer and not understanding



Indigenous performer Ben Graetz.

what was growing up ... there (were) no queer icons, there was no visibility around it," he said.

"It was really hard to understand who I was and what I was ... I felt very isolated and alone going through that."

Mr Graetz left the Northern Territory when he was 17 to pursue a career in the performing arts.

He returned to Darwin 16 years later, saying it was time to face his fears and deal with the things he had run away from all those years ago.

Mr Graetz has since been the Indigenous creative director for Sydney World Pride and has worked on a number of major arts events including the National Indigenous Music Awards, the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards, Garrmalang and Sugarbag Festivals.

His latest claim to fame is appearing in a mural with his husband Dion, painted on the very same building where he was first inspired to take on the art world.

The mural at the Darwin Entertainment Centre was completed by artist Fintan Magee as part of Darwin's Street Art Festival.

Mr Graetz said at first he wasn't sure about having such a public portrait on display.

Once he saw Mr Magee's work and

thought about what it could mean, he was convinced.

"What was really beautiful was when I started to think about the importance of what it meant, the significance of it being on that wall," he said.

"My story being a queer man, coming from Darwin and feeling out of place and not belonging to then being on a mural with my husband, representing my identity as a First Nations man and a queer man was really empowering."

Now the work is complete, Mr Graetz is thrilled with the result.

"It's just like a magic trick, it really blows my mind," he said.

"To go from a photo to paint on a wall, all those really detailed elements, it still blows me away. Both Dion and I are so honoured to have worked with Fintan ... it fills me with so much pride."

Darwin Street Art Festival will run until June 8.

— By Keira Jenkins, AAP

Victoria Police apologise to the Stolen Generations

By ALI MC



VICTORIAN Police Chief Commissioner Shane Patton issued a long-awaited apology to Elders of the Stolen

Generations and their families at the Aborigines Advancement League on Friday, May 25.

Commemorating National Sorry Day – which was held the following day, May 26 – the Chief Commissioner spoke before a packed and emotional auditorium.

"I am sorry for the profound distress caused and the trauma experienced by so many Aboriginal families," he said.

"For over a hundred years, whether on our own initiative or in assisting other agencies or organisations, Victoria Police contributed to the Stolen Generations by enforcing policies and laws."

The Chief Commissioner also acknowledged the role Victoria Police had in giving Aboriginal children criminal records that would haunt them for the rest of their lives.

"Such unjust practices cast a false shadow over their character throughout their lives," he stated.

"When Aboriginal people were brave enough to try to access police records to be reunified with family, police were often unwilling or unable to help.

"I'm sorry that this so often further deepened the trauma, rather than providing healing or connection."

For many, it was a day of both sorrow and relief, as stories were shared, tears were shed and hugs warmly embraced.

Gunditjmara man Lionel Dukakis said it was an "emotional day."

"It'll be an emotional day



Victorian Police Chief Commissioner Shane Patton with Taungurung Elder Uncle Howard 'Talgium' Edwards.

personally for me, but I'm really looking forward to hearing that sorry, from the commissioner," he told the *Koori Mail* the morning of the event.

Dukakis had been removed at 18 months old, along with his siblings, and transferred around the state, with deep lasting impacts.

"Not knowing, not being able to speak language. Learning who my family relations were. I'm starting slowly to learn now," he explained.

He also stated that he had managed to overcome many challenges and had reconnected with his culture and family and found success as a businessman.

"Part of that impact is being told you are a useless blackfulla, I won't amount to anything," he said.

"Today I'm a successful businessman of four companies. That makes me proud and my kids and my grandkids, sharing my story with them to tell them

the truth."

The event was hosted by Elder of the Stolen Generations and Aboriginal Community Liaison Office with Victoria Police Eva Jo Edwards.

Eva Jo, who was removed at age five and spent the next 13 years in institutions, said the fact that Victoria Police had decided to apologise for their role in child removals was "pretty overwhelming."

"In another breath, it's really exciting – 170 years of policing and we have finally got an apology and an acknowledgement of the wrongdoings of the past."

The event saw a Welcome to Country by Sue-Ann Hunter and speeches by the Aborigines Advancement League chief executive Aunty Esme Bamblett, chief executive of the Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency Muriel Bamblett and Ian Hamm, chair of Stolen Generations support organisation Connecting Home.



Proud Gunditjmara businessman Lionel Dukakis and his daughter Bonnie at the Aborigines Advancement League. Lionel was stolen from his family at age just 18 months.



Aunty Eva Jo Edwards, from the Mutti Mutti, Boon Wurrung and Yorta Yorta Nations, with her children Alkira and Teekin. Eva Jo was stolen at age 5 and spent the next 13 years in institutions.

Mutti Mutti songman Uncle Kutcha Edwards placed photographs of himself and his parents on the stage as he sang and spoke about the impact his family's separation had, bringing many to tears.

Chief Commissioner Patton

also committed to changing the relationship with Aboriginal communities across the state, a recommendation by the Victorian statewide Yoorrook Justice Commission.

Continued on next page...

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Aborigines Advancement League CEO and Bangerang, Taungurung and Wiradjuri Elder Aunty Esme Bamblett.



Gunditjmara twins Sharon and Karen Lovett.



Continued from previous page...

"We will ensure to continue delivering change by partnering and building trust with the Aboriginal community to achieve better outcomes," he said.

Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency chief executive Muriel Bamblett said there was still a long way to go.

"It's very difficult to break the cycle of removal," she said. "And so it is that most of these families end up impoverished, with family violence, drug and alcohol. Many of them are in prison."

"There's much work to do to break the cycle that isn't just about preventing children from being removed. It's actually working with the families to address historical trauma."

Pictured left: Event MC Eva Jo Edwards, Elder of the Stolen Generations and Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer with Victoria Police.



Mutti Mutti songman Uncle Kutcha Edwards placed photographs of his parents, and himself as a child, onstage as he performed and shared stories.



WA Police 'truly sorry' for death in custody



WESTERN Australia's police chief has formally apologised over the death of a 22-year-old Aboriginal woman in custody.

Yamatji woman Ms Dhu, whose first name has not been used for cultural reasons, died two days after being locked up at South Hedland Police Station on August 4, 2014.

She had been arrested for unpaid fines totalling \$3622.

A coroner found Ms Dhu had been treated inhumanely by police and received deficient treatment from hospital staff.

Police Commissioner Col Blanch issued a joint statement on Friday with the head of WA's regional health service, Jeff Moffet.

"On behalf of the Western Australia Police Force and WA Country Health Service, we apologise to the family and community of the late Ms Dhu," they said.

"We are truly sorry for the circumstances of Ms Dhu's death and recognise the significant impact her passing has had on her family and her community."

The apology is made after a mediation

process that concluded in March, according to their statement.

"Other than this apology, details of the conclusion of the mediation process remain confidential."

In 2021, a doctor who failed to properly examine Ms Dhu was found guilty of professional misconduct.

Ms Dhu died from staphylococcal septicaemia and pneumonia after an infection in her fractured ribs, caused by her partner, spread to her lungs.

She died during her third visit in as many days to the Hedland Health Campus.

The doctor who examined Ms Dhu at the hospital the day before her death missed her high heart rate, which had been recorded by the triage nurse.

He also didn't take her temperature or order an X-ray, instead making reference in his notes to "withdrawal from drugs" and "behavioural issues".

She was subsequently declared fit for custody.

The coroner in 2016 determined Ms Dhu's death could have been prevented if her illness had been diagnosed earlier and she had been given antibiotics. – AAP

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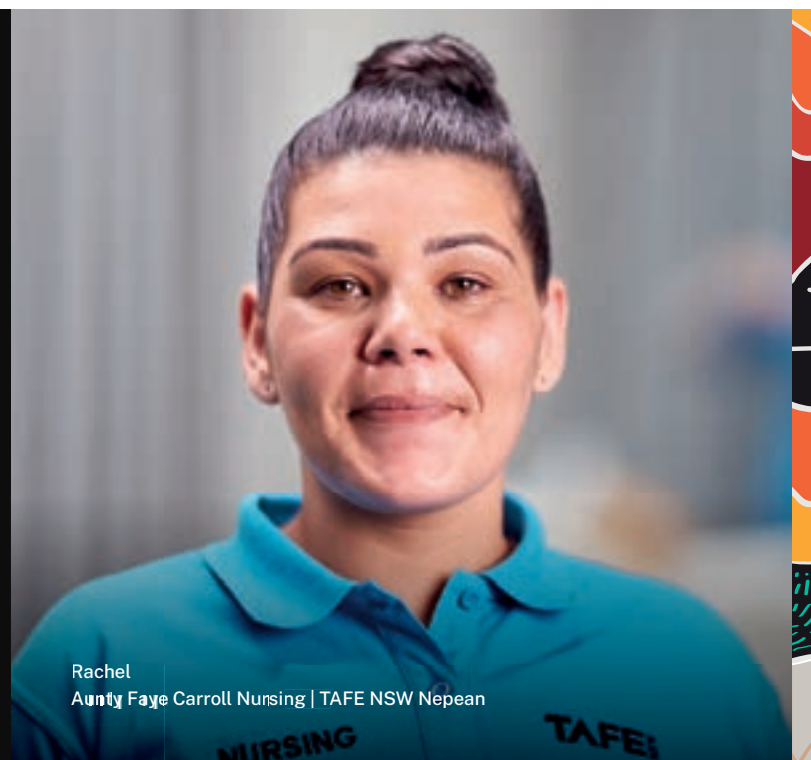
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Taking music to a new realm

By LIINA FLYNN



IT didn't matter that first prize in the karaoke competition was won by the organiser's daughter, because a teen-aged Dan Sultan still received \$250 for winning second prize.

"The industry is still like that," Dan laughed.

Since the days of singing karaoke in the pubs of Williamstown where he grew up in Melbourne, Dan Sultan has become one of the most well known Aboriginal musicians in Australia.

At the age of ten, Dan wrote his first instrumental piece of music on the guitar and said he'd already been playing guitar a long time before that.

"I have photos of me at three years old, holding a guitar," Dan told the *Koori Mail*. "I'm not sure how much I was playing then, but I kept playing guitar and getting better."

Since those early days, he's gone on to record multiple albums and win awards.

According to Dan it was "inevitable" that he was going to become an artist.

"Mum was musical and dad was a fan of music and they both encouraged me," he said.

"It was never something I decided to do – it was always what I was and am."

Orchestra

Dan is taking music to a new realm through a collaboration with the

Melbourne Symphony Orchestra (MSO) during NAIDOC Week on July 12 and 13.

Together, they will bring Dan's music to Melbourne's Hamer Hall auditorium, with new orchestral arrangements of songs, including those on his ARIA award winning album *Blackbird*.

Blackbird won the Music Award for Best Rock Album in 2014 and this year, Dan has also released a ten-year anniversary vinyl pressing of the popular album.

Dan's concert with the MSO involves a close collaboration with MSO musicians and conductors to create new arrangements for the essentially rock-based album.

Dan is working with Alex Turley and Noongar composer Aaron Wyatt to create the show

"I'm very involved in the process and we are doing the arrangements together," he said.

"The song is always the boss and if it's good, it should transplant easily into a new form."

Dan said the show will be in two acts – the first act being songs from *Blackbird* and the second, a series of his other works.

Career

Over his career, Dan has played with some famous names in the music industry, including Bruce Springsteen, Midnight Oil and Vance Joy.

Dan said that one day, he received a call from Paul Kelly asking him if he

wanted to record a cover version of *This Land Is Mine* (originally sung by Kev Carmody) for a tribute album of Carmody's work.

"Paul found me because I went to high school with one of his nephews, who was a mate of mine," he said.

Cannot Buy My Soul was then released in 2007.

Story-telling

Dan is an Arrente/Gurindji man and said "I'm a songwriter and my Aboriginality is who I am".

"I know where I'm from and I know who my people are," he said.

"I'm proud, I teach my kids and I write songs that are true to me."

From rock music to country and ballads, Dan's music is story-telling at its best.

"I love country music and telling stories is a basic human instinct," Dan said.

"I went all the way through school, I didn't receive an ATAR score on exams, but I performed at the graduation ceremony without it because they wanted me there."

"I never fell into things through my life, I work hard at it."

"I enjoy some work more than others and I've written songs that are the most beautiful I've ever written, but that don't get many plays."

"I like having a sense of accomplishment through creating, but there's no destination – you are there," he said.



Dan Sultan.

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Rangers taking the lead

By CHRISTINE HOWES



PORMPURAW'S Land and Sea Rangers have been around since the 1980s or 90s and have seen a few changes over that time. Team leader Gavin Kendall has been with them for 12 of those years.

"It was pretty full-on back then," he said.

"They've come a long way since then from where we started to where we are now."

He said the biggest change he'd seen was more Indigenous rangers taking on more responsibility.

"We're like stepping up into the program and taking leadership," he said.

"There's heaps more networking now too, and working with other groups, a lot more training too, especially in biosecurity."

He said he and ranger Wesley Conrad had even been to the Northern Territory to see how they do things over there.

"I've been a ranger for five years," Wesley said.

"The work I like best is going out on Country, doing the turtle works and camping with the boys.



The rangers' logo.

"During the dry season we can access our Country."

Ranger Kiren Tarpencha said the technology had also changed over his five years.

"Now we build our own turtle cages, we do the welding ourselves," he said.

"And we've got the carbon project as well, we've seen a lot of native animals come back, more emus and blue tongue lizards than before."

They said the extended wet season had meant more work – especially in weeds – around the township.

"We pretty much just learn as we're going, but we're all qualified in different things."



Gavin Kendall, Clinton Williams, Wesley Conrad (seated) and Kiren Tarpencha.

Coordinator Clinton Williams said his favourite thing was ... "everything".

"I think because rangers are looked at as leaders on this community, I think that's a big one for me," he said.

Leadership

"That's my sort of main drive, because of that opportunity to be a leader.

"We get to go and engage with

the kids with the junior ranger program and overall I think the community view us as good, strong men, who are leaders and who will do good work on their Country and in their community."

He said their next move would be to expand their group of six, hopefully with some female rangers.

"That's the next space we'd like to step in to," he said.

"To try and get some of the

females involved within the ranger program so they can also inspire younger females around community, so we'll get women starting to become leaders as well, just like us men."

He said one of the other biggest changes was in their resources.

"We've got vehicles, side-by-sides, boats and a new ranger base," he said.

"All big steps forward."

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Singing from the heart

By LIINA FLYNN



YOLNGU Elder and musician Andrew Gurruwiwi learned to play the keyboard when his uncle, Geoffrey Gurrumul Yunupingu, sat down with him and taught him how to play.

"Gurrumul Yunupingu, was my teacher; he was my youngest uncle, my mother's clan," Andrew told the *Koori Mail*.

Like Gurrumul, Andrew was also blind from an accident that took away his sight.

Also like Gurrumul, Andrew became a successful musician as singer and keytar player with his own band – the Andrew Gurruwiwi Band.

Andrew said that after the accident that took his sight he "had a difficult time"... so he bought a keyboard in Darwin.

"But I don't know how to play," he said.

"So Gurrumul started teaching me to press the keys. Then we were singing gospel songs and making music."

After he learned to play the keyboard, Andrew said he got family members together to form a band and began playing music in their home community – the NE Arnhem community of Yirrkala.

The word quickly spread and the band then travelled to different communities to play their music.

Since then, Andrew has played in many places and taken his music on tour around Australia.

His latest band is eight-piece funk band,



Andrew Gurruwiwi learnt music from his uncle Geoffrey Gurrumul Yunupingu.

the self-titled Andrew Gurruwiwi Band.

"A lot of Yolngu bands have names that are water or sea," he said.

"But for me, I named my band under my name. Make it easier, so in 20 to 40 years time, people will know the name."

Yaa Djamarrkuli

Family is important to Andrew and the music video for his latest single *Yaa Djamarrkuli* features his family and

grandsons dancing.

"As a kid, I used to be a dancer – that's why rhythm is so important," he said.

"I like dancing and everyone else too. All my immediate family sometimes dance around the house."

Sung in his native tongue, the Yolngu Matha language, Andrew's uplifting single from the heart of Arnhem Land has reggae, funk and rock rhythms that Andrew said reflects the "Yolgnu sounds of the desert".

"I want to make happy music and songs so everyone can dance to it," he said.

"My family and cousins write songs together, not just all happy ones, but sometimes grieving songs for everyone too, with African Mexico influences so they are good for dancing."

These days, the Andrew Gurruwiwi Band is so popular that their first single *Gatjumak* became a dance-floor favourite with its fusing of funk and house beats.

Their new single *Yaa Djamarrkuli* is the first release from their debut album *Sing Your own Song* which is due to be released on July 5.

"The songs are about being true to yourself and sing your heart," Andrew said.

"You have to sing in your own language and make your own music."

"That's what I'm doing and I'd like everyone to come and enjoy."

Andrew said the band is heading out on tour again soon to festivals all over the country.

They will be playing at the Barunga Festival in June, before jet-setting off to Clancestry in Brisbane on July 31, then Garma in August.

They are also planning to head out to Yidiyi in Wadeye during November.

So, how did the band get so well-known, so quickly?

"Big magic," Andrew laughed.

His advice to other people is to "be strong go to school every day – and teach young people how to grow up, dance and be a happy person."

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How Traditional Owners are caring for Gulaga, Biamanga sacred sites

By MARION WILLIAMS



TWO of NSW's seven national parks under Aboriginal ownership with lease-back agreements under Part 4A of the National Park and Wildlife Act are on the Far South Coast. Since 2018, Aunty Ros Field has chaired Gulaga National Park's management board and Uncle Bunja Smith has chaired Biamanga National Park's management board. The sacred sites were returned to their Traditional Owners in 2006.

Each park is managed by a ministerially-appointed board. Seven of the 13 board members are registered Traditional Owners who are elected by their peers and two represent the two Local Aboriginal Land Councils.

Another three members represent the local shire council, conservationists and park's neighbours, while the environment minister is usually represented by the regional director for National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS). The board sets the strategic direction through a five-



Uncle Bunja Smith.

year plan of management which determines the operational plans.

Ms Field said the relationship with NPWS has evolved over the years into a mutually satisfactory working relationship.

"It is still evolving, mainly because of the periodic changes to NPWS personnel and board members," she said.

Mr Smith said the partnership has taught NPWS more about caring for Country through the Traditional Owners' cultural knowledge and competency.

"I think the partnership has helped them better connect with



Aunty Ros Field.

Country. I think we have taken them to another level with the obvious example being cultural burning.

"That was never done prior to Aboriginal involvement in national parks."

While the focus of recent work at Biamanga was re-establishing the cultural area after it was burnt in the 2019-20 bushfires, Gulaga escaped unharmed. Ms Field is excited by upgrades to the Loop Track at Gulaga's base. They include a teaching and learning area with interactive signage based on the Creation story.

Park expansion

On May 10 NSW Minister for the Environment Penny Sharpe announced that nearly 200 hectares of "culturally and ecologically rich land" had been added to Gulaga National Park. Ms Field said the minister approved the addition in 2014 as part of the plan of management and the board purchased Bellbrook Farm in 2015-16. The Biamanga board has done something similar, purchasing a property at Brogo. Once gazetted, it will provide a place to hold meetings and access to Biamanga from the west.

Since becoming chair Mr Smith has advocated to add Murrah Flora Reserves because of their cultural and conservation significance. "They can still log there like they used to at Gulaga. The whole point of National Parks is to stop logging on sacred sites," he said.

New models

Part 4A is one of three models for joint Aboriginal involvement in NSW national parks. Where land has been granted Native Title or is currently negotiating it, there is an

Indigenous Land Use Agreement. The most common model, used in many smaller parks and reserves, is the Memorandum of Understanding. Mr Smith said this arrangement has no legal power and does not give Traditional Owners the right to say no, while the Part 4A model gives Traditional Owners control because the board of management develops, manages and monitors strategy and operational plans.

"Under Part 4A provisions Aboriginal Custodians have a more powerful voice and actually make the strategic decisions," Ms Field said.

"Secondly, Native Title adds an overlay to joint management that can be fairly complex and difficult to navigate."

Ms Field and Mr Smith have participated in workshops about new models for joint management, with draft, unfinalised principles to date. Ms Field said the new model must empower the community.

Mr Smith is proud to have a say in Biamanga's management and also being "accountable to my people for Biamanga's management."



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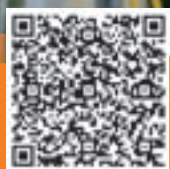
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Showcasing

By ALI MC



MELBOURNE
Symphony
Orchestra
recently held its
annual First
Voices showcase at
ABC Studios in
Melbourne, a program which
sees First Nations composers
create new classical
compositions.

Conducted by Noongar
musician and composer Aaron
Wyatt, the showcase featured
Kamilaroi musician, artist and
clapstick craftsman Adam
Manning and Worimi musician
Leon Rodgers.

Manning's piece *New Normal*
reflected his deep love and
connection with the clapsticks,
which he describes as the
world's oldest percussive
instrument.

"It's pretty rare that you get to
make an instrument that is easily
the oldest percussion instrument
still in use today," he told the
Koori Mail.

Manning explained how he
grew up playing drums and as a
clapstick craftsman and player,
had an ambition to centre the
instrument in a classical
ensemble.

The First Voices program with
the Melbourne Symphony
Orchestra gave him the
opportunity.

"I grew up playing a lot of
drum kit. And so rhythm has
always been something that's
really interesting to me. And
similarly, striking two things
together," he said.

"Basically, for the last five
plus years I have been really
trying to resurface that particular
instrument and position it in such
a way that it can be performed
with that high art."

His composition featured
what must be a 'first' in classical
music – a clapstick solo, or in
orchestral terms, a 'cadenza.'

Manning said the response
from the symphony was very
supportive.

"I'm sure some of them would
have been thinking what's this
brother doing? Like is he really
trying to do this?"
he laughed.

"If you do typically integrate
clapsticks into that environment,



Noongar musician and composer Aaron Wyatt.

it's often just pulse based
rhythms. It's never really
something that would be out the
front."

However, Manning told the
Koori Mail his collaboration and
composition with the MSO was
unique in many ways, including
crafting clapsticks to give to each
member of the orchestra,
beginning his musical
engagement by a discussion
about home and encouraging a
musical interpretation of his
paintings.

"I took down some paintings
and what I actually did was get

them to interpret one of them,"
he explained.

"And we discussed the
painting and the shapes and how
it makes them feel and those
sorts of things.

"And then they started to
improvise, using that painting as
a guide and I recorded some of
that."

He said that participating in
the First Voices program was "a
once in a lifetime opportunity."

"Their approach with the
program, I felt was really
respectful and the players had
an open mindset."



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classical music culture



Leon Rodgers and Aaron Wyatt.

The showcase also featured a reprisal of last year's participant Vonda Last's piece *Awakening*, an evocative composition that describes the journey across the central desert landscape, along with a composition *Seven Sisters* by this year's mentee Leon Rodgers.

He told the *Koori Mail* his composition was inspired by the book *Star Country* by Gamilaroi mathematician Karlie Noon.

"Well, this is epic. Like, just about something about it," he said about his experience reading the book.

"So that's what it's based around. I couldn't escape the number seven. So not just the *Seven Sisters* – it's the time signature, it's in a seven metre

and it goes for seven minutes. And there's seven sections."

The story of the *Seven Sisters* is widely shared by First Nations across the continent and its songline stretches from the central desert to the western coastline and traverses numerous language groups.

Formerly a bass player in bands, Rodgers had the idea for the composition swimming around for many years, but finally got to perform it with an orchestra.

"I was in a band at the time. I would just throw riffs around it. I had the skeleton, like the rhythmic pattern that was used throughout it," he explained.

"And I'm wondering what this would sound in an orchestral



Kamilaroi musician, artist and clap stick craftsman Adam Manning

setting, even if was just swapping out a synth for a cello."

Rodgers told the *Koori Mail* that his work with the First Voices program was initially quite daunting but encouraged others to

have a go.

"I didn't even know what an oboe looked like before," he said. "You have got to have a pretty strong concept and idea and know what you want. But just back

yourself. We got this. You can do it."

Applications for the 2025 MSO First Voices program are now open. Head to www.mso.com.au for more information.

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Parks Australia to apologise



PARKS Australia has announced it will plead guilty in criminal proceedings alleging it violated a sacred site in Kakadu National Park during construction work, following a landmark High Court decision earlier this month. The Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority welcomed the news that the Director of National Parks intends to plead guilty to

breaches of the Northern Territory Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act.

Allegation

The Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority has alleged that in early 2019 National Parks disregarded the wishes of custodians, and without authorisation undertook works that exposed to the public a restricted feature of the Gunlom sacred site in Kakadu National Park. The AAPA commenced legal

action against National Parks in 2020, but the matter was deferred when National Parks claimed crown immunity and argued it could not be prosecuted under the NT Sacred Sites Act.

The question of crown immunity was resolved in the High Court earlier this month, when it was unanimously ruled that the Director of National Parks could be held to account under the NT Sacred Sites Act. AAPA chief executive Dr

Benedict Scambary said news of the guilty plea was welcome and long overdue.

"The World Heritage-listed Kakadu National Park is Aboriginal land, leased back to the Commonwealth and jointly-managed by National Parks and Aboriginal custodians.

"It contains many important sacred sites, including Gunlom Falls, which Aboriginal custodians have shared with visitors for many years.

He said while the matter was still to be heard in the NT Local Court, the announcement from the new Director of National Parks was a welcome step forward.

Ashamed

"The Commonwealth should feel ashamed to have spent so many years in the court fighting this issue."

The matter has been set for a directions hearing on July 29 in the NT Local Court.



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New appointment



THE Lowitja Institute announced the appointment of Mr Paul Stewart as its new chief executive officer to lead Australia's only national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled health research institute.

A proud Taungurung man with connections to Central Victoria, Mr Stewart replaces Adjunct Professor Janine Mohamed who has led the organisation for six years.

Mr Stewart has longstanding ties to the institute from his early career in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research, and more recently held the positions of deputy CEO and interim CEO.

ORIMA pays respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples past and present, their cultures and traditions and acknowledges their continuing connection to land, sea and community.

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Have your say on the future of the site north of St John's Cathedral

The Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure wants your feedback on the proposed changes to the site on the northern side of St John's Cathedral, Parramatta.

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Have your say by 5pm
Monday 24 June 2024.



LP2197

Invasive species 'a dire problem'

By KEIRA JENKINS of AAP



AUSTRALIA must come to terms with its own history in order to tackle the impact of invasive species on Country, an Indigenous environmental advocate says.

Invasive Species Council Indigenous ambassador Richard Swain said animals like feral horses, camels and cats and plants like buffel grass are having a deep, cultural impact on Indigenous people, as they destroy sacred sites and drive native creatures to extinction.

"No matter where (invasive species) are, the problem is dire for our native species," he said.

"Australia hasn't started on the journey of healing Country yet and we need to, and Aboriginal people need to be empowered to be part of that journey."

A global study on the impact on Indigenous lands found areas closer to major cities tended to have higher numbers of invasive species, with the eastern states of Australia disproportionately affected.

In areas Indigenous people have been at the forefront of managing the land, invasive species numbers are generally low, Charles Darwin University professor of conservation Stephen Garnett said.

"Some of the areas in the east that have been returned to Indigenous people are probably pretty degraded habitat so are likely to have invasive species," he said.

"We've taken the land off people, filled it with weeds and handed it back again.

"In other parts of the country, the number of alien species on Indigenous lands is very much lower where people have had an ongoing connection to that land."

In response to the study, Mr Swain has called for a dedicated Caring for Country commissioner to be established at a federal level, ensuring the voices of Indigenous people are reflected in government policy on land management.

"Aboriginal people have always had a dignified voice on this Country to this very day ... we need to be allowed to use that voice to care for Country," he said.

Mr Swain, a Wiradjuri man, lives in NSW's Snowy Mountains region, where he said feral horses have a had a huge impact on Country.

He said this impact is exacerbated by a lack of truth-telling around the history of these animals' destruction.

"Australia did not evolve with any hard-hoofed animals and for a million years, the biggest grazer of the high country was insects," he said.

"That got replaced by sheep and cattle and hot fires, and that grazing era was abhorrent for the high Country in terms of damage. However, what came out of that grazing era wasn't honesty of what happened to Country ... it was romanticising the colonial connection to Country."

Mr Swain said he hopes a Caring for Country commissioner could cut through some of the politics surrounding management of feral animals.

"It's going to take some tough calls to control invasive species, particularly invasive fauna," he said.

"We need to de-escalate, nullify the politics of that ... that's why I believe an Indigenous commissioner could speak on Country's behalf and we could do some things for Country."

The research has been published in the journal *Nature Sustainability*.



Invasive Species Council Indigenous ambassador Richard Swain says invasive species are threatening Indigenous lands, particularly in Australia's eastern states, prompting calls for a Caring for Country commissioner. (Photo: Invasive Species Council)

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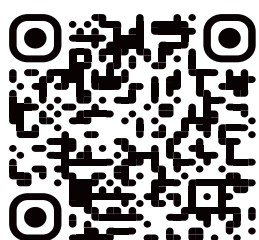
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news

Myall Creek memorial



ON the 10th of June 1838, near Bingara in Northern NSW, a group of 11 convict stockmen rode onto Myall Creek Station and massacred about 28 Aboriginal people comprising mostly older men, women and children.

Known as the Myall Creek Massacre, the event occupies a unique place in Australian legal and social history.

Following the massacre, the NSW colonial administration ordered an investigation and applied colonial law to the case of the criminal mistreatment of Aboriginal people. This resulted in the prosecution and execution of the stockmen responsible for the atrocity. For the first time during the frontier wars, justice was served, though the historical effect was to send subsequent massacres 'underground'.

Commemoration

To acknowledge the event as well as its legal significance, the University of New England will hold its annual Myall Creek Memorial Commemoration at the Oorala Aboriginal Centre on Friday, June 7. The commemoration sets the scene for the official Myall Creek ceremony on Sunday, June 9, and will feature a symposium titled Myall Creek & The Law, presented by the UNE Law School, and a Yarning Circle event.

The symposium will examine the Indigenous Laws of War, question why there was no declaration of martial law for the fighting at the time of the massacre, provide a comparative perspective with New Zealand and North America and explore where to from here.

The symposium will be dedicated to the memory and work of the late Professor Lyndall Ryan, who passed away recently. Lyndall was a leading Australian scholar on massacres and Frontier War



Boe Spearim will be guest speaker.

violence. After lunch, there will be yarning and truth telling session with Gamilaraay and Kooma man, Boe Spearim.

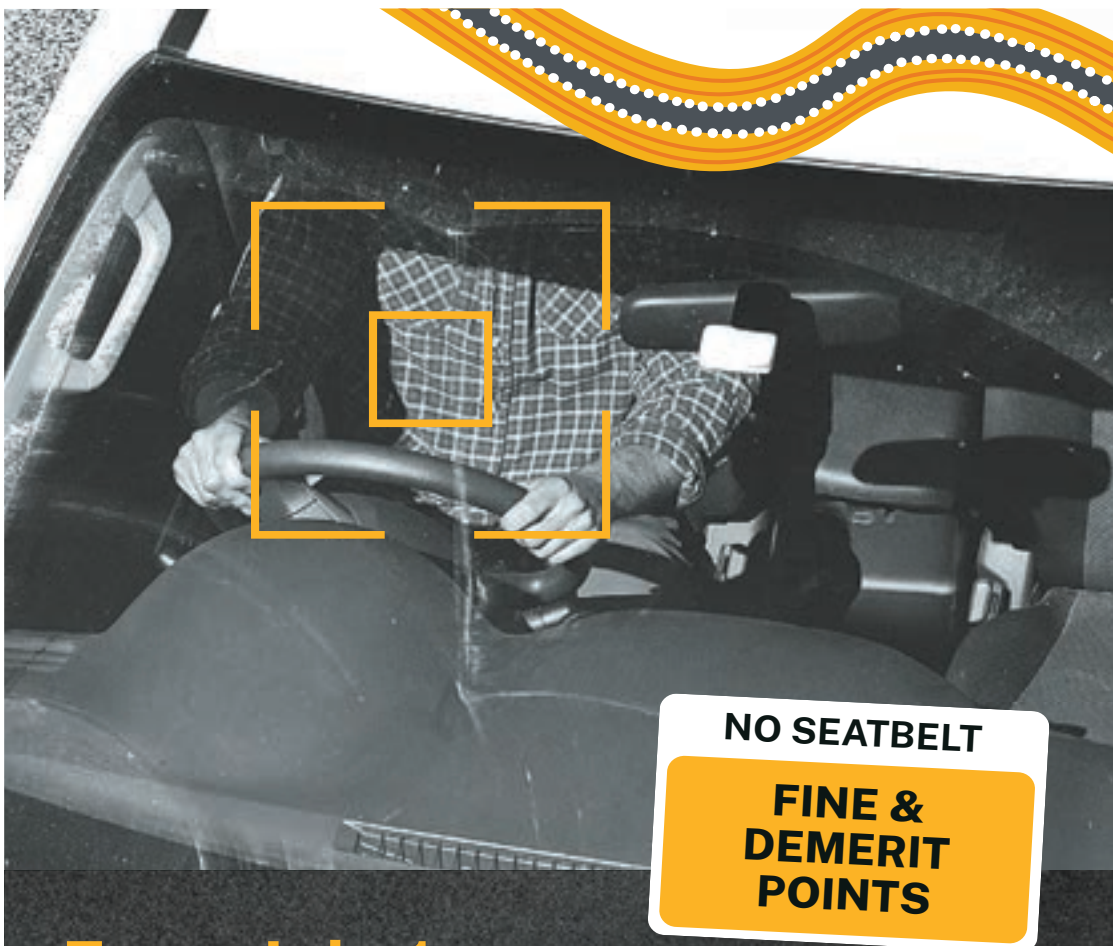
Boe is the creator and host of *Frontier War Stories*, a podcast series dedicated to truth telling about a side of Australian history that has been left out of the history books.

To date, he has recorded over 30 episodes, speaking to both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people about research, books and oral histories document the first 140 years of conflict and resistance in Australia. Episode 21 was dedicated to the Myall Creek Massacre Memorial.

Boe will be yarning with attendees on The Frontier Wars and Blak Resistance: Then and Now with specific emphasis on truth-telling in history. On Sunday, he will deliver the on-site oration at the Myall Creek Memorial.

The UNE Myall Creek Memorial Commemoration will be held at the Oorala Aboriginal Centre, and via Zoom, on Friday, June 7, from 10am to 3pm.

It is a free event but attendees are asked to RSVP to tcullen6@une.edu.au for catering purposes.



From July 1,
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PENALTIES APPLY



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Mob Music offers a top line-up of First Nations artists.

NSW Department of Education

School Infrastructure NSW Consultation Meeting with Widjabul Wia-bal on the Relocation of Richmond River High Campus

Background

School Infrastructure NSW (SINSW) have identified a preferred location for the relocation of The Rivers Secondary College Richmond River High Campus. In addition to commencing a range of studies including Aboriginal Cultural Heritage and Archaeological Surveys, SINSW is using the NSW Governments "Connecting with Country" framework to make sure the proposed school appropriately acknowledges Bundjalung Culture and Country and is a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students.

In developing a vision for the new campus SINSW have spoken with the Lismore Local Aboriginal Education Consultative Group about the opportunities at the new school to continue to respond to the needs of Aboriginal students and make school a place of pride for them.

At the request of Widjabul Wia-bal Gurrumbil Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC, SINSW are convening a consultation meeting with Widjabul Wia-bal to discuss the proposed relocation site for the Richmond River High Campus. The consultation meeting will include a visit to the proposed new site on Dunoon Road.

School Infrastructure NSW would like to consult with Widjabul Wia-bal to provide direct input into the project and ensure the appropriate consideration and protection of Widjabul Wia-bal's Cultural Heritage.

Meeting Details

SINSW's consultation meeting with Widjabul Wia-bal will be held on:

Date: 7 June 2024

Time: From 09.30 am to 2.00 pm

Venue: Lismore South Bowling Club, 25 Wilson Street, Lismore

Transport for a site visit to the proposed new campus site on Dunoon Road and lunch will be provided by SINSW.

What will be discussed at this meeting?

The meeting is about SINSW and the project team listening to Widjabul Wia-bal. Some of the things we would like to hear from Widjabul Wia-bal are:

- Understanding of Country - what do the location itself and surrounding places mean to community?
- What do we need to look after when building a new school?
- Caring for Country - how could Bundjalung Country and Culture be brought into in the new campus?
- Learning on Country - what are the stories that could be shared and how can they be considered by the project team?
- Other matters Widjabul Wia-bal see as relevant to the project?

SINSW is looking forward to this session and is strongly committed to engaging with Widjabul Wia-bal through the Widjabul Wia-bal Gurrumbil Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC to ensure the co-design of the relocated Richmond River High Campus project.



schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au

Celebrating our culture



CLANCESTRY returns to the Queensland Performing Arts Centre (QPAC) next month.

The celebration of identity and connection has become an iconic event since it started in 2013, providing a platform for both established and emerging First Nations artists to share their stories, perspectives, and talents.

Clancestry will officially open on Tuesday, July 30, with *First Gathering* – a vibrant celebration of the First Nations cultures of Brisbane.

This event invites audiences to pay respects to the ancestors of this land, their spirits, and their legacy in a celebration of dance, song, and culture. This year, *First Gathering* goes back to Clancestry's origins and opens the festival with Community groups coming together at the South Bank Piazza.

After successful sessions in 2023, *Clancestry Conversations* return to the Cremorne Theatre with two in-depth discussions on Saturday, August 3. This curated series of conversations will cover two pressing First Nations issues of today.

The Cremorne Theatre will also host the brand-new Clancestry Creatives program on Thursday 1 and Friday 2 August, providing creative development opportunities to support First Nations artists and creatives to explore, seed new ideas, and challenge forms of expressions. Clancestry Creatives will support two works: *Eat Slay Zombie* by Alinta McGrady and *Growing Back* by SOLCHLD. The creative developments will culminate in a live reading for *Eat Slay Zombie* and a performance of the developing work *Growing Back*.

The much-loved Mob Music stage returns in 2024 with an epic line-up of First Nations musicians and artists, hosted by BENNYGOLD. This impressive free live music event includes performances from rising Indigenous Australian actor, rapper, singer, and songwriter Kootsie Don, alternative rock band Selve, psychedelic rock outfit Velvet Trip, Hip Hop, neo-soul and R&B renegade Miss Kaninna, Papua New Guinea born and ARIA-award



Hip Hop, neo-soul and R&B renegade Miss Kaninna is on the bill.

winning artist Kaiit and so many more run from Thursday to Saturday, August 1-3.

Big and little kids alike will enjoy all that's on offer as part of the free *Clancestry for Kids* day on Saturday, August, 3. The team from the Institute for Urban Indigenous Health (IUIH) return with craft activities including scratch art, clay sculpting, story books and collage using natural materials.

One of 2023's most popular events, Face Painting with Kaylah Coghill, also makes its return to Clancestry alongside *Find Our Friends* and Hip Hop Dance Workshops with Georgie Baumann.

Saturday's program will also offer free Weaving Workshops, where participants will work through different weaving techniques and how to twist and weave together different textures, while sharing in the storytelling of First Nations ancestors.

Arts Minister Leeanne Enoch said Clancestry is a signature event on the state's cultural calendar that brings community together and shares Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples stories, traditions, and cultures.

Clancestry is presented by QPAC with events and activities held at various locations across the performing arts centre and South Bank. For more, visit qpac.com.au/whats-on/clancestry

Contribute to the City's First Nations Strategy

We've collaborated with local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, organisations and businesses to codesign our Koort Karnadjil Mya First Nations Strategy, which is now open for public comment.

The title Koort Karnadjil Mya means Heart, Truth, Voice. These simple ideas underpin a vision for the way the City of Belmont and First Nations community will work together.



Have your say on Belmont Connect or call us on 9477 7222



Blackfire regenerates

By LIINA FLYNN



THE line-up has changed since the 1990s, but the name has stayed the same.

Aboriginal band Blackfire is again making music.

This time, instead of Kutcha Edwards as lead vocalist, it's the deep soulful voice of David Leha that's in the Blackfire mix.

Blackfire original member Grant Hansen told the *Koori Mail* that gaining Leha, the frontman from Radical Son, heralded a bright new chapter in Blackfire's rock-music history.

"We heard him on the radio singing an Archie Roach song and loved how he interpreted it," Grant said. "So, we asked him to join us and he fitted in nicely."

"We are blessed with his soulful voice – he is a professional. He can sing different genres of music and he is learning our old songs, so we can reach back into our catalogue once we are touring."

With a new album *Regeneration* just released and a world-wide record deal, Grant said he's excited about what's to come.

"We recorded the *Regeneration* album after 14 years being off the road," he said. "And people were happy to see Blackfire back."

"Our record company Golden Robot said they'd been watching us and loved our songs. They thought we could be a world band and take our music on tour to places like America again."

"Right now we are recording a new album *Solar Eclipse* – it will be out in November and then we have another album contracted too."

Formation

Grant said Blackfire first formed in the 1992 as a rock band – and they've never been afraid to bring political messages to their music.

"In the 90s we were a well-known Aboriginal band and toured nationally and internationally with acts such as Carlos Santana, Yothu Yindi and Archie Roach," he said.

"We were named artist of the year in Australia and Paul Hester played drums with us when he left Crowded House – and he produced our second album."

Other original members of Blackfire included Selwyn Burns (ex-Coloured Stone and No Fixed Address), Kelli McGuinness and Bradley Brown (both ex-Watbalimba).

These days the band has an expanded line-up which includes two female singers, Leonie and Monica, who Grant said "add another dimension to the band".

Evolution

Grant said most of the members of Blackfire are 'mature' and hopes Blackfire can evolve into more of a musical performance, worthy of a theatre show – not just a pub band."

It's not surprising that Grant wants to guide the band into a more theatrical realm.

Grant already has an impressive list of TV and performing arts projects he's been involved with.

"I was the creator of the *Marngrook Footy Show* for 13 years," Grant said. "I'm also a Taungurung man from central Victoria and grew up in the western suburbs with a single Aboriginal mum."

"I was one of the founding members of NITV and have been inducted onto the State honour role for my work in media, TV, radio and the arts."

"I was recently in a shopping centre and a bloke said to me 'I know you, you're from Blackfire and I know because my dad's got your CD on the cabinet in the living room'. I was surprised, but happy he didn't recognise me from the *Marngrook Footy Show*."

"Anyone aged 30 and above will have heard of Blackfire."

"Now we are picking up new fans and we will stay a political band that has something to say."

Future

With a sound that incorporates rock music with country and soul, Grant said Blackfire will continue to write and sing "Blackfella style" songs about Country, that come from the heart and soul.

The new Blackfire lineup has already been performing around Victoria, with a crowd of over 4,000 at a recent gig in Ballarat.

From their early days of touring with Archie Roach to their new era of making music, Blackfire are here to stay and look set to keep evolving into the future.



David Leha (left) has joined Aboriginal band, Blackfire, as lead vocalist.



Regeneration is Blackfire's recently released album.

ADVERTISEMENT

Northern Territory redistribution – share your suggestions



THE FEDERAL
REDISTRIBUTION
NORTHERN TERRITORY

If you have any suggestions about the names and boundaries of the federal electoral divisions in the Northern Territory, now is the time to tell us.

As it has been more than seven years since the last redistribution in the Northern Territory, it's time to consider if any changes need to be made to the names and locations of existing boundaries of the electoral divisions.

The Northern Territory is entitled to two members of the House of Representatives.

Under section 56A of the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918*, Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands are included in an electoral division of the Northern Territory (currently the Division of Lingjari).

How to share your suggestions

Your suggestions can be about the names of electoral divisions, where the boundaries should be, or both. They are required to be received in writing to the Redistribution Committee for the Northern Territory by **6pm ACST Friday 14 June 2024**.

You can submit your suggestions:

- **online:** aec.gov.au/NT-redistribution
- by **email:** FedRedistribution-NT@aec.gov.au
- by **post:** Redistribution Committee for the Northern Territory, Australian Electoral Commission, Locked Bag 4007, Canberra ACT 2601.
- **in person:** at the AEC office at Level 9, 9 Cavenagh St, Darwin City

For further information and submission guidelines, go to aec.gov.au/redistributions/2024/nt/

What's next?

All written suggestions received by the deadline will be published on the AEC website on Monday 17 June 2024 and can also be viewed at the AEC office (Level 9, 9 Cavenagh St, Darwin City). You can then tell us, in writing, whether you support or disagree with the suggestions or have a different idea. Written comments on suggestions need to be received by **6pm ACST Friday 28 June 2024**.

The Redistribution Committee will then review all suggestions, ideas, and comments before releasing proposed names and boundaries for the Northern Territory's federal electoral divisions by September/October 2024.

- This is a federal process and is not related to the Northern Territory Government. Northern Territory electoral information can be found on ntec.nt.gov.au/

aec.gov.au/redistributions/2024/nt/

☎ 08 7942 8024

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

Danny Eastwood's view



A YARN WITH...



N'aianga's Tamwoy

Townsville,
Queensland

Favourite bush tucker?
Wild turkey.

Favourite other food?
Sop Sop.

Favourite saltwater food?
Coral trout.

Favourite drink?
Orange and mango juice.

Favourite music?
Country and Western.

Favourite sport?
Basketball. I played a lot at Bamaga in my school days.

Favourite read?
Fiction, but not sci-fi or murder.

Favourite movie?
IP Man. It's a martial-arts movie.

Favourite holiday destination?
Torres Strait Islands. I like Badu.

What do you like in life?
Outdoors and fishing.

What don't you like in life?
Boring people. I like happy ones.

Which Black or Indigenous person would you most like to meet?
Cowboys footballer Jason Taumalolo.

Which people would you invite for a night around the campfire?
My nephew Mota Tamwoy who lives in Cairns.

Who or what inspires you?
People who are polite and show respect.

What would you do to better the situation for Indigenous people?
Hope our First Nations youth get a good education so that they can have a career.

Quote



"It's Australia that has to reconcile with itself. It has to reconcile its history truthfully."

— Yorta Yorta rapper, writer, author and actor Adam Briggs

● See page 3

Unquote

Time to act for ageing survivors

How long can this country continue to ignore its shocking history, and of course its present day challenges? Would it be cynical to think that some in power would rather pretend that everything's ok, and that the Stolen Generations were a thing of the past?

Here's the truth. Things are not ok.

It's been 27 years since the tabling in federal parliament of the *Bringing Them Home* report, which examined the history of First Nations people who were forcibly removed from their families as part of the Stolen Generations.

It documented the experience of survivors and made 54 recommendations, some of which have not yet been implemented.

That in itself is a disgrace, which is reflected in the Reconciliation Week theme 'now more than ever'.

Shannan Dodson, the head of the national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisation, the Healing Foundation, is right when she says that it is an important day for all Australians to reflect and learn about the impact forced removal had on survivors and their descendants.

"There really is no time left, the survivors are ageing," she said.

"What they've gone through was at the hands of government and police and other entities in Australia, and we have to come to terms with that truth."

The problem is, however, that there are many in Australia who are happy to either ignore the truth of history, or adopt



OUR SAY

the 'it wasn't me so I can't be held responsible' line of denial.

The fact that there are still recommendations from the *Bringing Them Home* report that have not been implemented – and that removals continue – shows that some in power are simply not listening, or are refusing to act. By doing so, the trauma of the past continues in the present, and most likely into the future.

This is not to say that there are not pockets of hope out there in the community, and genuine people trying to do their best.

On that note, we applaud the apology from the Victorian police commissioner, Shane Patton, who said: "I am sorry for the profound distress caused and the trauma experienced by so many Aboriginal families."

"For over a hundred years, whether on our own initiative or in assisting other agencies or organisations, Victoria Police contributed to the Stolen Generations by enforcing policies and laws," the commissioner told a room full of emotional survivors.

And guess what? The roof didn't cave in under the weight of his truth, and hopefully a few hearts were mended.

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).

Friends tell the story of reconnecting with family

WONNARUA man Adrian Russell Wills and Wodi woman Gillian Moody are so close that they've been described as the "Aboriginal Will and Grace".

Both adopted as children into white families, these two best friends have made a documentary for NITV about their search, as adults, for their Aboriginal "blood" families.

Called *Kindred*, their journey of discovery into the emotional landscape of family, love and loss explores adoption, living between two worlds – and the importance of friendship.

Adrian's story

As a child, Adrian always felt like he didn't fit in. It wasn't just because he was a black child being brought up in white family – it was something more.

"My relationship with my adopted mother was tumultuous – I was a hard kid to raise and I didn't feel like I belonged," Adrian said.

"I also had ADHD, was promiscuous and was chasing boys at an early age.

"I was trying to find out who I was.

"This unfortunately caused my adopted parents pain and now, I'm estranged from them.

Finding family

"Deep down, I always wanted to find my natural mother, then in my late teens, I left home and ran towards finding my natural family.

"I was figuring out myself too. Coming out, getting into the gay scene – building my own life propelled me to make a connection with my family.

"When I met my birth family, they were living in Dubbo.

"I'd grown up in a very white part of the world and hadn't been around many blackfellas.

Journey of love

"It became a journey of love and understanding and a realisation how much alike I was to my family.

"I'd always been very resistant to authority and I realised my natural family was too.

"They had built resilience and resistance through their life experiences, with all the hardships Aboriginal people go through.

"I understood why I'd always fought for what I believed in. I knew I was meant to be a change agent and tell stories – to give a voice to our Mob so our stories can be heard.

"The referendum personified what I'm talking about. It's now more important than ever to tell our stories and be heard."

Making *Kindred*

Gillian became aware of



Kindred co-directors Gillian Moody and Adrian Russell Wills.

Adrian through her work at SBS in the late 1990s and Adrian was the subject of a story

But they officially met to work together on Adrian's first short film *Angel* a few months later.

"When we met, each of us had already met our birth families," Gillian said.

"We clicked and became aware of the fact we were both adopted into non-Indigenous families in the northern beaches of Sydney.

"We understood each other without needing to say things.

"So when we thought about making a film about it, people were interested because they had not heard of a story like ours before.

Gillian's story

"Making *Kindred*, we wanted to tell a story about adoption and the complexities of what happens from a young age, until you decide to find and reconnect with your birth family.

"The first question people often ask is 'why were we given up?'"

"I never felt the need to ask that. I had a happy and loving home life.

"I didn't have a need to know. From the moment I reconnected with them, I knew we couldn't turn back time. But we could go forward and develop a loving relationship.

"I always knew as a child that

I was an Aboriginal woman.

"But I didn't know who my Mob were. I only knew I was born in Nowra and could assume I was related to Mob on the south coast.

"As I grew older, I was proud of my Aboriginality and my adoptive parents encouraged me to look for my birth family.

"So at 19 years old, I started that journey.

The journey

"I'd done a course at the Australian Film and Television School and got into media – print, radio and film.

"It was a huge change in my life – I found myself in a room full of blackfellas and felt different because of my upbringing.

"That's when I started my journey of looking for my family on the south coast

"When I found them, we took our time getting to know each other and I'm part of that family now.

"I have a solid bond with all my siblings."

Not only did Adrian and Gillian both discover their birth families, the best friends have also intertwined their families into one big extended family.

Nature or nurture

When it comes to whether nature or nurture makes a person who they become, Gillian said it is more than just

genetics that make family connected.

While she shares physical similarities with her birth mother, Mum Noonie, Gillian also shares similar mannerisms with her adopted mother.

"I look like my birth mother and hold my hand the same way she might.

"I also sit like my adopted mother and when I'd answer the phone, people thought it was mum speaking – environment created that.

Adrian said it was different for him.

"I wasn't like my adopted family," he said.

"I was dealing with coming out in a heteronormative world, with a raft of hormones and feeling this resistance to fight back and speak up for myself.

"When I met my natural family, it made sense."

The documentary

For both Adrian and Gillian, their feature-length documentary about their journeys has touched many people who have seen it.

"We are telling two stories about family, friendship love and loss but it crosses boundaries and there are universal things that everyone can relate to," Adrian said.

"There's something in this film for everyone no matter who you are or where you're from.

"I'm proud of what our family has achieved and our adoptive families too

"Fortune favours the brave – if you summon the courage to do things in life that scare you.

"Since we made our film, four people central to our stories have passed on. We were lucky to have met them. If we'd have been too scared to take steps, that wouldn't have happened."

Life learning

Gillian said a big part of the life learning was about patience and compassion. For Adrian, forgiveness.

"As you get older, you feel closure on tumultuous parts of life that may have had trauma.

"Making the film, we got to reflect on our past and face challenges in a raw and vulnerable way.

Gillian reflects "I'm conscious that a lot of people in our country still haven't met someone who is Aboriginal".

"They still have a small view on who Aboriginal people are," she said.

Our stories

"Stories like ours show we come from all different areas of Country and come in different shapes and sizes.

"It's important that we all start connecting."

You can watch *Kindred* for free on SBS on Demand.

Community steps up

By CHRISTINE HOWES



ELDERS, young people, the award-winning Pormpuraaw dancers and the community at large were happy to join local non-government organisation Pormpur Paanth Aboriginal Corporation's (PPAC's) closing ceremony for Domestic Violence (DV) Prevention and Awareness Month, and mark the start of Reconciliation Week, last Friday. The month-long program of activities has been held yearly in the tiny community on the western side of Cape York for at least the past decade.

Acting social and emotional wellbeing manager Benny Hodges said he had travelled all over Australia and he was not aware of any other organisation which dedicated the whole month to DV issues.

"They might just have one event, but here it's promoted openly and Pormpur Paanthu, they advocate very strongly in this month," he said.

"I don't know of any other community, and I've travelled the country but I've never come across one."

"You can't say that it's going to stop domestic and family violence, but it certainly raises the awareness levels and it looks at how it can be reduced."

"It also raises the awareness of people that it's everybody's business."

PPAC CEO Ganthi Kuppusamy said it had, as always, been a success.

"It's been a very successful month to increase awareness that there is no tolerance for domestic and family violence in our community," she said.

She said this year had seen some good turnouts with supporters in the community including the council, Queensland police services, the state school, children and justice services.

"We had the DV Awareness March, men's group activities – we have drug and alcohol awareness programs and activities, because every time you see domestic family violence, the source issue is drug and alcohol," she said.

"So our focus is on the source issues and trying to increase the programs and activities in drug and alcohol awareness."

The month-long calendar of events included workshops, yarnning circles, a fishing competition, a Mother's Day event and a Candlelight Vigil for those who had died from DV, which attracted more than 300 people.

She said PPAC had a good reach into the community with 15 different programs, from the Long Day Care Centre and after-school care to supporting the community's youth, men's and women's groups.

Pormpuraaw Justice Coordinator Josephine Szilagyi said the justice group welcomed



Kathy Shortjoe, Leith Callope and Myrna Shortjoe. Pictures: Christine Howes



Acting-SEWB manager Benny Hodges speaks to the crowd.



PPAC CEO, Ganthi Kuppusamy and acting social and emotional wellbeing manager Benny Hodges stand in front of the banner used each year to spread the word: 'Say no to Domestic Violence'.

and supported the wellbeing programs PPAC brought to the community.

"At the moment we are trying to re-educate community on how they can cut back on doing the wrong things," she said.

"So this is a time where we can fill a whole month, where the focus will be around preventing domestic and family violence and part of the calendar is bringing in services like the Queensland Indigenous Family Violence Legal Service (QIFVLS), which are important to our clients because there's a lot of victims that are being affected."

"I think being able to educate

and shed light into these kinds of things during this month is helpful."

Ms Kuppusamy said another highlight of the month was the organisation's other annual signature event, the Pormpuraaw Youth Summit, having made the finals of the Community section of the Queensland Government's 2024 Reconciliation Awards.

Mr Hodges said it was good to get the message that DV was not part of culture out into the community.

"Domestic and family violence in the household is absolute disrespect to culture," he said.



Pormpuraaw Dancer Syd Shortjoe.



Acting team leader, Act4Kids Safehouse Coordinator Emma Hobson and Justice Coordinator Josephine Szilagyi.



PPAC staff Christine Coleman, Nigel Sullivan and Dorita Teddy.



Falma Roger, Mavis Benjamin and Lavinia Foote.

on domestic violence



Latress Tomun (7) and Christine Holroyd.



George Conrad and Anderson William.



Pormpuraaw Dancers joined Pormpur Paanth Aboriginal Corporation's (PPAC's) Domestic Violence (DV) Prevention and Awareness Month closing ceremony.



Stacey Conrad, Peyton Conrad (4) and Sandra Conrad.



The Kup Murri crew: Jordon Foote, Lloyd Gilbo, Ron Kingi, Brenton Barr (13) and Benny Hodges.



Pormpuraaw Dancer Meredith Arkwookerum.



Frederick Thompson, Mark Foote, Eddie Kepple and Trevor Edwards.

Callout for a movement to protect and value life

IT'S becoming harder and harder to stomach global affairs and continue to sit under a government that makes decisions based on money rather than the health of the planet and the people who live on it.

Right now in Gaza, more than 36,000 Palestinians have been killed by the Israeli government. Babies, women and men. Civilians.

The racist mainstream media has truly shown itself to be the propaganda machine of the colony.

Back when Hamas attacked Israel seven months ago stories were being told on national television that there were beheadings of Israeli children with no real evidence to be shown – the West was outraged.

On May 26, Israel bombed Rafah. From these attacks, horrific footage and images have smothered social media including a specific video showing the corpse of a young child without a head. Yet these children are not mentioned in the mainstream news. Are Palestinian children not as precious as Israeli children?

Rafah has been a so-called 'safe place' for Palestinians fleeing genocide and the onslaught of bombs. Al Jazeera reported that Israel dropped seven 900kg bombs as well as missiles on the displacement camp.

These bombs are 'dumb' bombs, basically meaning they are unguided. There is no precision in their aim, they're just sent to destroy.

When is enough, enough? When will we, as a collective, rise to resist what's really going on?

The truth is in a capitalist



Ella Noah Bancroft

“The issue is that we have gone too far; this modern society, this energy crisis, this housing crisis, this attempt to hold on to the capitalist colony that is killing us and everything around us. Let this system burn to the ground.”

system, the system capitalises from death.

In order for us to be a wealthy country, in order for us to maintain the privilege we have here in this nation, we must take from others, we must take other lives and lands and resources.

I am outraged at the lack of integrity in journalism and the lack of actual leadership in our governments or any of the major parties at this time.

I am shocked by our inability to be moral beings who understand that nothing is better than anything else, no one human is better than another, no race, no sex, no culture. This lore, that no one uses power over or is better than anyone is the number one lore of the land.

Do not assume to be above any living being on this planet.

I am surprised, when I go to the Free Palestine rallies, how few people show up. I am concerned by our lack of

empathy as a modern species. I'm shocked by our inability to be compassionate and feel deeply.

The issue is that we have gone too far; this modern society, this energy crisis, this housing crisis, this attempt to hold on to the capitalist colony that is killing us and everything around us.

Let this system burn to the ground. I cannot and will not operate inside of this top-down and profit-driven, bottom-line-rigid society that cares for nothing other than individual needs and greed.

36,000 people were reported dead in Palestine and recent data from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade shows that in February 2024, Australia directly exported over \$1.5 million in 'arms and ammunition' to Israel. We are, as a country, complicit in this genocide. Knowing that we are an interconnected global community, the way that we rise

here, in this nation, could help save lives and cultures that have been around for thousands of years.

This is not just a Middle East issue. This is a global issue that requires a global awakening. The more we take and consume, the more we lose precious and finite resources.

In Sudan, a year-long war is severely impacting humanitarian supplies and there are four million children at risk of severe malnutrition.

Around 2.5 million people are at risk of dying from hunger before September 2024. Meanwhile, in Australia, 7.6 million tonnes of food is wasted every year, our households accounting for the majority of it. Do we see this insanity?

Australia is the world's largest exporter of alumina and the sixth biggest exporter of aluminium, a precious metal mined by ripping open the earth. Due to the extensive processes of mining, refining

and smelting, the results of this extraction process heighten carbon emissions and impact global warming.

Aluminium is also a key ingredient in guns and weapons used in colonial takeover and murder.

If we don't start to awaken to the corruption, to the death economy we have signed up, we will pave the path to hell with good intentions.

When will the collective rise together and see all the negative impacts of this colonial capitalist regime that thrives from death? I mean, in order for us to become a richer country, we must continue to kill. Directly or indirectly, Australia has blood on our hands. We murder our more-than-human-kin, old-growth rainforest, waterways, mineral deposits mined from the earth, deposits of metals that have taken thousands of years to develop – and the countless human beings who die at the hands of colonial reign so we can get more oil, land and resources in a horrible attempt to hold on to this system of death.

The boycotts are working, do your research and divest your funds away from war-driven corporations. Divest and boycott corporations that directly profit from genocide and white supremacy.

Now is the time to rise together. To not get overwhelmed with information, but rather get informed and make the right choices.

Start the conversation and get others on board into a movement to protect all life here on earth.

● *Bundjalung woman Ella Noah Bancroft is a regular columnist for the Koori Mail.*



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Applications are invited for appointment to the Wild Horse Community Advisory Panel for Kosciuszko National Park

Applications are now open to fill a minimum of one (1) and a maximum of three (3) membership vacancies on the Wild Horse Community Advisory Panel. The Panel is established under the *Kosciuszko Wild Horse Heritage Act 2018* (the Act).

The Panel provides advice to the:

- Minister for the Environment or the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service on matters relating to the identification of the heritage value and the management of sustainable wild horse populations within Kosciuszko National Park.
- Secretary of the Department on the preparation and amendment of any draft wild horse heritage management plan.

Members are appointed by the Minister for the Environment and must meet at least one of the panel composition requirements and/or have expertise or experience in any of the matters listed in Schedule 1, Section 3 of the Act.

Applications will be considered from Aboriginal people, representatives of the community from the locality around Kosciuszko National Park and other persons who have expertise and experience in recreational planning and management (including horse riding), horse or other animal welfare management, alpine tourism planning and management and/or community involvement in conservation. Community members with scientific expertise are eligible for membership.

Panel appointments will initially be for 12 months.

Remuneration: Daily sitting fees for members of the panel are \$220.

Applications close: Close of business Monday 17 June 2024.

Contact: For further information on the panel and how to apply, please go to: environment.nsw.gov.au/NPWS/AdvisoryCommittees.htm. Enquiries should be made via email to npws.wildhorses@environment.nsw.gov.au

Letter

Fact sheets to help tackle health issues

To mark National Reconciliation Week, Cancer Council NSW wants to bring awareness to the work we are doing to improve health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across NSW through creating culturally safe and responsive programs and services.

We know that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples continue to experience higher rates of cancer diagnoses and mortality compared with non-Indigenous Australians.

According to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare Health Performance Framework, lung cancer is the most common cancer diagnosis among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples (15% of all new cases), followed by breast cancer (12%), bowel cancer (9%) and prostate cancer (8%).

Fact sheets

Cancer Council NSW has recently updated a series of four fact sheets tailored specifically for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples affected by lung, breast, bowel, and prostate cancers.

These resources aim to provide culturally sensitive information and support to individuals and families who have been affected by cancer. The fact sheets were originally developed in collaboration with the Menzies School of Health Research.

In addition to raising awareness about these

resources, it is important to outline ways we can assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples navigating the complexities of cancer diagnosis and treatment.

From providing support with travel and accommodation to offering financial assistance and access to legal support, Cancer Council is committed to alleviating the burdens associated with cancer care because no one should face cancer alone.

Equitable access

As we observe National Reconciliation Week, it is imperative to acknowledge the importance of equitable access to healthcare services and support for all Australians.

At Cancer Council NSW, we see reconciliation as a commitment to advancing respectful, authentic and long-term relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples by implementing strategies and initiatives that will enable us to work together towards a cancer free future.

Visit aboriginal.cancercouncil.com.au, where you will also be able to find tailored information on cancer, staying healthy, getting support and stories being shared by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who have been affected by cancer.

Brad Gellert, Manager, Policy & Advocacy Unit, Cancer Council NSW.

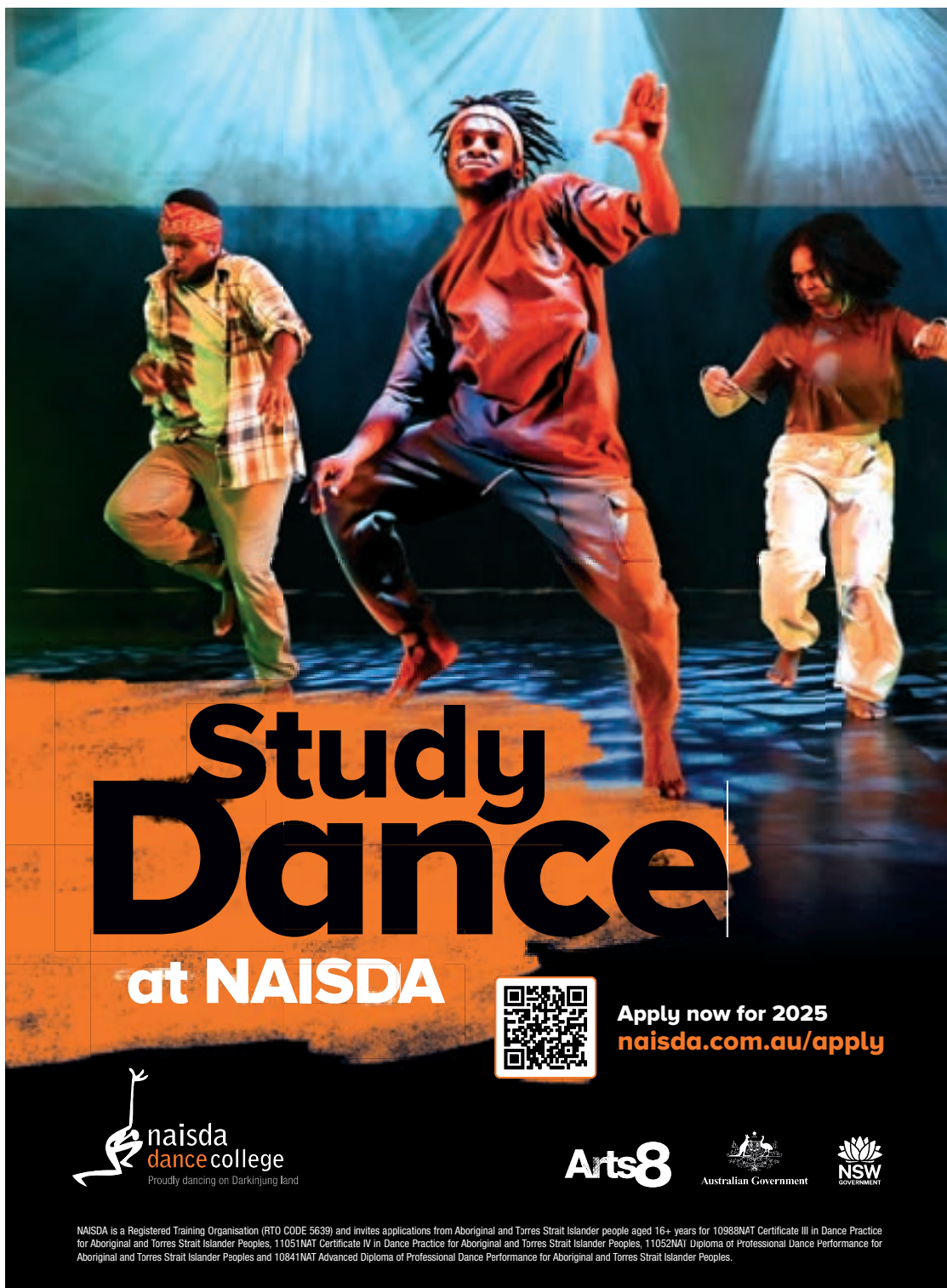
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NAISDA is a Registered Training Organisation (RTO CODE 5639) and invites applications from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 16+ years for 10988NAT Certificate III in Dance Practice for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, 11051NAT Certificate IV in Dance Practice for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, 11052NAT Diploma of Professional Dance Performance for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and 10841NAT Advanced Diploma of Professional Dance Performance for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.

Wumera Nangamay canvasses a new telling of an ancient Gadigal songline



WUMERA Nangamay – A Salt Lake Series is a collection of new works by Indigenous artist Konstantina (Kate Constantine). Showing at Coeee Art Leven in Sydney, the exhibition depicts one of the Gadigal songlines that connects the Gadi (Sydney, NSW) to Kati Thanda (Lake Eyre, SA).

Konstantina is a neo-contemporary artist, reimagining her people's artistic traditions and offering a modern narrative for all people to better understand a First Nations perspective as part of the fabric of Australia.

Her practice engages with her Mob and their oral histories and coupled with her academic research, her artworks are a physical manifestation of these stories and histories – a document in time to reconnect her people to their Country, as described in her recently published book *Gadigal Ngura – Exploring a Gadigal Artist's Love Affair With Her Country*.

Konstantina's star is on the rise, having been appointed artist in residence at the British Museum in 2025 and the Sidney Nolan Trust in Wales in 2023 and 2025. She is currently undertaking studies toward a PhD at the University of Utah, USA and the University of Sydney.

Konstantina's artist statement accompanying the exhibition speaks to the growth in her understanding of her own people and culture. She writes:

"Our connection to Country embodies more than merely the physical realm, it also allows us to connect spiritually. It is this spirituality that is often spoken of in Western terms as 'dreaming'. To me, growing up in an urban city, this complex spiritual understanding was very limited. It is only now as an adult, a mother and woman living in regional Australia, without all the clutter and noise of a city, that I have begun to understand, to lean into this way of being and knowing."

Konstantina explains the Gadigal songlines on which the collection is based, as "a physical and spiritual connection to a place other than our own Country, (that) connects the Gadi to Kati Thanda (Lake Eyre)."

"I have long been fascinated with this place, well before I knew of the songline and its significance to my ancestors."

"This lake is arid, dried out and overwhelmingly beautiful in its many states of living and being."

"The lake and its creeks, waterholes and tributaries only flow after the great desert rains and have been cared for by Arabana custodians for tens of



Konstantina uses art to explore her understanding of Country.

thousands of years."

In her statement she also explains the Gadi story of the Garanga (Pelican) that follows breeding cycles between Warrane (Sydney) and Kati Thanda:

"It demonstrates a deep knowing of animal, spirit, people and place. It is this wisdom of the cycles, this knowing of place that kicked off this series, a study of our great salt lakes, as seen by a bird soaring through the sky, dreaming of our big Countries."

Wumera Nangamay – A Salt Lake Series is on at Coeee Art Leven Gallery in Redfern, June 13 – July 13.

The exhibition opens with a cocktail party on June 13, and an artist's talk will be held on Saturday, June 15, with a Welcome to Country from Uncle Ray Davidon. RSVP is required for the opening and artist talk.

Visit cooeear.com.au/ for more.



Salt Pan #4, by Konstantina.



SHELL AUSTRALIA INVITES YOU TO GET IN TOUCH ON THE CRUX PROJECT

If you have functions, interests or activities that may be affected by this project, Shell Australia wants to hear from you.

In Australia, Shell has an integrated energy solutions portfolio which includes gas production and liquefaction, as well as renewable power and energy solutions businesses.

With our joint venture partner, SGH Energy, we are preparing to develop the Crux natural gas field. This is to ensure a continued supply of gas to Shell's Prelude Floating Liquefied Natural Gas (FLNG) facility, which extracts, liquefies and stores natural gas at sea, before it is transferred and shipped to customers. The Crux field is located 190km offshore north-west Australia.

Shell Australia is preparing the Crux Completions, Commissioning, Start up, and Operations Environment Plan(s) for submission to the National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority (NOPSEMA). Consultation with relevant persons is an important part of this approval.

Please respond by 30 June 2024.

For more information please visit:
www.shell.com.au/crux



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Walking together to

By KIRSTIE PARKER



MEMBERS and descendants of the Stolen Generations in South Australia have wept and embraced whilst recounting traumatic experiences at a notorious former Adelaide mission that housed hundreds of Aboriginal children forcibly removed from their families.

Their recollections were part of a moving National Sorry Day 2024 event at Colebrook Reconciliation Park – formerly the Colebrook Children's Home – in Eden Hills, Adelaide, on Sunday, May 26.

The day, supported by Blackwood Reconciliation Group (BRG), the Healing Foundation and the City of Mitcham, also honoured the theme of National Reconciliation Week 2024: Now More Than Ever.

Long gone from the site is the imposing building where the United Aborigines Mission (UAM) kept 350 Aboriginal children from the 1940s to the 1970s.

Now, it is a place of reconciliation, education and healing featuring towering gum trees and native plants, iconic sculptures, artworks, and listening posts where visitors can hear the voices of former residents. The site was transformed through the efforts of Tji Tji Tjuta comprised of former residents, Kurna community Elders, BRG, the City of Mitcham, and the Aboriginal Lands Trust.

At last week's event, speakers called for truth-telling and eloquently went about doing so themselves – pleading for the SA Government to address ongoing barriers to justice.

In the audience were SA's Aboriginal Affairs Minister and Attorney General Kyam Maher, as well as SA Governor Frances Adamson AC, who the *Koori Mail* understands has invited former Colebrook residents to meet to discuss their ongoing concerns.

The speakers were also buoyed by more than a thousand people – Aboriginal community members and non-Indigenous allies – who streamed into the park after walking two-kilometres from the Adelaide Hills suburb of Blackwood.

Welcome

A welcome to Kurna Country by Ngangkipurka Susan Kudnarto Roberts was followed by speeches and performances by the Dusty Feet Mob dance group from Port Augusta, First Nations musicians Katie Aspel, Tony Minniecon and Ellie Lovegrove, Jono Eskatology Stier, and children from Belair Jean Bonython Kindergarten and Coromandel Valley Primary School.

Speakers gave heart-rending accounts of their own experiences, and those of family members – some of whom were stolen and taken to Colebrook as babies.

Wangkangurru man and former resident Raymond Finn said the home had been a scary and 'very lonely place' for him as a six-year-old, but what had happened to him and others through an unjust system could be broken if current generations stood and worked together.

He said the road ahead should be forged through listening, relationships and transformation.

Margie Goodwin's mum Miriam McKenzie was amongst the first 12 children taken to Colebrook, from Oodnadatta via Quorn.

Ms Goodwin asked Minister Maher and Governor Adamson to support the Aboriginal community by ensuring there was an Aboriginal family birthing program at the nearby Flinders Medical Centre.

"Will you help us to stop the removal of Aboriginal babies from their parents? Because a lot of time this process has been illegal – like it was back then for my mother – and it just



(Photo by Colleen Strangways, Nharla Photography)

More than a thousand people joined the walk from Blackwood to Colebrook Reconciliation Park at Eden Hills.



Arrernte and Boandik historian and Stolen Generations survivor Kath Apma Penangke Travis sought support accessing her family's records from the United Aborigines Mission, which ran Colebrook Home.



Wangkangurru man and Stolen Generations survivor Raymond Finn told those gathered the Colebrook Home had been 'a very lonely, lonely place' and truth-telling was vital to move forward.

devastates the community," she said.

Arrernte and Boandik historian Kath Apma Penangke Travis's mum was under the control of the UAM from the age of just three weeks, and three of her children – Ms Travis included – were later removed, separated, and adopted into white families over state borders.

Ms Travis told the crowd that despite the 1997 *Bringing Them Home* report, the 2008 Apology, and many other inquiries, there had still been no systemic government response to the needs and rights of the Stolen Generations.

She expressed her devastation that the Victorian Yoorook Royal Commission had cited a lack of resources in declining to compel the UAM to give evidence and hand over records.

"Where are those records? Where are those stories? Are they lost, have they been destroyed? Are they sitting on some

old white missionary's garage floor, rotting away?" she asked.

Ms Travis said the SA Government had financially supported the UAM historically and should cease its 'silence' and press to have the UAM provide their records.

"Now more than ever, you have the opportunity to be on the right side of history. We need those records, we need our stories, so that we can heal," she said.

Ngarrindjeri woman Jennadene Smith's late mum, revered Elder Aunty Doris Kartinyeri, was just four weeks old when taken from Murray Bridge Hospital to Colebrook.

"She had a family – she had a father, she had siblings, she had grandparents, and she had a community. Yet, they still took her. She couldn't go home," Ms Smith told the crowd.

She said the children of today needed to know these stories, and educators should support them 'to know the value of connections, the value of family, to be able to grow and self-actualise into the people that we deserve to be, to reach our potential'.

Courtney Hunter-Hebermann said authorities had targeted family lines for intergenerational removals – her grandmother Pam Hunter was in Colebrook, her mum Mandy Brown (see Mandy's poem next page) was removed from family, and she too came close to being taken soon after birth but "luckily, there were people at that time who stood up for my mum and stood up for me".

She said that in 2016, her own grandson was removed "because they were co-sleeping and (there were) toys in the cot", and subsequently moved 14 times".

heal removals pain



From left, speakers Kath Apma Penangke Travis, Jennadene Smith, Margie Goodwin, and Courtney Hunter-Hebermann with Ngangkkipurka Susan Kudnarto Roberts who welcomed attendees to Kurna Country.



SA Governor Frances Adamson, Mitcham Mayor Heather Holmes-Ross, Aboriginal Affairs Minister Kyam listened to the stories of Stolen Generations survivors and their family members. (Photo by Colleen Strangways, Nharla Photography)



Lauren Binns with her partner Rhys Howlett and sons Archie Saunders and (front) Charlie Saunders.



Blackwood Reconciliation Group Chair, Dr Marie Gould.



Southern Aranda woman and Stolen Generations survivor Christine Doolan at the Colebrook Grieving Mother sculpture.



Gibran and Xiang Maher with sons Maverick and Felix.



Tony Minniecon and Ellie Lovegrove were amongst the performers.



The Dusty Feet Mob gave a powerful and emotional performance.

The Home

This is where the children grew
The ones their mothers barely knew
Taken away and forced to stand in hand me downs
On white man's land
The place you're standing is where they were brought
And assimilated white way taught
To bring about a better Australia
"If we turn-em white, they'll never fail ya"
Educated by written word
The Dreamtime tales now lost, obscured
A haze in their now white washed mind
Along with family they'll never find
But the memories the children tried
To recapture of people they were told had died
Of running free on warm red sand
And being held by gentle brown hands
Of people with smiles and dark curly hair
Now these memories were as thin as the air
As instead their heads were crammed with other
things to remember in place of Mother
Crying babies in the night
Wide eyed children stiff with fright
Growing up and day by day
Watching their past fade away
Huddled together they grew up until
They left this place from on the hill
And created a family of their own
These children from the "Mission Home"

(c)1997, Mandy Brown (Peramangk and Ngarrindjeri)

"We were told that because my mother was Stolen Generation, because we were Stolen Generation, we were emotionally incapable of caring for our grandson," Ms Hunter-Hebermann said.

She said the system remained racially biased and she was standing up to say, 'no more'.

Governor Frances Adamson said that against the backdrop of SA's foundational documents – the Letters Patent, the South Australia Act 1838, and the Proclamation itself – she felt a responsibility to walk with Indigenous and non-Indigenous South Australians.

She said society had yet to fully understand concepts like complex and intergenerational trauma, the devastation such trauma creates, and the lasting impact it has on individuals, families, and

future generations. But she had learned from First Nations people about the importance of them having opportunities for truth telling, and for non-Indigenous people to respond with deep listening.

"These – truth telling and deep listening – are foundations for healing," Governor Adamson said.

Minister Maher said the speakers had shared painful memories in a hope for a better future.

"There were many suggestions that have been made and they're something for us as government to look at – and some for us as a whole society to look at – to see what we can do differently in the future."

Minister Maher said he was saddened the recent federal Voice referendum hadn't succeeded but proud to be part of a

government that had legislated for a First Nations Voice to SA's Parliament.

"We've established the Voice; we need to make sure it works properly and then re-start Treaty discussions and – so critically important, as you've heard today – truth telling in this state."

BRG Chair Marie Gould told the *Koori Mail* the walk and adjacent program was about respectfully honouring and amplifying the voices of former Colebrook residents.

"And I think it gave non-Aboriginal people who had voted Yes (in the recent Voice referendum) a place to gather and have some cohesion and sense of agency," Dr Gould said.

Audience members also had an opportunity to explore the site, enjoy a barbecue, contribute to the Sea of Hands

art installation, join a weaving workshop with Southern Elders Weaving group, and play games former Colebrook residents had played, such as knucklebones.

Attendee Lauren Binns, whose young sons Archie Saunders and Charlie Saunders have Bidjara, Bardha, Gungalu and Torres Strait Islander heritage, said it was important for allies to 'show up' for First Nations people.

"That's allyship for me, that responsibility. We live in the area and I want the kids to feel the community around them, to have belonging here" Ms Binns said.

For more information on the Blackwood Reconciliation Group, email BlackwoodReconciliationGroup@gmail.com or visit their Facebook page.

Beautiful setting for gathering

By ALF WILSON



A NATIONAL Sorry Day Walk hosted by TAIHS Social and Emotional Well Being service at idyllic Palmetum Botanical Gardens in Townsville was enjoyed by 40 First Nation's people of various ages.

It was held on Friday May 24 and the theme was "together we walk together we talk".

Sarbi Baker and Tracy Tyshing-Byquare were amongst numerous TAIHS workers who were at the garden's gate and helped run the popular event.

"They all got to eat some healthy fruit which we had here," Sarbi said.

George Johnson, aged 68, who lives in Townsville but hails from Palm Island said he loved the event.

"It is so peaceful here with all the trees and pond and the birds," George said.

Carmel Mann was in her wheelchair with her carer Kristy Davidson.

"This has been so relaxing in a really beautiful place," Carmel said.

Alex Masso who has family from Charters Towers and Christine Conway said they couldn't have wished for a better outing.

"This has been lovely," Christine said.

The *Koori Mail* saw four generations of a family who were enjoying time together for the walk at the gardens.

They were grandmother Delia Muller, aged 61, great-grandmother Ruth Waterhouse, 85, granddaughter Shenade Muller, 33, and great grandson Isaiah Hauraki, aged three weeks.

"It has been so wonderful being all together," Shenade said.



Four generations from left are grandmother Delia Muller, aged 61, great-grandmother Ruth Waterhouse, 85, granddaughter Shenade Muller, 33, and great grandson Isaiah Hauraki, aged three weeks.



Carmel Mann in her wheelchair with her carer Kristy Davidson.



Palm Islander George Johnson in the Palmetum.



Alex Masso and Christine Conway.



Sarbi Baker from TAIHS checks out the fruit.

Passing on the stories of the past

By PAUL CONNELLY



A POP-UP digital art exhibition by mother and daughter Joanne Farrant and Karinda Farrant, was the feature of Sorry Day and the launch of Reconciliation Week on Gunditjmarra lands in Hamilton, South West Victoria.

Entitled, Ina Art, it is in honour of their mother and grandmother Eunice Wright.

The exhibition was organised by Tina Wright of the Winda-Mara Aboriginal Corporation.

It tells Eunice's story of being part of the Stolen Generation, and her lifelong fight for justice.

Eunice was only 9-years-old when the police came in the middle of the night and removed her and her brother and sister from Lake Condah Mission.

Ronnie was a baby and Gloria was 14.

They were taken to the Heywood police station and locked in the cells. They then had to go to court in Heywood and all the Aunties and Uncles turned up, even those in uniform who had served their country. Their father was away working in Yambuk and on hearing of the news ran all the way, but they had been moved to Melbourne by then.

They arrived at Parkville which was a receiving centre for children, and then they were eventually separated, and Eunice grew up in an orphanage in Ballarat. When Eunice eventually returned to Country and raised a family of her own, it is said that she was very protective of her daughter, no one was taking her kids off her, no way.

When asked about the idea for the art and the exhibition, Joanne said: "When we lost mum Karinda was struggling, so we both got into art as a way of healing, and now we are three generations telling the story and this story will be passed on to my granddaughters and their granddaughters so mum's story will always be told."

"It was way of saying thankyou Nan for all you did and the least I can do is honour her name, and carry her name throughout life's journey," Karinda said.

The event was dedicated to all members of the Stolen Generation forcibly removed from family, Country and culture.



From left: Karinda Farrant, Jasmin Wright, David Peverill, Sonny Wright, Tina Wright, Joanne Wright, Claudette Lovett, Donna Wright and Staycee Charles.



Some of the paintings featured in the exhibition.



A photo of Eunice Wright featured on the exhibition pamphlet.

Action is needed for ageing Stolen Generations survivors



INDIGENOUS communities gathered to mark Sorry Day across the country, amid ongoing calls to implement all of the recommendations of a 27-year-old report into the Stolen Generations.

National Sorry Day events were held in major capital cities, including in Sydney where Coota Girls Survivors – the former residents of the Cootamundra Domestic Training Home for Aboriginal Girls – their families and descendants met in the Royal Botanic Gardens.

May 26 marks the 1997 tabling in federal parliament of the *Bringing Them Home* report, which examined the history of First Nations people who were forcibly removed from their families as part of the Stolen Generations.

It documented the experience of survivors and made 54 recommendations, some of which have not yet been implemented.

Shannan Dodson, the head of the national Aboriginal and Torres



National Sorry Day is a time to reflect on the history of the Stolen Generations, the Healing Foundation says as it calls for more support for survivors.

Strait Islander organisation, the Healing Foundation, said it was an important day for all Australians to reflect and learn about the impact forced removal had on survivors and their descendants.

She would also like to see all the report's recommendations implemented, so survivors can be eligible for compensation and have easier access to documents like birth certificates.

"If you look at the recommendations, they are still

completely relevant today," she said.

"The answers are there and it's just about how we can come together, have a very systematic and holistic approach to addressing those issues."

Ms Dodson said the Reconciliation Week theme 'now more than ever' rings true for Stolen Generations survivors.

"There really is no time left, the survivors are ageing," she said.

"What they've gone through

was at the hands of government and police and other entities in Australia, and we have to come to terms with that truth."

Reconciliation Week also marks the anniversary of the 1967 referendum on May 27, which allowed Indigenous people to be counted in the census, and Mabo Day on June 3, which celebrates the High Court decision overturning the principle of 'terra nullius' and paving the way for native title.

Reconciliation Australia board member Kenny Bedford said the week was an opportunity to have conversations about the nation's history.

"That's what National Reconciliation Week is all about, stimulating those conversations and broadening awareness ... so that we have a better understanding of our history, the impact of colonisation, and importantly the benefit of dealing with some of those unresolved issues for the entire country," he said.

Mr Bedford said a growing number of organisations have

expressed interest in creating Reconciliation Action Plans and engaging with First Nations people, even after the failure of the referendum in October to enshrine an Indigenous Voice in the constitution.

Reconciliation Victoria has seen a similar spike in demand for resources since the referendum, with chief executive Nicole Findlay saying the state's treaty process has encouraged support for First Nations issues.

"The work we know we need to do right now is the public education piece, we have to have strength in numbers and be together very visibly," she said.

Reconciliation Victoria co-chair Dr Emily Poelina-Hunter said she relates this year's Reconciliation Week theme with the momentum she's felt since October's referendum.

"Everybody was aware of the awful racism that was very public around (the referendum)," she said. "It's really galvanised people ... it's now more than ever we need to really push for reconciliation."

- AAP

Winners of 2024 Queensland Reconciliation Awards



THE association behind the Fraser Coast's 'First Contact' war memorial, dedicated to the Butchulla men who died defending

Butchulla Country, was named the winner of the 2024 Premier's Reconciliation Award.

Premier Steven Miles announced The Butchulla Men's Business Aboriginal Association among four other recipients of the 2024 Queensland Reconciliation Awards in Cairns last night.

The awards recognise and celebrate inspiring initiatives and organisations that demonstrate an unwavering commitment to reconciliation during National Reconciliation Week.

Award recipients across the six award categories include:

- Premier's Reconciliation Award and Community category – Butchulla Men's Business Aboriginal Association for Butchulla Warriors' Memorial – A Journey of Reconciliation.

- Business category – Mandingalbay Yidinji Aboriginal Corporation for Mandingalbay Authentic Indigenous Tours.

- Education category – Abergowrie State School.

- Health and wellbeing category – Apunipima and Torres and Cape Hospital and Health Service for Cape York Kidney Care.

- Partnership – Isa Rodeo Limited and Mona Aboriginal Corporation for Mount Isa Mines Indigenous Rodeo Championships.

Winners of the 2024 Queensland Reconciliation Awards receive a share of \$30,000 in prize money.

Now in its 21st year, the awards have recognised more than 100 initiatives and partnerships that have championed reconciliation.

Rugby league legend and 2024 Queensland Reconciliation Awards Ambassador Johnathan Thurston said: "As an Awards Ambassador, it is so rewarding to see the remarkable initiatives and projects that are building strong relationships, embracing our rich heritage and highlighting our art and storytelling."

"Each year I am amazed by the diverse range of initiatives being delivered by small community groups through to local government and land councils, in communities right across Queensland, and this year is no exception."

Contemporary Aboriginal artist and 2024 Queensland Reconciliation Awards Ambassador Chern'ee Sutton said: "I'm so proud to be an Awards Ambassador and to champion the many inspiring collaborations and projects that are going above and beyond to foster reconciliation in Queensland."

"Congratulations to all 2024 finalists and recipients. Each one of you deserves commendation for your passion and unwavering commitment to reconciliation."

Actor and 2024 Queensland Reconciliation Awards Ambassador Jimi Bani said: "It is a great honour as an Awards Ambassador to take on such a key role in acknowledging the fantastic initiatives and the organisations delivering them. To hear the stories of reconciliation and witness the efforts of these organisations driving real change in communities has been nothing short of inspiring."



Community and Premier's Reconciliation Award – Butchulla Warriors' Memorial.



Business – Mandingalbay Authentic Indigenous Tours.



Education – Abergowrie State School.



Health and wellbeing: Cape York Kidney Care.



Partnership – Mount Isa Mines Indigenous Rodeo.

Health workers unite for better health outcomes



COMMUNITY members and top medical bodies across the Hunter and New England regions have joined forces in a powerful bid to improve First Nations health outcomes.

'Research Our Way' – a collaborative strategy between the University of Newcastle, Awabakal Limited, the Hunter Medical Research Institute (HMRI) and the Hunter New England Local Health District – aims to set a new standard for the national tertiary sector.

The project is a revolutionary approach, according to Worimi man and the country's first Indigenous surgeon, Professor Kelvin Kong.

"There is a better way in which we all do research and the key to that is community engagement and community involvement," Professor Kong said.

"This important work in 'Research Our Way' has involved years of collaboration, including input and co-design by local Aboriginal community Elders, Traditional Owners, community members as well as Aboriginal health workers, researchers and health practitioners," Professor Kong said, representing HMRI.

In development since 2021, a five-year action plan and community-representative panel provide a vehicle to empower local people on and around Worimi and Awabakal lands to lead and participate in the space.

'Research Our Way' further cements First Nations excellence and community collaboration as a core priority for the University of Newcastle, according to Wiradjuri man and Pro-Vice Chancellor Indigenous Strategy and Leadership, Nathan Towney.

"Historically, our people have been more likely to be research subjects rather than centred voices part of the co-design process and we want to change that going forward," Mr Towney said.

The 2024 Australian Universities Accord, a government review of the country's higher education system, has identified First Nations success and high-impact research as priority areas for the sector.

"This strategy really does start to shift those power dynamics to ensure Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are the ones who get to say what gets researched, how it is researched, who's doing the research, and we hope that this has a far greater impact on our health outcomes," Mr Towney said.

Central to the success of the project is 'Wukul Yabang' – meaning 'one path' in the Awabakal language.

'Wukul Yabang' is a diverse panel of local community and health representatives that meet



'Research Our Way' is a collaboration between the University of Newcastle, Awabakal Limited, the Hunter Medical Research Institute (HMRI) and the Hunter New England Local Health District, aiming to set a new standard for the national tertiary sector.



Wiradjuri man Nathan Towney is Pro-Vice Chancellor Indigenous Strategy and Leadership.



Professor Kelvin Kong.



Yeena Thompson, Aboriginal Health Research Partner.



'Research Our Way' on Country.

periodically to provide essential research ethics, research methodology, cultural and community oversight.

It's a crucial component to the success of the strategy and ultimately improving health outcomes, Raylene Gordon from Hunter New England Local Health District said.

"Research our way means valuing our way of knowing and doing, and educating others to respect this is not something you can do without our people," Ms Gordon said.

Mr Jason Smith, CEO Awabakal Ltd, echoed those

sentiments and said Wukul Yabang provided researchers and institutions an opportunity to present to the panel and ensure their work was appropriate.

"Knowing there is a group of diverse Aboriginal people who have expertise in health, that researchers and Aboriginal Health organisations have access to, will make a huge difference in how Mob can benefit from research," Mr Smith said.

A non-Indigenous PhD candidate at the University of Newcastle, Dr Sarah Browning recently presented her proposed

research in infection control to Wukul Yabang.

"It's a really friendly and welcoming environment and I'm really happy that I had the opportunity to come," Dr Browning said.

"The biggest learning point for me has been, rather than designing projects and designing policies and then going out and seeking consultation afterwards – the change needs to be happening from within... We need to be embedding the voices of Aboriginal people and their experiences and their needs for their community," Dr Browning explained.

Last month, the Australian Productivity Commission passed down a damning review of the Federal Government's 15-year-long 'Closing the Gap' strategy, aimed at addressing 19 targets for reducing disparity between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.

Two of those recommendations prioritised improved power sharing to recognise and support Indigenous data sovereignty, both of which are incorporated throughout 'Research Our Way'.

The strategy working group engaged the Institute for Collaborative Race Research to

speak with local Aboriginal people and community organisations to understand the opportunity that doing research differently can have on health and wellbeing.

Gamilaraay woman and University of Newcastle Aboriginal Health Research Partner, Yeena Thompson, said the time was now for the research field to understand Indigenous health in a more holistic way.

"Our concept of health is inseparable from, and entwined with, Country, family, spirituality and cultural practices," Ms Thompson said.

"We hope that other people will be able to see what we've done here and how we're doing it, and they'll be able to do it in their own communities to improve health outcomes for our people, because that's the bottom line for why all of us are invested in this whole project," Ms Thompson said.

While 'Research Our Way' has been designed to suit the needs of the Hunter and New England regions, the founding organisations aspire for the approach to be adopted and rolled out suitably across the country in order for it to benefit as many people as possible.

Film aims to educate mainstream GPs on culturally-safe health care



Uncle Warren Foster (left), Lynette Goodwin (second from right) and Ron Mason (right) yarn with cultural educator Errolyn Strang (second from left) about accessing health care. Picture: Marion Williams

By MARION WILLIAMS



LIGHTS, camera, action. Wallaga Lake's Umbarra Cultural Centre became a film set when

COORDINARE – South Eastern NSW Primary Health Network – brought a film crew to interview local Aboriginal community members. COORDINARE has been travelling around the region from Wollongong to Queanbeyan, Goulburn and now Wallaga Lake, to make a film that educates general practice staff in culturally-safe health care.

COORDINARE contracted cultural educator Errolyn Strang to facilitate a discussion with Narooma's Ron Mason and Lynette Goodwin and Uncle Warren Foster from Wallaga

Lake. They yarned about accessing health care, what good health care looks like and the ongoing importance of COVID vaccinations.

COORDINARE community engagement officer Terry Hill said their statistics suggested a large proportion of the region's Aboriginal population attend a mainstream general practice. "It is about choice, so we are trying to educate and to transform the general practice to be a safe place, not just for Aboriginal people but also for other groups like LGBTQI," the Walbunja man said.

The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners requires that general practices conducting 715 health checks have a certain percentage of staff go through cultural accreditation. The free 715 health checks help to identify

risk factors for chronic disease. "We are putting together an online training module on cultural awareness and cultural safety to support mainstream practices become more culturally safe," Mr Hill said.

COORDINARE associate director, primary care development, Kaleena Webbe said Primary Health Networks are tasked with supporting mainstream doctors to provide culturally safe and appropriate care.

Cultural competency

"We are creating localised cultural competency videos," Ms Webbe said. "We think it is important for our doctors to see local faces and local places to give that personal connection. Providing this support for mainstream providers, as well as engaging with local

community members and supporting local Aboriginal businesses, is part of our remit under our Reconciliation Action Plan."

Just before the COVID pandemic COORDINARE ran a pilot program in five medical practices that had relatively high numbers of Aboriginal patients. The practices were in Wollongong, Nowra, Narooma, Goulburn and Queanbeyan. COORDINARE funded them to work with local Aboriginal community members to co-design improvements to their service. In each town a small group of community members discussed what was good, what was bad and what the practice could do differently to make Aboriginal patients feel safer and more confident about going to see a doctor.

In Goulburn, where there is

no Aboriginal Medical Service, one practice erected flag poles so that it could fly the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island flag. The community identified that transport was a problem. The practice successfully lobbied the council to have a bus stop outside the practice and to be included in bus routes.

As a result of the program in Narooma, a popular medical practice has a Walawaani sign to welcome people, a sign that acknowledges Country and staff wear shirts with an Aboriginal design. "People feel safe and see something familiar," Mr Hill said. "By general practice staff – doctors, nurses, receptionists and practice managers – having that understanding of the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal people these are the sorts of things that help us Close the Gap."

Class is teaching kids how to cook healthy



An innovative cooking and nutrition class teaching young people how to cook up a storm while incorporating bush tucker and community collaboration is transforming the Peel (Bindjareb) region of Western Australia.

The Deadly Koolinga Chefs Program, a collaborative food literacy project between Ngangk Yira Institute for Change and the Murdoch University School of Nursing, has received funding to continue cooking classes in Peel schools.

Led by Associate Professor Caroline Nilson, the program's classes focus on kitchen safety, meal planning and

budgeting, cooking and food storage – and includes Traditional Bush Foods.

In December of 2023, ARYZTA International Bakery announced its purchase of land in the Peel Business Park in the Shire of Murray. Now, the company has signed an agreement with Murdoch University's Food Futures Institute and an agreement to continue funding the Deadly Koolinga Chefs Program.

Recently, the program held a cooking class at Mandurah Primary School, where the students showed their skills to ARYZTA's Regional Managing Director Sean Masterson, and Manager Research Engagement - Food Innovation Precinct Western Australia and Peel Development

Commission Chair, Professor David Doepel.

Associate Professor Nilson facilitated the cooking and nutrition class, and instructed the children to make a healthy spaghetti bolognese using a recipe from the LiveLighter campaign.

"To feel the children's energy and excitement as the class begins is wonderful, and then to see them become totally engaged in the food preparation and cooking is inspiring," Assoc. Prof. Nilson said.

"The children's sense of joy and pride to be taking home the meal they prepared from scratch to share with their family is a gift in itself."



Maria Martin Turner, Jarrel Williams and Monisha Martin Turner have been taking part in the cooking classes.

Keeping Elders connected to family



Chris Simon (Optus), Taylor Kelly-Scholes (Learning the Macleay), Corey Tutt (Deadly Science), Tony McMahon (Durri AMS) and Norma Kelly (Durri AMS).



STAFF from Deadly Science, Optus and Learning the Macleay handed over three iPads to the Durri Aboriginal Medical Service in West Kempsey recently to assist elderly patients to stay connected to family when undertaking medical treatment at the hospital.

Earlier in the year, Norma Kelly from Durri AMS was chatting to Corey Tutt from Deadly Science at the Culture in the Park in Kempsey and highlighted her concerns relating to the mental well-being of patients that were undergoing dialysis treatment, which can take hours each week.

As a result of this conversation, Corey called upon his extensive contacts across the country, asking for assistance.

"Many that need an extended stay in hospital find themselves struggling to stay connected with their family and community due to a lack of communication devices, or any external stimulation when undertaking treatment in hospital," said Corey Tutt, CEO of Deadly Science. "When I heard that these Elders, that are already doing it tough were also feeling isolated, I put a call out through my social media channels looking for donations and I raised over \$2,300 towards the purchase of the Ipad."

When Chris Simon, general manager-local markets for Optus heard about the initiative he generously offered SIM cards for each Ipad, with enough data to allow the patients the opportunity to communicate with family and to stream entertainment from the internet.

Mr Simon advised the SIM cards were made possible through Optus' Donate your Data program. "Through the generosity of our customers who donate their unused data, it allows us to support initiatives across our community" he said.

"These Ipad will have a significant impact on the lives of our patients undertaking dialysis treatment," Tony McMahon, Clinical Team Leader at Durri Chronic Care in West Kempsey, said. "They are required to spend extended time each week with us, the opportunity to stay connected while they are doing so will have a positive impact on their mental and physical health."

Rebrand to help battle vaping



GRAND Pacific Health's Tackling Indigenous Smoking program, formally known as Butt Out

Boondah, has announced their rebrand to We Breathe – Tackling Indigenous Smoking.

We Breathe is a health promotion program which aims to reduce the harm of tobacco smoking and vaping for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

The program is funded by a regional grant as a part of the National Tackling Indigenous Smoking program, and has been servicing Indigenous communities across Goulburn, Cooma, Yass, and Queanbeyan for 12 years.

"We have been known as Butt Out Boondah for a long time and have a really great relationship with our community and the program priority populations", said Grand Pacific Health's Aboriginal Health Manager, Simon Sadler.

"However, with the rapid rise of vaping and e-cigarettes, especially in young people, we needed a brand refresh which had utility across all means of tobacco use and not just cigarettes", Sadler continued.

The new branding was unveiled on World No Tobacco Day, 31st May 2024.

"World No Tobacco Day is a really important day for our team and community in getting the word out there, so it was the perfect time for us to announce and celebrate our new brand", said Program Coordinator, Soozie Gillies.

The program worked with Aboriginal-led creative agency, Nani Creative on developing the



Community members took part in consultations before the rebrand. Below: A photo from Butt Out Boondah program.

new branding. This included engaging with Gamilaroi and Wiradjuri artist, Sean Kinchela, who lives on Yuin Country.

"Our goal for this rebrand was to acknowledge that quitting smoking or vaping is a journey and that there can be hiccups along the way", said Communications Officer, Juliet Shoebridge.

"Using the collective voice 'we' creates a strong sense of togetherness and accountability; it communicates to people that what they breathe, we all breathe – their boori, Elders, community, and Country", said Shoebridge.

As a part of the design

process, the program conducted five consultations with community from their services areas.

"Butt Out Boondah has an incredible legacy with our community, so we wanted to ensure that our brand ambassadors, champions and clients had their say in our new direction", said Gillies.

To coincide with the rebrand, We Breathe has announced that it has now launched services supporting communities from Nowra to Eden. We Breathe will continue to support Goulburn, Cooma, Yass, Queanbeyan and surrounding LGAs under its new branding.



Fashion connects Mob

Model Clare Beale.



AT the Baalijin Community Night, a new clothing fashion range made a grand appearance on the runway.

Modelled by young people on Gumbaynggirr Wajaarr Country in the Bellingen Valley, the Gumbaynggirr Wajaarr clothing range was the new offering from Gumbaynggirr designer Lisa Kelly.

The event was part of a program to connect young people to their culture and community – particularly those who had been disconnected from community post-covid

restrictions.

Lisa Kelly lives in the Bellingen Valley at Yellow Rock, Urunga and her label is JiJA Designs. The event saw her connect with Year 12 First Nations students and previous students from Bellingen High.

Lisa's designs tell stories through contemporary and traditional art mediums. It's all about connecting to Country through fashion and design.

The clothing range was modelled by the young people, Lisa, Uncle Micklo Jarrett and Troy Robinson in front of 130 members of the community. A three-course bush-tucker meal was provided by the school

hospitality staff and students.

"They served some of the best kangaroo steaks I've ever eaten," Troy said.

Teachers and students set the scene with lighting effects using Lisa's designs and music.

The event was a 3rd Space Mob Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation project called Connecting Baalijin Kids to Community – funded by Resilience NSW as a Covid19 Community Connection and Wellbeing Program.

"It's hard to describe the feeling in the room – joy, togetherness, enthusiasm, wellbeing," Jenni Farrands from 3rd Space Mob said.



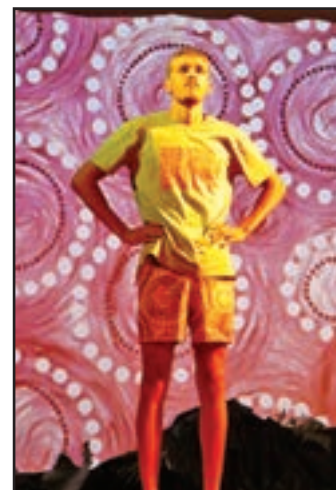
Artist and designer Lisa Kelly leading models.



Model Tahahni Berger.



All models in the Gumbaynggirr Wajaarr fashion show.



Model Josh Marsden.



Uncle Micklo Jarrett (model).



Models Troy Robinson and Tui Apanui.



Troy Robinson.

First Nations artists are leaders across artforms



SENIOR First Nations artists Uncle Badger Bates and Auntie Mabel Juli have both been awarded the prestigious Red Ochre Award for Lifetime Achievement at the 2024 First Nations Arts and Culture Awards.

The awards are presented by Creative Australia each year on May 27, marking the anniversary of the 1967 Referendum and the start of National Reconciliation Week.

Uncle Badger, a proud Barkindji man, is renowned for his intricate emu-egg carvings, linocut prints and public artworks highlighting his deep connection to the Barka (Darling River) and its cultural heritage.

"I am truly overwhelmed to be the nominated recipient of this award. It is a dream come true for someone who grew up on the Barka riverbank and almost never went to school or art school," he said.

"It has always been very important for me to bring my people along with me, and I am hoping this award will give confidence to younger First Nations artists."

Auntie Mabel was unable to attend the awards event, and was presented with her Red Ochre Award on Country in Warmun, East Kimberley, Western Australia. The celebrated Gija artist is known for her striking black and white paintings depicting the Moon and Star Dreaming stories. Auntie Mabel is also an important ceremonial singer and dancer.

Creative Australia Executive Director First Nations Arts and Culture Francesca Cubillo said:

"These awards are a celebration and recognition of the remarkable achievements of First Nations artists. We are very proud to honour their excellence and artistry, as well as their invaluable contributions to our arts and culture. We acknowledge the role of First Nations artists in sharing untold stories, creating innovative works and forms of expression, and safeguarding our traditional knowledge."

Indigenous, Pasifika and West Asian writer Meleika Gesa, and First Nations and Zimbabwean emerging R&B artist Dean Brady were both awarded the Dreaming Award, for young emerging artists, supporting the creation of a major body of work.

The First Nations Emerging Career Development Award went to two rising stars of the stage: Tibian Wyles, a Warrgamay and Kalkadoon descendant, whose acting career has taken off in recent years; and Sarah Prestwidge, a

Darug, Boorooberongal national descendant, and an accomplished soprano and music educator. Ms Prestwidge said, "My career development project aims to equip me with the skills necessary to have an international operatic career. I hope to set a powerful example for other Indigenous artists."

"This not only challenges stereotypes but also inspires and paves the way for other young Indigenous artists, demonstrating that they too can pursue their dreams beyond borders while maintaining a connection to their roots. Ultimately, I hope to return to Australia to share the knowledge and skills I've learnt to inspire the next generation of young First Nation opera singers".

Yuin woman, Brenda Gifford, an accomplished saxophonist, pianist, and trailblazing composer in contemporary classical and jazz, was awarded the First Nations Fellowship Award.

The First Nations Arts and Culture Awards recipients were each presented with a uniquely designed ceramic piece created by senior artists from Ernabella Arts, Australia's oldest continuously running Indigenous Art Centre.

AWARD RECIPIENTS

Red Ochre Awards for Lifetime Achievement

Uncle Badger Bates
(Male Recipient)

Auntie Mabel Juli
(Female Recipient)

Dreaming Award

Meleika Gesa

Dean Brady

First Nations Emerging Career Development Award

Sarah Prestwidge

Tibian Wyles

First Nations Fellowship Award

Brenda Gifford

Red Ochre Award for Lifetime Achievement



Auntie Mabel Juli, visual artist.



Uncle Badger Bates, visual artist.

Dreaming Award



Dean Brady, R&B artist.



Meleika Gesa, author/writer.

First Nations Emerging Career Development Award



Sarah Prestwidge, performing arts/soprano.



Tibian Wyles, performing arts/actor.

First Nations Fellowship Award Gifts from Ernabella Arts



Brenda Gifford, musician/composer.



Award recipients each received a uniquely designed ceramic piece created by senior artists from Ernabella Arts. Pictures: supplied by Creative Australia



Fibres and Vessels is a new exhibition by Indigenous artist, Clare Jacque Vasquez. Picture: Josef Ruckli, supplied, courtesy of Onespace.

Solo exhibition draws on the threads of connection



FIBRES and Vessels is a captivating solo exhibition by emerging Indigenous artist Clare Jacque Vasquez.

Vasquez, an artist from the Gomerioi/Kamilaroi nation, grew up in an urban environment in her younger years, and then on her grandmother's Country in north-west New South Wales near the mission and station where her family lived. Her work showcases unique memories and moments from being raised with three generations of Gomerioi/Kamilaroi women under one roof, navigating the after-effects

of change.

A finalist in the 2024 Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards, Vasquez spoke about her upcoming solo exhibition. "Each artwork in *Fibres and Vessels* is a tribute to the stories and weaving practices passed down through my family," she said. "It delves into the intricate connections between us and our ancestral lands."

Using natural brushes, fingertips, branches and self-made tools to layer acrylic paint and impasto, Vasquez creates canvases that are tactile and visually compelling.

Her methodology can take up to 12

weeks to complete and this slow process of layering reveals her gentle, resilient nature, carefully turning a two-dimensional canvas into a sculptural painting.

Her works appear etched, embedded, and scarred with the narratives of her ancestors, providing a profound commentary on memory, identity, and connection to the land.

Fibres and Vessels is presented by Flying Arts Alliance and is showing at the Judith Wright Centre in Brisbane's Fortitude Valley from June 3 to 17.

An artist talk will be held Friday, June 7, from 6-8pm. Entry to the exhibition is free.

Rhoda tells the story of a family with fight



CREATIVE powerhouse Rhoda Roberts AO has a story that she wants to share. It is a personal story, but also a story that has universal themes, recognising a shared past and shared aspirations for the future.

My Cousin Frank is the story of Rhoda's first cousin Frank, a Widjabul Wia-bal and Githabul man from the self-managed Aboriginal settlement Cubawee, and the irrepressible Roberts family of Lismore.

Francis 'Frank' Roberts, or 'Honest Frank', as he was known, spent his entire life fighting. He was a boxing champion and the first Aboriginal Olympian. Outside the ring, he also fought for his family and culture.

Rhoda brings the fighting spirit of Frank and the Roberts Mob to the stage, recalling a family's journey from the tumultuous era of dispersal and silence to navigating a world controlled by government policy.

"These are important stories about the places we call home, our shared



Widjabul Wia-bal woman Rhoda Roberts is performing in a new show she created about her fighting cousin Frank.

past, and aspirations for a better tomorrow," says Rhoda.

"The Roberts fighting family of Lismore story is set in a time where poverty, authoritarian-control ruled, enforced by the government's Aborigines Protection Board policies.

"Through the richness of love and the Roberts' work ethic, Frank rose above this and was the pinnacle of athletic achievement entering the new world of the Olympic Games.

"I am so proud to be telling an element of our family story."

Presented by NORPA, *My Cousin Frank* has been made to develop the company's upcoming production *First Aboriginal Olympian*, coming to the stage in 2025.

My Cousin Frank is written and performed by Rhoda Roberts and directed by Kirk Page. It is playing at the Star Court Theatre in Lismore on August 24, at 2pm and 7.30pm, and at the Byron Theatre in Byron Bay, August 30 and 31.

Tickets are on sale now.

Visit norpa.org.au to book or for more information.



New music from Anu weaves memories of the Torres Strait



PROUD Torres Strait Islander singer and performer Christine Anu is about to release a new album, her first original album in 20 years. *Waku-Mineral A Minalay*, which is due for release on Friday, July 19, through ABC Music, was recorded across Cairns, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, the Torres Strait Islands and the Solomon Islands.

Christine has teamed up with long-time musical ally and producer David Bridie, who worked on her award-winning 1995 debut record, *Stylin' Up*.

Anu will also unveil her brand-new single, and the album's title track *Waku - Mineral A Minalay*. The original concept for *Waku* was sparked in the early 90s during one of Christine's pre-*Stylin' Up* songwriting sessions with Don Walker (Cold Chisel). The song is a calling card for the album, with sustained strings and flourishes from traditional percussion instruments, including the Warup (drums), the Urub (shakers) and the Kulap (seed pot rattles), as well as soundscapes captured on Thursday Island, underscoring the album's lead single.

Anu was joined by her daughter Zipporah to gather visual references for the record, together retracing the Samu Clans' migration from Saibai Island to Mutee Head. They embarked on the same journey that Anu's grandfather made with his young family in 1947.

"This album is about reconnecting with my grandfather as a young father back in post-World War II, in the Torres Strait region. So I sing about a time from long ago... *Waku - Mineral A Minalay* creates a landscape, a picture, a soundscape of feeling like you were there listening to these songs when they were being made," Anu said.

Through the music and story-telling of *Waku - Mineral A Minalay*, Anu continues her grandfather's legacy.

"And that's the beautiful metaphor of me right now: I am someone's ancestor in the future, the way that my grandad is my grandson's ancestor. And it goes on and we weave and we weave and we weave. We will continue to weave our songs and our stories."

Anu performed at Vivid Sydney earlier this month, showcasing her new music for fans, ahead of the album launch.

You can get a sneak peek of the video at youtube.com/watch?v=qesvBrahTDs and pre-save/purchase the album at snd.click/waku-album

OUR MOB calls for expressions of interest



The Adelaide Festival Centre's annual OUR MOB and OUR YOUNG MOB exhibitions are calling for expressions of interest from First Nations artists living in South Australia.

With prizes awarded for categories recognising differing abilities and levels of experience, the exhibitions are a chance for SA artists to have their work professionally exhibited. Applications close 5pm on July 5. For more information or to apply, visit adelaidefestivalcentre.com.au/festivals-programs/our-mob

Inmates create stunning work for Boomalli show



INDIGENOUS inmates from Parklea Correctional Centre have captured their culture and talents

through art with an exhibition now on show at Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Co-operative in Sydney.

Parklea inmates made their debut onto Sydney's art scene last year with their inaugural show at St Vincent's Hospital in Darlinghurst. St Vincent's Health Network has been the provider of health services at Parklea since 2019, when MTC Australia began operating the prison on behalf of Corrective Services NSW.

The exhibition with Boomalli came about after the inmates asked if they could show their work at the prestigious gallery, which was established by Aboriginal artists in 1987.

Parklea Governor Wayne Taylor said it was exciting to be staging another show so soon after last year's successful exhibition and that the team at Boomalli had recognised the talents of the inmates and the high standard of their work.

"Our mission at Parklea Correctional Centre is to run a safe, decent and secure prison that reduces reoffending and takes care of staff," Mr Taylor said.

"We provide a number of programs to support men of every background, and art allows people to express themselves. It gives them a sense of pride and improves their self-esteem.

"Creative programs are an important part of our prison's education and reducing reoffending strategies, and they help to improve inmates' mental health and wellbeing," he said.

"Inmates who participate in the art program receive tuition from specialised staff, and support from other inmates who act as peer mentors.

"This fantastic partnership with Boomalli provides a platform for inmates to showcase their work in a professional gallery and connects them with mentors to develop their craft when they're released from prison."

Boomalli curator Kyra Kum-Sing said the gallery was delighted to exhibit works by talented artists from Parklea.

"Boomalli wanted to provide an opportunity for the artists to tell their stories and have their works exhibited.

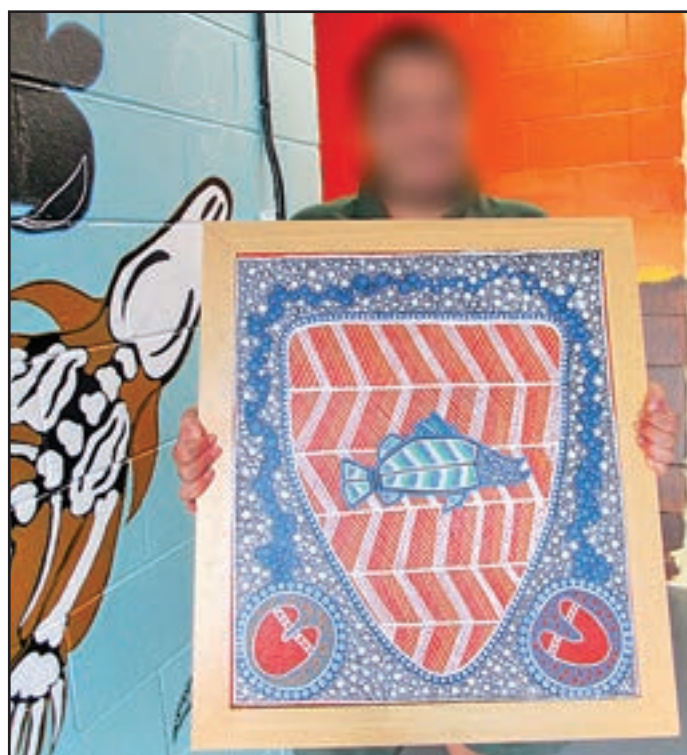
"We hope this exhibition will inspire the artists to continue on their journey and maintain who they are," Kyra said.

The exhibition features 20 artworks by 10 Indigenous inmates.

Mulu* has created one painting for the show depicting a fish, which represents a father and son going fishing.

"The painting is for my son, telling him about his story.

"The Dreamtime brings us



Gamilaroi man Mulu* explains the story of his artwork, to be hung in an exhibition of Parklea inmates work at Boomalli gallery in Sydney. "The painting is for my son, telling him about his story. The Dreamtime brings us back together."



Parklea Governor Wayne Taylor, Aboriginal Service specialist at MTC, Simone Kubecka, and Darug artist working at Boomalli gallery, Hayley Pigram, stand for a photo in the exhibition space at Boomalli.



Artist name withheld, acrylic on canvas.



Artist name withheld, acrylic on stretched canvas.

back together," he said.

Mulu is a Gamilaroi man and was born in Moree in North-West NSW. He was a ward of the state and during that time he attended Aboriginal heritage camps that taught young people about their culture, which is where he first learned to paint.

He learned further techniques from Elders in prison.

"When I paint, it's freeing. It helps me realise my feelings and is therapy," Mulu said.

"I paint the stories of my life. Everything to me is a story – every dot, it's there for a reason.

"Painting helps me connect with my ancestors and loved ones. When I think of the



Artist name withheld, acrylic on canvas.

ancestors, a pathway will clear and show me the way."

Mulu hopes to continue his art once he leaves prison to keep him on the right path.

"My wife says I have to continue, as when I'm out there I



Artist name withheld, acrylic on canvas.

lose my way, but when I paint, I don't," Mulu said.

"Now I have a family, I'm painting for beautiful endings."

The exhibition is on now until July 13 at Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Co-operative, Flood

Street, Leichhardt, Sydney.

Artworks are for sale and inmates receive the majority of the proceeds, which will help them establish a new life when they leave prison.

***Name has been changed.**

Destiny Deacon remembered as trailblazer for Blak artists

BEING in the presence of great artists is something profound and exhilarating—even for those of us who are also artists and who know a wealth of talented and knowledgeable artists. There's something wholly unlike the experiences one has with the greats. I hope I never use the word 'great' lightly. I don't think I ever have, and I certainly don't use it lightly here.

It's the end of an era! Be still at the passing of a great artist. Vale, Dr Destiny Deacon (1956-2024), a brilliant, compassionate and humorous soul — a total talent.

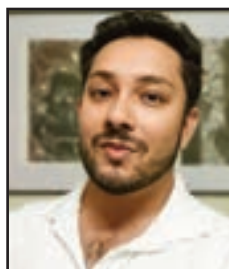
Destiny passed on May 23, 2024. She is late of Bullekebek/Brunswick, Naarm/Melbourne — the city where she was raised, although she was born in Maryborough, Queensland.

She was, and will eternally be, a Kuku and Meriam Mer woman for the ages — like so many other women of her family, like her mother, the great Eleanor Harding.

Any words that attempt to 'snapshot' the excellence and philosophy of the late and great Destiny Deacon are insufficient. After all — and Destiny would say so herself — a picture says a thousand words. A thousand and one; one in particular: Blak. Destiny was a teacher of language, literature and the importance of words; that is, before her foray into the arts in the 1990s.

Destiny initially coined the term 'blak' in a triptych, *Blak Lik Mi*, 1991-2003. Representing a powerful Indigenous identity, this new spelling and usage

opinion



Jack Wilkie-Jans

has widely been adopted by our peoples.

As a writer, I was liberated by Destiny's approach to repurposing words. Language and its mobility is one of our greatest weapons and our greatest foes.

"(They'd) call us 'black c***s', so I just took out the 'c'", Destiny said. With this postmodern approach, she flipped the narrative on its head, re-inscribing the word with a powerful, identity-affirming meaning. From this satirical defiance a positive message was born: We are not what we are considered to be by racists, we are, *and are more than*, our colour.

Destiny is, and always will be, remembered as one of our peoples' greatest contemporary contributors to the arts, storytelling and politics. She learned from her kin and the great Dr Charles Perkins AO, after all. One doesn't need to fully understand her works to be moved by them; moved to fear,

grief, shock or mere curiosity — or, dare I say, a giggle!

Destiny's life's work stands as one of the sharpest modern critiques of Australia. Many of her works underscore the pain and abuse faced by blak First Nations children in this country, from the more confronting tableaux that expose violence, to wry rebuttals of the 'Aboriginalia' — the white-produced kitsch of the garage-sale variety.

Destiny often spoke of the importance of context, of acknowledging history, kinship, and the truth of people's lives and the world around us. She had an artist's view of the world, seeing her photographs in her mind's eye before they became photographs, as "colours and geometric shapes."

From these visions she created artworks with something to say, using Polaroid images and posed dolls and models to tell her stories. These dolls were mostly salvaged from opportunity shops and markets or gifted by friends

who'd come across something "Destiny could use". Incorporated into her works, the once-loved children's toys are deeply etched with symbolism, representing innocence and a new wantedness of the unwanted.

With the passing of Destiny Deacon, our people, the Naarm and Victorian First Nations communities, and the combined art world, are saddened. We are indebted to her for the talents she shared — not to mention her illuminating, seminal commentary and practice. I send my love to her family (in particular), friends, peers, colleagues, and fans.

A blazing sun has set, look to the stars and behold the glittering memory of one who is remembered, and pray our destinies — as artists and storytellers — is of the same righteous cause as one of our most important witnesses: Destiny Deacon.

Destiny Deacon's family gave Koori Mail permission to use her name.



Blak, 2020, Destiny Deacon. Picture: supplied by Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery



Yothu Yindi on stage at NIMAs.

Time to nominate talent for NIMAs



NOMINATE your favourite First Nations talent now for the National Indigenous Music Awards (NIMAs).

Held under Larrakia stars for more than 20 years, the NIMAs ceremony returns to its iconic home at Darwin Amphitheatre on August 10. The awards have followed the rise of First Nations music in Australia across two decades, honouring the past, present and future of Indigenous talent and in 2024, that tradition will continue, celebrating NIMAs history and supporting the growth of the next two decades of talent.

This year the NIMAs welcomes a brand-new First Nations Leadership Group, established to support the First Nations creative and delivery teams and provide strategic and cultural guidance.

The inaugural group is Michaela Harrison (Bidjara), Kaleena Smith (Wiradjuri, Yorta Yorta), Lynette Fejo (Larrakia), Toni Janke (Wuthathi, Yadhigana, Meriam) and Dr Shellie Morris (Yanyuwa, Wardaman).

Music lovers can be a part of NIMAs history by voting for their favourite First Nations talent at the National Indigenous Awards website, nima.musicnt.com.au/

Arts festival establishes an infinite space for Blakness



RISING is an annual celebration of music, art and performance held in the heart of Naarm/Melbourne.

Victoria's flagship festival is back this year, with large-scale installations, new commissions and conversations by leading First Nations artists and writers, turning Fed Square into a space for sharing First Peoples' art and stories under the banner, *The Blak Infinte*. The space will be a permanent feature throughout the Rising Festival.

Richard Bell's (Kamilaroi, Kooma, Jiman and Gurang Gurang) *EMBASSY* — inspired by the original Aboriginal Tent Embassy pitched on the grounds of Canberra's Parliament House in 1972 — continues the politically driven work of First Peoples. Bell's installation will serve as a hub for *The Blak Infinte* programming, featuring daily film screenings and talks with activists, writers and artists every Saturday during the festival.

Gunditjmarra Keerray Woorroong artist, Tarryn Love, has created immersive projections that will light up the square each evening, sharing stories of Sky Country and the cosmos, while Tony Albert, a Gurramay,



Crop Circles in Yogya #5 by Tony Albert.

Yidinyji and Kuku Yalanji man, presents a large-scale artwork *BEAM ME UP: The Art of Abduction*, continuing his exploration of themes of alienation, belonging and place through colourful installations and a children's program.

The Blak Infinte is curated by Yorta Yorta woman Kimberley Moulton (Shadow Spirit, 2023) and Taungurung woman Kate ten Buuren.

Artworks and texts across the site convey hope for the future for First Nations peoples,



First Peoples Melbourne Arts Trams project *Blak on Track 2023, Rubii's Tram*.

speaking to the power of the unlimited sovereign connections held across and between communities.

On the big screen, visitors will experience speculative fiction from acclaimed Mununjali, Yugambah and Dutch writer, Ellen van Neerven, expanding the limits of current realities, while Wadawurrung artist Kait James uses collage to subvert the loaded visual language of 70s souvenirs, and Bidjara artist Michael Cook creates fantasy worlds where the role of invader and

invaded are reversed.

Blak Track is Back

Also on the festival program, the First Peoples Melbourne Arts Trams project *Blak on Track*, will roll out a new fleet of artworks by First Nations artists, created to liven up the appearance of Melbourne's trams. Jarra Karalinar Steel (Boonwurrung/Wemba Wemba) will curate the program for the last time, delivering a movable tapestry of mediums, styles and ideas to bring the breadth and dynamism of First Peoples' expression to the city.

The 2024 artists and their artworks are the late Destiny Deacon (Ku Ku/Erub Mer), *Arrears Windows*; Ellen José (Torres Strait Islander), *Reach Out And Touch—Distance And Time*; Thomas Day (Gunditjmarra/Yorta Yorta/Wemba Wemba), *Yarkeen — Dreams*; Kait James (Wadawurrung), *Hung out to dry*; Milla Morgan (Wiradjuri/Yorta Yorta), *I just wanted to say sorry*; and Iluka Sax-Williams (Taungurung), *Kulin Woorra Liwik—Kulin Sky Ancestors*.

Rising opens to coincide with the first day of winter, running from June 1 to June 16. For more information about the program visit, 2024.rising.melbourne/

event listings

NEW SOUTH WALES

Alchemy
(exhibition)
when: until Aug 11
where: Powerhouse, Castle Hill, Sydney
info/bookings: powerhouse.com.au/program/alchemy#overview

Biennale of Sydney 2024: Ten Thousand Suns
when: until Jun 10
where: venues in Sydney
info/bookings: biennaleofsydney.art/

Cast in cast out
Display inspired by Dennis Golding
when: until Aug 4 and
Ngaya (I am)
(video installation)
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/

Enliven Fuse
Boomalli member artists exhibition
when: until Jul 13
where: Boomalli Art Gallery, Leichhardt
info/bookings: boomalli.com.au

Parklea x Boomalli
(exhibition)
when: until Jul 13
where: Boomalli Art Gallery, Leichhardt
info/bookings: boomalli.com.au

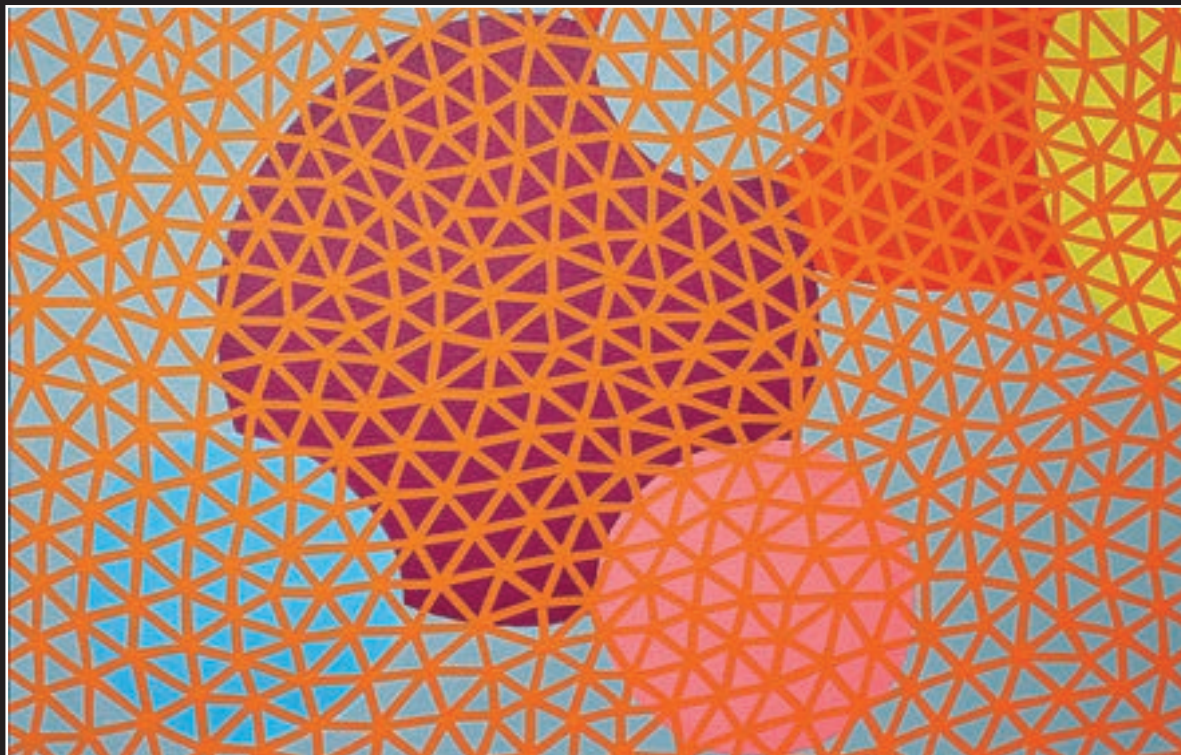
VividLIVE festival
when: May 24 - Jun 15
where: Sydney Opera House, Circular Quay
info/bookings: sydneyoperahouse.com/vivid-live

Saltwater Freshwater Arts Exhibition 2023
when: Jun 8 - Jul 28
where: Yarrila Arts and Museum, Coffs Harbour
info/bookings: visit saltwaterfreshwater.com.au/ and follow links in drop-down menu to 'Art award and exhibition.'

Horizon
Bangarra dance
when: June 11-13
where: Sydney Opera House, Gadigal Country
info/bookings: bangarra.com.au

VICTORIA

Rising Festival
The Black Infinite (First Nations programming)
Embassy (Richard Bell's art installation/film)
where: Fed Square, Melbourne
and
Pay the Rent
(art installation)
where: State Library of Victoria, Melbourne
when: both installations run until Jun 16



Djaadjawan (sand) by Natalie Bateman.

Discover the colours of sand



Djaadjawan (sand) is an exhibition of paintings by Walbanja-Yuin artist Natalie Bateman, open at the COX Gallery in Canberra now to coincide with the start of Reconciliation Week. Natalie is a member of the Ella and Stewart families, one of the largest family groups on the NSW south coast. Her life revolves around the ocean where she and her family engage

in the traditional practices of hunting and gathering seafood, keeping her deeply connected to her sea-dwelling heritage. Her family and culture serve as the primary inspiration behind her artwork. *Djaadjawan (sand)* is on until July 26.

Djaadjawan (sand) exhibition
when: until Jul 26, Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm
where: COX Gallery, Kingston, Sth Canberra
info/bookings: coxarchitecture.com.au/

info/bookings: 2024.rising.melbourne/ and

GURR ERA OP/The face of the sea in Meriam Mir (dance)
where: Arts House, Nth Melbourne
when: Jun 12-16
info/bookings: 2024.rising.melbourne/

The Country Road + NGV First Nations Commissions: My Country
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 (exhibition)
when: until July 14
where: Koorie Heritage Trust, Birrarung Building, Federation Square
info/bookings: koorieheritagetrust.com.au

Touring Exhibition: Layers of Blak
KHT's Blak Design (jewellery).
when: Jun 15 - Aug 25
where: Gippsland Art Gallery,
info/bookings: more dates later in the year and 2024, see koorieheritagetrust.com.au/whats-on/exhibitions/layers-of-blak/

Horizon
Bangarra dance
when: August 28 - Sept 7
where: Arts Centre Melbourne/Wurundjeri Country
info/bookings:

bangarra.com.au

TASMANIA

Youth Speak Out: Travelling Exhibition
Showcases artwork from students in years 5 to 12 expressing students' views about reconciliation.
when: until Jun 8
where: Launceston Library, Launceston
info/bookings: Free entry, no booking requires libraries.tas.gov.au/exhibitions/youth-speak-out/

Spinifex Gum - presented by Festival of Voices
when: Jul 4, from 7.30pm
where: Theatre Royal, Hobart
info/bookings: theatreroyal.com.au/shows/spinifex-gum

2024 Women's Art Prize Tasmania
when: until July 7
where: Queen Victoria Museum, Launceston
info/bookings: womensartprizetas.com.au/

The Visitors
A play by Jane Harrison
when: Aug 1-3, post-show Q&A with playwright Jane Harrison is free for ticket holders on Friday, Aug 2.
where: Theatre Royal, Hobart
info/bookings: Book now at theatreroyal.com.au/shows/visitors

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Meeyakba Shane Pickett: Six Seasons
A pre-eminent landscape artist and 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/bo-olabardip/meeyakba-shane-pickett-six-seasons

Revealed 2024 (major exhibition)
when: May 10 - Aug 4
where: Fremantle Arts Centre
info/bookings: fac.org.au/

Across the Water (exhibition)
when: Jun 8-30
where: Artitja Gallery, Sth Fremantle
info/bookings: artitja.com.au/

Pila Nguru: Art and Song from the Spinifex People (exhibition)
when: Jun 20 - Nov 10
where: Museum of Geraldton, Batavia Coast Marina, Geraldton
info/bookings: free entry, for more visit.museum.wa.gov.au/geraldton

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 Mar, 2025
where: National Museum of Australia, Acton Peninsula, Canberra

info/bookings: nma.gov.au/exhibitions/belonging

Horizon
Bangarra dance
when: Jul 18-20
where: Canberra Theatre Centre, Ngunnawal Country
info/bookings: bangarra.com.au

QUEENSLAND

Charcoal
Exhibition presented by Yarrabah Arts.
when: until Jul 13
where: Courthouse Gallery, Cairns
info/bookings: cairns.qld.gov.au/experiences-cairns/arts-and-culture/arts-venues/courthouse-gallery

Dream Big: Emerging Creatives Lab
Connect with industry professionals and like-minded souls in a discussion about ethical art practice and cultivating a sustainable creative footprint.
when: Thurs, Jun 6, 6-8pm
where: Tank 4 Gallery, Edge Hill, Cairns.
info/bookings: Facilitated by India Collins (Visual Artist) with presentations from Luke Brisco (EarthKin Music Collective), and Cristina Bevilacqua (The Photo Corner), free, pizza provided. To register, follow the links at tanksartscentre.com/events

How we remember tomorrow (exhibition)
when: until June 15
where: University of

Queensland Art Museum, St Lucia, Brisbane
info/bookings: art-museum.uq.edu.au/how-we-remember-tomorrow

Seeds and Sovereignty (exhibition)
when: until Sept 8
where: Gallery of Modern Art and Gallery 3.5
info/bookings: free entry, blog.qagoma.qld.gov.au/qagoma-2024-program-announced/

Waru - journey of the small turtle
Bangarra dance
when: June 26-29
where: Playhouse, QPAC, South Brisbane
info/bookings: Family show, tickets on sale now, selling fast.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Marrawuddi
Exhibition of fibre and sculptural pieces from Marrawuddi, Kakadu and West Arnhem Land Art Centre.
when: Jun 20 - Jul 21
where: JamFactory, Tarntanya/Adelaide, Kurna Country
info/bookings: jamfactory.com.au/exhibitions-jamfactory-adelaide

Waterhouse Natural Science Art Prize
Art 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

Saltbush Country - exhibition on tour
curated by Tarnanthi regional curator Marika Davies
when: Jun 29, 9am
where: Nautilus Arts Centre, Port Lincoln.
info/bookings: countryarts.org.au/events/saltbush-country/

NORTHERN TERRITORY

Barunga Festival
when: June 7-10
where: Central Arnhem Rd, Barunga, NT
info/bookings: barungafestival.com.au/

National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards, 2024 (NATSIAAs)
when: Jun 22- Jan 27, 2025
where: Museum and Art Gallery of NT (MAGNT)
info/bookings: magnt.net.au/natsiaa-finalists

Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair (DAAF)
A public program of talks, masterclasses, children's activities and more will run alongside the fair, where you can purchase authentic Indigenous art in person on Larrakia Country or online.
when: Aug 6-11
where: Darwin Convention Centre, Larrakia Country.
info/bookings: daaf.com.au/

Employment

EXECUTIVE • PROFESSIONAL • POSITIONS VACANT



Knowledge is power for aspiring Arnernte man William (Will) Palmer who is working as a tour guide and studying to advance his career.

A Will to care for Country



A FIRST Nations student who learnt local knowledge from his grandmother is now sharing it as a tour guide.

William (Will) Palmer is a proud Arnernte man from Mparntwe Alice Springs. Will has always been passionate about learning and understanding his culture having grown up on his homelands 100km west from Alice Springs.

Growing up on Country provided Will with continuous learning. His grandmother, Raelene Silverton, guided him and passed on local knowledge including the Arnernte language, cultural significant stories and knowledge of Country.

It was his passion for language and

culture that landed him his first job as a First Nations Tour guide. Since he has accepted his position, Will has completed a Certificate I in Tourism (Australian Indigenous Culture) through Charles Darwin University TAFE and believes he has now found his calling.

"Before starting my role and training, I had little knowledge about tourism. However, I now feel that it is my calling. I genuinely enjoy conducting tours and raising awareness of our culture to visitors in Central Australia," Will said.

The tourism industry in the Northern Territory is worth almost \$800 million and brings visitors from all over the world, many of whom love to discover more about First Nations history, language and culture.

This is where Will sees himself thriving as he feels the position suits both his passions and knowledge.

"Tourism plays a vital role in Central Australia by providing employment and training opportunities for local Indigenous communities. It contributes to economic growth and serves as a platform for sharing our culture with visitors, offering educational experiences, and fostering cultural understanding," Will said.

The training provided by CDU TAFE has equipped Will to have confidence when guiding a group as well as understanding how to share the knowledge that has been passed down to him.

"The certificate has complemented my existing language and cultural knowledge

by providing structured training in tour delivery. Additionally, it equipped me with essential skills such as understanding tour structure, customer service, first aid certification, and ensuring visitor safety," he said.

And although Will believes he has a long way to go before he can consider himself a role model, he is pursuing further education with dreams of providing the same opportunities that he had to others.

"I am still learning; however my long-term goal is to establish my own tours closer to my family homeland and to inspire and mentor other Indigenous individuals to join the tourism industry."

Will has just begun his Certificate III in Tourism in hope to make these dreams a reality.

Your guide to employment

Welcome to the Koori Mail's Indigenous Job Opportunities section. Each edition we publish scores of employment advertisements from around the nation. To be part of this section, simply give our advertising staff Chris or Stuart a call on (02) 66 222 666, email advertising@koorimail.com or see our website – www.koorimail.com

*Koori Mail – Our ABC audit means our readership is guaranteed.
No other newspaper aimed at the Indigenous market can offer this!*

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We are hiring!

Applications closing 18 June 2024

Yoorrook's Letters Patent requires it to prioritise the employment of First Peoples. First Peoples are strongly encouraged to apply for ALL roles at Yoorrook.

Did you know that the Yoorrook Justice Commission is the first formal truth-telling Royal Commission of its kind in Australia?

Yoorrook is independent of the Victorian Government and is committed to a transformed Victoria based on truth and justice and grounded in First Peoples' enduring spirit, cultures and self-determination. We will do this through Truth, Understanding and Transformation.

We are currently seeking an experienced candidate to fill the following position:

Truth Receiver / Community Engagement (VPS 4) (Multiple Roles)

<https://yoorrookjusticecommission.org.au/work-with-us/truth-receiver-community-engagement-vps4/>



To learn more about Yoorrook please go to <https://yoorrookjusticecommission.org.au/>
Information about this role can be found on the 'Work with us' page or call **Nick Butera, Manager – Community Engagement** on 0432 220 533 for more information.



ILLAWARRA
LOCAL ABORIGINAL
LAND COUNCIL

The Illawarra Local Aboriginal Land Council (ILALC) was established in 1983 under the Aboriginal Land Rights Act NSW. It covers an area extending from Helensburgh to Gerringong and includes the Southern Highlands areas from Tallong to Kangaroo Valley.

The ILALC's key role is to improve, protect and foster the best interests of its Members and community and this is achieved through land acquisition, land management, cultural education and community led programs and initiatives.

We have the following positions available:

- **1 x Project Officer (Identified)** – permanent fulltime, Wollongong
- **1 x Leading hand Ranger (Identified)** – fulltime fixed 2 year contract, Wollongong
- **1 x Ranger (Identified)** – fulltime fixed 2 year contract, Wollongong
- **2 x Ranger (Identified)** – part time fixed 1 year contract, Wollongong

Note: *Aboriginality is a genuine occupational qualification and is authorised by S14 of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1987 (NSW). A Confirmation of Aboriginality is a condition of employment.*

Benefits working with the ILALC include;

- Above award pay
- NFP benefits including salary packaging

The successful candidate as a condition of employment will need to provide a:

- Confirmation of Aboriginality,
- National Criminal Check (NCC),
- Working with Children Check (WWCC)

For further information or to obtain a copy of a position description, please email your request to admin@ilalc.org.au. In the subject line please note the position you are enquiring about. Alternatively for a confidential discussion please contact Adell Hyslop, Chief Executive Officer by email at ceo@ilalc.org.au or call 0480 398 657.

To apply: Please email your resume and a 2-page covering letter addressing the selection criteria and email to admin@ilalc.org.au and in the subject line include the position.

Closing date: Friday 21st June 2024 at 11.59pm

Job Opportunities

Are you seeking a fulfilling career in a progressive organisation? Look no further!

The National Tertiary Education Union (NTEU) is inviting passionate individuals to join our team in the following roles:

Industrial Officer - South Melbourne

The perks?

- Level 6 or 7 (\$105,372 to 132,019 p.a.)
- Additional 17% employer superannuation
- Rewarding career with a progressive organisation
- Start date ASAP

Join our team at the Victorian Division, where you'll prepare and/or advocate cases before the Fair Work Commission and other tribunals and Courts, provide industrial advice to members, Branches and the Division on industrial matters and disputes and negotiate workplace grievances/issues and industrial disputes with management.

Administrative Officer, Executive & Industrial

The perks?

- Level 5 (\$93,333 - \$100,909 p.a.)
- Additional 17% employer superannuation
- Rewarding career with a progressive organisation
- Start date July 2024

Working in our Victorian division you will provide administrative support to the Union's Victorian leadership team, act as the secretary to all key Union committees, organise and maintain the office filing and workflow management systems and more.

To find out more scan the QR code or to apply visit nteu.recruitmenthub.com.au/Vacancies



National Tertiary
Education Union



Australian Government

Department of Climate Change, Energy,
the Environment and Water

Committee on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Water Interests Member Vacancies

Apply now: Committee on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Water Interests – member vacancies!

Are you dedicated to increasing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' access to, ownership and management of water resources?

The Committee on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Water Interests (CAWI) is growing its membership. Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples with extensive experience in any of these areas are invited to apply:

- Western and Cultural water rights and interests
- Water science
- Management and leadership
- Advocacy and working with government
- Strategic governance and communications
- Policy and planning.

CAWI is an independent advisory body. CAWI plays a unique role in advising the Australian and state and territory governments on world-leading water reform initiatives in Australia.

Membership roles are open to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples only.

Applications close 11:59pm AEST Sunday 14 July 2024. Late applications will not be accepted.

Learn more and apply: <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/water/policy/first-nations/cawi/recruitment>.

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ADVERTISING MANAGER

Full-Time
Based in Lismore, NSW

The Koori Mail - Australia's leading independent fortnightly national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander newspaper - based on Bundjalung country in Northern NSW, is seeking a strong applicant for the role of Advertising and Production Manager.

This role oversees the incoming print advertising of the Koori Mail each fortnight, and supports the overall production of the Koori Mail (print ready), each edition.

The role requires a strong focus on communication skills, high level client liaison, ability to work to deadlines, and initiative to support strategy and ideas to generate ongoing advertising opportunities.

About the Role:

- Managing the Print Advertising Sales of the Koori Mail including incoming bookings, quotes, design proofs and approvals.
- Supporting new advertising leads
- Supporting Koori Mail Advertising and Editorial Production files and assets ready for print

About You:

- Do you have experience working in advertising sales for newspaper print advertising, and account management?
- Do you have excellent communication and people skills?
- Are you an organised worker with a focus on attention to detail?
- Can you work to deadlines?
- Do you have an understanding of working with an Indigenous organisation, and an understanding of the Koori Mail brand and purpose?
- Are you a creative thinker, with a willingness to respectfully share ideas, opinions and feedback?
- Can you work both as part of a team, and unsupervised/independently when required?

Required experience or similar:

- Experienced MAC User
- Experience with Quark Express, or similar (InDesign).
- Familiarity with Adobe Acrobat, Photoshop.

To apply, please email a cover letter to CEO@koorimail.com outlining your interest in the role, including a copy of your Resume/CV.

Applications will close at 5pm on Wednesday 12th June, 2024.

For more information please contact
Naomi Moran, CEO, Koori Mail on 0499 991 625.

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www.koorimail.com



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. Our main resource for tenant issues is the Tenants' Union of NSW and relevant training is provided to the successful applicant.

If you are interested in this role please submit your application against the selection criteria. Your application should highlight any relevant 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 4.00pm on Friday 28th June 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).



Women's Safety Services SA

Aboriginal Family Violence Case Manager

Adelaide Southern suburbs location
Part time, 0.8FTE (30 hrs per week)

Women's Safety Services SA (WSSSA) is the leading provider of support services for women and children experiencing domestic and family violence. We are currently seeking an Aboriginal Family Violence Case Manager on part time basis. The position is based at Ninko Kurtangga Patpangga (Ninko). Ninko supports Aboriginal families and the Case Manager will be responsible for contributing to alleviating the effects of domestic and family violence experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and children through the provision of both crisis intervention and case management services.

APPLICATIONS CLOSE: 19 June 2024

To view the full position description and apply please visit our **Careers Page**

www.womenssafetysservices.com.au/about/careers

Inquiries can be emailed to

tania@womenssafetysservices.com.au or
hr@womenssafetysservices.com.au



Aboriginal Team Leader Tweed Heads

Would you like to make a real difference in people's lives? If so, come and join the team at Momentum Collective.

This position will oversee the operations of the Specialist Homelessness Services Domestic and Family Violence program/s and to deliver quality person-centred services with compassion and dignity.

Here at Momentum we are known to provide a culturally safe environment and provide career development and mentoring opportunities for our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees.

Momentum Collective is committed to creating social change and inclusive opportunities for everyone. We promote diversity when recruiting our team and are guided by our core values of trust and respect, wellbeing, innovation, working well together and being gracious. We respect the special place our nation's first people hold in our communities and value the differences in everyone.

To apply: please call Janet on 0437253130 or email recruitment@mymomentum.org.au

Corporate and Government Services
Department of Premier and Cabinet



Director Aboriginal Heritage Tasmania

Department of Premier and Cabinet - Aboriginal Heritage Tasmania

Aboriginal Heritage Tasmania are looking for a suitably qualified person to manage the resources of Aboriginal Heritage Tasmania and lead the development of high-level policy designed to drive contemporary practice, innovation, outputs and reform in the management of Aboriginal heritage under the Resource Management and Planning System (RMPS).

You will be required to provide specialist advice, information and recommendations to the Deputy Secretary CPP, the Aboriginal Heritage Council and the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, ensuring that the statutory and non-statutory decisions and initiatives of the Division are sound, meet the objectives of the Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPAC) and align with Government priorities.

The role provides strategic leadership and manages designated key Aboriginal heritage, cross-Division and cross-Agency projects.

The role is required to represent the Government at senior levels and is required to exercise innovation and creativity.

You will report to the Deputy Secretary, Community Partnerships and Priorities (CPP). CPP is in the Department of Premier and Cabinet and incorporates the Office of Aboriginal Partnerships, Aboriginal Heritage Tasmania, Disability Reform, Community Policy and Engagement and the CPP Directorate.

Aboriginal people are encouraged to apply.

To apply please visit www.jobs.tas.gov.au

Applications close 14 June 2024

For further information please contact Courtney Hurworth Deputy Secretary,
Community Partnerships and Priorities

Email: Courtney.hurworth@dpac.tas.gov.au



Local Land Services

LLS board election now open

Voting is now open for 34 local board member roles across NSW.

Your vote will help LLS build strong local boards, with members who are committed to helping you and your local communities' needs.

To be eligible to vote, you must be an LLS ratepayer, with a valid Occupier ID, which is located on your recent LLS rates notice.

Learn more about the candidates standing for election for your local board at lls.nsw.gov.au/board-recruitment



If you haven't already requested a voting pack, you can still request an electronic pack, by scanning the QR code.

Voting closes 5 pm Friday 14 June 2024.



We are hiring! Applications closing 16 June 2024

Yoorrook's Letters Patent requires it to prioritise the employment of First Peoples. First Peoples are strongly encouraged to apply for ALL roles at Yoorrook.

Did you know that the Yoorrook Justice Commission is the first formal truth-telling Royal Commission of its kind in Australia?

Yoorrook is independent of the Victorian Government and is committed to a transformed Victoria based on truth and justice and grounded in First Peoples' enduring spirit, cultures and self-determination. We will do this through **Truth, Understanding and Transformation.**

We are currently seeking an experienced candidate to fill the following position:

CEO – SES 2 - VPS Level Communications Manager – VPS 6

<https://yoorrookjusticecommission.org.au/work-with-us/>

To learn more about Yoorrook please go to <https://yoorrookjusticecommission.org.au/>



Information about CEO role can be found on the 'Work with us' page or call Hugh de Kretser – CEO on **0403 965 340** for more information.

Information about Communications Manager role can be found on the 'Work with us' page or call Brent Ryan, Director – Engagement, Support and Communications on **0408 431 706** for more information.



Shop our "Blak Heart" collection
now!

Available in colours black and
white, in a wide variety of both
kids and adults sizes!



Website: shop@koorimail.com



Scan this QR
code to be
taken to our
shop website!

NURSING STAFF

A wonderful opportunity is now available for you!

Your choice of either Tamworth or Quirindi (or apply for both) with Walhallow Aboriginal Corporation. Full time and part-time options are on the table.

We are currently building our teams and need:

- Practice Nurses – EN or RN
- * Senior Practice Nurses / Clinical Leads – RN only.

We offer good remuneration and benefits as well as the chance for you to flourish through participating in and contributing to initiatives that have organisation and community health impacts.

If you would like to discuss our opportunities, please call Katie Brett the Practice Manager on 0418 233 085. Please see our ad on Seek, use Walhallow as keyword.

Applications close on June 20, 2024



Economic Policy Analyst

This is a key role contributing to policy strategy that will inform our strategic direction and interaction with government. You will examine the efficacy of justice, health, and education policies and direction of government funding, in support of a justice reinvestment mechanism in NSW.

Justice reinvestment is a new concept seeking to realise cost savings to the criminal justice system, based on successful reductions in crime, incarceration, and recidivism of Aboriginal people, and re-invest those funds into community-led, place-based solutions for further crime prevention.

Your expertise in economic policy and ability to navigate governmental processes will be critical in driving meaningful change towards a more equitable and efficient justice system. Working closely with our CEO and Data & Research Manager, you will identify key stakeholders JR NSW needs to engage with and provide recommendations to inform the framework for economic modelling and a policy mechanism for the reinvestment of funds from the justice system into place based, data driven & community led programs.

Applications close 13 June.

For full job description go to <https://www.justreinvest.org.au/work-with-us/>



Government of
Western Australia
Department of Communities

Aboriginal Customer Support Officer (50d), 015649

Permanent Opportunity

Web Search No: 015649

Location: Bunbury

Level/Salary: Level 3, \$79,156 - \$84,977 pa + Super -
PSCSA 2022

Job Application Package: jobs.wa.gov.au

DOC_21600



FIRST NATIONS COORDINATOR

CDC Victoria is seeking a First Nations Coordinator to oversee the implementation of our Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) initiatives. The successful candidate will be responsible for building positive relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, working with stakeholders, and providing strategic guidance. This six-month fixed-term position works three days per week, with the potential for extension.

To be appointed to the role, you must have:

The ideal candidate must deeply understand Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, histories, and contemporary issues, as this knowledge will be fundamental to their work. They should also have strong relationship-building skills and the ability to collaborate effectively with diverse groups and individuals. Additionally, familiarity with reconciliation frameworks, such as the Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) process, and a good knowledge of relevant legislation and policies are required. Strong time management skills and the ability to work autonomously are also necessary.

How to apply

Please send your Resume and Cover letter to HR.VIC@cdcbus.com.au or contact Jessica Harvey at 0422061882 for more information.

To learn more about CDC Victoria, please visit our website at www.cdcbus.com.au

MAKING A
DIFFERENCE SO
SOUTH AUSTRALIA
THRIVES



SEASONAL FIRE CREW

2 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Department for Environment and Water
State-wide (multiple roles; various locations)

Full time contracts to 30 May 2025

Vacancy ID: 597638 – 597625

\$2,217 – \$2,385 per fortnight gross (OPS2)

\$2,096 per fortnight gross (OPS1)

Seasonal Fire Crew are primarily employed to support DEW's fire management operations and will contribute to a range of fire preparedness, prevention, response and land management activities. This involves a range of outdoor activities, working in demanding and sometimes remote environments for periods of time. Seasonal Fire Crew (OPS2) will also support and guide a small team to undertake these works.

Initial enquiries to:

DEWFireManagement@sa.gov.au

To apply and for more information visit the I WORK FOR SA website: www.iworkfor.sa.gov.au and search by vacancy number.

Applications close:

11pm, Sunday 23 June 2024

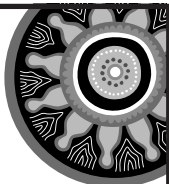
The Department for Environment and Water is committed to building a diverse and inclusive workplace. We encourage applications from people with diverse backgrounds including all ages and gender identities, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, people with disability, culturally and linguistically diverse and LGBTQIA+.

W23288

IWORKFOR.SA.gov.au



Inspector of Custodial Services



Official Visitor to Acmena Youth Justice Centre

- 2 x Community-based appointment under the NSW Government Boards and Committees framework (1 Aboriginal role and 1 non-Aboriginal role)
- Time commitment of one day a fortnight
- Daily rate of \$239 or \$120 for a half day and reimbursed mileage

Your role

The Inspector of Custodial Services (ICS) is appointed to inspect adult correctional facilities and youth justice centres, and report to Parliament on the findings of these inspections. The ICS also oversees the Official Visitor Program in correctional facilities and youth justice centres.

The Inspector of Custodial Services acknowledges lived experience and how it contributes to the valuable work we do with the community. We strongly encourage and support applications from people who are of Aboriginal descent. Once we have determined through merit-based assessment which candidates meet the pre-established standards of the role, we will select at least one candidate who is also of Aboriginal descent.

What you'll do

Official Visitors work to assist with enquiries and resolve complaints made by children and young people in Youth Justice centres and assist in monitoring the conditions and treatment of children and young people in Youth Justice centres throughout New South Wales (NSW). Official Visitors are community-based appointments made by the Minister for Youth Justice.

Successful applicants are normally appointed to the Youth Justice Centre for up to four years to conduct half day or full day visits to the centre once a fortnight.

Applications are invited from the following local government areas – Clarence Valley, Grafton, Lismore, Casino, Ballina, Coffs Harbour LGA's for appointment as an Official Visitor to Acmena YJC in Grafton. Suitable candidates may be added to a talent pool to fill any appointments that may become vacant over the next 18 months.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, women, and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds are encouraged to apply.

When applying, you will need to attach a cover letter (maximum 2 pages) outlining how you meet the requirements of the role as well as an up-to-date résumé (maximum 5 pages).

Applications close Wednesday 19 June 2024

For more information about the role, please contact the hiring manager Ivan Slater, Official Visitor Coordinator on 0476 812 356 or ivan.slater@justice.nsw.gov.au or custodialinspector@justice.nsw.gov.au

To apply visit jobs.dcj.nsw.gov.au and search 67271

LP2289

NSW Department of Education

School Infrastructure NSW Consultation Meeting with Widjabul Wia-bal on the Relocation of Richmond River High Campus

Background

School Infrastructure NSW (SINSW) have identified a preferred location for the relocation of The Rivers Secondary College Richmond River High Campus. In addition to commencing a range of studies including Aboriginal Cultural Heritage and Archaeological Surveys, SINSW is using the NSW Governments "Connecting with Country" framework to make sure the proposed school appropriately acknowledges Bundjalung Culture and Country and is a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students.

In developing a vision for the new campus SINSW have spoken with the Lismore Local Aboriginal Education Consultative Group about the opportunities at the new school to continue to respond to the needs of Aboriginal students and make school a place of pride for them.

At the request of Widjabul Wia-bal Gurrumbil Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC, SINSW are convening a consultation meeting with Widjabul Wia-bal to discuss the proposed relocation site for the Richmond River High Campus. The consultation meeting will include a visit to the proposed new site on Dunoon Road.

School Infrastructure NSW would like to consult with Widjabul Wia-bal to provide direct input into the project and ensure the appropriate consideration and protection of Widjabul Wia-bal's Cultural Heritage.

Meeting Details

SINSW's consultation meeting with Widjabul Wia-bal will be held on:

Date: 7 June 2024

Time: From 09.30 am to 2.00 pm

Venue: Lismore South Bowling Club, 25 Wilson Street, Lismore

Transport for a site visit to the proposed new campus site on Dunoon Road and lunch will be provided by SINSW.

What will be discussed at this meeting?

The meeting is about SINSW and the project team listening to Widjabul Wia-bal. Some of the things we would like to hear from Widjabul Wia-bal are:

- Understanding of Country - what do the location itself and surrounding places mean to community?
- What do we need to look after when building a new school?
- Caring for Country - how could Bundjalung Country and Culture be brought into in the new campus?
- Learning on Country - what are the stories that could be shared and how can they be considered by the project team?
- Other matters Widjabul Wia-bal see as relevant to the project?

SINSW is looking forward to this session and is strongly committed to engaging with Widjabul Wia-bal through the Widjabul Wia-bal Gurrumbil Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC to ensure the co-design of the relocated Richmond River High Campus project.



schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au

NOTICE OF AN AUTHORISATION MEETING FOR THE BREWARRINA COMMON INDIGENOUS LAND USE AGREEMENT



When: FRIDAY 28 JUNE 2024
11:00am till 11:30am – Meeting registration*
11:30am – Meeting opened
5:00pm – Meeting closed

*Note: To attend in person, registration will be open to members anytime throughout the meeting, but members are encouraged to register between 11.00am to 11.30am to allow adequate time for all business to be addressed. To attend by videoconference/telephone we request you register by Friday 21 June 2024.

Where: In person: Gilgandra Services Club, 33 Morris St, Gilgandra NSW 2827

Remote Access: Contact NTSCORP to register to attend by videoconference or telephone (by Friday 21 June 2024 at the latest).

Who should attend: all members of the native title claim group in the Ngemba, Ngiyampaa, Wangaaypuwan and Wayilwan native title determination application (NSD38/2019) (referred to as the “NNWW Claim Group” or “NNWW People”, and “NNWW Claim” respectively), being those Aboriginal persons who are:

(a) the descendants of the following apical ancestors:

1. Caroline Hilt (who was born on the Barwon River around 1847);

2. Thomas Sullivan (who was born in Brewarrina around 1860);

3. Nellie Colless (who was born in Brewarrina around 1868);

4. Billy Coleman (who was born in Cobar in 1840);

5. Mary Ann Allen (who was born in 1844);

6. Moses Biggs (who was born in 1837);

7. Polly Parkes (who was born in 1846);

8. Anne Brandy (who was born in Colane in 1874);

9. Caroline Brandy (who was born on Duck Creek in 1869);

10. Wadna Boe (who was born in 1848);

11. Richard King (who was born in 1827);

12. Jimmy Keewong (who was born in 1849);

13. Kitty Narrangie;

14. Tom Dennis (who was born in Brewarrina in 1864);

15. Winnie Pierce (who was born in Brewarrina in 1878);

16. Jack Dennis (who was born on the Barwon River in around 1855);

17. Kate Baker (who was born in Boorooma in 1874);

18. Francis “Tracker” Williams (who was born in Gundabooka in 1883);

19. William Johnson (who was born in Big Willandra in 1876);

20. Henry Parkes (who was born in 1863);

21. Topsy Harris also known as Topsy Scotty (who was born in Marfield in 1866);

22. Jack Redtank;

23. Thomas Williams also known as Thomas Broughton (who was born in Roto);

24. Maggie Redtank (who was born in Keewong in 1868);

25. Ada Arnott (who was born in Nyngan in 1865);

26. Moses Divine;

27. Jack Smith (who was born in Mossgiel in 1869);

28. Ellen Sprowl also known as Ellen McHughes (who was born in Brewarrina in 1867);

29. Fanny Hippie also known as Fanny Williams;

30. Millie Wells also known as Millie Shearer (who was born in Brewarrina in 1874);

31. Pluto Williams (who was born in Trida/Mossgiel in 1873);

32. Steve Shaw (who was born in Coronga Peak in 1855);

33. Fanny Brown also known as Tiltagara Fanny (who was
- born in Hillston in 1862);

34. David Brown (who was born on the Macquarie River in 1850);

35. Janey Brown (who was born on the Macquarie River in 1853);

36. Betsy Gwen (who was born in Haddon Rigg near Warren in 1849);

37. Louise Hinton (who was born on the Macquarie River in 1843);

38. Cissy Lee (who was born in 1852);

39. Boorooma Murphy (who was born in Boorooma in 1832);

40. Harry Murphy (who was born in Brewarrina around 1871);

41. Thomas Nixon (who was born in Buttabone in 1843);

42. Colaine Lumpy (who was born in 1864);

43. Charlotte Wilson;

44. Tilly Riley (who was born in 1863);

45. Geordie Murray (who was born in 1851 in Ivanhoe);

46. George Murray, born at Gundabooka Station, died 1927 at Nyngan;

47. Amy Monica Murray nee Murphy, wife of George Murray, born in Brewarrina, died 1954 at Nyngan;

48. Edward Murphy, born in Cobar, died 1960 at Walgett;

49. Maggie Warraweena nee Murphy, born at Charlton Station on the Bogan River, died 1907 at Brewarrina;

50. Eliza Wilson nee Williams, also known as Eliza Governor, born near Cobar, died 1908 at Byrock;

51. Charlie Kelly, husband of Laura Kelly nee Murray, born 1858;

52. Laura Kelly nee Murray, also known as Norah Murray and Laura Boy, wife of Charlie Kelly, died 1918 at Corinya Station;

53. Jack Shepherd, also known as John Shepherd and Jack Sheppard, born 1855 in Cobar;

54. Harry Shepherd, also known as Harry Sheppard, died 1911 in Brewarrina;

55. Harry Brandy, brother of Caroline Brandy and Anne Brandy, born circa 1869;

56. Jack Simpson, also known as Jack ‘Smart Gui’ Simpson, died 1974 at Brewarrina; and

57. Billy Boney, also known as William Boney and George Boney, born 1852 in Ginghet,

Background NTSCORP Limited (NTSCORP), the native title service provider for NSW, is convening a meeting to authorise the making of an Indigenous Land Use Agreement in accordance with the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) in relation to land and waters identified at Annexure A as shown in black outline on the map below.



The area subject to the proposed Brewarrina Common Indigenous Land Use Agreement falls in the Brewarrina Local Government Area and within the external boundary of the Ngemba, Ngiyampaa, Wangaaypuwan and Wayilwan People’s native title determination application.

The Indigenous Land Use Agreement is proposed to be between the NNWW People, Brewarrina Local Aboriginal Land Council, the Minister for Lands and Property as the Minister administering the Crown Land Management Act 2016 (NSW) and the Attorney General of New South Wales as the State Minister for New South Wales under the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth).

The Agenda for the Meeting:

1. Welcome to Country and Introductions.
2. Overview of the Brewarrina Common Indigenous Land Use Agreement and the negotiation of the Brewarrina Common Indigenous Land Use Agreement.
3. Confirm the process of decision-making for the purpose of authorising the making of the Brewarrina Common Indigenous Land Use Agreement.
4. Consider and make decisions in relation to the authorisation of the Brewarrina Common Indigenous Land Use Agreement.
5. Any other business. s.

Attending the Meeting

The meeting will be held in-person and there will also be the option to participate remotely by telephone or videoconference.

Attending in person

If you wish to attend the Authorisation Meeting in person, please contact NTSCORP by no later than Friday 21 June 2024, so that all relevant arrangements can be made. Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea will be provided at the venue.

For those attending the Authorisation Meeting in person, mileage assistance and accommodation may be available in accordance with NTSCORP’s meeting assistance policies, as reasonably adjusted to account for COVID-19 related variations. If you require accommodation you will need to contact NTSCORP by telephone or send an email to CFC@ntscorp.com.au with confirmed details, by no later than Friday 21 June 2024.

Please note if you do not contact NTSCORP by Friday 21 June 2024 to confirm your request for accommodation assistance, NTSCORP cannot guarantee we will be able to assist with travel and accommodation arrangements — although you would still be more than welcome to attend the meeting.

Attending remotely

You may also choose to attend the Authorisation Meeting by videoconference or telephone. You will still be able to listen, ask questions, and participate in making decisions if you attend remotely. In order to attend the Authorisation Meeting by videoconference or telephone, members must:

1. REGISTER - Call or email NTSCORP to register your attendance.

Please contact NTSCORP as soon as possible by calling the below number or sending an email to CFC@ntscorp.com.au. We request that you register to attend remotely by 5pm on Friday 21 June 2024.

2. MEETING ACCESS - Once you have registered, NTSCORP will send out details of how to attend the meeting by videoconference or telephone. Please contact NTSCORP by telephone to discuss.

NTSCORP’s contact details: Freecall 1800 111 844 or (02) 9310 3188
Post: P.O. Box 2105, Strawberry Hills, NSW 2012
Email: CFC@ntscorp.com.au

Should you have any queries or simply require further information, please do not hesitate to contact Neville Kim - Manager Community Facilitation or Matilda Vaughan– Senior Solicitor on Free call 1800 111 844 or (02) 9310 3188.

Annexure A

Lands and Waters subject to the proposed Brewarrina Common Indigenous Land Use Agreement

The following parcels are proposed to be subject to the Brewarrina Common Indigenous Land Use Agreement.

For those parcels proposed to be subject to the Brewarrina Common Indigenous Land Use Agreement those parcels identified by a Lot and Deposited Plan (DP) or by a Lot, Section and DP.

Lot 1304 DP 752910	Lot 7334 DP 1179143	Lot 7341 DP 1179143
Lot 158 DP 751553	Lot 7320 DP 1179143	Lot 7307 DP 1180813
Lot 144 DP 751553	Lot 7333 DP 1179143	Lot 7308 DP 1180813
Lot 63 DP 751553	Lot 7323 DP 1179143	Lot 4 DP 722941
Lot 7329 DP 1179143	Lot 7322 DP 1179143	Lot 9 Section 5 DP 758457
Lot 157 DP 751553	Lot 7342 DP 1179143	Lot 2 Section 9 DP 758457
Lot 1 DP 92447	Lot 115 DP 751553	Lot 7346 DP 1179143
Lot 154 DP 751553	Lot 116 DP 751553	Lot 7343 DP 1179143
Lot 7321 DP 1179143	Lot 117 DP 751553	Lot 112 DP 751553
Lot 7324 DP 1179143	Lot 121 DP 751553	Lot 113 DP 751553
Lot 136 DP 751553	Lot 122 DP 751553	Lot 114 DP 751553

Lot 159 DP 751553	Lot 123 DP 751553	Lot 110 DP 751553
Lot 7339 DP 1179143	Lot 124 DP 751553	Lot 1688 DP 763361
Lot 7338 DP 1179143	Lot 125 DP 751553	Lot 111 DP 751553
Lot 7337 DP 1179143	Lot 126 DP 751553	Lot 7309 DP 1180813
Lot 7336 DP 1179143	Lot 127 DP 751553	Lot 7310 DP 1180813
Lot 7335 DP 1179143	Lot 128 DP 751553	Lot 7344 DP 1179143
Lot 11 Section 12 DP 758161	Lot 7 Section 12 DP 758161	Lot 7345 DP 1179143
Lot 12 Section 12 DP 758161	Lot 8 Section 12 DP 758161	
Lot 140 DP 751553	Lot 9 Section 12 DP 758161	
Lot 59 DP 751553	Lot 10 Section 12 DP 758161	

The State of Victoria wishes to notify any interested person that it is currently considering the following minerals licence applications.

APPLICATION DETAILS	LOCALITY
TENEMENT NUMBER: EL008161 APPLICANT: Dart Mining NL LOCATION: 1.9 km north of Rushworth NEAREST ROADS: Bendigo – Murchison Road, Heathcote – Moora Road TERM: 5 years AREA: 457.86 km ² Centre MGA Co-ord 310236E 5942755N Z55 Centre 100k map 7824	
TENEMENT NUMBER: EL008345 APPLICANT: Lotus Minerals Limited LOCATION: 1.2 km southeast of Colac Colac NEAREST ROAD: Murray Valley Highway, Thowgla Road TERM: 5 years AREA: 484.91 km ² Centre MGA Co-ord 583026E 5987427N Z55 Centre 100k map 8425	
TENEMENT NUMBER: EL008404 APPLICANT: Saudi Australian Exploration Pty Ltd LOCATION: 11.4 km southwest of Casterton NEAREST ROAD: Glenelg Highway, Casterton – Dartmoor Road TERM: 5 years AREA: 228.59 km ² Centre MGA Co-ord 524903E 5820374N Z54 Centre 100k map 7122	

Exploration Licences (EL)

If these licences are granted, the licensees will be permitted to explore for minerals on the specified land for the term of the licence, and to apply for two renewals of up to five years.

APPLICATION DETAILS	LOCALITY
TENEMENT NUMBER: EL008406 APPLICANT: Saudi Australian Exploration Pty Ltd LOCATION: 5.9 km south of Casterton NEAREST ROAD: Portland – Casterton Road, Range Road TERM: 5 years AREA: 123.86 km ² Centre MGA Co-ord 542206E 5821647N Z54 Centre 100k map 7122	
TENEMENT NUMBER: EL008456 APPLICANT: Triple Twenty Pty Ltd LOCATION: 1.3 km north of Rutherglen NEAREST ROAD: Murray Valley Highway, Chiltern – Rutherglen Road TERM: 5 years AREA: 247.82 km ² Centre MGA Co-ord 453275E 6007332N Z55 Centre 100k map 8125	
TENEMENT NUMBER: EL008435 APPLICANT: RDBD Developments Pty Ltd LOCATION: 14 km west of Edenhope NEAREST ROAD: Wimmera Highway TERM: 5 years AREA: 499.22 km ² Centre MGA Co-ord 545515E 5916016N Z54 Centre 100k map 7224	

Becoming a native title party

Persons have until **5 September 2024** to take steps to become native title parties in relation to these licence applications. The notification date under Section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993* is **5 June 2024**. Further information about becoming a native title party is available from the National Native Title Tribunal, Melbourne Registry, on 03 8638 6700 or by visiting www.nntt.gov.au.

For more information, visit earthresources.vic.gov.au/nativetitle, contact the Native Title Coordinator on 0436 436 732 or email nativetitle.err@deeca.vic.gov.au.

This notice is given by the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action on behalf of the Minister for Energy and Resources in accordance with Section 29 (3) of the Commonwealth *Native Title Act 1993*. The Department can be contacted at GPO Box 4509, Melbourne, VIC 3001.

LEGEND

Application Area subject to Section 29 notification

Land subject to Native Title Act or Traditional Owner Settlement Act

Public Land

Water Area

Built Up Areas

VICTORIA

State Government

Energy, Environment and Climate Action



SHELL AUSTRALIA INVITES YOU TO GET IN TOUCH ON THE CRUX PROJECT

If you have functions, interests or activities that may be affected by this project, Shell Australia wants to hear from you.

In Australia, Shell has an integrated energy solutions portfolio which includes gas production and liquefaction, as well as renewable power and energy solutions businesses.

With our joint venture partner, SGH Energy, we are preparing to develop the Crux natural gas field. This is to ensure a continued supply of gas to Shell’s Prelude Floating Liquefied Natural Gas (FLNG) facility, which extracts, liquefies and stores natural gas at sea, before it is transferred and shipped to customers. The Crux field is located 190km offshore north-west Australia.

Shell Australia is preparing the Crux Completions, Commissioning, Start up, and Operations Environment Plan(s) for submission to the National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority (NOPSEMA). Consultation with relevant persons is an important part of this approval.

Please respond by 30 June 2024.

For more information please visit: www.shell.com.au/crux



CRUX PROJECT JOINT VENTURE PARTNER



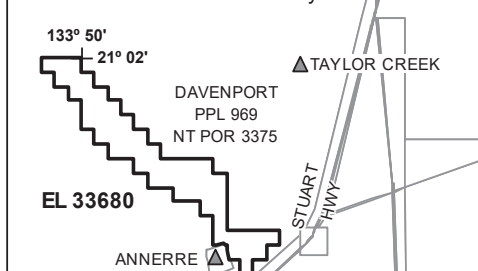
NOTICE OF PROPOSED GRANT OF EXPLORATION LICENCES

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.

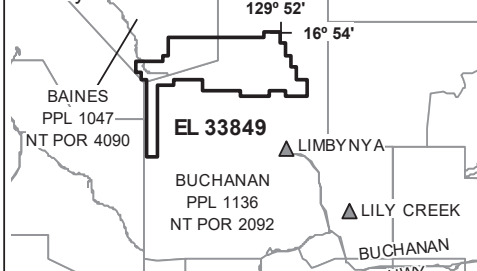
Applications to which this notice applies:

Exploration Licence 33680 sought by BACCHUS RESOURCES PTY LTD, ACN 606 340 872 over an area of 52 Blocks (167 km²) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the CRAWFORD locality.



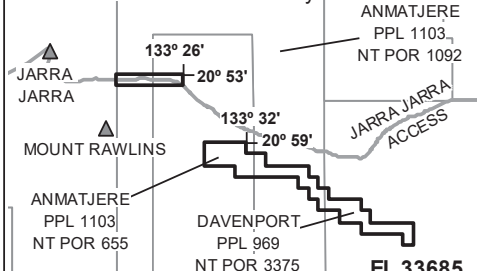
Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5655

Exploration Licence 33849 sought by BAUDIN RESOURCES PTY LTD, ACN 618 455 593 over an area of 249 Blocks (818 km²) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the KIMON locality.



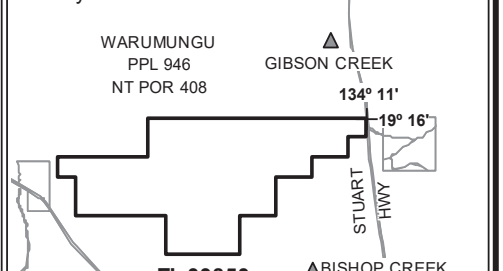
Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 4864

Exploration Licence 33685 sought by NORTH TENNANT MINERALS PTY LTD, ACN 654 828 912 over an area of 41 Blocks (130 km²) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the CRAWFORD locality.



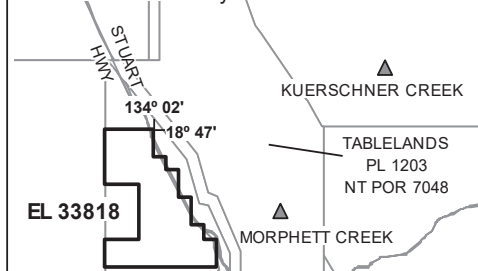
Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5655

Exploration Licence 33853 sought by PAYNE GULLY GOLD PTY LTD, ACN 638 017 731 over an area of 67 Blocks (218 km²) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the FLYNN locality.



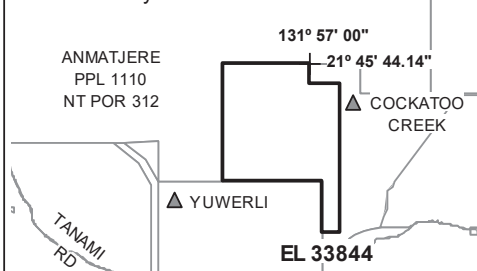
Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5759

Exploration Licence 33818 sought by SCRIVEN EXPLORATION PTY LTD, ACN 006 264 615 over an area of 53 Blocks (168 km²) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the BRUNCHILLY locality.



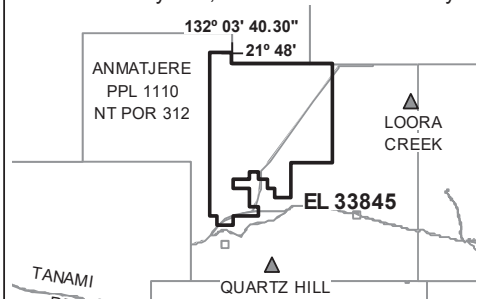
Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5760

Exploration Licence 33844 sought by WA1 RESOURCES LTD, ACN 646 878 631 over an area of 246 Blocks (711 km²) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the TURNERS DOME locality.



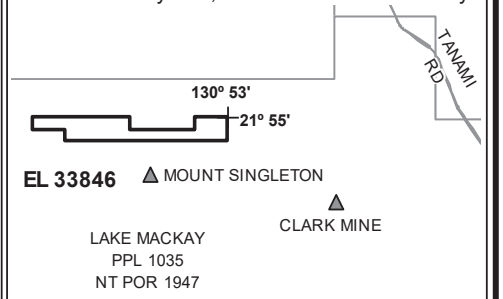
Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5254

Exploration Licence 33845 sought by WA1 RESOURCES LTD, ACN 646 878 631 over an area of 213 Blocks (669 km²) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the GILES locality.



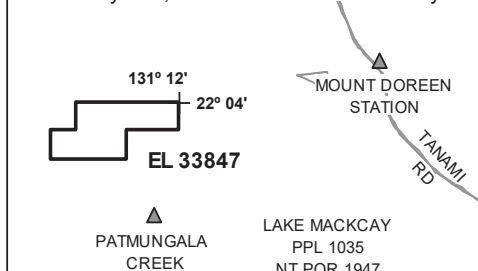
Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5354

Exploration Licence 33846 sought by WA1 RESOURCES LTD, ACN 646 878 631 over an area of 27 Blocks (87 km²) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the CHILLA locality.



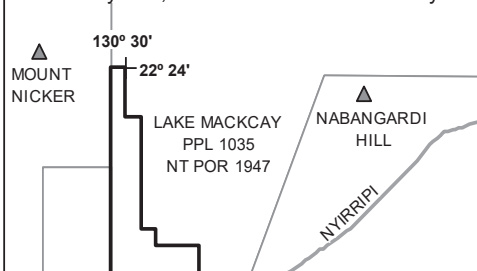
Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5054

Exploration Licence 33847 sought by WA1 RESOURCES LTD, ACN 646 878 631 over an area of 7 Blocks (23 km²) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the DOREEN locality.



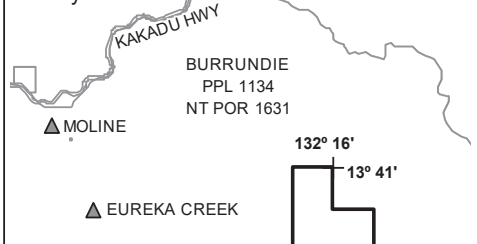
Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5153

Exploration Licence 33848 sought by WA1 RESOURCES LTD, ACN 646 878 631 over an area of 32 Blocks (97 km²) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the GURNER locality.



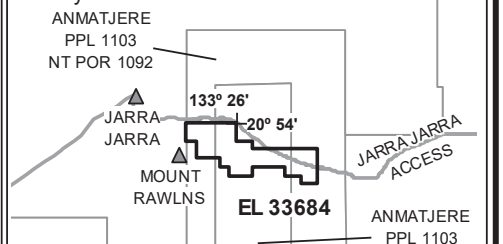
Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5052

Exploration Licence 33843 sought by WILTON MINING PTY LTD, ACN 668 370 643 over an area of 3 Blocks (11 km²) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the RANFORD HILL locality.



Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5370

Exploration Licence 33684 sought by WILUNA WEST GOLD PTY LTD, ACN 116 550 111 over an area of 57 Blocks (180 km²) depicted below for a term of 6 years, within the CRAWFORD locality.



Not To Scale NMIG Map Sheet No: 5655

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: 5 June 2024



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indigenous round

Keeping the refs in the game

By KRIS FLANDERS

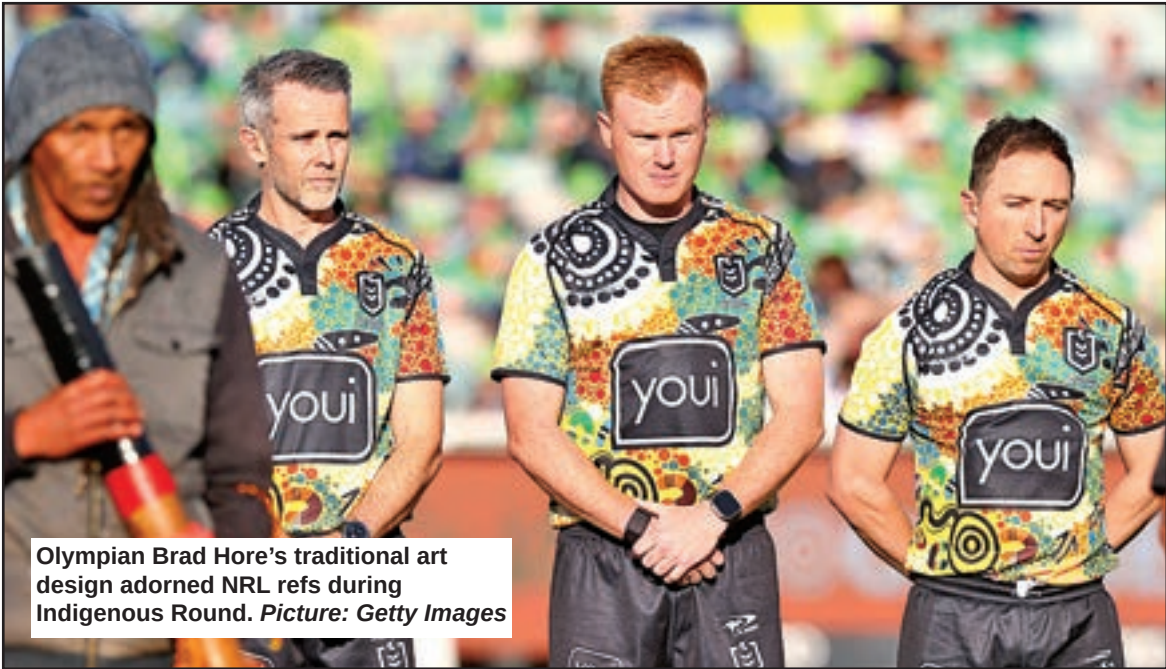
 INDIGENOUS Round in the NRL was another exhilarating display of traditional artworks on all the 17 clubs' jerseys, but what garnered even more attention across the entire weekend was the striking and outstanding shirts for all the referees and touch judges.

The brilliant designs worn by the game's officials was by Dunghutti man, two-time Olympian boxer, Brad Hore.

Indigenous Round in the NRL was held from 23-26 May and across round 12 of the premiership season.

Hore said it was an honour to work on the refs' and touchies' kits, and the fact he was approached to design their uniforms was even more special.

"I actually got a message from (NRL referee) Kasey Badger (and wife of the only Indigenous NRL referee, Gavin Badger) asking me if I was interested in designing the officials gear for the Indigenous Round," Hore said.



"I said I'd love to do it. It was a great opportunity.

"The refs really haven't had an Indigenous uniform like this, they wanted to feel part of Indigenous Round, they wanted something that connected them."

For every game during

Indigenous Round, the refs and touch judges were seen in the bright uniforms.

They were visible at kick-offs, penalties, cautioning the players and raising their flags for successful conversions and touchfinders.

Hore said the feedback had been positive.

"I watch a fair bit of footy, but that weekend, I didn't miss a single game," he said.

"It was wonderful seeing my work out there for every single match. The feedback has been

unbelievable, the officials are still getting in touch with me saying how good it was, they wish they could wear it every week."

Positive feedback came from outside the game, too.

"Even Classic Sportswear, who made the gear, contacted me to let me know that they have received positive news on the officials kits," Hore said.

The former boxer's artwork packs a punch.

The 42-year-old has also put his handiwork to use for the Australian Sports Commission, Boxing Australia, personally for Winter Olympian Bree Walker, and for the Australian men's Volleyroos team.

"With my Dad passing away and when COVID hit, I found it was a great way to unwind and connect with my culture," Hore said.

"I really wanted to give back to the community after retiring from boxing. It helps when I'm feeling stressed it relaxes me and I just paint for hours.

"I'm proud of where I've got to with art."

 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 <i>Mining Act 1978</i> :						
Tenement Type	No.	Applicant	Area*	Locality	Centroid	Shire
Exploration Licence	15/1927	BELRES PTY LTD	15BL	41.8km SW'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 31° 32' S: Long: 121° 27' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	15/2083	AMBARA CONSULTING PTY LTD	9BL	30.3km W'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 30° 59' S: Long: 120° 51' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	16/569	ORIGIN COMPANIES PTY LTD	6BL	37.3km W'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 26' S: Long: 120° 40' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	27/736	REWARD MINERALS LTD	6BL	44.1km NE'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 34' S: Long: 121° 53' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	28/3368	AUSTRALIA MINERAL PROSPECTS PTY LTD	23BL	90.9km E'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 31° 10' S: Long: 122° 37' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	29/1255	LITHIUM RESOURCES INVESTMENTS PTY LTD	1BL	130.5km NW'ly of Menzies	Lat: 29° 4' S: Long: 119° 53' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	29/1256	LITHIUM RESOURCES INVESTMENTS PTY LTD	1BL	130km NW'ly of Menzies	Lat: 29° 6' S: Long: 119° 52' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	29/1257	LITHIUM RESOURCES INVESTMENTS PTY LTD	6BL	127km NW'ly of Menzies	Lat: 29° 7' S: Long: 119° 54' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	30/558	DREADNOUGHT EXPLORATION PTY LTD	70BL	95.9km W'ly of Menzies	Lat: 29° 31' S: Long: 120° 3' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	39/2366	PANTHER METALS LTD	30BL	28.3km W'ly of Laverton	Lat: 28° 34' S: Long: 122° 7' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	47/4899	LCT PRECIOUS METALS PTY LTD	22BL	16.4km N'ly of Whim Creek	Lat: 20° 42' S: Long: 117° 53' E	KARRATHA CITY, PORT HEDLAND TOWN
Exploration Licence	47/5069	REDSTONE METALS PTY LTD	23BL	29.7km E'ly of Roebourne	Lat: 20° 44' S: Long: 117° 25' E	KARRATHA CITY
Exploration Licence	51/2145	EVEREST METALS CORPORATION LTD	8BL	43.1km SE'ly of Peak Hill	Lat: 25° 57' S: Long: 118° 57' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	51/2208	GREAT WESTERN EXPLORATION LIMITED	39BL	95.2km E'ly of Peak Hill	Lat: 25° 52' S: Long: 119° 38' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	51/2217	LEVISSIANOS, Angelo	4BL	41.5km SE'ly of Peak Hill	Lat: 25° 50' S: Long: 119° 4' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	51/2218	LEVISSIANOS, Angelo	2BL	42.8km SE'ly of Peak Hill	Lat: 25° 50' S: Long: 119° 5' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	57/1416	AURUMIN GIDGEE PTY LTD	6BL	33.6km NE'ly of Sandstone	Lat: 27° 44' S: Long: 119° 29' E	SANDSTONE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	57/1430	GATEWAY MINING LIMITED	5BL	81.9km N'ly of Sandstone	Lat: 27° 15' S: Long: 119° 21' E	SANDSTONE SHIRE, WILUNA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	70/6560	MOUNT GIBSON MINING LIMITED	19BL	39.9km N'ly of Mullewa	Lat: 28° 11' S: Long: 115° 35' E	GREATER GERALDTON CITY
Exploration Licence	77/2878	YILGARN IRON PTY LTD	7BL	131.6km N'ly of Southern Cross	Lat: 30° 2' S: Long: 119° 13' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Exploration Licence	77/3192	LCT PRECIOUS METALS PTY LTD	25BL	96.9km N'ly of Southern Cross	Lat: 30° 21' S: Long: 119° 10' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Exploration Licence	80/6022	BARACUS PTY LTD	57BL	80.6km S'ly of Wyndham	Lat: 16° 12' S: Long: 128° 4' E	WYNDHAM-EAST KIMBERLEY SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	15/6766	MANDILLA GOLD PTY LTD	35.66HA	22.7km SW'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 31° 22' S: Long: 121° 31' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	15/6868	WEST AUSTRALIAN PROSPECTORS PTY LTD	69.46HA	1.7km NW'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 30° 56' S: Long: 121° 9' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	15/6869	WEST AUSTRALIAN PROSPECTORS PTY LTD	53.02HA	2.8km NW'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 30° 56' S: Long: 121° 8' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	24/5718	BOWDEN, Graeme Fredrick	15.42HA	3.8km SE'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 27' S: Long: 121° 21' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	24/5719	ASKEW, David Martin	50.80HA	9.2km NW'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 23' S: Long: 121° 15' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	25/2799	FORTIFY MINING PTY LTD	189.90HA	40.5km E'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 46' S: Long: 121° 53' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	25/2800	FORTIFY MINING PTY LTD	187.06HA	40.6km E'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 46' S: Long: 121° 53' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	26/4730	MEEKAL PTY LTD	187.35HA	11.4km NW'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 40' S: Long: 121° 23' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	26/4734	FORTUNA RESOURCES PTY LTD	105.93HA	10.8km NE'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 42' S: Long: 121° 34' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	27/2586-S	HEATH, Bradley Stewart	9.97HA	57.3km NE'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 29' S: Long: 121° 59' 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 Special Prospecting Licences, which authorises the applicant to prospect for minerals for a term up to 4 years from the 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: 5 June 2024 Native title parties: Under section 30 of the <i>Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)</i>, 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 5 September 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 <i>Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)</i>. 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. 5 October 2024), a native title party lodges an objection with the National Native Title Tribunal against the inclusion of the statement that the State considers the grant of the licence is an act attracting the expedited procedure. Enquiries in relation to lodging an objection should be directed to the National Native Title Tribunal, Level 5, 1 Victoria Avenue, Perth, or GPO Box 9973, Perth, WA 6848, telephone (08) 9425 1000. For further information about the act (including extracts of plans showing the boundaries of the applications), contact the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004, or telephone (08) 9222 3518. * - 1 Graticular Block = 2.8 km²						

DMIRS 21580



Leesa Mi Mi –
Sunshine Coast
Lightning,
Super Netball.



Brian Kelly (left) and
Alofiana Khan-Pereira –
Gold Coast Titans, NRL.



Charlie Cameron –
Brisbane Lions, AFL.

● Australian sport in May ran its annual celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and their contribution to the games we all play. Across the 43 AFL, NRL and Super Netball clubs, the teams wore traditional-art-designed playing kits and held Welcomes to Country in acknowledgement of our place within sport. Here is a small selection of images across a busy month. *Pictures: Getty Images*



Ezra Mam –
Brisbane Broncos, NRL.



Donnell Wallam –
Queensland Firebirds,
Super Netball.



Jacob Gagai –
South Sydney, NRL.

A rivalry that keeps on keeping on

AUSTRALIAN sports' greatest rivalry is underway right now, and for the next couple of weeks it will dominate most talk of rugby league.

It is State of Origin football; NSW versus Queensland; mate against mate; state against state.

The Blues side looks different. Out: Nathan Cleary, James Tedesco, Tom Trbojevic. In: Jake Trbojevic (c), Dylan Edwards.



Kris Flanders

Our very own Nicho Hynes was named Blues' halfback for Game I. He is in great form for Cronulla, and is playing the style of football that won him the 2022 Dally M. Hynes has played 10 games this year, scoring a try and kicking 41 goals. His radar-like boot should come in handy for the Blues when it comes to converting the tries.

On the other hand, players who can consider themselves unlucky to not win a Sky Blue jersey would be Josh Addo-Carr and Latrell Mitchell. But if things go sour for the Blues during the series both these players could win a call-up.

Indigenous players are right across the Maroons team: Reece Walsh (Brisbane) Hamiso Tabuai-Fidow (Dolphins), Reuben Cotter (North Queensland), Selwyn Cobbo (Brisbane), with J'maine Hopgood (Parramatta) to make his Origin debut and Ezra Mam (Brisbane) named on an extended reserves list.

Queensland have won the past two series. The Maroons also hold the overall advantage with 24 titles compared to the Blues' 16.

**The series opener was tonight (June 5) in Sydney; Game II in Melbourne' at the MCG on June 26 and Game III in Brisbane on July 17.*



Pormpuraaw Crocs and supporters at one of their final training sessions before their big game this weekend in Lakeland in far north Queensland. Picture: Christine Howes

Pormpuraaw Crocs ready for Southern Cape season

By CHRISTINE HOWES



PORMPURAAW Crocs rugby league team manager and coach Clinton Williams said he enjoys

working with the football team to encourage positive behaviour and take "the boys" out of the community and "get them trying different things".

This weekend the Crocs will play their first game of the 2024 Southern Cape Cluster competition in Lakeland – some 400km to the south-west of the coastal town, situated on the western side of Cape York.

Other teams, some of whom

will travel further, who have played in the league, include Coen, Kowanyama, Hope Vale, Laura and Wujal Wujal. Wujal Wujal, however, are unlikely starters this season after heavy rains ravaged their tiny town in December last year.

"It's a passion," the coach said.

"There's a lot of talk about young men getting into trouble – sly grog, drugs – I think this is a good way to help young men, and women, and even kids and older people, to do something positive with their life.

"Get them fit and healthy, not just physically, but mentally."

Williams said the team had "dipped" in and out of several

competitions over the years, like from the Gulf competition across in Normanton, to the far north in Weipa.

"The Southern Cape Cluster comp in Lakeland will be a round-robin," Williams said.

"No points this time; this is just a catch-up with all the teams because the QRL will be there and help the teams with the different official things like 'refing' and the online portal, MySideline."

Williams said the team had good community support from Pormpur Paanthu Aboriginal Corporation, the local council, the QRL's RISE program and other organisations.

"We've got 20 committed

young men, and a couple who are in and out," he said.

"The boys like playing the game, they like winning and competing, I think most of them just see themselves as footy players, but the community sees them as something more.

"Especially since last year we had our first footy presentation where we gave out awards and recognised a couple of good players and committed volunteers.

"It's more than just a game they're playing there, they help to actually inspire the community."

The coach said the Crocs would also play in the Gordonvale Carnival later this year.

HTF credits Cowboys mentor for 'footy smarts'



HAMISO Tabuai-Fidow has credited mentor Valentine Holmes for providing the smarts to match his speed as the pair reunite in the centres for Queensland.

After a successful 2023 Maroons union, the pair resumed their partnership at the State of Origin opener in Sydney (Wednesday, 5 June).

Like Holmes, Tabuai-Fidow has been shuffled between wing, fullback, and centre at club level.

Despite now settling in the No.1 at Redcliffe with The Dolphins, he's only ever played centre in four games for Queensland where he has instantly clicked with and without the ball.

Holmes tries not to take any credit but his understudy said it had been instrumental.

"Val has been a big help to me," Tabuai-Fidow said.



Hamiso Tabuai-Fidow at Maroons training. Picture: Getty Images

"I have picked stuff out of his brain and try to implement it – defensively ... staying

square ... getting up ahead of the play.

"That is important as a centre, to get up and read the play well.

"The way he defends he is good at his inside shoulder and saving it so I try to do that at training."

Holmes currently plays in the centres for North Queensland, where Tabuai-Fidow burst onto the scene as an outside back before moving to The Dolphins last year.

"He'd look much better in a Cowboys kit, but he's doing well," Holmes said of the 22-year-old.

"I've always watched him; had him under my wing for a bit at the Cowboys when he was the next big thing at 17.

"He's 10 times faster than me. I used to think I was fast.

"As soon as he gets the ball he's just gone, nobody can catch him. He backs himself, chips and chases, carries in different hands, can pass.

"He's got it all. And he can defend too."

Tabuai-Fidow has scored in every Origin game he's played, including notching a match-winning double in last year's series opener.

His only loss came in last season's Game III dead-rubber.

"I'm not actually too surprised because he's just such a natural and can play anywhere," Holmes said of the Dolphins star's transition.

"And in a team like this, no matter who comes in, they get their job done.

"Keep it simple; do your job and people around you will do theirs – and make you look good as well.

"And he does that; he takes his tough carries and then when he gets the ball in open space he knows what to do."

Hamiso Tabuai-Fidow career by position

All games: Fullback (42), wing (14), centre (23), bench (11)

In Origin: Centre (4). – AAP



Zac Williams has become a fan-favourite at Carlton.
Picture: Peter Argent

Byron's case a cautionary tale for us all

FIRST up, I must preface the following by saying that I have not spoken to Byron Pickett and that these are my thoughts on the alleged actions of others and why Byron finds himself in financial distress.

Recently, Byron, a 2004 AFL premiership player, has opened up about his heartbreaking financial troubles. He has publicly admitted he doesn't own a house or even a car after a celebrated 10-year AFL career from 1997-2007.



Shelley Ware

For many of you reading this, you must be wondering how can an AFL player leave the game from where they would be earning hundreds of thousands of dollars, each year, to now have nothing to show for it. This is a career from which one could create great personal wealth, which can then be passed down to one's family for generations to come.

Sadly, Byron's story is not one I haven't heard before.

In the 25 years I have been involved in the AFL industry, I have heard countless stories of lost wealth, even barely a year after someone has retired from the game; stories where star players' wives would be at the supermarket with a calculator, adding up the total of the groceries, so she wouldn't be embarrassed at the cash register if her card gets declined; stories where retiring players are leaving the game in debt, having never been taught how to look after their money, or with no safety barriers for their money. I'm not just talking about First Nations players here; this story is true for many across the board within the AFL.

Byron is alleging that his former manager stole over \$250,000 from his bank account, and has made a claim of not understanding what was happening with his money. He also claims the AFLPA played a role and has taken legal action against them.

On 1 January, 1999, the PA established the player retirement account (PRA) for a player's transition into retirement. In 2012, the PRA was updated to provide improved benefits to players, with an initial lump-sum payment, then periodical payments. Sadly for Byron, it seems he has been left out of all of this.

Byron was a big-game player and was named in the 1904-2005 AFL Indigenous Team of the Century.

One has to hope that even though some lessons have been learnt, the AFL must review how players' money is handled, if only stories like Byron's are not repeated.

Williams re-inventing himself as a forward



A MOVE into the forward-line is paying dividends for Zac Williams, and Carlton, after the Wiradjuri man booted three goals at the weekend to continue

a good run of form.

After injury curtailed Williams' 2023 season at the Blues, and the tragic passing of his sister, Samantha, from cancer, his fight back from adversity has been admirable.

This season, Williams has kicked eight goals as a moving, mobile forward.

Williams landed at the Blues as a free-agent at the end of the 2020 season.

He began his AFL career at

the Giants and played 113 games for the club, including the 2019 AFL grand final, in eight seasons from 2013-2020, mostly as a hard-nosed defender, quick on his feet and strong in the air and at ground-level.

Tiama wins junior girls All-Australian honours



TIAMA Collard is on the path toward great things in football following her selection in the 2024 AFL Girl's Under-16s All-Australian team.

The deadly Nyoongar teenager, who plays for WAFL club Peel Thunder, put in solid performances for Western Australia at the recent AFL national development championships Girl's Under-16s to earn her place in the forward-line in the honorary side.

At the championships, the WA team travelled to play in Melbourne against Gold Coast, and to Adelaide to play the South Australians.

In the game against Gold Coast, Tiama played as a forward.

Against the Croweaters, Tiama kicked WA's first two goals that provided the Sandgropers the spark to win. She would kick her third goal later in the match.

Tiama, 15, has also been selected in the WA State Schoolgirls team that will travel to play in Queensland in July.

In addition to this, Tiama was a finalist in the NAIDOC WA Sportsperson of the Year award.

Tiama is multi-talented in sport.



Tiama Collard starred for WA and won selection in the 2024 AFL Girl's Under-16s All-Australian team. Pictures: supplied



Tiama Collard.

She played basketball in the Peel region, netball for the Djindas, as well as athletics. She has been playing football since she was around 7 or 8.

Tiama's families, the Collards, Humes, Thorns and Narkles, are synonymous with football in WA.

Her pop, Leonard Thorn, in his playing days played in the strong Sunday league across Perth.



Jasmine Bond has been rewarded for her dedication to rugby league in the Northern Peninsula Area on Cape York.

Bond wins QRL award for NPARRL

By ALF WILSON



HARD-WORKING Northern Peninsula Area rugby league official Jasmine Bond was recently named as the winner of the QRL Indigenous Volunteer Award.

And as part of the award, she will get to experience the 2024 State of Origin series during Game III in Brisbane (17 July).

Bond has worked tirelessly as a volunteer administrator for the NPA Regional Rugby League which covers the Bamaga, Injinoo, New Mapoon, Umagico and Seisia communities at the top of Cape York.

The four-club NPARRL competition attracted big crowds in 2023 and it was won by Alau Eagles.

"Jasmine brings together the (rugby league) communities in the Northern Peninsula Area of Cape York and works tirelessly to ensure governance standards are met so the game can safely operate," the QRL said.

Bond's win was one of several in the QRL's Community Volunteer Awards. Her's was one across eight categories.

The awards were announced in line with National Volunteer Week.

The 24 shortlisted nominees from QRL North, QRL Central and QRL South East were revealed last month, before a selection panel decided on the winners.

QRL chief executive Ben Ikin paid tribute to each of those selected for the awards, who represent just some of the close to 20,000 volunteers in Queensland rugby league.

"These winners represent our best and brightest contributors to rugby league in Queensland," Ikin said.

"We can't thank our volunteers enough for sacrificing their time to ensure their clubs can thrive and become pillars of their local communities.

"I was 'floating' after speaking with the 2024 award-winners, hearing their incredible stories and getting a new appreciation of just how much hard work they put into the game.

"These people are an inspiration."



'Gong set for Indigenous Nationals



THE University of Wollongong (UOW) will field two teams at the Indigenous Nationals at the Wollongong campus (23-27 June).

The annual week-long multi-sport event unites students from universities across Australia in

basketball, netball, touch football and volleyball.

Twenty-five UOW students will compete as Team Miranda (Sea Eagle) and Team Birri Birri (Humpback Whale) in the 30-team competition.

Sea Eagle team co-captain, Dharug man, Rhys MacLeod said:

"I've captained a couple of sports teams before, but this will be my first time at the nationals and I'm looking forward to connecting with other student sportspeople from around the country and having some fun."

Birri Birri (Humpback Whale) co-captain, Wailwan and Gamilaraay woman Josie Smith

said:

"I'm a netballer so this has been a great opportunity to improve my footy skills.

"I'm looking forward to getting together with other Indigenous students – this is a huge event for Mob from around the country to get together and celebrate our culture."

All-Stars support grows

By DARREN MONCRIEFF



TALK is growing as to the possible return of the AFL's All-Stars, the *Koori Mail* can reveal.

The reinstatement of the pre-season match would correct a decade-long oversight by AFL House.

The numbers of Indigenous players in the AFL has dipped in recent years from high 80s of around six to seven years ago to now around 70. The return of the All-Stars team would go some way to correct this.

The last AFL All-Stars match was held in Perth in 2015 when the team played West Coast.

The rugby league-equivalent match – NRL / NRLW Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander teams against their Māori counterparts – is played each year in February to packed stadiums in the eastern states. In 2023, the game was played at Rotorua in Aotearoa-New Zealand.

That game's popularity has grown since its inception in 2019. Before that, Indigenous rugby league teams played under the 'All-Stars' banner since from around 2008-2010.

In 2022, more than 80 Indigenous current AFL and AFLW footballers pledged their support for the return of the game.

It is also understood that that pledge included a women's match, a majority of whom would



The ATSIC Chairman's Aboriginal All-Stars played against AFL club Carlton in Darwin in 2003. Picture: Jason Bonner/ATSIC

come from the AFLW, with State and country league top-ups.

In the absence of a game to represent their people and communities, the league's Indigenous men's and women's players meet annually each pre-season at a 'summit' to talk about and promote issues relevant to football from their perspective.

But Darryl White, a three-time AFL premiership player and former All-Star, said all the players really want is to play football.

White won three premierships with Brisbane from 2001-03 and played in the long-awaited 2003 'return' match for the ATSIC Chairman's Aboriginal All-Stars against AFL powerhouse club Carlton in front of a record crowd of 17,500 people at Marrara Oval in Darwin.

The biennial fixture remained

on the football calendar for the next 12 years.

"I don't know how or why it ran its course when it did; the concept had come from something that was no good to become a great place for us as players," White said of the 1993 incident involving Collingwood fans and Nicky Winmar; the response to that was the Aboriginal All-Stars versus Collingwood game in Darwin in the 1994 pre-season.

"The AFL had a good thing going, it was positive and everyone looked forward to it every two years. Every state wanted that game, too, because it grew legs; it got too big to just leave it in Darwin.

"I raised that as an issue and said (to the AFL) take it to WA, to SA, to Victoria – they love their footy, too, but then it got too much

for them (the AFL) and they cancelled on us, and just made it into 'workshops'.

"They players are only doing that at the moment; talking about cultural protocols, racism, how to combat racism, and so on, but they're not here for that; all they want is to play, they want to get out there in a three- or four-day camp and actually play and enjoy each other's company that way.

"The logistics are simple: here's an oval, here's access and here's the players!"

In a response to questions put to the AFL by this writer, the league's executive general manager of football, Laura Kane, said:

"We are supportive of the return of the Indigenous All-Stars match.

"It is a great opportunity to showcase Indigenous talent on our playing lists as well as celebrate the wonderful contribution of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander players.

"We also think it provides a chance for young Indigenous players at clubs who may not have yet debuted for their teams to showcase their skills and set an example for other young aspiring players on what can be achieved, much like AFLW has done for young girls.

"Our clubs and players have indicated their support of the match and we will continue to work with them on the mechanics and where it can fit within the season."

Djarrak, surfers put on a show at national titles

By PAUL CONNOLLY



AN informal discussion and a trip down memory lane of events 30 years ago was the catalyst for the

implementation of the Australian Indigenous Surfing Titles, which held its 12th instalment last weekend.

Muna Muna man Jordie Campbell is programs/Indigenous aquatics manager at Surfing Victoria. He told *Koori Mail* that the titles grew out of a yarn over a decade ago.

"A bunch of us were discussing the first Indigenous surf competition held at Fingal Head some 30 years ago," he said.

"And while that was an unofficial event, we formed the idea of bringing this back into a formal competition, and what better place than Bells Beach, the

spiritual home of surfing in Australia, here on Wadawurrung Country.

"Surfing Victoria had been running programs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities for 26 years so we really wanted to establish a program to highlight the best surfers in the country.

"The first-ever competition was just Open Men's and Women's divisions, and it has now grown to seven divisions including Seniors, Juniors and Longboard."

The 2024 event saw a mixture of weather and wave-sets leading to a bright, sunny day for finals on the Sunday and although those waves were one-to-three-foot, Elders past blessed the weekend with exceptional waves of up to 5ft, making for some impressive rides for the competition.

The standout performance of the weekend went to Landon

Smales who pulled off two perfect 10s in both the Junior Boys Shortboard and Junior Longboard heats and going on to take out the finals of both divisions.

"The wave was just perfect and gave me so many opportunities to nose ride and carve my way through," Smales said.

"It was amazing being down here; we got to score some pumping Bells, and it's my favourite event to come down to."

The Women's Longboard division final was a fun-filled 35min heat with six competitors ripping into Rincon walls.

Jessi Muir backed up an earlier 7.50-point ride with a 4.17 to take the lead and win the final.

"It's so good surfing with all the girls; the energy is always fun and supportive. We just love each other, so we want to go out there, have fun, and make sure everyone gets a wave," Muir said.

James Archibald at the 2024 Australian Indigenous Surfing Titles at Djarrak/Bells Beach. Pictures: Chris Worthy



Antony Hume (left) is welcomed back to shore by Ash Tuck and puppy.



Bodhi Simons in action on day three of the national tournament.

2024 Australian Indigenous Surfing Titles – Finals results:

Open: (men) Otis Carey 15.00; Russ Molony 14.26; John Craig 11.90; Jordie Campbell 11.60.

(women) Ocea Curtis 9.47; Bohdi Simons 8.83; Meg Day 7.33; Kauri Heuston-Connor 6.27.

Longboard: (men) Landon Smales 17.57; Kaiden Smales 15.46; Rhys Collins 11.77; Ben Cole 9.27. (women) Jessi Muir 11.67; Mali Legge 11.50; Missy McArthur 7.70; Elly Muir 6.16.

Masters: (men) Lee Winkler 13.46; John Craig 12.76; Anthony Hume 11.00; Glenn Curtis 4.67.

Juniors: (boys) Landon Smales 18.00; Charlie Chisolm 12.13; Seth Baillie 8.57; Rylee Duell 7.97. (girls) Ocea Curtis 13.67; Kauri Heuston-Connor 13.50; Bohdi Simons 11.00; Matilda Thearle 4.40.

O/50s: (men) Brook Silvester 13.00; Jay McKenzie 9.60; Glenn Curtis 9.33; Alfred Wellington 8.33.



Kauri Heuston-Connor cuts a sharp left during competition.



Open Men's division crew (from left) Otis Carey, Russ Molony, John Craig and Jordie Campbell.

Stanislaus joins powerhouse

By JACKSON CLARK



CAROL Stanislaus wants to bring “culture” and “family” back to the juggernaut of Northern Territory football following her appointment as president of the St Mary’s Football Club in Darwin.

Stanislaus’ posting to the role as club president means she is the first Tiwi woman to do so.

In 1952, St Mary’s were formed to provide the Tiwi Island community – 80km north of Darwin – an opportunity to play organised Australian football in Darwin.

For its bold position, the new club faced strong criticism and backlash from rival clubs.

And at the time, many Tiwi men were based in Darwin employed in the armed services, particularly the Australian navy.

“I’m the first female Tiwi president of this club and I want to bring back the culture and family we always had when I grew up with this club,” Stanislaus said.

“It’s something we’ve lost over the years and I want to bring it back, because Saints was always about that culture, particularly the Tiwi connection, and we’ve lost that over the past 10-20 years.

“The club was established in 1952 when no other club, apart from Wanderers, would allow Aboriginals to play for their club.”

Stanislaus also intends to improve the connection between St Mary’s and fellow NTFL club Tiwi Bombers.

“The Tiwi Islands have their own teams now, in the Bombers, but we need to bring the relationship back; they should be our ‘sister and brother’ club,” she said.

“They don’t have junior sides so we can support those pathways, especially when their kids are coming (to Darwin) to go to boarding school; we just want to support them any we can.”



Carol Stanislaus, president of the St Mary’s Football Club, a history-making appointment. *Picture: Pema Tamang Pakhrin*

Saints have been the home of many terrific Tiwi footballers over the years, including the Rioli, Long and Dunn families, and one of the Territory’s best-ever defenders, Edmund Johnson.

The club expressed its excitement about Stanislaus’ appointment.

“She is up for the challenge and (will

ensure) the culture and history of our great club continues to attract sponsorship, quality coaches, players, supporters and valued volunteers,” the club said in a statement.

“Carol has ensured that she will work hard to continue the ethos of the club being a ‘family, friends, community club’.”

St Mary’s have comfortably won more

senior men’s NTFL premierships than any other club.

They are fresh off another premiership triumph (over Nightcliff) in the 2023-24 grand final in March, and in April, they announced the re-signing of coach Anthony Vallejo for the 2024-25 season, a move welcomed by the players and club.

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Hawthorn racism saga reaches another ‘stalemate’



THE Hawthorn racism saga could be headed for the Federal Court after the Human Rights Commission terminated a claim by First Nations former players.

The commission has thrown out the case, believing there was little chance the Hawks, former staff – including North Melbourne coach Alastair Clarkson and Brisbane Lions Chris Fagan – and the ex-players could come to an agreement.

The players, headlined by four-time Hawthorn premiership star Cyril Rioli, and their partners, had 60 days (from the time of the ruling) to take the matter to the Federal Court.

“As we have always said, we would like to see this matter resolved fairly and quickly for everyone involved,” Hawthorn president Andy Gowers said in a statement.

“We have engaged with the (Human Rights Commission)



Stalemate at Hawthorn.

process in good faith and have made multiple attempts to resolve the matter with all parties.

“It is unfortunate that this was not possible via this process. However, we remain committed to, and will work towards, having the matter resolved.”

Former Hawthorn coach Clarkson and ex-Hawks football boss Fagan met with the complainants in person in March just before the Easter weekend.

It was the first time Clarkson and Fagan had met with the

players and their partners since allegations regarding their time at the Hawks aired in an ABC report in September, 2022.

Clarkson, Fagan and former Hawks welfare boss Jason Burt have denied any wrongdoing.

The AFL last year said there would be no adverse findings against Clarkson, Fagan or Burt from an independent panel investigating claims of racism during their time at Hawthorn between 2008 and 2016.

Former Hawthorn president Jeff Kennett weighed in on the latest developments, calling it the “correct outcome”.

“With so many claims now being lodged against the AFL and clubs, the veracity of all claims should be subjected to being tested in a court of law; not by the AFL or clubs,” Kennett said.

“Compensation through mediation is no proper test of any claim unless charges admitted.” – **with AAP**



Above: Jada Whyman tells her defenders exactly what she needs them to do in order to maintain shape and affect solid defensive pressure. She was subbed on into the game in the 39th minute.

Right: Kyah Simon controls possession while keeping at bay her Arsenal opponent in the A-League Women All-Stars match against the English Women's Super League team. Pictures: Getty Images



Lydia Williams received a rousing ovation upon her substitution out of the game in the 39th minute.

Our Queens of the World Game



THEY are the current standard-bearers of international football and in an Olympic year, Aboriginal women Jada Whyman, Kyah Simon and Lydia Williams will be vying to represent their people, communities, Country and country on the world stage in the Paris Games.

The deadly trio recently played out a full A-League Women season and a series of post-season internationals and friendlies against visiting teams; one of those against

English Women's Super League team Arsenal, the 'Gunners'.

That game was one part of a double-header during Global Football Week Melbourne that saw the best A-League Women and Men footballers play some of the best from the Women's Super League – Arsenal – and English Premier League – Newcastle United – at Docklands Stadium.

In the match against Arsenal, Whyman, Simon and Williams each saw field time, which delighted the crowd.

Retiring Matildas great, a one-time Arsenal goalkeeper, Williams patrolled the box with her usual authority but Arsenal and England striker Alessia Russo nodded a ball just beyond her left-side reach midway through the first half to take a 1-0 lead.

Williams was substituted for Whyman – who would make her senior international debut proper – just before half-time.

Williams received a rousing ovation from the crowd and plenty of love from players

on both sides.

"It was nice kind of ending, like it was all wrapped up in a nice little bow," she said.

"The WSL is considered probably the best league in the world and I think we held our own with that," Williams said.

Simon, fresh from a solid A-League campaign that saw her Central Coast Mariners reach the play-offs, also held her own against quality opposition, as did Whyman who kept a clean sheet in the 0-1 loss.

COLUMN

Anthony and the government on a Boys' Own Disastrous Adventure

THE only time I remember hearing the word "siphoning" was when we, as sometimes-wayward youth, would, ah, use that 'technique' to source fuel out of vehicles that weren't ours to run other vehicles that also weren't ours – such was life where I grew up (sorry, Nanna; sorry, local AMS). These days, the only other time I hear that word is in the context of sport and its availability to our screens.

The government has an anti-siphoning legislation that is part of the *Broadcasting Services Act (1992)* which was put in place due to a growing uptake of subscription services at the time, which has grown exponentially in the 34 years since.

The Act was to ensure that free-to-air TV had first dibs on big-ticket sports events, like cricket, netball, rugby union/league, soccer, hockey Tests and World Cups, domestic football regular-rounds, Indigenous rounds, finals and grand finals, State of Origin, the Olympic and Commonwealth Games, and a swathe of other sport that had cultural value to the nation.

But if FTA-TV didn't see value in a particular sport, or sports events, then pay-TV could move in and place it within their



Darren Moncrieff

services, and for a monthly fee.

In Australia, the highest-watched sporting events are on FTA-TV and hover around the four-million mark.

The Matildas during the World Cup here last year averaged that amount throughout the campaign. The majority of those viewers were on handheld or laptop devices via FTA broadcast rights-holders' streaming services.

Before the federal government right now is amendments to the *Prominence and Anti-siphoning Bill* – pertaining to the aforementioned Act; proposed amendments to this Bill has folks worried.

The Bill is headed to the Senate which, to use a Forrest

Gump analogy, is "like a box of chocolates" – you just don't know what you're gonna get.

Concerns remain that support for the Bill as it stands can't be guaranteed without changes, which could leave me and you without some of the sport we love on FTA-TV.

Time will tell, but messing with our availability to sport is political and electoral kryptonite – beware Albo, Dutto, et al.

Admittedly, pay-TV can provide a superior product. On the odd occasion I have seen it, the angles, analysis and ad-free coverage is somewhat refreshing. And I mean, if I have to once more listen to a 'BT' "Woweee" (in AFL) or an Andrew Johns

mumblethon (in NRL) on FTA-TV I will go outside, raise a fist and shout at clouds; if there are no clouds, I will do the same, but into the void – because if you know you know.

As the great man of Aussie adventures Russell Coight would say: "Get behind!" Indeed, get behind your favourite sport; if it's on FTA-TV, contact your local member to go into bat for you in Canberra.

Call me spoilt for choice – I'll wear it – but on principle I refuse to pay for sport on pay-TV, and sport is what I do.

If I want to enrich multi-national media conglomerates, I will sell my soul; but I don't, so I won't.



Otis Carey is a picture of sunset and serenity as he rips into the surf on his way to winning the Open Men's division of the 2024 Australian Indigenous Surfing Titles at Djararak / Bells Beach. Pictures: Surfing Victoria

CAREY, CURTIS AND A CAST OF THOUSANDS



EXCEPTIONAL performances and thrilling, fun-filled finales marked the 2024 Australian Indigenous Surfing Titles at Djararak / Bells Beach as one of the best in recent time.

The three-day event was a vibrant mix of competition and cultural celebration, showcasing the top Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander surfers from across the country.

Marking the 12th year of the titles, with only two events cancelled due to Covid, the competition has grown to now become an important date on the surfing calendar.

The big, annual event that draws Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islands

waveriders to Djararak saw four shy of 100 surfers competing across seven divisions (some doubling up across the divisions) – 48 in the Open Men's and Women's, 32 in the Masters Men's and Women's, 16 in the Open Men's and Women's longboarders, 16 in the Junior Boy's and Girl's, and eight in the Over-50s.

Open Men's winner Otis Carey, from Suffolk Park, set the pace early in the final with a powerful 7.00-point ride at 'Rincon' (when smaller waves break close to the headland and produce a 'right').

"It was nice to be here with everybody from all the other Countries around Australia and surf," Carey said, fresh from the surf and with title firmly

in hand.

"Winning is just a plus; for me, winning is being here with everybody, so to take it out is just an extra little bonus."

Number 24 in World Surf League ranking, Ocea Curtis held out to win the Open Women's title in a thriller.

It came down to her and Bohdi Simons in the final.

"It's an honor to take out the Australian Indigenous Surfing Titles; all the other girls rip, and it came down to the last minute," Curtis said.

"I thought Bohdi was going to get the score, but I'm stoked on the win."

● More, plus results and photos – Page 53



Open Women's division finalists (from left) Ocea Curtis (winner), Bohdi Simons (second), Meg Day (third) and Kauri Heuston-Connor (fourth).