



# Koori Mail

*The Voice of Indigenous Australia*

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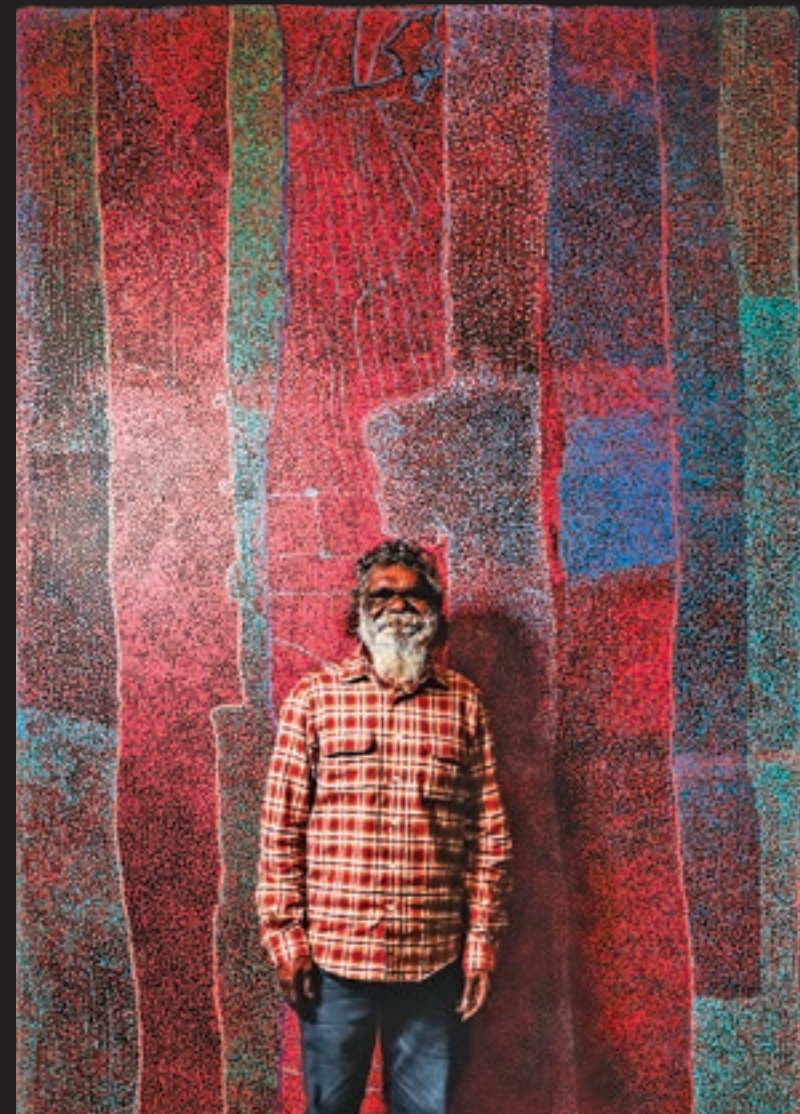
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Pitjantjatjara artist Noli Rictor from Tjuntjuntjara in Western Australia.

# Spinifex painter triumphs

By NICK PATON



WHEN Noli Rictor found out he had won the \$100,000 main prize at the 2024 Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards (NATSIAA), he already knew how he was going to spend the prize money. "I'm going to buy a new

car," Mr Rictor said.

"With the car I can go hunting further out on Country for the Red Kangaroo to help feed my family and community who are relying on the community store for food."

"But the car will also be useful for cultural practices like fishing and hunting on Country – and getting to and from Sorry Business," he said.

"My partner is very sick at the moment so I'm going to

use the money for her care too."

Now in its 41st year, the Telstra NATSIAA features Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists from across the nation, sharing incredible works reflecting the strength of cultures, responses to current affairs and unerring connections to Country.

- Full story page 31
- All winners, pages 32-33



## PM puts the brakes on Treaty

Pages 4-5

This young dancer captivated the audience at the annual Garma Festival in the Northern Territory. Picture: Shane Runciman.

National Indigenous Fashion and Music award winners, inside



# INSIDE



## Fashion awards draw a crowd

PAGES 8-9



## Artists urged to enter rich prize

PAGES 12-13



## At the heart of Radical Son

PAGE 21



## Female singers gather in Vic

PAGES 22-23

# Keeping the fire burning



Riawunna staff, students, Aboriginal community and UTAS community enjoying the fifth, and certainly not the last 'Warm up with Breakfast Around the Fire' event – Mel Tarvydas, Demi Bean, Matt Knox, Janice Ross, Madelena Andersen-Ward, Kiara Smith, Jodi Haines and Uncle Jim Everett.

By JILLIAN MUNDY



A NAIDOC week event in Lutruwita/Tasmania inspired by the 'Keep the Fire Burning! Blak, Loud and Proud' 2024 theme is set to keep on keeping on.

Riawunna, Centre for Aboriginal Education at the Nipaluna/Hobart campus of University of Tasmania (UTAS), held fireside breakfasts throughout NAIDOC week and then a couple more.

It proved so popular that the breakfast will now be held on the first Tuesday of every month.

"It's people getting together, meeting others, learning more about what everyone is doing – staff roles in Riawunna, what other students are studying, and community coming in having really important yarns in a comfortable place, and that is around the fire," Janice Ross, Riawunna's Aboriginal Community Engagement Officer, said.

"It's health and wellbeing too, good food

to start the day for energy and focus."

There is everything on offer from eggs, bacon, mushroom, tomato and baked beans to porridge, fruit, yogurt and juice, and of course coffee.

"Also Murina students are finding great connections with main stream students doing a degree," she said.

The Murina pathway program, which started in the 1990s, has units in history, politics, storytelling and academic study skills, all with a Tasmanian Aboriginal lens. It equips students with skills and confidence to move onto further studies and destigmatises university for Aboriginal families and community.

While the 2024 National NAIDOC theme of fire was chosen to 'represent the enduring strength and vitality of Indigenous cultures, passed down through generations despite the challenges faced', in Lutruwita, where nights can fall below zero during NAIDOC week and days can struggle to reach double figures, it is no surprise that it was embraced symbolically and literally!

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## Koori Mail

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## OUR CHILDREN



Young Gimuy Walubara Yidinji dancers enjoy their moment in the spotlight while performing at CIAF 2024 opening night.

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# Stars of song celebrated at annual music awards

By CHRISTIAN MORROW



RECOGNITION and celebration were the big words at this year's twentieth Anniversary

National Indigenous Music Awards as a packed Darwin Amphitheater showed their love for BARKAA. The rapper won awards for both Best Video and the big one – Artist Of The Year.

"I love youse, and you know what else I love? I love being a blackfella," BARKAA told the adoring crowd last Saturday night.

"I want to thank my babies back at home, thank my mum, thank my family, thank everybody on my team and thank you out there.

"I couldn't do this without all the little black sisters, all my tiddas, all my brothers, all the aunties, all the uncles and all my sibs man.

"Yeah, this is take over season."

Held on Larrakia Country, NIMA Creative Director Ben Graetz told the crowd he was "Proud seeing all the Mob come from around the country to share in the celebrations and to honour our extraordinary musicians."

"I also want to pay respect to Uncle Tony 'Duwun' Lee who was a leader, a teacher and cultural caretaker for this country. I want to thank him for supporting me and these awards over many, many years.

"I'm proud to have been the NIMA director over the last four years. It's about acknowledging where these awards come from and the trail blazers that started them as the NT Music Awards and helped to make these awards into the national institution they are today."

Waanyi/Gangaliida rapper, Jamahl Yami, kicked off the night as the winner of the 2024 triple j Unearthed NIMA competition.

Across the evening there were performances from 3%, Miss Kaninna, Birdz and Fred Leone, Eleanor Jawurlingali, Emily Wurrarama and a collaborative performance from Arrkula Yinbayarra (Together We Sing) with the legendary Dr Shellie Morris AO.

3% made a big impact winning Song of the Year for *Our People*. They were joined onstage by a spangled-up Jessica Mauboy, also celebrating twenty years in the music industry, for a powerhouse version of *Won't Stop*.

Becca Hatch was celebrated as New Talent of the Year and Bulman School and community's Nidjarra earned them the Community Clip of the Year award.

There was also a shared win for the Indigenous Language Award, for Rrawun Maymuru with Yolngu and Electric Fields with Anpuru Maau Kutjpa – both



Jessica Mauboy performs with hip-hop stars, 3%. Pictures: Jayde Roxborough



BARKAA won both Best Video and Artist Of The Year.

recognised for their contributions to preserving and celebrating Indigenous languages through music.

Legendary Warumpi Band member Sammy Butcher was this year's inductee into the NIMA Hall of Fame, honoured for his long-standing influence on Indigenous and Australian music.

The *Koori Mail* caught up with BARKAA back stage just after she took the award for best video for *We Up*. She talked about how important the NIMAs were for First Nations representation.

"Recognition is so vital, I grew up seeing Marcia Hines on TV and I thought she was a blackfella," she said.

"It's really beautiful to have representation so our babies can see us doing what we are doing and they can see themselves in us, the same way we did with our Elders and our leaders and those who come before us.

"Representation is everything and I'm proud to be here representing."

BARKAA was handed her award on stage by the newly appointed Federal Minister for Indigenous Australians,



Hundreds turned out for the National Indigenous Music Awards in Darwin.

Malarndirri McCarthy.

"It was so deadly, congrats to her, it's awesome seeing our Mob just succeeding in all facets around some really powerful people, around some really strong staunch people. I just love all our Mob, I'm just happy we're all here and seeing us all brought together."

BAARKA also shared the impetus behind her award winning song and video.

"Of course I'm a woman with a lot of dickhead exes so the inspiration behind the song is that nobody is going to drag us down again, believe in ourselves, and don't go back to what broke us now that *We Up*."

"The only time we should look back is to see how far we have come. It's also just about dragging my ex – you just gotta do it sometimes."

Back out amongst an amphitheatre full of music fans, Minister McCarthy reflected on the NIMA's global impact.

"A night like this is extraordinarily important for the country and the world to see the

talent of First Nations people in music," she said.

"Tonight we are really celebrating the diversity and the joy and how good it is to be a First Nations person in this country with such skills. And for all these young ones, all these children seeing their idols, it's just beautiful to see."

The night finished with several artists on stage playing a medley of some of the greatest First Nations songs in history.

But before that, in accepting his award for Album of the Year, Dan Sultan reflected on the NIMA's place in Darwin and their significance to Indigenous music.

"There is more to the music scene than just Melbourne and Sydney so it's wonderful to see some representation from these places here tonight," he said.

"People often say (these awards) are getting bigger and bigger than ever before but for me the NIMAs have always been really big. We are constantly in a place where we are saying – now it's happened, now it's really happening and all of a sudden it's

brand new.

"We are constantly suspended in a place of not recognising that we are all here, we've been here a long time and we've been here deadly for a long time. It's an honour for me to win this award. Thank you to my wife and my children."

Then in one of the evening highlights, Sultan took to the stage alone, behind the piano, and gave the audience a stunning version of his song, *Ring in My Ears* from his NIMA award winning eponymous album, *Dan Sultan*.

Then he stayed at the piano, playing a long classical improvisation that led into a stark rendition of *Old Fitzroy* from his 2009 album *Get Out While You Can*.

He sang the song's final line – "Thinking about what I got to do to survive in this life," like a gospel singer, his hands clasped in front of him over the keyboard.

It was a haunting moment of stillness amid an evening of joyous celebration of First Nation's artistic achievement.



# Garma festival is grounded in culture

By SHELLEY WARE



GARMA did not disappoint this year, the Yolŋu people opened their hearts and Country again as they shared their spirit, with every single person there. You leave Garma lighter and happier than when you arrived and full of new knowledge and understanding of who you are and why you are.

I had the pleasure of being one of the MCs in the keynote forum, this is my third year and every year I'm delighted by the blak excellence, healing and wisdom that is shared on the panels and during keynotes.

Mr Djawa Yunupinu spoke before Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, saying that one event does not define us and that our land is timeless and we must move forward and he thanked the prime minister for trying, as he said he would. His words resonated with me. His spirit filled me.

Garma was also a time to personally thank Linda Burney for her work as Minister for Indigenous Australians and celebrate the appointment of Malarndirri McCarthy together. Two brilliant women who are doing everything they can for us to shine and have equality and equity in a system that should



Shelley Ware with Mr Barayuwah Mununggurr. Mr Mununggurr is a highly respected Djapu Elder who advocates consistently for the rights of Yolŋu people to live on their traditional homelands and stay connected to Country.

have afforded us this already.

Yothu Yindi Foundation CEO Denise Bowden spoke of our children and how we must fight for them and protect them in all we do. Her passion and love for our people through the work she does all year round and for Garma is exemplary.

Other standout moments were hearing from teachers and schools and how education is

moving forward, so that young ones can stay on Country to get an education and learn to live in both worlds. I missed Senior Australian of the Year 2024 Yalmay Yunupingu's opening speech, as I was still flying in but apparently everyone had goosebumps and she got a worthy standing ovation.

Mr Justin Mohammed, Australia's inaugural

Ambassador for First Nations People, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, brought a delegate of ministers from the Pacific islands, their speeches of "global burning" and being "on the front line" as they watch their islands sink, were what we all needed to hear. They marvelled at how the Yolŋu still danced in despair and said they mourned from afar with us too.

Their gift exchange was so precious.

Dan Bourchier facilitated a panel of media and hearing their stories was illuminating for many. The pigeon hole mentality of mainstream media still has some work to do.

I loved my impromptu chat with Dan about my 25-year media career as we waited for SBS to get ready to live stream, he is a brilliant story teller who makes me proud every day.

During Garma we celebrated Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day which was a lot of fun and I hope you did too with our little ones.

What struck me hard though was a keynote from Mr John Lawrence SC, former president NT Bar Association, who reminded us that in Don Dale prison 43 children would spend their Children's Day in a 3x3 prison cell designed for adults. A prison that should have been condemned already. He also reminded us that the prime minister could close that prison in "One bill - 4 clauses tomorrow."

Next year is the 25th Anniversary of Garma and every year I think, 'how are they going to beat last year?' But every year the Yothu Yindi Foundation do.

I can't wait to celebrate and learn more at next year's Garma, it's going to be a special one.

## Koori Mail

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## NT Police boss says sorry to Indigenous community



THE Indigenous community has received an apology from the Northern Territory Police Commissioner for

injustices and harm inflicted by officers in the past.

"We made mistakes" the head of Northern Territory police told Australia's largest Indigenous gathering, vowing his force needs to be accountable for harm inflicted in the past 150 years.

"I cannot change or undo the past," Commissioner Michael Murphy told those gathered at the Garma festival at Gulkula, in northeast Arnhem Land.

"But we can commit to not repeat mistakes and injustices." Mr Murphy said he would work to transform relations between police and Indigenous Australians and use his position to "make every effort to eliminate racism in the NT police".

"I acknowledge this challenge will be hard ... but the alternative is unacceptable," he said.

Mr Murphy used his speech to formally apologise for a history of injustices involving NT police.

"I am deeply sorry to all Aboriginal Territorians for the past harms and injustices caused by members of Northern Territory police," he said.

Mr Murphy also addressed the "profound and ongoing intergenerational impact" of colonisation.

"Intergenerational impacts of colonisation including poverty,



**Northern Territory Police Commissioner Michael Murphy apologised to the Indigenous community for past injustices.**

ongoing disadvantage and racism are reflected in the over-representation of Aboriginal people that are incarcerated," he said.

The "cruel and inhumane" decades-long practice of removing children had left a long-lasting societal impact of trauma and harm, he said. "Those impacts play a critical role in what causes disengagement, anti-social behaviour, offending and violence today."

Vowing to address the deep-rooted causes of dispossession and disempowerment, Mr Murphy pledged his force would work to prevent further harm.

"Northern Territory police need to be accountable for the past treatment of Aboriginal people," he said.

"At times, police officers have abused their powers or fallen short in their duty of care towards Aboriginal offenders, witnesses and victims of crime.

"I intend to develop a new relationship built on mutual respect, trust and human rights."

The NT Police Force has come under scrutiny in recent months after evidence of racism was uncovered at a coronial inquest into the death of Kumanjaji Walker.

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

His death offered an opportunity for the force to reflect on its history, Mr Murphy said.

He revealed NT police were pursuing an active cold-case investigation into the disappearance of Tuckiar Wirrpanda, an Aboriginal man from Woodah Island suspected of being killed by police officers in the 1930s.

Mr Murphy acknowledged the way forward could only be achieved in partnership with Aboriginal Territorians and community organisations.

The force's new direction would also involve the development of an 'anti-racism strategy' led by Leanne Liddle, the most senior Indigenous employee at NT police.

"The timing is right," the Central Arrernte woman and former director of the NT's Aboriginal Justice Agreement said. "We need to recognise that there's been damage and hurt and pain by Aboriginal people, and the apology will do something towards healing that."

Following his speech at Garma, Mr Murphy resigned from the NT Police Union following pushback from his apology. **- AAP**



# Treaty prospects drift



A FORMAL treaty and Indigenous truth-telling commission have effectively been ruled out by the prime minister but the government says it will still be guided by the ideals of the Uluru Statement.

Setting up a Makarrata commission, or truth-telling body, was one of the cornerstones of the statement Labor committed to "in full" the day it won government.

Two years later, Prime Minister Anthony Albanese distanced himself from suggestions to set up a formal body.

But Indigenous Australians Minister Malarndirri McCarthy said the government was still committed to improving outcomes for First Nations people and the ideals of the statement.

"We are not moving away from our commitment to the Uluru Statement from the Heart in terms of our love and our support for all of those who gathered (at Uluru) in 2017," she told ABC TV.

Senator McCarthy said Indigenous Australians still needed time to come to terms with the loss of the voice referendum in 2023.

Setting up an Indigenous voice to federal parliament was one of the three elements of the Uluru Statement, along with a Makarrata Commission and treaty.

Ten months on from the referendum defeat, Senator McCarthy said bipartisan support was needed for advancing outcomes for Indigenous people.

"This was clearly a soul-shattering event ... people are still recovering from that," she said.

## Traumatizing

"It was deeply traumatizing for First Nations people who largely voted 'yes', especially in the northern parts of the country."

Opposition Leader Peter Dutton has warned pursuing a Makarrata commission would be a repeat of the voice referendum.

"The mistake that the prime minister made at the time of the voice, in trying to foist that onto the Australian people, I think he'd be repeating that mistake," he told reporters in Perth.

"If the prime minister didn't hear the voice of the Australian people at the time of the referendum when they voted, then I think the people of Australia are right to send a message to the



Gumatj leader Djawa Yunupingu and Prime Minister Anthony Albanese are greeted by a Gumatj clan warrior. Pictures: Shane Runciman



Forums throughout the festival were well attended during the day, as were the 'Bunggul', traditional dances.



prime minister at this election that they don't want a Makarrata commission.

"They want practical outcomes for Indigenous Australians, and that's what he should be concentrating on."

## Garma festival

At the Garma festival, Australia's largest Indigenous gathering, Mr Albanese said he was focused on finding "new

ambition, energy and determination" to work with the Indigenous community, rather than "rake through the ashes" of the failed vote.

Race Discrimination Commissioner Giridharan Sivaraman said an historic apology at the festival for Northern Territory police injustices inflicted on First Nations people would lose its significance if not matched by a cultural shift within the force.

Mr Sivaraman acknowledged it was a vital step towards improving police relations in the territory, but added "words can only go so far".

"Change must now be embedded throughout the entire police force and the structures set up within it ... I hope this cultural shift is being driven by the very top of the police force," he said.

A commitment must be made to independent investigations of recent actions by serving

members of the NT Police, such as the coming review into systemic racism by the NT's Anti-Discrimination Commission, Mr Sivaraman said.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner Katie Kiss agreed the apology was "necessary and symbolic" but said the force needed to reckon with the injustices that continued to occur. -AAP



Former Minister for Indigenous Australians Linda Burney with Miah Wright of Koori Radio.



Vernon Gurruwiwi, Peter Gurruwiwi, Mizac Gurruwiwi and Mr Dhurrkay.



Children from Dhupuma Barker, an independent, bilingual school for Kindergarten to Year 6 Yolngu children in remote NE Arnhem Land.



# Uncle BJ's hopes have turned to disappointment

By MARION WILLIAMS



WHEN Yuin Elder Uncle BJ Cruse flew from Australia in early July to address the United Nations Human Rights Council

(UNHRC) on historic child abuse, he was full of hope that finally his quest for redress might gain some traction.

After reading in the *Koori Mail* on July 3 about his week-long ordeal in a segregated hospital as a five-year-old, Minister for Indigenous Australians Linda Burney rang Uncle BJ and promised a face-to-face meeting when he returned.

Ms Burney announced her retirement from politics on July 25.

Uncle BJ contacted the office of her successor Malarndirri McCarthy on July 31 to follow up on the meeting that Ms Burney had promised. "I was insensitively informed that the new minister refuses to meet with me and that I should contact the NSW Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty," Uncle BJ said.

## Why this is a federal, not a state matter

Uncle BJ has three reasons why he believes historic government institutionalised abuse of Aboriginal children is a federal government matter.

"Government institutionalised child abuse like I experienced was informed by the assimilation policies coming out of the federal government's White Australia policy," he said.

Secondly, under the 1967 citizens' right referendum "the federal government was given parliamentary powers over state governments for the good health and wellbeing of Aboriginal people within each of the states".

"The other reason I think it is a federal issue is that Minister Linda Burney agreed to meet with me on the subject," Uncle BJ said.



Yuin Elder Uncle BJ Cruse flew to Switzerland in July 2024 to address the United Nations about historic institutionalised abuse of Aboriginal children. *Picture: supplied*

In his opinion, the federal government will not admit to sanctioning Aboriginal child abuse. "That way they can avoid the onus for redress by saying

states are responsible. That implies institutionalised Aboriginal child abuse is a façade and that perpetrators of such abuse are regarded as

individuals acting outside government policy."

The office of NSW Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty David Harris was contacted for

comment on July 31. On August 6, a spokesperson from the office said they were looking further into the matter.

## What happens after addressing the UN

Uncle BJ addressed the UNHRC's 17th session of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (EMRIP) that was held in Geneva, Switzerland, on July 8-12.

Uncle BJ said EMRIP provides advice on the rights of Indigenous people and assists member states to achieve the goals of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) that the United Nations adopted in September 2007.

After his address, the chair of the EMRIP made a note. "She said it was indeed a reflection of a personal experience," Uncle BJ said. "Many other addresses were general references."

He said that having raised the issue at the EMRIP, of institutionalised abuse of Aboriginal children, it will go back through the United Nations and be raised with the Australian government. "They will criticise the Australian government through that mechanism."

As part of his address Uncle BJ said the Australian government should be removed from its seat on the UNHRC on the basis it failed to honour its pledge to support the UNDRIP in both word and deed.

He is not confident of a response from the federal government.

"They want to distance themselves from the White Australia policy which institutionalised Aboriginal child abuse by saying it is a state issue and therefore acted outside of federal government policy," Uncle BJ said.

Uncle BJ will be raising the issue again at the UN's Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues to be held in New York from April 21 to May 2, 2025.

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# Gap is getting wider



FRUSTRATION with the results of the latest Productivity Commission's *Closing the Gap* report has boiled over with one senior Aboriginal leader demanding federal governments step up and do better, saying "screaming from the rooftops" wasn't working.

With just five of the 19 Closing the Gap targets on track to being met, Catherine Liddle, chief executive of the Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care (SNAICC), the peak body for Indigenous children and families said. "It's not about finding a new pathway, certainly that's not what the Productivity Commission is saying."

"It's saying, share the decision-making – this is common sense, governments talking to the people about the issues that impact them, and the solutions to solve that."

In her role as co-convenor of the Coalition of Peaks, a representative body of over eighty Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled peak organisations, Ms Liddle said:

"The data is there, the stories are there, it's clear that when we control our services we get better outcomes for our people."

"The saying – 'nothing about us without us' absolutely applies to getting the best results for all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, from birth right through to our Elders and how they are cared for."

"There are still far too many non-Indigenous operated service providers being funded to deliver to our people, and they are doing so without consideration for what we really need, without the knowledge of how



Catherine Liddle.

interconnected so many aspects of our lives and culture are, and without the understanding of how our communities and people think and feel."

Launched in 2008 and revised in 2020, Closing the Gap is a national strategy aimed at reducing Indigenous disadvantage relating to life expectancy, child mortality, and access to education and employment.

The commission's report was based on data first released in February showing targets to reduce rates of incarceration, out-of-home care and suicide not on track.

The most recent data for 2022 shows suicide was the leading cause of death for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander

people aged 15 to 39.

The commission noted the life expectancy of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men is 71.9 years and 75.6 years for women, whereas for non-Indigenous people, average life expectancy is 81.2 years for males and 85.3 years for women – with the gap not on track to close by 2031.

## Bright spots

There were five bright spots in the report with targets for healthy birth weights, pre-school enrolments and Indigenous employment heading toward being met by 2031. Land mass and sea waters covered under Indigenous legal rights and interests are also improving at a rate required to meet the target.

Newly sworn-in Indigenous Australians Minister Malarndirri McCarthy said a bipartisan approach was needed for meaningful reform for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander outcomes.

"We need to work together as a parliament, just as we are trying to do with first ministers in Indigenous affairs in every state and territory jurisdiction," she said in Darwin.

"I will be reaching across a parliamentary divide to ensure there are certain areas of Aboriginal affairs where we should be untouched in terms of it being a political football."

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese said the government was still committed to closing the gap targets, but change would not be immediate.

"Governments of all persuasions, at all levels, have not done enough in the past, but

we are committed to working with those communities," he said.

Productivity Commissioner for Indigenous Policy Evaluation, Selwyn Button, said: "We know that having ready access to culturally safe and responsive services and systems can make all the difference to socio-economic outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people."

The National Health Leadership Forum (NHLF) also noted the worrying trends highlighted in the first *Closing the Gap* report since last year's defeat of the Voice referendum.

The NHLF noted the report highlighted the ongoing failure of governments and their bureaucracy to work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples with the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians imprisoned, taking their own life and losing children to out-of-home care increasing.

Karl Briscoe, Chair of the NHLF and CEO of National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan said: "This Productivity Commission report and the recent data demonstrates the public sectors' inability to think and act differently."

"The continuation of a 'do as I say' approach, and not accepting that current business practices by government and their public services needs to change is hurting us," Mr Briscoe said.

"It is time for all governments to step back and let Aboriginal peoples decide how to solve the problems and to deliver the solutions and for governments to support us in this work."

– With AAP



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# Creative flair driving



NIFA award nominee Natisha Tabua from Off The Plantation.



Ken Tee with Nicole Ogilvie from the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (MAGNT).

By NICK PATON



SIMONE Arnol has won the top gong at this year's National Indigenous Fashion Awards (NIFAs), receiving a business mentorship with fashion powerhouse Country Road valued up to \$5,000.

Taking home the esteemed Fashion Designer Award, Ms Arnol said finding out she had won was much needed positive news – considering she has only recently learned of her Stage 4 cancer diagnosis.

"Which really does bring home the importance of how precious life is, and also to strive to make your dreams come true," Ms Arnol said.

"Just being a finalist at these prestigious awards means I've ticked that box."

Ms Arnol is an Indigenous designer who seamlessly blends traditional practices of her ancestors with contemporary innovation.

Her work is renowned for its commitment to sustainability, using recycled materials and traditional dye techniques to create vibrant textiles rich with cultural storytelling.

Her approach not only honours her culture but also addresses environmental and social issues.

Ms Arnol is also dedicated to mentoring emerging Indigenous designers, providing invaluable support to foster new talent in the fashion industry.

"To be up against so many other incredible designers is just amazing and I think the Indigenous fashion coming through gets bigger and better each year," Ms Arnol said.

"And to be able to proudly say that I have won this award makes me feel so honoured," she said.

"I am just so humbled, and this opportunity gives me the change to give back to community as well and showcase my designs and the new skills I have learned, which I can also take back and share with the community."

Since 2020, Country Road has been the proud presenter of the NIFA Fashion Designer Award.

The award recognises an individual designer of original fashion apparel who has excelled both creatively and commercially.

As part of the 12-month business mentorship, Ms Arnol will receive mentoring in areas such as marketing, product development, sales and finance and sustainability, which will support her to further build their business and career.

Presented by Indigenous Fashion Projects (IFP) and supported by the Northern Territory Government through Northern Territory Major Events Company, the NIFA award ceremony is a unique opportunity for the Australian and international fashion community to connect to the world's oldest living cultures.



Simone Arnol took home the Fashion Designer Award at this year's NIFAs.

NIFA judges Yatu Widders-Hunt, Elaine George, Lisa Waup and Nimmi Premaratne had the difficult task of assessing the nominations from an incredible line up of 36 shortlisted NIFA nominees.

Elaine George, nee Tanaka, a proud Arakwal woman from the Bundjalung nation in northern NSW, was the first Aboriginal fashion model to appear on the cover of the Australian edition of *Vogue* magazine in September 1993.

Ms George said she is truly honoured and proud to be a part of the National Indigenous Fashion Awards panel for 2024.

"It's been exciting to see the industry grow and First Nations fashion thriving," Ms George said.

"This process started months and months ago and we had a huge pool of nominations this year, but even when we got all the nominees in, it was still really

hard to choose the winners," she said.

"This year was very competitive, and with the collections this year we have gone from younger people to older Mob, from historical through to future fashion which is amazing to see.

"But I think most importantly, we need to continue to back our young people, and give them opportunities, so that they can have a go in this industry."

Launched in 2020, the NIFAs provide a vibrant and exciting platform to celebrate the innovation, diversity and ethical practices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists and fashion designers, whilst contributing to the capacity building of the sector.

Recognising and showcasing excellence across six other categories, the NIFAs is a unique opportunity for the Australian and international fashion community to connect to the world's oldest living cultures.

## HELP IMPROVE HEALTH SERVICES FOR MOB.

Share your thoughts and feedback on health resources that are available to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in Australia in this 5 minute survey.



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The Community Road Safety Grants program provides funding to groups and organisations across NSW to deliver local projects that address specific road safety issues and promote safer road use.

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Applications close Monday 16 September 2024. Eligibility and selection criteria apply.

[transport.nsw.gov.au/roadsafety/community/community-grants](https://transport.nsw.gov.au/roadsafety/community/community-grants)



SBTBES



Franchesca Cubillo and Chad Creighton, pictured with Michelle Maynard from Indigenous Fashion Projects (IFP).



Stella McMillan and Tim McNamara travelled all the way from Perth to Darwin for the 2024 NIFAs.



# First Nations fashion



For her incredible designs, the Textile Design Award went to Jay Jurrupula Rostron from Babbarra Women's Centre.



Tom Williams, Chenoa Endacott, Elaine George, Kim Whiteley and DandalooSu were thrilled to be attending this year's National Indigenous Fashion Awards on Larrakia Country in Darwin.



Xander Khoury and Alice Birrell at the awards ceremony.



The Traditional Adornment Award went to Philomena Yeatman from the Yarrabah Arts & Cultural Precinct.



NITV's Dale Laughton and Samantha Alexis Laughton.



A new award category, the Cecilia Cubillo Young Achiever Award, went to Kahlia Rogers.



Jack Tuftie accepts the Community Collaboration Award on behalf of Melissa Greenwood, Miimi & Jiinda with Gilat Shani and Unreal Fur.



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# New Alliance aims to drive our economic empowerment



A NEW alliance calling for the comprehensive economic empowerment of First Nations people in Australia has

highlighted Australia's push to be a global leader in the clean energy transition as a golden opportunity for Indigenous communities.

The new First Nations Economic Empowerment Alliance brings together committed Indigenous people with the Australian National University (ANU) and comes after two years of work and research on Indigenous economic empowerment undertaken by the ANU First Nations Portfolio – the first of its kind in Australia.

## Kick start

Professor Peter Yu, Vice President First Nations at ANU, said the new Alliance would, "kick start a long overdue and much-needed conversation in Australia" that would place Indigenous economic prosperity at its heart.

"Australia has never pursued comprehensive macro-economic



Professor Peter Yu, Vice President First Nations at ANU.

policy for Indigenous peoples and we are all too aware of the consequences of this policy vacuum," Professor Yu said.

"We cannot, as an implication of last year's referendum outcome, let the economic wellbeing of Indigenous communities fall by the wayside. Work to co-design economic empowerment policies for First Peoples must start now."

Professor Yu said the alliance would advance the case for major economic reform in Australia and

feature prominent individuals and key organisations, including the National Native Title Council, First Australians Capital, the Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation and Indigenous Business Australia.

An international symposium and a series of seminars, led by ANU and incorporating First Nations leaders and experts, industry, researchers, philanthropists and government officials culminated in the recent publication of the *Murru Waaruu Outcomes Report*.

"At its simplest, the report calls for a new fiscal relationship with First Peoples, one based on Indigenous wealth creation not welfare," Professor Yu said.

"The report finds that governments must begin to forge a new policy approach on Indigenous economic empowerment, built on our unrealised positive capacities and capabilities, to complement entrenched social policy priorities, which are so often characterised by deficits and deficiencies.

## Clean energy

"Nowhere is this opportunity better illustrated than Australia's pursuit to be a global leader in the clean energy transition. Most of these renewable projects, and indeed the critical minerals needed to support such a transition, will be sourced and established on Indigenous lands.

"This presents an opportunity to work with Indigenous communities as equity partners, sharing risks and benefits, so that we do not repeat the same mistakes of past resources booms."

"We have before us an

important opportunity to deliver, for the first time in Australia, an effective national Indigenous economic empowerment strategy that involves Indigenous communities as economic partners in our national economy."

Ian Hamm, Chairman Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation said, "We have maxed out the social policy credit card, and all the while we have had the economic policy credit card in our back pocket."

"We have barely touched that card in Australia. It is time to use it to drive change for Indigenous peoples. Failure to do so will be an indictment on us all."

Leah Armstrong, Co-founder and former Chairperson First Australians Capital said: "Our lives, and the lives of our future generations, are characterised by the absence of economic opportunities to address our marginalisation and exclusion.

"To improve life outcomes, we need to direct our energy to building a new, more equitable fiscal relationship between government and First Peoples."

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# Everett pleased with his latest arrest and bail

By JILLIAN MUNDY



JIM Everett has been arrested again and immediately bailed to reappear in September – he describes the chain of events as perfect.

He'd had a warrant out since June 3 for not attending court to face trespass charges from protesting logging in the Styx Valley of the Giants, Lutruwita/Tasmania, in March this year.

It's part of the 81-year-old Pakana elder, poet, film-maker and political activist's campaign to expedite an end to logging old growth forests in Lutruwita/Tasmania and to force the government into responding to the status of First Nations sovereignty.

He plans to enter the same forests and protest again in September when logging resumes – a defiance of his bail conditions.

Jim was driving up the east coast of Lutruwita/Tasmania to fly home to Truwuna/Cape Barren Island for the last weekend in July when he was pulled over for a random breath test.

Upon checking Jim's drivers licence the police officer found it had expired a fortnight earlier – a surprise to them both. Jim copped a fine for that.

A little more checking and the officer found there was a warrant for Jim's arrest.

"I said – yes, are you arresting me," Jim explained.

"He said – yeah I've got to, so he



Pakana elder, poet, film-maker and political activist, Jim Everett.

takes me into the police station and bails me to the new court date for the I think about the 25th of September, which is perfect, because that's when I'm getting arrested again in Takayna.

"He was a very nice policeman, a nice young fella, Mark Williams his name was, he was just doing his job.

"So it works out pretty well for me, because I can go home now for two weeks and I've got no coppers chasing me.

"When I do get arrested in September, it's up to them whether they take me to the court or not.

"But if they don't take me to the court, I'm not going to the court, they've got to come and get me and drag me to their court, because it's an alien colonial court – they've got no jurisdiction," Jim said.

"I don't recognise the court's jurisdiction over Aboriginal people, especially when we are protecting our country and the old growth forests in particular."



# Campers promised treaty meeting

By JILLIAN MUNDY



WHEN the Tasmanian parliament resumed on 30th July protesters set up camp outside the front door with dozens of tents, banners and placards vowing to stay until the premier met with Aboriginal delegates to discuss advancing treaty negotiations.

On the third chilly day Premier Jeremy Rockliff invited four delegates inside the parliament building for a meeting and just as quick as the tents had been erected they were packed down.

Tasmanian Aboriginal veteran activist, lawyer and leader Michael Mansell, Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre campaign manager Nala Mansell, tuylupa tunapri representative Kystelle Jordan and Carleeta Thomas were delegates who met with the Liberal premier.

Nala Mansell said they came out of the meeting feeling confident.

"A process for treaty has been put back on the table as a result of our recent actions, and the premier has committed to meeting with us to discuss further methods and ways of developing a process that will eventually lead to a treaty in Tasmania," she said.



Carleeta Thomas, Kystelle Jordan, Michael Mansell and Nala Mansell.

"A process that will enable Aboriginal people to discuss what a treaty would involve, and all different facets of the Tasmanian population who a treaty would affect as well.

"We acknowledge that the government's elected advisory body is part of what would be needed as a treaty process.

"But when it comes to a treaty, it will be between the people, the Aboriginal people, and the Tasmanian government," Nala said.

"Tasmanian Aborigines have not and will not forget their rights to their stolen lands or the treaty that was agreed upon, we have

consistently reminded white Tasmania and the government of this treaty for the past 220 years."

Premier Rockliff will meet delegates again in September. If the meeting is not honoured protesters have vowed to set up camp again.

There are records of promises, or treaty, between Aboriginal leaders and representatives of the crown dating back to 1831.

Modern treaty initiatives started again in 2021 when the Tasmanian Liberal Government commissioned and published a report on *Pathway to Truth-Telling and Treaty*. It is still a

Liberal government.

In 2022 the government appointed a six-member Aboriginal advisory group, which met eight times. According to their brief communiques they have focused on learning from treaty pathways in South Australia and Victoria. Due to resignations the group has been reduced to four.

In 2022 the Tasmanian Aboriginal community appointed their own group tuylupa tunapri, the group of over ten is a mix of young people and older people who are veteran activists, lawyers and have held top positions in the Office of Aboriginal Affairs. They have written a draft bill proposing terms to progress a treaty and present it to the Tasmanian government.

To date tuylupa tunapri have refused to meet with the government-appointed group.

Rockliff provided the *Koori Mail* with a letter recapping the August 1, 2024 meeting.

He states his priority is 'close the gap for all Tasmanian Aboriginal people'.

He confirmed that proposed amendments to the *Aboriginal Lands Act* would not be progressed at this stage. They do not have the support of the Tasmanian Aboriginal community or the parliament.

Tasmanian Aboriginal leaders

and Tasmanian Greens have called on the premier to take over the Aboriginal Affairs portfolio from Roger Jaensch.

## Key Historical Points:

**1803** - British war against Aborigines for their lands began and the first of many massacres of Aboriginal people took place.

**1831** - Tasmanian Aborigines agreed to a treaty with George Augustus Robinson on behalf of the government to end the war – the government did not honour its side of the agreement.

**1846** - Aborigines living on Cape Barren Island petitioned Queen Victoria reminding her of the treaty, saying: "Mr Robinson made arrangements with us which we have not lost from our minds since. We have made our part of it good".

**1883** - A letter written by Aboriginal Elders was published in the *Examiner* newspaper reminding the government of the treaty and their broken promises.

**2022** - a group of Aborigines, elected by their community established a treaty group and sent a draft treaty bill to the Tasmanian premier.

They received no reply.



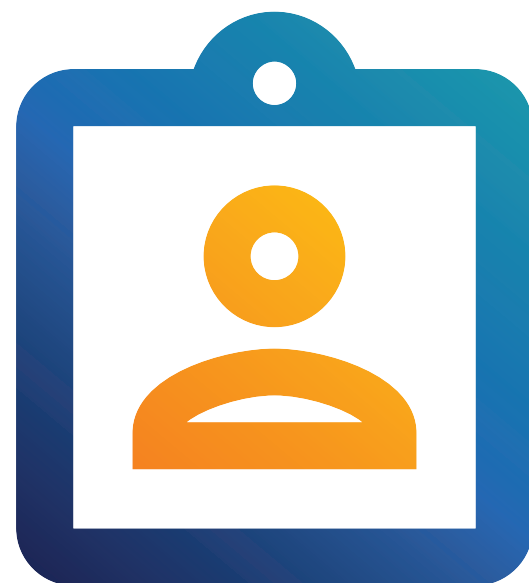
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- Turrum Phase 3 Drilling
- Gippsland Basin Geophysical and Geotechnical Investigations
- South East Australia Carbon Capture & Storage (SEA CCS) Project
- Bream Greenhouse Gas Appraisal Environment Plan (SEA CCS)
- Pipeline Network Decommissioning

The Esso Consultation Team will be hosting community drop-ins between 5:00pm and 6:00pm on:

**Wednesday, 21 August 2024** at The Criterion Hotel, Sale, 90 MacAlister Street

**Thursday, 22 August 2024** at Off The Wharf café, Bullock Island, Lakes Entrance

**Tuesday, 27 August 2024** at the Welshpool Memorial Hall, 49 Main Street, Welshpool

**Wednesday, 28 August 2024** at Manna Gum Community House, 33 Station Street, Foster

To register your attendance, please email us at: [consultation@exxonmobil.com](mailto:consultation@exxonmobil.com)

If these dates and times don't suit, please contact us at [consultation@exxonmobil.com](mailto:consultation@exxonmobil.com) or by phone on 03 9261 0000.

Like to be consulted about these activities?

Esso is working to identify and consult with relevant persons [stakeholders] whose functions, interests, or activities may be affected by one or more of Esso's proposed activities.

Please fill in the [Esso Consultation Questionnaire \(Slido\)](#) in the Esso Consultation Hub to let us know if you'd like to be consulted or have any questions or feedback.

Please refer to the NOPSEMA brochure [Consultation on offshore petroleum environment plans](#) (link) to understand more about consultation on offshore petroleum environment plans assessed under the [Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage \(Environment\) Regulations 2023](#).



Your feedback and our response will be included in the relevant regulatory application documentation and submitted to the regulator.

### Please connect us with other interested people

If there is anyone you know who may be interested in our activities, we encourage you to share this information with them.

### To find out more information

For more information about Esso's Decommissioning activities and other projects, please go to the Esso Consultation Hub at:

<https://www.exxonmobil.com.au/community-engagement/local-outreach/consultation-hub>

# All artists

By JILLIAN MUNDY



FIRST Nations arts leader Tina Baum encourages more Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists to enter Australia's richest landscape competition – the Hadley Art Prize.

It is awarded each August with a top prize of \$100,000 and the winner's work going into the Hadley's Orient Hotel's permanent art collection in Nipaluna/Hobart.

Baum, a Gulumirgin/Wardaman/Karajarri woman, and curator of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art at Australia's National Gallery

was one of this year's judges.

"I would love to see more of our communities enter and really show what their connections to their Country means to them," she told the *Koori Mail*.

"We've got a lot of stories to tell whether it's about cultural connections or climate change, Sky Country, land, Country, water Country – it's all connected and we have a rich, rich connection.

"These notions of country are not devoid of the plants, the animals that are in there and the cultural layers that are in that landscape that are really important to many of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists."

*Continued next page*



Tina Baum in the Hadley Art Award Exhibition beside the honourably mentioned work of Pitjantjatjara artist Iluwanti Ken. Tina encourages more First Nations artists to paint about their country and enter the lucrative annual Hadley Art Award.

# NSW Aboriginal Woman of the Year 2025

## Do you know the next NSW Aboriginal Woman of the Year?

A dedicated pillar of her community, the NSW Aboriginal Woman of the Year is a role model who promotes economic, cultural or social opportunities for Aboriginal people in NSW. If you have someone in mind, make sure you nominate her today.



## Nominations now open

Open to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women. Nominate now at [nsw.gov.au/wotya25](https://nsw.gov.au/wotya25) or scan the QR code. Nominations close Sunday 15 September 2024.





# are urged to enter

From previous page  
2024's lucrative prize went to Zoe Grey for *The Shape of Rock*, a large scale abstract depicting Country around her hometown of Marawah in north west Lutruwita/Tasmania, including Preminghana returned Aboriginal land – a very important place to Palawa.

It is just the third time in the competition's seven years that the prize has gone to a non-Aboriginal artist.

Like Zoe, the two non-Aboriginal artists have all been Tasmanians depicting Lutruwita landscapes. Of the four Aboriginal winners, none have been Palawa.

Tina encourages Palawa artist to get creating.

"Your Country is being represented, what better way than through the communities from this area, from the different areas throughout Lutruwita.

"You've got a deep connection to this Country – put entries in," she said.

"You've got just as much right to this major prize.

"With the majority of previous winners First Nations artists, it attests to the power that we have in these spaces.

"Start creating and thinking



**Zaachariaha Fielding's Inma, a recollection of his childhood observations of inma (song and dance) and movement - communities are coming together, sharing their storylines, received an honourable mention. His father Robert Fielding was also a Hadley Art Award finalist.**

about this one – we're just as good as any artists in any of these art prizes and I just love to see that representation widen."

As well as the major prize, the Hadley Art Prize has a residency prize valued at \$10,000, a packing

room prize valued at \$1,000, a \$2,500 people's Choice award, \$1,500 worth of prizes for school students and four honourable mentions.

"It's wonderful that we've got the three out of the four as the

highly commended, it was a very tough process," Tina said of the judging.

Those Aboriginal artists are senior Pitjantjatjara woman Iluwanti Ken, Zaachariaha Fielding from Mimili community in

the APY Lands, best known as half of the musical duo Electric Fields, and Naomi Hobson from Coen, Far North Queensland – each depicting culturally important stories of their Country and people.

This year, over a third of the 35 finalists, chosen from 508 entries are Aboriginal but none Palawa, another third were Tasmanian artists, but none Aboriginal.

An impressive exhibition of finalists work is at the Hadley's Orient Hotel, in Nipaluna/Hobart, until August 25, 2024.

Next year's Hadley Art Award will be open for entries from February to late March 2025, while an entry fee has not been set yet, last year it was \$50.

It is open to Australians for two dimensional, wall-mountable (excluding film and unmanipulated photographs on paper) works no bigger than 160cm x 160cm (including frame) or heavier than 20kg. Artists are invited to think openly about the notion of landscape in terms of visually engaging with and representing place. Australian seas and skies are accepted as landscapes. The award is judged on the artist's creativity, statement/story and technical skill.

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# Vast native title risks are speculative, High Court told



FEDERAL government claims an Indigenous win over a mining lease would lead to massive native title payouts across the Top End are "speculative", High Court justices have heard.

The High Court sitting in Darwin last week heard a response by the Gumatj Clan to an appeal arguing the Commonwealth will be liable for "vast amounts of compensation" if findings from the group's court win are not overturned.

In May 2023, a decision by the full bench of the Federal Court paved the way for the Gumatj Clan to receive up to \$700 million in compensation for bauxite mining at Gove in northeast Arnhem Land.

Gumatj Clan lead barrister Arthur Moses SC told the special sitting of the full High Court bench the claim was based on "speculation" and incomplete historical maps lacking "significant probative value".

"The Commonwealth has prophesied a vast extent of claims



Members of the Gumatj Clan arrive for their High Court of Australia sitting in Darwin. Photo: AAP

across the Northern Territory ... it advances no supposition that a vast amount of areas had native titles as of 1911," Mr Moses said.

Commonwealth solicitor-general Stephen Donaghue KC previously told the full bench of the High Court the case would invalidate a large number of land grants made in the NT after 1911 that did not compensate native title holders.

The late Yunupingu originally

brought the case that found the Gumatj Clan's land was not acquired "on just terms" before being leased in 1968 to the Swiss-Australian mining consortium, Nabalco.

Mr Moses told the High Court justices on Thursday the Gumatj Clan's case was simply to "redress past wrongs" after their land was unjustly taken from them by the federal government's 1968 mining lease.

"It impaired the rights of these people and others to their lands. It caused immense upheaval to these people and their way of life that continues to this day (via) high levels of stress and loss of opportunity," he said.

Mr Moses read to the justices from the writings of Yunupingu about seeing his father trying to stop bulldozers from destroying sacred trees on the Gove Peninsula.

"I watched him cry when our sacred waterhole was bulldozed," Yunupingu wrote in 2005.

Dr Donaghue previously told the High Court justices the landmark Mabo decision that had established native title was susceptible to extinguishment or impairment by exercise of the sovereign power to grant interests in land.

Mr Moses said native title had been created by the traditional laws and customs of Indigenous people thousands of years before the Sovereign Crown arrived in Australia.

"Most of us in this court, except for younger associates, lived in times when terra nullius was

orthodoxy, taught in schools and used as a blunt tool to deprive First Nations people of rights," Mr Moses said.

He said the High Court's striking down of terra nullius had established native title as Indigenous people's property rights that should be safeguarded by the constitution in the same way as the rights of all Australians.

"When property is acquired by the Commonwealth it is required to pay compensation on just terms. It applies to any person. It applies to native title," Mr Moses said.

Justice James Edelman asked Mr Moses if native title had been created by Indigenous culture or had been created by common law being adapted to recognise Indigenous culture.

"None of the cases before the court have suggested native title was changed by anything since the arrival of the Sovereign," Mr Moses said.

The High Court's special sitting in Darwin for the Commonwealth's appeal was due to hold its last scheduled hearing day last Friday.

**Territories Stolen Generations Redress Scheme**

Seeks to recognise the harm and trauma caused to Stolen Generations survivors who were removed from family or community in the NT, ACT or the Jervis Bay Territory.

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# Youth consider the future of constitutional recognition



THE Uluru Youth Dialogue recently gathered on Kabi Kabi Country for the first time since the 2023 referendum to

reflect and chart a path forward for First Nations recognition and constitutional change.

The 2024 Uluru Youth Summit saw First Nations youth leaders from across the country unite in post-referendum discussions which analysed and reviewed the referendum, the data and the factors that contributed to the result.

Uluru Youth Dialogue Co-Chair and Wiradjuri woman Bridget Cama said the gathering was a time of deep reflection where the Uluru Youth discussed the referendum last year and their hopes for the future.

"The path to meaningful constitutional recognition for First Nations People has been long, and now that path has become a little longer," Bridget said.

"We wanted to gather as youth again to not only yarn and grieve the result together in person, but to learn from the last couple of years and refocus our attention on what's next".

Allira Davis, Uluru Youth Dialogue Co-Chair and Cobble Cobble woman, said the 2024 Youth Summit was ultimately energising.

"Structural reform is never quick and it's never easy. Our work up until the referendum last year wasn't for nothing. We now have 6.2 million new friends ready to join the fight with us and we are committed to not only bringing them along but to growing that number," Allira said.

"At the end of the day, we are doing this for our Mob. We know that a majority of Aboriginal people in communities voted YES and are still seeking meaningful recognition and representation."

Cobble Cobble woman, UNSW Professor and Balnaves Chair in Constitutional Law, Professor Megan Davis, said she was inspired by the group who are still so committed to the calls in the Uluru Statement.

"The analysis from the young leaders of the referendum outcome and the road ahead was, as always, brilliant and incisive," Professor Davis said.

"Their growth mindset is what this world needs right now.

"We know that a majority of Aboriginal people in communities voted YES and wanted a Voice. This is seen in the data from the results.

"More and more Australians are saying the referendum was a missed opportunity, our research shows that many Australians voted No because they thought First Nations people didn't want this change. The polling results show that the majority did," Professor Davis said.

"We must move forward on fact... not opinions. The need for First Nations recognition and representation was urgent then, and it's urgent now."

The Uluru Dialogue is based out of the Indigenous Law Centre (ILC), UNSW Sydney. The ILC has worked exclusively on the right to self-determination for First Peoples for 40 years.

For more information on the Uluru Dialogue, please visit <https://ulurustatement.org/>



Members of the Uluru Youth Dialogue gathered on Kabi Kabi Country.

Rebuilding Public Education

NSW Department of Education

## Walk on Country

Richmond River High Campus and Lismore South Public School

### Background

The Department of Education is rebuilding The Rivers Secondary College Richmond River High campus and Lismore South Public School to provide new flood resilient school facilities for our local students. In addition to commencing a range of studies including Aboriginal Cultural Heritage and Archaeological Surveys, the department is using the NSW Government's "Connecting with Country" framework to make sure the facilities at both schools appropriately acknowledge Bundjalung Culture and Country and are safe and welcoming places for all students.

Following an earlier workshop in June 2024 the department is inviting Widjabal Wia-bal and other Aboriginal people in the Lismore community to join us for a "Walk on Country" at Lismore South Public School and then at the location for the new Richmond River High Campus.

### What will be discussed at this meeting?

The Walk on Country is an opportunity to see where buildings are likely to be placed on the two sites. After the walk on country for the Richmond River High Campus we would like to hold a short workshop session to learn more about:

- The stories you want young people to know about this Country now and into the future.
- How we could tell these stories and bring them to life throughout the new campus and primary school.
- What important flora and fauna should be incorporated into both sites.

### Session details

#### Session 1: Lismore South Public School

Date: 23 August 2024

Time: From 10:30 am to 11:30 am

Venue: The corner of Kyogle St and Wilson St, South Lismore

#### Session 2: Richmond River High Campus

Date: 23 August 2024

Time: From 12.30 pm to 2.30 pm

Venue: Lismore Saleyards carpark, corner of Dunoon Rd and Alexandra Parade, North Lismore



To help us organise these sessions it would be appreciated if you could RSVP via email to [michael.trajkov@tsariley.au](mailto:michael.trajkov@tsariley.au) by Wednesday 21 August 2024.

We are looking forward to these two sessions and are strongly committed to engaging with Widjabal Wia-bal through the Widjabal Wia-bal Gurrumbil Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC to ensure the co-design of the relocated Richmond River High Campus and Lismore South Public School.

[schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au](http://schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au)



## Man launched 'onslaught' at wake after Facebook rant



A MAN who unleashed an "armed onslaught" at a wake by stabbing his partner's lover a dozen times is set

for a lengthy stint in jail for murder.

Ricky Duke Doolan, 33, killed Richard Mills in Boggabilla, on the Queensland-NSW border, in September 2022, after they had both attended the funeral of one of Mr Mills' family members.

Doolan, who earlier threatened to harm Mr Mills in Facebook posts after discovering he had an affair with the 33-year-old's long-term partner, pleaded guilty to murder.

The NSW Supreme Court heard Doolan and Mr Mills initially went to separate wakes after the funeral.

But they ended up at the same event after Doolan's partner mistakenly determined Mr Mills was not there.

Doolan admitted he turned up to the event with a large

knife for his protection before confronting Mr Mills about the relationship, pushing him and engaging in a stabbing onslaught.

Despite the attack being brief, Justice Richard Button said it led to the infliction of 14 wounds. Paramedics found Mr Mills dead when they arrived a short time later.

Justice Button said the "atrocious" violence was an example of domestic violence, which he called "a notorious scourge within Australian society".

The court was told Doolan, a Wiradjuri and Gamilaraay man, experienced "grave" domestic violence as a result of his father's alcohol abuse when growing up.

Having initially stood over Mr Mills after the attack, the judge found Doolan was in tears soon after and began to feel remorse for the murder.

Justice Button sentenced Doolan to 18 years and nine months in jail with a non-parole period of 14 years. — AAP



# Keeping the fires burning



TRADITIONAL Owners in the Cape York have established Australia's first Carbon Management Hub, (CMH) to monitor and respond to persistent and more frequent wildfires in the region.

Boasting more than 30 years combined experience in cultural burning, carbon abatement and fire management, Ajin CMH also undertakes a range of services including fire implementation plans, risk analysis, compliance training and various fire management training programs.

CEO Deb Symonds said they were a team of dedicated individuals, well-equipped to address the ongoing challenges of wildfires, which had been exacerbated by the effects of climate change on seasonal patterns in recent years.

"This pioneering fire management hub is set to be the first of its kind, not just in Cape York," she said. "As leaders in our field, we believe the Ajin CMH has the potential to significantly impact operations and deliver essential services to all landholders in our region."

Operations Manager and Traditional Owner, Ash Ross, is deeply passionate about reviving traditional land management practices and cultural connections. He is also dedicated to supporting Indigenous communities in embracing and preserving these traditions while seeking sustainable opportunities for their future.

With an in-depth knowledge of savanna burning processes and ERF (Emissions Reduction Fund) requirements, Ash has been a key person in the Olkola Aboriginal Corporation's savanna burning project since 2013.

This initiative has not only created employment opportunities for an expanding Ranger group but has also facilitated the acquisition of equipment while ensuring rigorous training and safety standards are met.

Ms Symonds said Ajin's vision was to provide service delivery to both Indigenous and non-Indigenous landholders through partnerships.

"With emerging technologies, including AI, we can deliver almost real-time fire snapshots of Country and our response teams are capable of deploying within 24 hours to provide on-site



Ajin operations manager Ash Ross. Picture: Christine Howes.

firefighting assistance."

Ajin can also mobilise helicopters equipped with water buckets to reach inaccessible areas and offers a comprehensive range of services, starting with the development of Fire Implementation Plans that can be built on year after year, comprehensive risk analysis and compliance training for carbon abatement projects.

The Ajin team also includes: Dr Leasia Felderhof, the Managing Director of Firescape Science, who has helped Indigenous groups and pastoralists on Cape York Peninsula to successfully engage in the carbon market for more than a decade; Mick Blackman, one of Queensland's leading professionals in fire management, having implemented many fire programs across Northern Australia over 30 years; and Clare Blackman, an experienced land management trainer having delivered numerous Certificate III and Certificate IV courses in adult learning environments.



One of the Olkola rangers in action in Cape York.



## CONGRATULATIONS

IBA welcomes the incoming Minister for Indigenous Australians, Senator the Hon Malarndirri McCarthy and we thank Linda Burney for her leadership and support.



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Australian Government

## National Native Title Tribunal Full-time Member

The Australian Government is seeking applications from suitably qualified persons for appointment as Member of the National Native Title Tribunal (the Tribunal) on a full-time basis.

The Tribunal is established under the *Native Title Act 1993*. The principal work of the Tribunal involves mediating and arbitrating in relation to certain proposed future acts (such as the grant of mining leases). The Tribunal also assists parties wishing to make Indigenous Land Use Agreements to negotiate those agreements, as well as mediating native title claims referred to the Tribunal by the Federal Court of Australia. Members may also be required to conduct inquiries into issues connected with native title claims, and contribute to community liaison and education around native title. More information about the Tribunal can be found at [www.nntt.gov.au](http://www.nntt.gov.au).

### Information for applicants

The appointment will be for a term of up to 5 years. The Tribunal has 5 offices across Australia. This position will be located in one of the Perth, Brisbane or Cairns offices.

Information about the position, including eligibility and selection criteria, and a link to the online application form, is available on the Attorney-General's Department website <https://www.ag.gov.au/about-us/careers/statutory-appointments>

Applications close at 5.00pm on 23 August 2024.

Enquiries can be directed to [appointments@ag.gov.au](mailto:appointments@ag.gov.au).

People who identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander are strongly encouraged to apply.

1220KH\_5039

## news



There are an estimated 100,000 crocodiles in the Northern Territory.

# Crocodile attacks prompt warnings

By ALF WILSON



THREE recent attacks by saltwater crocodiles on humans in Queensland and the Northern Territory has authorities

warning people who enter their habitat to be very careful.

Newcastle man and GP David Hogbin, 40, was with family members when he fell into the Annan River near Cooktown and failed to resurface on August 3.

Police said that Mr Hogbin was not fishing at the time of his disappearance and afterwards a large crocodile was shot by rangers and human remains were found in its guts.

In July rangers shot dead a 4.5-metre croc after it killed a 12-year-old girl while she was swimming with her family in Mango Creek near Palumpa, an outback Indigenous community in the Northern Territory.

They shot the reptile after getting permission from the region's traditional landowners.

In April a 16-year-old boy who disappeared after his boat broke down north of Saibai Island in the Torres Strait was killed by a crocodile.

The boat he had been in, along with a 13-year-old boy, had been taking on water in rough conditions.

The boys attempted to swim ashore from the boat, with the 13-year-old getting to shore and raising the alarm.

Since the 1970s crocodiles have been a protected species in Queensland and the NT and their numbers have increased significantly.

Earlier this year Northern Territory approved a 10-year plan to contain crocodile numbers, lifting the rate of culling near human habitat from 300 to 1,200 a year.

But there is still an estimated 100,000 crocodiles in the NT.

Crocodile warning signs can be

found beside many creeks, rivers, beaches and boat ramps to advise people that reptiles may inhabit the area.

Authorities have issued a series of "Crocwise" safety procedures people should adhere to when fishing, boating, swimming and camping.

They are: 1. Stand at least five metres back from the water's edge when fishing; use an esky, tackle box or similar object as a barrier between you and the water; leave the lure as people have been attacked while recovering a fishing lure. It's not worth your life; dispose of unused bait and fish scraps in a bin or take them home. Leaving potential food sources around for crocodiles to find has a similar effect as feeding them directly.

2. Boating and recreational watercraft: Your boat is your barrier. Keep the boat between yourself and the water when launching or retrieving it and face the water whenever possible; keep your arms and legs inside your boat at all times; avoid using small watercraft such as kayaks and paddleboards in croc country. The smaller the vessel, the greater the risk, crocodiles have taken people from small vessels.

3. Camping: Camp well back from the water's edge; limit your time at the water's edge when collecting water. Avoid using the same spot repeatedly as crocodiles recognise repeated behaviours.

4. Swimming: Swimming or snorkelling in croc country puts you at risk of crocodile attack. No waterway in croc country can ever be considered crocodile free. If you decide to swim, reduce your risk; swim between the flags at patrolled beaches; only swim during the day. Crocodiles are most active at dawn, dusk or at night.

Only swim in clear water where you can see the bottom. Crocodiles can attack in knee-deep water so wading can still be dangerous.

Read and obey all crocodile warning signs.

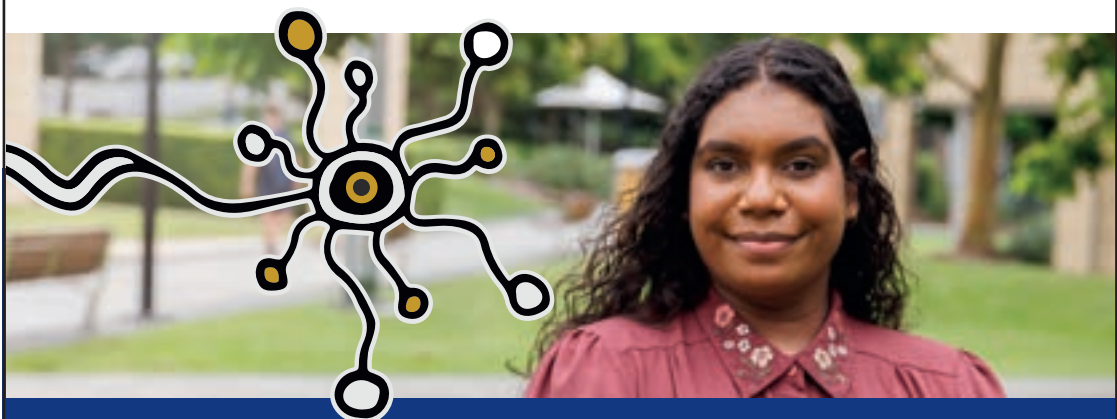


## Stand for your community

This September, the NSW Government is calling on people from all backgrounds to stand for election to their local council. NSW needs more candidates who identify as Aboriginal to represent their communities.

Your council does more than just look after roads, rates and rubbish. It plays a vital role in your local community and councillors' decisions affect your daily life. More diversity on councils leads to better representation for your community.

You, or someone you know, could help make life better in your community. No formal qualifications are required and training is available for elected councillors.



Nominations open on 5 August and close 14 August 2024.

Local government elections are on 14 September 2024.

Visit the Office of Local Government's website for more information.

[olg.nsw.gov.au](http://olg.nsw.gov.au)



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your way.

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Troy Eaton, CEO of the Nyamal Aboriginal Corporation puts down his signature at the official signing ceremony.

# Hedland Elders protest 'unacceptable' motion



First Nations Elders and community leaders at the Town of Port Hedland Council meeting.

# National park win

BY ASAD KHAN



RENOWNED carbonate stromatolites that reveal details about the evolution of early life will be protected following the creation of Purungunya Conservation Estate through the Cook Labor Government's Plan for Our Parks.

The Purungunya Conservation Estate will be jointly managed by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions alongside the Nyamal Aboriginal Corporation.

Located near the Nullagine River, Purungunya Conservation Estate encompasses 163,000 hectares of new national park and 39,000 hectares of new conservation park.

The protected area has been home to the Nyamal People for tens of thousands

of years and is internationally renowned for the 2.7-billion-year-old Meentheena carbonate stromatolites.

Environment Minister Reece Whitby said the newly created reserves will protect its rich cultural and natural heritage.

He said he knows the importance of the agreement for the Nyamal people "This part of the Pilbara has been used by the Nyamal People for tens of thousands of years and the newly created reserves will protect its rich cultural and natural heritage," he said.

Troy Eaton, CEO Nyamal Aboriginal Corporation said caring for the Country is in the heart of all Nyamal people.

"Purungunya is a beautiful and significant part of our Country, and we look forward to looking after it in partnership with the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions."

BY ASAD KHAN



ELDERS from Hedland Aboriginal Strong Leaders, Julyardi

Aboriginal Corporation, and other Aboriginal organisations attended a recent Town of Port Hedland Council meeting to send a collective message in response to a motion calling on the removal of acknowledgment of Country and acknowledgement of

Traditional Owner before the start of council meetings.

A motion was carried that stated no racial group should be recognised before the Council meetings.

Raylene Button, of Palyku and Kariyarra Country, was present at the meeting and voiced how the people have fought the Federal and State governments to earn their rights and acknowledgment.

Ms Button said Aboriginal people have had to prove their rights on this country and the continuance connection they have.

She said Aboriginal people

have areas of Country to which they always pay homage.

"We pay our respect to elders past, present and emerging," she said.

"And yet for someone to say that they will dismantle and take away that, it feels like a kick in the guts," she said.

She said that the motion should not even be up for consideration 'because we have been handed our determination as recognised people of this land and country'.

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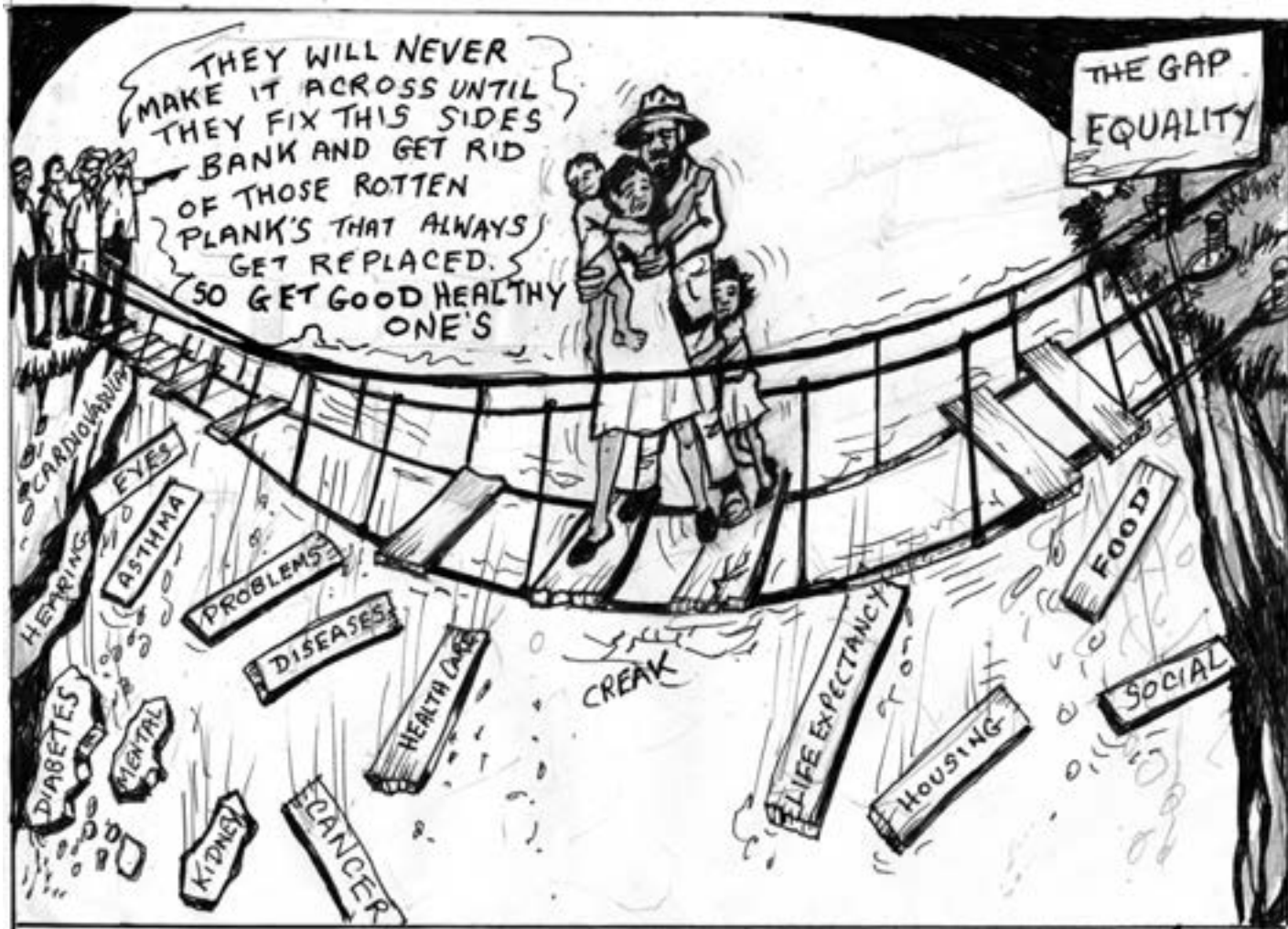
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Danny Eastwood's view



A YARN WITH...



John 'Yunbii' Phillips

with descendants from Cunnamulla, Burketown and Cloncurry regions

Quote



"I am just so humbled, and this opportunity gives me the change to give back to community as well and showcase my designs and the new skills I have learned, which I can also take back and share with the community."

— Simone Arnol, winner of the Fashion Designer Award at this year's NIFAs.

● See page 8-9

Unquote

NT top cop was right to apologise

An apology to Indigenous Territorians from the NT Police Commissioner Michael Murphy was a small but necessary step towards improving Indigenous relations with the force.

The apology, delivered at the Garma Festival, came six months after racism within the NT police force was brought to light during the coronial inquest into the shooting death of Kumanjayi Walker in Yuendumu by former constable Zachary Rolfe.

Commissioner Murphy pledged to develop a new anti-racism strategy aimed at eliminating racism within the force.

Sadly, from the reaction of the NT police union, the commissioner will have his work cut out for him.

Unsurprisingly, the NT police union was critical of the commissioner, accusing him of overstepping.

The union also voiced fears about its members being unfairly blamed for past actions.

That argument is spurious to say the least.

Anyone using just a little logic would realise that the commissioner's apology does not reflect poorly on police officers doing their job well.

The apology was for those police officers who do the wrong thing in the line of duty.

And despite the protests, there are way too many examples of racist



behaviour from police officers. Those that fail to acknowledge that are living in denial.

Sticking to his principles, the commissioner then went on to resign from the union following the backlash.

In doing so, he sent a clear message.

"I have a vision for the future of NT Police; and in order to achieve that future, we need to be able to understand and acknowledge our history," he wrote in a resignation letter.

"Our shared mission is to serve and protect all Territorians."

For those police officers unwilling, or unable, to face up to the reality that racism has plagued not only the NT force, but police services across Australia, maybe it's time they handed in their badges and guns.

Nobody would be sorry to lose a few racists from the police service, especially the Aboriginal people of the Northern Territory.

So, good on the commissioner for 'reading the room' and owning the mistakes of the past. Saying sorry is a good start to not repeating injustices again into the future.

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

**Favourite bush tucker?**  
Bush medicine Gumbi Gumbi.

**Saltwater food?**  
Barramundi and lobster.

**Non-Indigenous food?**  
Steak it never hurt anybody.

**Favourite other food?**  
Devon sausage.

**Favourite drink?**  
Gatorade.

**Favourite music?**  
Blues.

**Favourite sport?**  
Rugby league barrack for Broncos.

**Favourite holiday destination?**  
Byron Bay especially when the festival is in.

**Favourite movie?**  
Bonny and Clyde.

**What do you like in life?**  
Food, health and sport such as swimming.

**What don't you like in life?**  
Indifferent people who don't understand the history of our lives.

**What person would you like most to meet?**  
Jack Johnson the boxer.

**Which people or person would you invite for a night around the campfire?**  
My late Nan Bessie Turner from Burketown.

**Who/what inspires you?**  
The underdog in any facet of life.

**What would you do to better the situation for Indigenous people?**  
Change the attitude towards jailing and punishment for our people so that others would have an understanding and awareness.



# Healing power of music

By PAUL CONNELLY



*Bilambiyal (The Learning)*, is the latest offering from David Leha, aka Radical Son.

This second album marks the continued journey and growth of this talented and experienced First Nations songwriter and musician. The 13 tracks take you on a journey of culture, country and pride.

This reporter first witnessed the incredible voice and stage presence of Radical Son at the memorial for his mentor, Archie Roach, where he performed *Walking into Doors* in Melbourne.

His voice evoked a vibration in my sternum. Only three times before has this occurred in my career and life – Nina Simone, Billie Holiday and Ella Fitzgerald. I decided to see if this phenomenon had any backing from science and discovered that when the sternum is vibrated, most often by music, it will stimulate the immune system because the oscillations boost the thymus, a small gland in the chest which controls the production of the body's key defense cells called T lymphocytes.

So maybe, just maybe, music does heal!

## Redemption

Kamilaroi and Tongan artist Radical Son's journey has been one of struggle, torment, violence and jail, but the story is also one of redemption and healing. A journey of self realisation and inner strength and determination to be a better person.

Poised at a crossroads, David Leha began study as a musician at The Eora Centre for Visual and Performing Arts in Redfern. Going on to receive a Bachelor of Music from Newcastle Conservatorium.

"My life has been a long and incredible journey, one day I was in solitary confinement, the next I



David Leha, AKA Radical Son, performs. Picture: Mick Harvey

am backstage rehearsing with Jimmy Barnes to then join him onstage at QPAC Queensland Performing Arts Centre in Brisbane."

Speaking to the *Koori Mail*, Radical Son said that music has had a real and substantial

influence in his life.

"Music has influenced me in both positive and negative ways," David said. "It has given me a purpose, it has given me a voice, it has helped me, particularly as a songwriter to really reflect upon what it is I am saying. Also as a role model and being in public it has given me the opportunity to lead by example, put it this way, you will not see Radical Son drink, you will not see me drunk or stoned, you will not hear me degrading people or focus on superficial things.

"Now the negative impact was in my early years... I was influenced by the fashions, the trends, the ideology, I used to love a band called NWA, as a teenager. I ended up getting more charges. Can you imagine wanting to fight police instead of just answering their questions civilly?

"Music has made me a better person. We hold the key. Within ourselves we can change things for ourselves and make the lives of others better in the process, we can have these other realities in our lives," David said

This latest album, *Bilambiyal (The Learning)*, from Radical

Son is a continuation as well as a fulfilment of the growth of this artist, and the positive choices he made, that have led him to where he is today.

The album opens with a nod to last year's single *Elders*, with the opening track entitled, *Elder Reprise*.

## Musical odyssey

The album then opens into a musical odyssey, taking the listener on an adventure, but also reminding people to stop and take in the world around us. From *How Long Must I Wait*, a warm blend of soul and urgency, followed by the glowing ambience and captivating vocals lying in wait on *All My Life*. From a magnetic reflection on gratitude *Until You Call My Name*, to a striking spoken word interlude, *Cultural Contract*.

With earthy tones and a strong connection to celebrating everything Blak, the songs transport you into a moment in time, to consider, ponder, reflect, and as the title suggests, learn!

While this would be considered by most to be a solo album, the collaborations from such luminaries as Marcus Longfoot, Andy Robinson, David

Bridie, Frank Yamma, Emma Donovan and many more, lend their magic to the end result, and paints a picture of coming together to create an album that this reporter believes will stand the test of time, and be a defining moment in the career of David Leha, AKA Radical Son!

In his own words Rad sums up his thoughts on the album release.

"I absolutely love the songs on this album, and I know you will too. Even though I wish I'd had a stronger connection to culture and Country. Even though there was a real disconnect and culture and Country was not something I had a deep understanding of, still so much of my music is about my Mob, my culture, my heritage. With almost 20 years now as an artist, I've stayed true to the game. I've stayed true to my Mob. I've stayed true to myself. I really do hope that that message comes through in my songs."

The album has three singles already with the most recent single, *Yuluwirri Wandabaa (The Rainbow Dreaming)* featuring Emma Donovan.

The album is available through Wantok Musik.



Radical Son's latest album, *Bilambiyal*.



# Women take time for

By PAUL CONNELLY



KINDRED Studios in Yarraville, Naarm, was alive recently with the sounds of First Nations Victorian

female songwriters at the inaugural SheSacred festival.

Curated by Maylene Yinnar, a graduate of the Archie Roach Foundation's Singing Our Futures program, the day brought together talented First Nations women from across the state, both established and emerging.

"It started as an idea planted between Dylan Singh of Songlines Victoria and myself and the need for a space for women to gather to showcase our sacredness and our songlines and what they sound like today," Maylene Yinnar told the *Koori Mail*.

"We want people to know that there is such exceptional talent in our community, and having everyone together on one day is just not heard of, and today we achieved that goal.

"I feel I am in a special position as I get to see the emerging talent in our communities of strong Blak female songwomen."

The emerging talent on the day was well represented by young musician and outstanding vocalist Lauren Sheree, a Wakka Wakka woman who moved to Melbourne when she was 18.

She has found a home among the songwomen in the state. Her dulcet tones and resonating voice is fresh and new, with a nod to the greatest female voices of the past.

"To me it is just such a beautiful concept which was brought to all of us by Maylene Yinnar. Having all these incredible women together with a feminine energy in one space, in a form of celebration, and I think it was just so beautiful," Ms Sheree said.

Yorta Yorta woman Allara, a session musician and outstanding artist in her own right, performed on the day. She was part of the original collective along with Maylene and Monica and said that the day had its origins during the COVID lockdowns.

"Bringing First Nations Women together is something Maylene, Monica and myself have been involved in since we started First Nations Women in Music," she said.

"This day was the culmination of that music collective formed during COVID lockdown as a way of First Nations women across the state, coming together and supporting each other during that difficult time of disconnection.

"We ran a twelve-week program on Zoom.

"There were about 12 of us who met every week, including some of the performers today – Madi Colville-Walker and Lauren Sheree. We actually presented a



Monica Jasmine Karo, Maylene Yinnar and Allara perform together.



Allara on double bass.



Leo, Makwarra Paakantji Wiradjuri singer.



Mandy Nicholson, Wurundjeri Woio-wurrung Dja Dja wurrung and Ngurai ilum wurrung Traditional Owner.



Wendy Brooke.



Candice Lorrae.



Sista Zia.

performance of this collective at this year's Port Fairy Folk Festival to a very attentive and warm reception.

"This day is not a day of new or established performers, it is not about self, it is a coming together in celebration of who we

are as women, individually, and collectively and spiritually."

To many who attended SheSacred, this was not just about a music festival but an important gathering on the back of a challenging month of sorry business across the state

during July.

This coming together was a day of music and fun, laughter and tears, but most importantly, a gathering and a place of healing and love.

Maylene said not only was the day a success, but personally for

her, it was sacred.

"I was able to release myself after carrying so much in the lead-up to the event and what better way to do it than with everyone in the same place."

Other performers echoed the same sentiment.



# song and sacredness



Maylene Yinnar.



Ngargee Dance Group.



Madi Colville Walker.



Canisha with her sister Mymy.



Lauren Sheree.

very special in many ways, not just for the healing and yarning but especially having her younger sister join her on stage, whose cheeky demeanour hinted at the possibility of the next person in the family to have a musical career.

"She loves the stage but gets a little shy, and today she actually took the microphone from me and nailed her spot.

"She has never got it quite right before, and I was so proud of her.

"To have my sister onstage was so important because normally with all the safety requirements and leads everywhere children are not normally allowed on some of the stages I play, I love my sister."

Canisha's set was perfection, taking the audience on a journey of her music and songs, with the backing of her incredible band, she is an artist who never fails to

deliver and is fast emerging as someone to watch as she carves out a well-deserved career.

An addition to the show was the poet Sista Zai, from the Jaracaza family of Masvingo in Karanga, South East Zimbabwe along the colonial borders.

Sista Zai became connected with the Mob in Naarm, after coming to Australia to study. Sista Zai is Mob if you ask any of the other women on the day, and found her home after meeting people such as Maylene Yinnar through her Pan African Poets Cafe, and had worked under the mentorship of Auntie Carolyn Briggs, who herself had been to Zimbabwe, so a strong connection was made between both women.

"I came here to Melbourne to study law and became a poet.

"I was always motivated by social justice, I was working in international and economic

development and realised that a lot of people did not have a solid understanding of what causes the poverty, and their idea of a solution is just a band-aid," she said.

"My idea was to use storytelling and writing is probably the best way to explain complex legal systems and other challenging situations."

The MC for the day was radio announcer Wendy Brooke.

The Welcome to Country was provided by Mandy Nicholson, Wurundjeri Woiwurrung Dja Dja wurrung and Ngurai ilum wurrung Traditional Owner.

The two all-female dance groups were the Nunkeri Tiddas Dance and the Ngargee Dance Groups.

The event was presented by Songlines Aboriginal Music Corporation, with the support of Kindred Studios and West Gate Neighbourhood Fund.



Grant Hansen of 3KND.



# The true cost of commercialism

**W**hy do we have an obsession in our society with cheap goods and do we understand the true cost on people and the planet?

Low-cost products are often made from unsustainable materials and often made have been made with slave labour in foreign countries with horrible working conditions that produces a lot of pollution.

When we buy from Amazon door-to-door delivery we kill local businesses and artisans. We kill community connection.

Places like Amazon, Temu and Shein will make us believe that they make our dollar stretch far with their low prices but are we forgetting the true cost of shopping at online platforms?

I wish there was a value system that being a custodian was a much more successful position in society than to be a consumer. Yes for sure we need to consume, but the economy and the trying to keep up the GDP is killing us.

Convenience is killing us. From fast food, fast fashion, to fast cheap products delivered in 3-5 days. Sometimes I wish the tag of a product had the face of the child that made it, or showed how a community became sick because their water source was poisoned from blue dyes so we in the west can continue to buy jeans for \$20.

When we spend more on products we value them, when we spend a \$10 here or there on products they become disposable.



**Ella Noah Bancroft**

The true cost of cheap products is that the consumer doesn't value them, allowing us to discard them and not feel attachment to them because the price was so low. When we spend big on a product that is well crafted and made with love and intention we cherish it more, we respect it more, we look after it more. We don't throw it out but we fix it.

Temu is an online marketplace known for astonishingly low prices, knock-offs and dupes of more expensive brands. Temu is still a new platform but they have already made \$1.4 billion from Australia sales alone, similar to the \$1 billion annually spent at another online platform low-cost retail competitor Shein. These

online platforms have massive marketing budgets like \$755 million in one year alone to sell us products and guess what? The consumer eats it up.

But these online shopping apps are now breeding addicts.

I know there is a cost of living crunch that is sending people to buy cheaper options but the question shouldn't be should we buy cheap or not, it should be should we buy that at all?

Seriously like no new clothing should ever be made. How often do we really stop as consumers and ask if I really need that? Need being the most important word. Do I need that for my health, for my well being, for fuel for my body, for hydration?

Things we really need to survive are water, food (which requires healthy soils), shelter and community. Everything else is just a luxury. How can we return to custodianship rather than consumership?

I feel disheartened by our ability to continue to buy and buy and waste and waste. It's an ongoing cycle that is causing depression in the hearts of many. The earth and the next generations require us to think before we buy, before we impulse buy.

We have been brainwashed to find the best deal, make our money stretch the furthest but whatever happened to finding the best product, the one that will last for generations, that you can hand

down to your grandchildren? Cheap goods are killing us and the planet. Beneath every bargain is a great cost of the people who made it and our planet.

For every product that you buy, you will have to discard. If it's sent from overseas, there are also hidden carbon costs associated with that and then the packaging required to send it, which also gets disposed of.

The IMPACT is profound not only on your own health, health of your family or the planet but for the future of our world.

In 2007 air pollution caused by goods manufactured in one part of the world but used in another resulted in over 700,000 deaths. We have laws around people killing other people but where are the laws that keep corporations accountable for the death of human beings and our more than human kin?

We are expected as a species to keep populating and unless we curb our consumption we will not have anything to consume. Our resources are finite people. We really need to implement better education systems around the impact of cheap goods.

Consumer packaged goods industry is already responsible for 60% of all global greenhouse gas emissions between 50% to 80% of total land, material and water use.

Pollution in places like Asia has increased alongside the western consumers' insatiable appetite to

consume. The increase in fast fashion has only grown in the past few years. After such a mass amount of information being accessible to the masses, we are still producing plastic cheap clothing that ends up in landfill, killing our soils and Country. Take for example Shein, another online platform competing with Temu, grew from \$10 billion in sales in 2022 to \$100 billion in 2022.

Did we all get amnesia and forget about waste-free living? Or are we so distracted by screens that our addiction to online sales has become a serious issue for our western world. Addiction seems to be able to make us destroy ourselves, the planet, ours and other communities. The addiction for more. The applauding of greed in our society.

Shein reports that it procures 50,000 new fashion items daily, which equates to about six million tonnes of Co2 every year. What's the difference between fossil fuels and fast fashion? Not much.

This demand on cheap goods from the west has serious consequences and I believe it's time we start asking if that cheap product really is as cheap as I think it is.

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

# Renewables: not a magic solution

**A**t the Garma Festival earlier this month, Prime Minister Anthony Albanese announced a policy to use renewables and critical minerals to economically empower Aboriginal communities.

Critics accused him of performing a sleight of hand, retreating from commitments to the Makarrata Commission and truth-telling by offering this new policy instead.

This cautious approach is understandable after the resounding defeat of the Voice to Parliament referendum, as anything associated with the Uluru Statement could complicate Labor's chances of re-election and has become politically and socially divisive.

The PM's announcement highlights a bipartisan consensus that mining—whether through critical minerals or uranium—is vital for Aboriginal communities' economic future.

Senator Jacinta Price recently stated that the native title system leaves Indigenous Australians "land rich, but dirt poor". She advocates overhauling the system to enable private home ownership on native title land and stimulate Indigenous business



**Adam C Lees**

ventures, including Aboriginal-owned mining operations.

Renewables are an essential part of our future energy mix. However, I have cautioned in recent speeches against viewing the shift to cleaner energy as a magic wand for our economic challenges. The promise of a more decarbonised future is enticing, but these initiatives risk becoming yet another unrealised and overstated vision without careful implementation.

We still have much to learn from the past. Despite decades of mining, many Aboriginal communities across northern and regional Australia still lag in quality-of-life indicators.

Although hundreds of millions remain parked in benefit and mining trusts,

**'To truly benefit Indigenous communities, we must break down financial barriers and provide access to capital for large-scale projects.'**

these financial gains have yet to translate into meaningful improvements in health, education or living standards. While the green revolution offers Aboriginal communities enhanced economic participation and empowerment opportunities, it also presents similar challenges.

To truly benefit Indigenous communities, we must break down financial barriers and provide access to capital for large-scale projects.

Innovative financing models that enable legislation and government support are also needed to facilitate Indigenous investment in the energy transition. There is a need to build a supportive entrepreneurial ecosystem where Indigenous-owned businesses can thrive. By investing in education and training, Indigenous communities can develop the technical skills necessary for the renewable energy sector and participate

economically through business ventures, equity stakes, and benefit-sharing agreements.

While some Indigenous communities may benefit from renewable projects, most will see little improvements or any material difference to their quality of life, especially those of us in city areas. As green energy becomes more affordable and reliable over time, we may benefit from decarbonisation and enhanced energy security in other ways.

Not every Traditional Owner group wants wind farms, solar panels or mines on their land, highlighting the ethical conflicts they face between caring for their Country and requiring development. But if Traditional Owners are being asked to support, co-own, or co-invest in energy transition minerals operations, we are already behind the curve.

The Gulkula Mine, owned by the Gumatj Corporation, is one, if not

the only example of an Indigenous-owned and operated mine in Australia.

Interestingly, this new policy approach was unveiled when significant players like BHP Nickel, IGO, and Core Lithium in the Northern Territory recently mothballed projects due to market conditions and competition from foreign producers. Companies like FMG are also reassessing their strategies, with decarbonisation and hydrogen aspirations now tempered by market realities. Given this volatility, pinning our hopes on the renewables and critical minerals sector as a solution for Closing the Gap could be fraught.

The latest emphasis on renewables and critical minerals echoes past policies like the Aboriginal Economic Development strategy and ATSIC initiatives. These policies, too, promised economic empowerment by integrating Indigenous communities into new industries but often failed to deliver meaningful outcomes. For Aboriginal economic policy to succeed, it must move beyond rhetoric and failed promises.

Concerns about green colonisation have emerged

as the push for renewable energy accelerates. These projects often proceed without genuine consultation, treating Indigenous communities as obstacles rather than partners. In the race to achieve net zero by 2050, Indigenous people and marginalised groups risk being sidelined, with profits flowing to a select few stakeholders.

To close the gap in economic and social outcomes for Indigenous Australians, policies must go beyond surface-level solutions and ensure Aboriginal communities have genuine opportunities for self-determination and equitable participation in the new economy. Indigenous voices must be at the forefront of decision-making to ensure real progress. This will ensure the green revolution is not just another broken promise but a pathway to genuine empowerment, real self-determination and economic transformation.

● Adam C Lees, a Yadhagana (Cape York) and Meriam man is the Director of New Moon Consulting. He has over twenty years of global experience in the resources and energy sector.



# Your land, your Voice

By ADAM C. LEES



THE Queensland Government invites First Nations communities to speak up and influence how mining leases and environmental approvals are decided. This is a unique opportunity to impact a process that directly affects your land, culture, and future.

For the first time, an independent review, led by the Queensland Law Reform Commission (QLRC), is looking into how contested applications for mining leases are decided under the Mineral Resources Act 1989 and associated environmental authorities under the Environmental Protection Act 1994.

This review is important because the outcomes will influence and shape how mining projects are managed in the future, particularly on lands that hold cultural significance for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

## Why Now?

Speaking in Emerald, Fleur Kingham, Chair of the QLRC, explained that the current process for deciding on mining leases and environmental approvals has been around since the late 1800s. "It's evolved over time," she said, "but it's still quite outdated and doesn't serve anyone very well, especially not First Nations communities."

Kingham played a key role in

bringing this review to life. "When I was President of the Land Court, I noticed that the process was flawed in a lot of ways," she shared.

"I felt it didn't work well for anyone involved and decided to push for a review. It's great to see that the Queensland government has taken this step."

This review isn't just about fixing old problems; it's about creating a better, more modern process that considers the voices of everyone affected, particularly First Nations people.

"Mining has a big impact on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander land and interests," Kingham said.

"And as we move into new areas, especially with critical minerals, these impacts will only grow."

## Why Your Voice Matters

Kingham believes there are three main reasons why First Nations people should participate in this review.

First, it's about Connection to Country. "We know many First Nations peoples have a cultural obligation to care for Country," she explained. "But what we've found is that this interest isn't fully included in the decision-making process under Queensland law. That's a huge reason to get involved."

Second, there are Economic Opportunities. "The mining sector could be a major employer and source of economic development for Aboriginal and Torres Strait

Islander people," Kingham said. "This is especially true for projects that affect Indigenous peoples and their land. By being part of this review, you can help shape how these opportunities are managed and ensure that the benefits reach your communities."

And third, it's about Protecting Culture.

"Mining can have significant impacts on culture," she pointed out. "A lot of knowledge about sacred sites and cultural practices isn't shared publicly, often for good reasons. But without that input in the decision-making process, it's hard to make good decisions about how a project should proceed. That's why it's so important for people with cultural knowledge to be involved."

## Working Together

This Queensland review isn't happening in isolation. The Australian Law Reform Commission (ALRC) recently announced a review of laws that affect First Nations land rights, specifically the future acts regime under the Native Title Act.

Kingham and the QLRC are working closely with the ALRC to make sure the two reviews complement each other.

"There's a lot of potential for confusion and consultation exhaustion," Kingham admitted. "Aboriginal people are often overwhelmed by the constant need to provide information and respond to government inquiries. We want to make this process as simple and

straightforward as possible. That's why we propose to collaborate with the ALRC to run joint information sessions and streamline our messaging."

Kingham also mentioned that while the Queensland and Commonwealth laws are different, they do intersect in many ways. "We're looking at how we can ensure good quality information crosses over between the two processes without breaching confidentiality. This is particularly important when it comes to cultural heritage protection and environmental management."

## Get Involved

The QLRC is keen to hear from First Nations communities across Queensland. Kingham has already written to every Prescribed Body Corporate (PBC), inviting them to participate in the review.

"We're travelling around the state, holding information sessions in places like Cairns, Central Queensland, Cape York, Mount Isa, and the Gulf," she said.

The next session is scheduled for 19 August in Mount Isa. But if you can't attend in person, there are plenty of other ways to share your views. "You can send us an email, give us a call, or even record a message on your phone," Kingham explained. "We're really flexible and want to make sure everyone has the chance to be heard."

The QLRC has also put out a consultation paper with an invitation for submissions. "You can

respond to all or just some of our questions," Kingham said. "Or if you prefer, just share your experiences. We're particularly interested in hearing from elders who have valuable stories to tell."

## What Happens Next?

The formal submission period ends on 13 September 2024, but Kingham stressed that this isn't the only opportunity to get involved. "Even after the submission period closes, we'll continue to meet with communities and gather input," she said. "Our final report is due in June 2025, but we'll be working right up until then to ensure we capture all the views and recommendations."

One of the most important aspects of this review is respecting cultural protocols and confidentiality. "We want everyone to feel comfortable sharing their experiences," Kingham said. "We will follow your guidance on how to handle the information you share with us."

Kingham concluded with a call to action, saying, "This review is a rare and important opportunity for Queensland's First Nations communities to have a say in the future of mining on your lands. It's about making sure your voices are included, your culture is respected, and your communities have a chance to shape the outcomes."

For information refer to the Queensland Law Reform Commission website (<https://www qlrc.qld.gov.au>) or contact your PBC.

## GOODWYN AREA INFILL DEVELOPMENT OFFSHORE PROJECT PROPOSAL

For more than 35 years, Woodside has been developing and operating LNG and oil projects in Australia. Our focus is the safety, reliability, efficiency and environmental performance of our operations and activities.

### Our activities

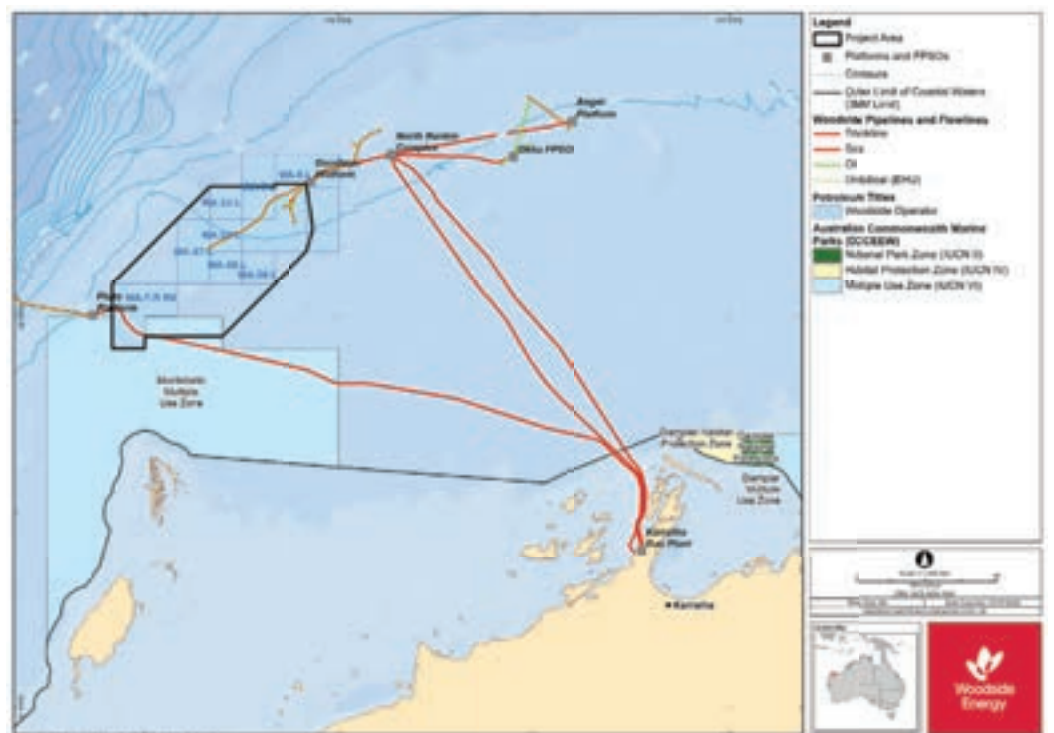
The purpose of the Goodwyn Area Infill Development is to partially fill the ullage (unused production capacity) at the existing Goodwyn A (GWA) platform as production from existing wells and reservoirs declines. Incremental volumes of gas and condensate are proposed to be transported from up to 8 production wells to the GWA platform for export at the Karratha Gas Plant (KGP).

The development will target both existing and previously undeveloped gas reservoirs west and south-west of the GWA platform in Commonwealth waters.

### We want to hear from you

The Offshore Project Proposal (OPP) process includes a public comment period, facilitated by NOPSEMA, before acceptance and requires Woodside to manage environmental impacts and risks to an acceptable level. The public comment period for this OPP is between 29 July 2024 and 22 September 2024.

If you have feedback specific to the activities described under the OPP, you can submit your comments on NOPSEMA's website: [www.nopsema.gov.au/offshore-industry/environmental-management/assessment-process/public-comment](http://www.nopsema.gov.au/offshore-industry/environmental-management/assessment-process/public-comment) or scan the QR code below.



More information can be found at: [www.woodside.com/what-we-do/consultation-activities](http://www.woodside.com/what-we-do/consultation-activities)

You can also subscribe via our website to receive future information on upcoming activities.

E: [Feedback@woodside.com](mailto:Feedback@woodside.com)

Toll free: 1800 442 977

[woodside.com](http://woodside.com)





# Schools become accountable to the community they serve

By MARION WILLIAMS



A FOUR-YEAR university project that fundamentally changes the relationship between teachers, Aboriginal students and communities is kicking goals.

University of New South Wales (UNSW) associate professor Kevin Lowe is leading the work. Dr Lowe, a Gubbi Gubbi man from southeast Queensland, was a teacher for 26 years and later worked on Aboriginal studies and language curriculums in NSW. While doing so, he became increasingly concerned about the many issues impacting Aboriginal students' interest and capacity to succeed at school.

Dr Lowe said that state and federal governments have spent more than \$40 billion since 2008 to Close the achievement Gap in Aboriginal education outcomes. "The policy has largely failed many Aboriginal youth with suspensions and absenteeism increasing and only minimal gains in literacy and numeracy by Year 9," he said. "Yet many of the solutions are known. We now need to show schools and communities that there are good and achievable solutions."

## Research reviewed

Dr Lowe and colleagues reviewed Australian research on Aboriginal education from 2005 to 2018. Of the 13,500 studies, they could not find one example of a successful program that was sustained over time.

The four-year Culturally Nourishing Schooling (CNS) project found that teachers who developed a deeper relationship with the community supported a school's success. It also found that teachers needed to engage with children as Aboriginal children and as people connected to a community and with a local identity.

UNSW provided a \$30,000 grant to commence the in-depth, whole-of-school CNS pilot across



University of NSW associate professor Kevin Lowe and Bundjalung Elder Uncle Franc Krasner at Booningbah (Fingal Peninsula, NSW) on Country of the Bundjalung Nation. Pictures: supplied

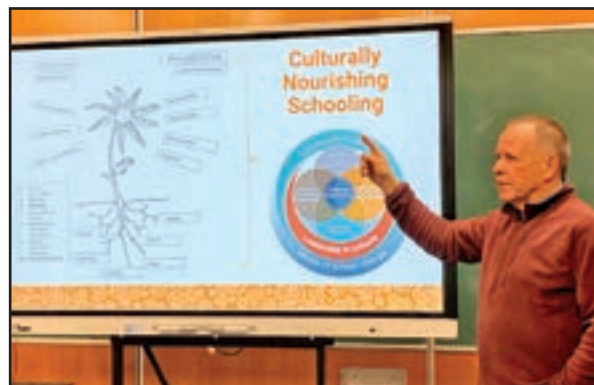


Kevin Lowe and Shellan Foster, Aboriginal education officer/cultural mentor, Matraville Sports High School.

eight NSW schools. The project later received grants from the NSW Department of Education, National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA) and the Paul Ramsay Foundation.

It started with teachers learning

about the Country they were teaching on. "Who is the Aboriginal community you live among, and what do you know about them, their histories, aspirations and desire for school success for their children." Next



University of NSW associate professor Kevin Lowe teaching at Gilgandra High School.

teachers worked with researchers and other educators on locally relevant curriculum and then refined their classroom practices in the final half of the year.

Another element was working with school principals on their

leadership qualities, emphasising the critical work of Indigenous educators, Elders and community members in setting the school's purposes. Cultural mentors support principals in building these relationships with the community.

"This community engagement supports our desire to have schools accountable to their communities, understanding their education histories and the families' aspirations," Dr Lowe said.

"We have called these local collaborations micro-treaties."

## Signs of success

"We looked for evidence that we could change these teachers' foundational views and beliefs about teaching Aboriginal students," Dr Lowe said. "We understood we couldn't build long-term sustained change in their practices until they changed their views and beliefs about students."

Surveys of schools across Australia gave insights about teaching Aboriginal students and Aboriginal content. They showed significant change in the foundational views of teachers in the eight pilot schools compared with other schools. "After that four-year pilot, teachers are on a pathway to doing more to continue their development of these ideas," Dr Lowe said.

A similar study in New Zealand found it took seven to eight years for Māori students' numeracy, literacy and attendance to improve sustainably.

"They found the more authentically schools worked with the community and its aspirations, the more likely Māori youth went to school, engaged in learning and improved overall learning outcomes," Dr Lowe said.

Dr Lowe's team plan a second four-year pilot in NSW and two other states in 2025. NIAA and the other major funding bodies have shown interest in the initial findings. They hope to build on this by running the program in different states and in state, independent and Catholic schools.

# Learning to drive is giving young people a head start



TRANSPORT, the need to get from point A to point B, is often one of the biggest hurdles confronting First Nations People as they look to access training and job opportunities

Now, thanks to a new grant from Aboriginal Affairs, Young Aboriginal people living in the Bega Valley will be supported to get their driver licence and be safer drivers.

"This project was developed in response to an identified need in the community," said Leanne Atkinson, CEO of the Bega Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC).

"People living in this community without a driving licence have limited access to training and employment. If someone wants to

pursue work in the hospitality sector, for instance, they could not work evenings or weekends if they are dependent upon bus services as those services are not on offer during the evening or on weekends."

The new funding will enable Bega LALC to purchase a vehicle and fund a coordinator to establish a learn-to-drive program for Aboriginal people in the Bega Valley.

They will also run a series of workshops such as 'car maintenance for beginners' and 'how to avoid buying a lemon'. The team will work with other services such as Headspace and Service NSW to provide opportunities for young Aboriginal people to gain their learner driver licence, get their driving hours and to access safer

driver programs.

The program will help Close the Gap by supporting Aboriginal people to access employment and training opportunities.

"Access to training outside of the Bega Valley is also difficult as there are very limited transport options between the Bega Valley and TAFE locations such as Moruya or Canberra," said Leanne.

Bega LALC is one of nearly 80 Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations which will share in more than \$15 million of grant funding through the Aboriginal Affairs NSW 2023-2024 Community and Place Grants program.

For more information about upcoming Aboriginal Affairs NSW grant opportunities, visit [www.aboriginalaffairs.nsw.gov.au](http://www.aboriginalaffairs.nsw.gov.au).



Young local learners in the Bega Valley are now able to get behind the wheel and get out into the world.



# Scholarship backs First Nations perspectives in cancer research



A MAJOR new scholarship aimed at addressing the urgent need to strengthen the Indigenous cancer workforce has been announced.

Worth up to \$120,000 annually for up to three years, The First Nations Cancer Scholarship, is designed to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander graduate students, early career researchers and health professionals.

Cancer remains the leading cause of mortality among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, yet less than 1% of health professionals identify as First Nations.

The ultimate goal of the scholarship is to expand the network of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people actively involved in cancer control, further embedding Indigenous voices into cancer policy making, research and care delivery.

Led by Aurora and backed by funding from the Australian Government through Cancer Australia, the scholarship, represents a significant investment of up to \$5.9 million



Previous Aurora scholar Naarah Barnes with Aurora Education Foundation CEO, Leila Smith.

over four years.

Aurora Education Foundation CEO Leila Smith said the new scholarship would create opportunities for Indigenous scholars to develop specialist skills and expertise,

strengthening how cancer-related professions lead and contribute to cancer control.

"For almost 20 years, Aurora has championed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander scholars to reach right to the top of the

academic sphere, to be leaders in their fields and to create change in community."

Assistant Minister for Indigenous Health Senator Malarndirri McCarthy said: "I encourage all eligible

Indigenous students to seize this opportunity and apply for the First Nations Cancer Scholarship. Your research and expertise have the power to make a real difference in the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples affected by cancer."

Cancer Australia CEO Professor Dorothy Keefe said, "As we work towards building a stronger, more inclusive cancer system through the implementation of the Australian Cancer Plan, initiatives like the First Nations Cancer Scholarship are crucial in empowering Indigenous voices and perspectives in cancer control efforts. Together, we can drive innovation, improve outcomes, and ultimately, save lives."

To be eligible, candidates for the First Nations Cancer Scholarship must be Indigenous students engaged in full-time postgraduate studies or research within a cancer-related field covering health, research, or policy.

Expressions of Interest are being accepted until August 30, 2024.

For more information and/or to apply go to: [firstnationscancerscholarship.com](http://firstnationscancerscholarship.com)

# Cultural comfort is the future of student housing



THE state's first co-designed purpose-built boarding house for Indigenous students is under construction at Djarragun College (located in Cairns/Gimuy).

Catering for students from places where high school options are inadequate, the college is one of only three Indigenous-owned and operated independent schools in Queensland providing parents and students with a unique culturally centred education option.

The new facility will provide a home-away-from-home for an additional 20 boys with the design created in a collaboration with Elders and parents from home communities, students, staff and in line with key boarding education policies. It takes the boarding opportunity for boys to 75.

Executive Principal Dr Michael Barton said the college community is grateful to project partners including the Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation (ILSC) which has invested more than \$2 million into this first phase of the college's boarding upgrade.

"While the single most substantial action we can take as a society is to ensure all children are provided with a good education, it most often isn't available to students from remote Indigenous communities," said Dr Barton.

"Many come with complex challenges



On site to see the construction progress at Djarragun College firsthand were project partners: l-r Matthew Salmon, Taro Morrison, Fiona Jose and Michael Barton.

that stifle resilience to live in a new setting a long way from family and culture.

"This building moves away from shared-style boarding to greater privacy and more social zones and green space.

"The families and students will see

elements of their Country in the space."

CEO of Cape York Partnership, Fiona Jose, said Year 12 completion is a critical step in Closing The Gap on many targets – not only education, but employment, income and health.

"This new living environment for students is definitely the way of the future and the level of cultural comfort our students need," said Ms Jose.

The expansion is being constructed on vacant land owned by Djarragun – across from the girls' boarding facility – and will create a boarding precinct focused on improving the safety and wellbeing of students.

Dr Barton's words were echoed by ILSC Chief Operating Officer, Matthew Salmon, who hailed the project as a game-changer for FNQ's educational system.

"Education provides opportunity and being able to support more students thanks to the college expansion will open the door of opportunity to more students to gain access to high-quality education," said Mr Salmon.

"The ILSC strives to open the door of opportunity to the people it serves – Australia's first peoples – and we do this by strategically partnering with project partners to achieve positive outcomes.

"The Djarragun College expansion perfectly demonstrates our commitment to working together with community to deliver real change."

The next phase of the college expansion includes the construction of a new administration building, hospitality trade training buildings, and a new shed in 2025.



# Remote care, virtually



IN an industry defining agreement, Roper Gulf Regional Council and iAgeHealth have moved to implement a 24/7 virtual allied healthcare platform allowing clients to receive support from the comfort of their own home.

The program, staffed by experienced allied health professionals who are able to assist age-care clients recovery following illness or injury and manage chronic health conditions, removes the barrier of remote living for many of the clients.

Due to the current federal funding, clients receive services from clinical and non-clinical service providers. Council will work with local clinics and iAgeHealth to provide a holistic approach to age care in communities and ensure the best possible care.

When a client requires an allied health support, a specialist is required to fly in several times a year to provide the services, which impacts recovery and treatment times, in turn negatively affecting quality of life for age-care clients and is costly and time consuming process.

Acting CEO for Roper Gulf Regional Council, David Hurst, is excited to see services commence, providing local communities access to safe, clinical care saying,

"We are passionate about finding the right solutions to



Roper Gulf Regional Council's aged-care client, Arnold in Urapunga.

overcome the tyranny of distance and access to regular, experienced clinical staff."

"As soon as the Council recognised iAgeHealth's allied health services innovative approach, and its ability to address long wait periods, streamline appointment scheduling, and provide more affordable options for age care client packages, it was evident that these solutions needed to be integrated into our local communities.

"The potential impact on improving healthcare accessibility and outcomes for our residents is undeniable."

"It is incredibly important that all Australians, regardless of their geographical location or circumstances are offered the same standard and equal access to regular clinical assistance that people experience elsewhere in Australia.

"We firmly believe that iAgeHealth will play a pivotal role in narrowing the existing gap in healthcare accessibility across our region, ensuring that no client is left behind in receiving the care and support they need."

CEO of McLean Care, parent company of iAgeHealth, Sue Thomson, is

delighted to be able to enable services for some of the most vulnerable people and geographical regions in the world.

"Our intent with developing iAgeHealth was to meet the needs of our own clients across regional Australia and share that with those areas in greatest need," she said.

"Roper Gulf is a perfect example of an area who continues to work really hard to support local people, but simply cannot offer the same level of support that their counterparts in metro or even regional areas can.

"Access to high quality clinical care, simply isn't equitable across Australia – and it should be, iAgeHealth means it can be!"

Initially, services within the Roper Gulf will be focused on providing Occupational Therapy services to conduct home modification assessments, physiotherapy assessments, and treatment plans.

Additionally, dietetic meal planning, assessment, and monitoring will be provided, as these are the areas of greatest immediate need.

It is expected that, once embedded, the partnership in this area will continue to access more of the specialist services that iAgeHealth such as speech pathology and exercise physiologists.

The service kicks off this month and will be available in all Roper Gulf Regional Council age-care facilities.



Dunghutti artist Brad Hore.

## Artist's design honours the heart of givers



LIFE-saving donors are being celebrated in donor centres across the country, with a specially designed bandage by Indigenous artist, Brad Hore.

Brad, a Dunghutti man, is a two-time Olympian, having represented Australia in boxing in Sydney in 2000 and Athens in 2004. He said the limited-edition bandage acknowledges the life-changing impacts of a community of giving.

"It's an honour to partner with Lifeblood and recognise the giving nature of every person who walks through the doors of donor centres to save the lives of others," explained Brad.

The Indigenous health and community worker said the artwork on the bandage also paid tribute to all those who have "encouraged Mob and community to give back and believe in something bigger."

"It represents those coming to give blood and the transfer and gift of life itself. With the support of community behind us, we are capable of anything, including saving the lives of others."

Anyone who donates blood and plasma between Monday, July 29 and Sunday, September 8, will receive the bespoke bandage designed by Brad, who turned to art during the pandemic when his mental health struggled, and he needed a new focus.

"During COVID and the passing of my father, I used painting as a self-care tool. It helped with my mental health and ways to express myself," said Brad.

"I hope that donors who wear my bandage will feel proud to be a part of a community that is connected, appreciated, and honoured for what they each contribute."

Australia has over half a million active donors who've donated blood products to help treat numerous life-threatening conditions, including cancer, trauma and during life-saving surgery.

However, with demand for blood, plasma and blood products increasing, Lifeblood needs even more people to join this critical and generous blood donor community.

"If you have been thinking about donating, now is the time to make an appointment and join this all-important community of blood donors," said Cath Stone, Lifeblood's Executive Director Donor Experience.

"It's also a great opportunity to celebrate our very generous donors – our everyday heroes – who can save up to three lives with just one donation," she said.

The limited-edition bandage will be available to anyone who rolls up their sleeves to give life from Monday, July 29 to Sunday, September 8.

You can book a donation now by calling 13 14 95 or book online at [lifeblood.com.au](http://lifeblood.com.au)

# Funds to fight disease



A NEW million-dollar investment into the fight against preventable diseases impacting First Nations People has been hailed as a first in supporting community-controlled program design and delivery.

In a significant step towards addressing health disparities in Australia, the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO) and The Snow Foundation have formed a partnership to prevent acute rheumatic fever (ARF) and rheumatic heart disease (RHD) in remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

ARF and RHD are preventable diseases triggered by a bacterial streptococcal infection with lifelong impact. The effects are compounded by the ongoing effects of colonisation, poverty and inadequate access to comprehensive, culturally safe primary health care.

A person diagnosed with either ARF or RHD requires lifelong care, including many years of preventive antibiotics and, sometimes, invasive cardiac surgery.

The Snow Foundation's grant of \$1 million (\$500,000 annually for an initial two years) will expand NACCHO's ARF and RHD Prevention Program into more Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Controlled Organisations and their communities.

The strategic two-year investment aims to bolster the broader Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Sector, enabling it to scale up efforts to prevent and manage these devastating yet preventable diseases.



Acting CEO of NACCHO Dr Dawn Casey.

According to the latest Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) report released in March 2024, Australia continues to record some of the highest rates of RHD globally. This disease disproportionately affects Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Key statistics from the AIHW report highlight the urgency showing that at the end of 2022, more than 10,349 people in NSW, QLD, WA, SA, or the NT were managing and living with ARF and/or RHD with 81% of these being Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

There were 272 new RHD diagnoses among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in 2022, 40% of whom live in the NT and 76% of these were females. ARF rates are highest among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 5–14.

Without immediate and decisive action led by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, these numbers are projected to double within the next decade.

In a joint statement, both NACCHO and

the Snow Foundation reaffirmed their shared view that it was time for a new approach, saying:

"As Australia's peak community-controlled body for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' health and wellbeing, NACCHO acknowledges The Snow Foundation as one of the first in Australia to support community-controlled program design and delivery. We all have a part to play in closing the gap," Dr Dawn Casey, Acting CEO of NACCHO said.

The partnership builds on The Snow Foundation's 13-year focus on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health. It reflects the shared values of listening to and supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders, communities, and strengths-based programs focusing on self-determination and sustainability.

More recently The Snow Foundation's focus has been on community-led programs including Champions for Change, Orange Sky laundries, and initiatives that facilitate community outreach by paediatric cardiologists and their multidisciplinary specialist teams.

"NACCHO are the experts in Aboriginal health and wellbeing, driving community-led initiatives where the power and decision-making are in Aboriginal communities' hands. We have seen firsthand that this achieves better outcomes," Georgina Byron, CEO of The Snow Foundation said.

"The partnership between NACCHO and The Snow Foundation is an example of the collaborative effort required to meet the Australian Government's commitment to eradicate new cases of RHD by 2030."



# Trained and ready for a career in health

By ALF WILSON



TEN young Aboriginal and Torres Strait islanders have completed a year long 'Deadly Start' program which will enable them to start a career in healthcare.

They are: Amira Bloss, Mariha Quakawoot, Kenya Mari, Eliche Tamwoy, Tikisha Mari, Zali Tambo, Lillianne Lenoy, Taliliya Toby, Bevan Kepa and Jeniqua Saue.

This is a positive thing with a lot of Aboriginal and TS leaders from communities calling for more health workers with cultural knowledge.

The Townsville Hospital and Health Service (HHS)-backed program was designed to give young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders the training and experience needed to graduate with a certificate three in health support assistance and allied health assistance.

Many of these will obtain careers in Townsville whilst others may end up working at their home communities.

Townsville HHS board chair Tony Mooney congratulated the 10 Deadly Start participants on graduating and starting their healthcare journey.

"Many of the people who come through our health service identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander and we need more First Nations people to be on the front line and delivering that healthcare to them," he said.

"We know if there are more Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people caring for people of the same culture and same background that we get better health outcomes.

"These participants have gone through a year of intense training where they've rotated across allied health, emergency and different hospital wards to get firsthand experience in healthcare which sets them up well for their foundational years moving into health employment," Mr Mooney said.

Zali Tambo is aged 17 and said she was looking forward to starting her career in the healthcare industry.

"The program gave us all really good experience in caring for people and now I want to continue my studies to become a registered nurse to work in rural and remote communities. It was great to take part in the program and to do it with a group of people who are passionate about healthcare and caring for people," Ms Tambo said.

Townsville HHS worked in collaboration with Connect 'N' Grow and Seed Employment to deliver the program.

The program was started in 2019 by Metro North Hospital and Health Service and was expanded to other health services across Queensland in 2023.

Seed Employment Administration Manager De'arne French said the program was a big success and they were looking to expand it for next year.



Front left to right: Amira Bloss, Mariha Quakawoot, Kenya Mari and Eliche Tamwoy. Back row: Tikisha Mari, Zali Tambo, Lillianne Lenoy and Taliliya Toby. Absent from pic: Bevan Kepa and Jeniqua Sauer.

"Some of the graduating students have already been offered jobs while others are using the program as a steppingstone for their career or further study," Ms French said.

"We know First Nations people feel more comfortable receiving healthcare when being looked after by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and this is one of the ways we can help get more First Nations people into a career in healthcare."



Healthy Deadly Start Townsville HHS board chair Tony Mooney, Deadly Start graduate Zali Tambo and Seed Employment's De'arne French.

# Hearing tests delivering big results



A QUICK and easy test for hearing loss is showing great results in detecting undiagnosed hearing disease and hearing loss amongst First Nation's children.

The one-minute test known as Tympanometry, can reveal how well the middle ear is working and provides a quick and easy indication if there's an ear health problem.

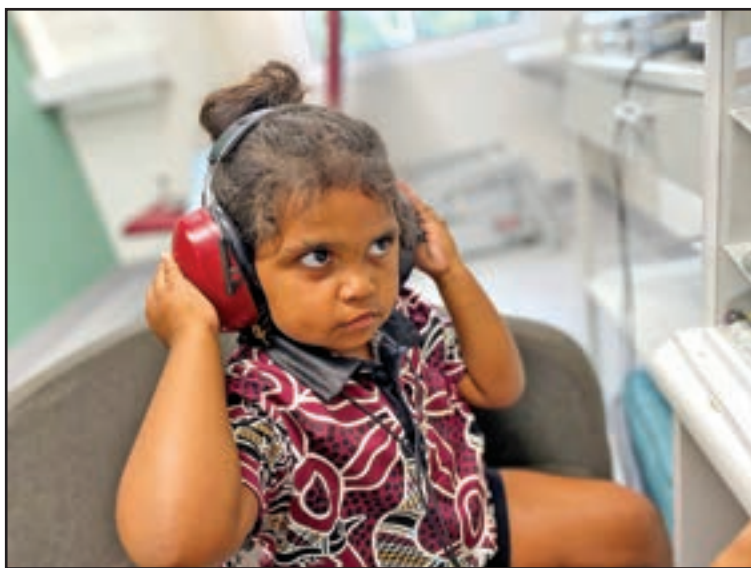
Middle ear infection (otitis media) in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children remains among the highest globally and those aged under two have a much higher risk of undiagnosed ear disease, new Hearing Australia clinical findings show.

Hearing Australia is encouraging parents and primary healthcare providers to make sure young First Nations children have their ear health checked as often as possible.

Yorta Yorta woman, Kirralee Cross, from Hearing Australia's First Nations Services Unit, said there was overwhelming evidence that hearing loss in young First Nations children can impact learning and development.

"The good news is we are making headway in seeing children and getting them the help they need," she said.

"In 2022-23, we assessed 14,435 First Nations children, the most in any year since our Hearing Assessment Program – Early Ears (HAPEE) program – began in 2019. The data also showed that while some 60 per



A young client has her hearing tested.

cent of children have better hearing health when seen at a follow-up appointment, more needs to be done to improve community awareness of the importance of ear and hearing health."

Ms Cross said there needed to be a paradigm shift urging parents to speak up if they have any concerns and to get their children's hearing checked regularly – even if there are no obvious signs of problems.

"Middle ear disease can be difficult to detect; there may be no symptoms like earache or fever. Which is why we also urge primary healthcare providers to assess ear health early, effectively, and regularly, to identify First Nations children with persistent

problems, and get appropriate treatment and support in place," she said.

"Ear infections are common in children but for First Nations children they typically occur more often, start very early in life and last longer.

"First Nations cultures are traditionally shared through language, dance, song and art. So, not only do we need to ensure our children can hear well to learn, but we also need our children to hear well to learn the stories being passed down by Elders to help keep our culture alive."

As part of its HAPEE program, Hearing Australia recently analysed the

hearing assessments of 19,000 First Nations children across the country with some alarming findings.

## Undiagnosed

More than 26 per cent of children assessed were found to have undiagnosed ear disease and one-in-five had undiagnosed hearing loss.

Children under two have more ear trouble than older children, and those in very remote locations have more problems than children in regional or metro areas.

A recent study recommended routine Ear Health and Hearing Checks (EHCs) for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children

aged under six years. The recommendations, for primary health practitioners, are six monthly EHCs until the age of four and then one check at five years of age. They also suggest that checks be conducted more frequently in high-risk settings and for children under two. The Ear Health and Hearing Check recommendations include the routine use of tympanometry, which reveals how well the middle ear is working and provides a quick and easy indication if there's an ear health problem.

"Our data shows that children who fail tympanometry tests have a much higher likelihood of hearing loss," said Ms Cross. "This test is an excellent way to detect ear health problems."

To enable the routine use of tympanometry, Hearing Australia offers training and support to primary healthcare providers.

Mr Kim Terrell, Hearing Australia's Managing Director, says the HAPEE program, which is delivered in close partnership with multiple Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations and local communities, is crucial to improving the hearing health of First Nations children and building the capabilities of primary health services.

"Checking the ear and hearing health of young children is a critical step to preventing long-term ear disease and hearing loss," he said.

"With the support of government and our many partners, we will continue to listen to First Nations peoples and work closely with communities and local services to improve the ear and hearing health of individuals and families."





J-Milla, a Marranunggu man based in Darwin, was the youngest performer but showed a wealth of wisdom with his lyrics. Pictures: Bob Nebe.

# Warriors unite with song

By BOB NEBE



INSPIRING, moving, soul stirring, world class. These are some of the words

to describe the line-up of the *Warriors* show held as part of QPAC's Clancestry program this year.

Clancestry is an eleven-day celebration of First Nations culture and connection, held on the unceded lands of the Yuggera and Turrbal people in Meanjin (Brisbane). *Warriors* brings together four incredible First Nations artists and their bands from across the country to share their stories and songs with a particular focus on men's mental health in Indigenous communities.

Within First Nations communities the effect of mental health is a far-reaching problem, its effects are devastating. Suicide rates in the younger Indigenous population is over three times higher than the non-Indigenous population and three quarters of those are men.

Opening the proceedings was the highly respected and admired David Leha, of Kamilaroi-Tongan ancestry, known on stage as

Radical Son. His voice is both soulful and powerful, as is his story of how music saved his life. Radical Son's story is one of redemption that reflects the struggles of mental health and its effects upon First Nations men. He is perfectly attuned to using his craft to speak deep into your soul and to represent the difficulties many first nations men face. His new album, *Biliyambil (The Learning)*, is just transcendent in its strength and message with songs like *How long must I wait* speaking of the yearning to move forward on better path. His song *Elders* expresses Leha's respect for and desire to become an Elder, to embody the wisdom of Elders and have to opportunity to show young men the way to that better path. A powerful and necessary message for young men to hear.

Jungaji was the next artist, a Western GuGu Yalanji and Birri Gubba man whose journey has taken him to a deep understanding of and connection to culture.

Jungaji is a long-time champion of mental health awareness as he has faced the loss of his son to suicide and the personal impact on his family with

black deaths in custody.

Beautiful and heartfelt, Jungaji's testimony was profoundly impactful with an emotional strength and resilience that only comes from lived experience. His band and music is a blend of R&B and soul, his mastery the result of his 30-year career in music. Jungaji is a man who lives what he believes, from his work with the Dhadjowa Foundation to his music and art. I look forward to his forthcoming debut album with great anticipation.

Following Jungaji was the formable J-Milla, a Marranunggu man based in Darwin and as the youngest voice of the evening his perspective was very welcome. His music is very much in the hip-hop camp and is both infectious and compelling.

He spoke and sang about Kumanjayi Walker, a 19-year-old killed by a northern Territory police officer, in the memorable song *Unlock the system*. J-Milla also tackled domestic violence from a child's perspective in his song *Childhood Trauma*, speaking to his personal experiences of racism and the stereotypes First Nations children experience daily. He focuses on how to not listen to

these voices that otherwise can injure self-esteem and negatively impact mental health.

J-Milla is a young man whose wisdom is beyond his years, his performance both engaging and dynamic, his message on point and firmly rooted in the urban landscape connected with the issues that young First Nations people live.

He had the Concert Hall up on their feet with his infectious songs like *Boomerang*, *Down in the city*, and *Ego Trip* showcasing not just his belief in but the actuality of the healing nature of music.

The final artist for the night was the truly extraordinary Andrew Gurruwiwi band and their fusion of world music, incorporating the rhythms and instrumentation of Latin, African, Jamaica, and the flamenco music of Spain which is sung mostly in language.

Hailing from Northeastern Arnhem Land, led by the eclectic Andrew Minyapa Gurruwiwi on congas and sharing the vocals with Dion Marimunuk Gurruwiwi, this 8-piece Yolngu-Funk outfit complete with a 3-piece horn section is incredible. Playing songs from their brand-new album

*"Sing Your Own Song"* they had the concert hall once again up on their feet.

How could you not dance to songs like the reggae masterpieces *"Wata Mäwi"* and *"Once upon a time"*, or the Western African influenced and brilliant *"Yaa Djamarrkull"*, or the fabulous *"Maḷirri" (The Falling Leaves)* they played to close the night.

Andrew spoke of the massacres on his land, hinting at the intergenerational trauma that these events have caused, and finished with some words of the importance of Elders saying:

"We are Warriors of our tribes with an expert mind who's got knowledge, that person tells other people, younger people to take on that role, to do that work and follow those footsteps, because, old people have sharpened minds, they have knowledge."

From Radical Son and his wish to be an Elder and lead the way forward, to the words of Andrew Gurruwiwi and the importance of seeking help from those who have walked before you when faced with the challenges this world throws our way, the night had come full circle.



David Leha, of Kamilaroi-Tongan ancestry, known on stage as Radical Son.



Jungaji is a longtime champion of mental health.



Andrew Gurruwiwi sings.



# Story of Country at the heart of art award win

By NICK PATON



WHEN Noli Rictor found out he had won the \$100,000 main prize at the 2024 Telstra National

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards (NATSIAA), he already knew how he was going to spend the prize money. "I'm going to buy a new car," Noli said.

"With the car I can go hunting further out on Country for the Red Kangaroo to help feed my family and community who are relying on the community store for food.

"But the car will also be useful for cultural practices like fishing and hunting on Country – and getting to and from Sorry Business," he said.

"My partner is very sick at the moment so I'm going to use the money for her care too."

Now in its 41st year, the Telstra NATSIAA features Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists from across the nation, sharing incredible works reflecting the strength of cultures, responses to current affairs, and unerring connections to Country.

With hundreds of entries sent in this year, 72 finalists were chosen across seven categories.

Noli, a Pitjantjatjara artist from Tjuntjuntjara in Western Australia, is possibly the youngest 'first contact' Aboriginal person in Australia.

He and his family were located by relatives in 1986 in the remote Great Victoria Desert of Western Australia.

At the age of 21, Noli transitioned from an isolated life in the desert, where he had survived with only his immediate family, to the settlement of Yakadunya, joining other Spinifex people who had relocated due to the British nuclear testing at Maralinga.

Noli's vast knowledge of Country and Law earned him immediate respect among the older men of the settlement, a respect that has only deepened over time.

Today, Noli, 59, remains a vital cultural authority within the Spinifex community, continuously consulted on matters pertaining to Spinifex Country and Law.

He won the prestigious Telstra art award for his synthetic polymer paint on linen piece titled *Kamanti*.

The remarkable painting depicts the significant site of Kamanti, situated in the north of traditional Spinifex Lands.

This site is home to the Wati Kutjara Tjukurpa (Two Men Creation Line), an epic narrative



**"Winning this award has made me really happy. The big painting I have made – that is my Country – and painting it has made me feel really proud."**

– Noli Rictor

**2024 Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards (NATSIAA) winner.**

that follows the journey of a father and son water serpent across the Spinifex Lands on ceremonial business.

Noli's painting vividly

illustrates the Country he was born into, reflecting the deep spiritual and cultural heritage that has shaped his life.

The arid but sacred

environment of Kamanti, is brought to life through Noli's masterful use of colour and form, capturing the enduring power and presence of the

ancestral figures who sculpted the landscape as they moved through it.

"Winning this award has made me really happy," Noli said.

"The big painting I have made – that is my Country – and painting it has made me feel really proud," he said.

"This award has cemented my practice."

Noli was joined by the other NATSIAA winners on Friday night at a special ceremony on the lawns of the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (MAGNT) on Larrakia Country in Darwin, who each took home \$15,000 in prize money for their categories.

All of the 72 finalists' artworks will be exhibited at MAGNT in Darwin from until January 27, 2025.

**All other Award winners Telstra Work on Paper Award:**

**Shannon Brett**

When artist Shannon Brett drove past some fresh racist graffiti at her favourite lookout – she was horrified at what she saw.

But she didn't let it get her down for long.

Instead, she used the experience to highlight Australia's inherent racism, through art, and now she's \$15,000 richer.

"The artwork actually appeared while I was on my way to work," Shannon told the *Koori Mail*.

"I was travelling on a full day journey from Brisbane to the northern cape of Queensland, and just before I arrived near the community I work with, I was confronted by what I can only describe as a crime scene," she said.

"I cried.

"One minute I was crying for me and what I'd seen, and the next minute I'm crying for us, for Mob, as Blackfellas, and what we are constantly bombarded with, and dealing with, on the daily," Shannon said.

"Whenever I usually come to this spot, I am always compelled to get out of the car, but this time was different, and I couldn't get out of the car after what I saw, so I kept on driving," she said.

"I probably drove for about 5kms.. driving, driving, driving... just thinking about what we are constantly dealing with, and found I was getting sadder and sadder."

"So I made a U-turn and drove back there and that's how

(continued on pages 32-33)





Shannon Brett took home the Telstra Work on Paper Award for her pigment print on photo rag, *An Australian Landscape*. Pictures: Benjamin Warlungundu Ellis.

(continued from page 31)

I captured the scene. "I had a feeling I had to get the artwork on a bigger stage to highlight this issue, and so I entered it into the NATSIAAs." Shannon is a proud Wakka Wakka/Butchulla/Gooreng Gooreng artist, designer, educator, researcher and curator, currently completing a PhD in Social Justice at the Queensland University of Technology in Meeanjin/Magandjin (Brisbane). "Through this artwork, I want to reframe the way that we receive racism – I want those who do these cruel things to see the pain in themselves, to learn that this is not the way," Shannon said.

"I want to share with them that my message is one of respect for all First Nations people, to show everyone that we are still here living on our own sovereign lands as the true leaders of this place, as we always will be.

"If you look carefully at the artwork you will see a big mistake – which really is an inside joke – but you can only laugh, because it really says something about the low intelligence levels and mentality of the racist."

### Telstra Bark Painting Award:

#### Wurrandan Marawili

Wurrandan is a founding member and lead singer and dancer for Garranjali band from Yilpara.

Son of Bakulanay Marawili (1944–2002), Wurrandan has spent his life at Yilpara, a significant homeland on the shores of Blue Mud Bay.

Wurrandan's artistic ability came to the attention of the Buku-Larrngay Mulka Art Centre in 2017.

His individual style of intensely fine lines created with marwat (a brush made from strands of hair), inventive palette of natural pigments and innovative composition, culminated in his work being noticed and acquired by a major cultural institution.

A finalist in the 2019 Telstra NATSIAA, his work was selected to be part of *Madayin*, the most significant exhibition of bark paintings to tour the United States.

### Telstra Emerging Artist Award:

#### Josina Pumani

Josina Pumani is a young Pitantjatjara woman, who was born in Mimili.

Her mother, the late Ngupulya Pumani, and her grandmother Kunmanara (Milatjari) Pumani were two of the founders of Mimili Maku Arts.

Both women taught Josina much about cultural leadership, but also about the strong connection with their Country of Antara (Maku/Witchety Grub Tjukurpa).

Josina tells the Maralinga story through her winning artwork.

Maralinga was the site of British nuclear tests in the mid-1950s, which covered an area of 3,300 square kilometres across the remote north of South Australia.

The effects of the tests were severe and have had lasting impacts on the Anangu people

whose lives, lands and livelihoods were destroyed.

"Maralinga hurt our lands and people and our story needs to be told ... We think about it all the time," Josina said.

"Why did this happen to us?" Nearly 70 years on the damage still informs the lives of Anangu people on the APY Lands.

### Wandjuk Marika Memorial 3D Award:

#### Obed Namirrkki

Obed is an emerging artist at Maningrida Arts and Culture.

He is the son of acclaimed senior artist Ivan Namirrkki and the grandson of renowned bark painter Peter Marralwanga (1916-1987).

Under the tutelage of his father, Obed has learnt the deep knowledge of Country and paints the important stories passed down to him on barks and lorrkon (hollow logs).

His artistic approach echoes his father's signature style of arranging bands of rarrk (a cross-hatching technique) into concentric diamond forms.

*Kunkurra*, the spiraling wind, is associated with several sites in the Kardbam clan estate.

In this painting, *Kunkurra* also relates specifically to a site called Bilwoyinj, near Mankorlod Outstation.

At this site, two of the most important Kuninjku Creation Beings, a father and son known as na-korrkko, are believed to have hunted and eaten a goanna. They left some of the goanna fat behind at the site, which turned into the rock that still stands there today.



Wurrandan Marawili's artwork *Rumbal, the body/the truth*, won him the 2024 Telstra Bark Painting Award.



Josina Pumani took home the Telstra Emerging Artist Award for her artwork titled, *Maralinga*.



The Wandjuk Marika Memorial 3D Award went to Obed Namirrkki for his artwork, *Kunkurra*.



*Keeping up with the Balbals* won Lydia Balbal the 2024 Telstra General Painting Award.





This year's Telstra Multimedia Award went to Natalie Davey for her artwork, *River report*.

### Telstra General Painting Award:

#### Lydia Balbal

Lydia Balbal is a Mangala woman. She was married to the Yulparijta artist Nabiru Bullen until his death in 2009.

Lydia's Country is near Punmu in the Great Sandy Desert, Western Australia.

Her people's existence was threatened by severe drought so they had little choice but to leave their traditional Country.

Her family were some of the last to walk out to the coastal town of Bidyadanga (then La Grange Mission) located two hours south of Broome in the early 1970s.

Lydia's artwork is a depiction of her homelands, a conduit to Country and to the memory of her family.

In the same way that her traditional Country was resource-rich, Lydia's artwork is resource-rich, delivering everyday needs to Lydia and her family.

Painted on a car bonnet, *Keeping up with the Balbals* is a subversive and cheeky play on words.

### Telstra Multimedia Award:

#### Natalie Davey

Natalie Davey is from Fitzroy Crossing. She has Bunuba, Walmjarri, Scottish and English heritage and identifies as a custodian from Bunuba Dangu Muway in Fitzroy Crossing.

"My first language is Kimberley Kriol but I am most practised at Australian Standard English," she said.

"I spent my first five years out at Noonkanbah where my ngawiji (grandmother on father's side) helped raise me while mum taught in the school."

"All my life I have lived

between Broome and Derby with a couple of years in Perth for school and Whistler, Canada, for something different.

"Many more extreme events are happening, so we must continue recording and telling these stories," Natalie said.

"I recorded my experiences as it was a case of moments you would not believe if not filmed," she said.

"I was in disbelief as I filmed and did so to double-check it was all real."



Record numbers turned out for the 41st NATSIAA award ceremony on Larrakia Country in Darwin.



Musician Ursula Yovich brought the house down with her impressive vocals.



Rather than making an acceptance speech at the awards ceremony, award recipient Wurrandan Marawili sang a song.



Elijah Nelson and Ricky Ankin from Maningrida were at the awards ceremony to support their friend, award recipient Obed Namirrkki.



Darwin locals Florence Henaway and Michael Bower enjoy a feed at the ceremony.



Sandra Ayoub and jarjum Amira Wilson.



Rebecca Marika and Sherita Wanambi took in a spectacular Darwin sunset before the awards ceremony.



Rebekah Raymond, MAGNT Curator of Aboriginal Art and Material Culture.



Emily Wurramara gave a stunning performance at the awards ceremony.

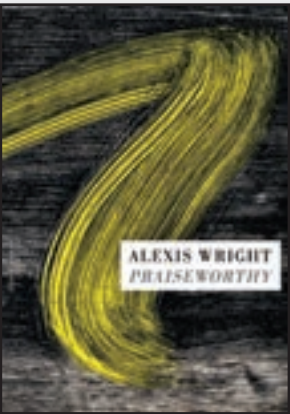


# 2024 – a reader's delight



2024 has been a stellar year for Black writing, with new titles published every month across all writing genres. First Nations authors are recognised as important voices in the national

literary landscape, sharing their work as well as their personal stories to build understanding. Many of this year's major national and international literary awards have been won by Black writers, including the extraordinary achievement by Waanyi author Alexis Wright, whose recent novel *Praiseworthy* (Giramondo Publishing) won the Stella Prize and the Miles Franklin Literary Award, having taken out both awards previously – the Miles Franklin in 2007 for her novel *Carpentaria* (Giramondo), and the Stella in 2018 for *Tracker: Stories of Tracker Tilmouth* (all published by Giramondo).



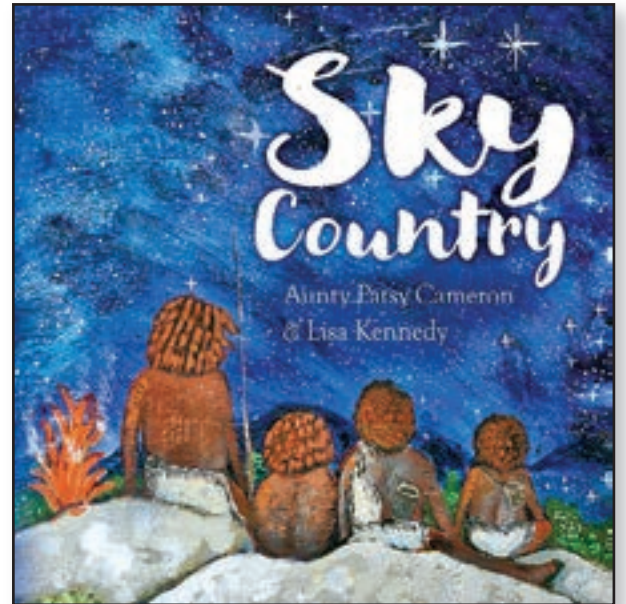
## Launching *Sky Country*

*Sky Country*, published by Magabala Books, is an ancient creation story describing two Ancestral Beings who came down from the Milky Way to create the Trouwerner (Tasmanian) landscape. Written by Aunty Patsy Cameron and illustrated by Lisa Kennedy, it is the second children's picture book by the two women, following up the award-winning, *Sea Country*. *Sky Country* retraces a captivating ancestral memory that dates back to the Ice Age – a time when Trouwerner was joined to the Australian mainland.

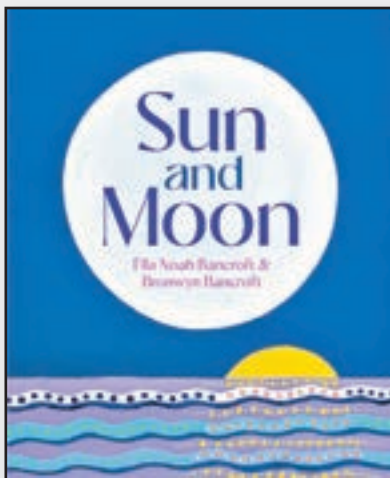
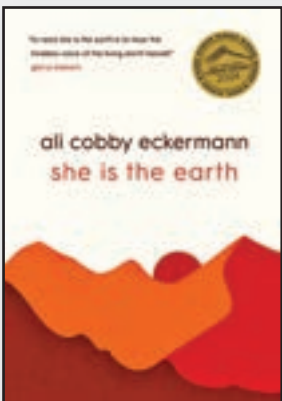
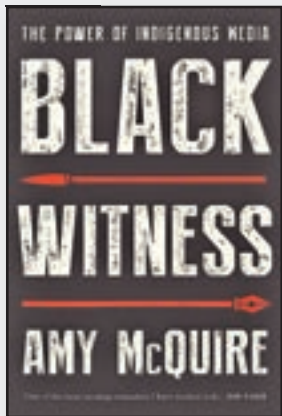
Using some traditional language and Lisa's stunning illustrations, the book tells the creation story of Trouwerner Country and its people.

An official launch of *Sky Country* by Governor of Tasmania, Barbara Baker AC, will be held at Fullers Bookshop in Hobart, at 6pm, August 23. Aunty Patsy Cameron and Lisa Kennedy, who both trace their ancestry through several generations of the Pairebeenne/Trawlwoolway Clan, will join ex-Magabala Books CEO, Anna Moulton, in conversation at the launch. Tickets are \$10 and include drinks and light refreshments.

For more information and to purchase tickets visit [rectas.com.au/event/sky-country-aunty-patsy-cameron-and-lisa-kennedy](https://rectas.com.au/event/sky-country-aunty-patsy-cameron-and-lisa-kennedy)



This weekend the Byron Writers Festival platforms writers with recent publications including Darumbal and South Sea Islander journalist and academic, Dr Amy McGuire, who will speak on her debut non-fiction collection of essays *Black Witness: The Power of Indigenous Media* (UQP); Yankunytjatjara poet Ali Cobby Eckermann will speak at sessions about poetry, language and caring for Country, following themes from her award-winning verse novel *She is the Earth* (Magabala); and *Sun and Moon* (Hardie Grant), a first foray into writing for children by Bundjalung writer, Ella Noah Bancroft, with illustrations by acclaimed Bundjalung artist, and Ella's mum, Bronwyn Bancroft.



Visit [byronwritersfestival.com/](https://byronwritersfestival.com/) for information about the festival sessions.

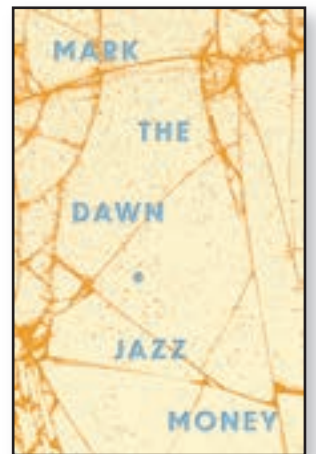


*Liar's Test* by Ambelin Kwaymullina  
Published by Strong Nations Publishing, June, 2024

A gripping young adult fantasy with a deadly contest to win a crown, a fierce heroine determined to right the wrongs done to her people, and a smouldering love story that could change everything...

*Liar's Test* is a fast-paced, intricately woven fantasy novel with an unforgettable heroine inspired by the strength and power of Aboriginal women.

Suitable for young adolescents, 12+ years.  
Ambelin Kwaymullina is a writer and artist who comes from the Palyku people of the Pilbara region of Western Australia.



*mark the dawn* by Jazz Money  
Published by UQP, July, 2024

A dazzling and impressive follow-up to Jazz Money's highly acclaimed debut, *how to make a basket*.

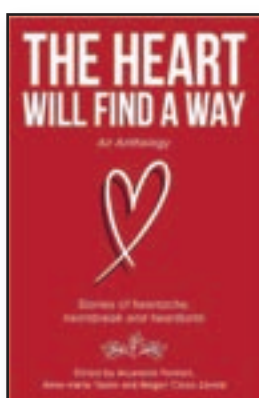
We gather marks. Our bodies, our stories, our histories and our world are made of infinite visible and invisible moments. We make marks to record, to remember, to honour, to protest. We mark time, for no matter how many times the sun sets, always it rises in a new dawn.

Jazz Money returns with her much-anticipated new poetry collection to ask about all the ways we rise to a moment. *mark the dawn* is a celebration of community and gathering, while negotiating the legacies of the intersecting histories we inherit. As a queer First Nations poet, Jazz Money unflinchingly declares that, despite everything that has come before, we remain glorious, abundant, sexy, joyous and determined.

*Vitality and Change in Warlpiri Songs*  
*Juju-ngaliyarlu karnalu-jana pina-pina-mani kurdu-warnu-patu jujuku*  
by Georgia Curran, Linda Barwick, Valerie Napaljarri Martin, Simon Japangardi Fisher and Nicolas Peterson  
Published by Sydney University Press, March 2024.

*Vitality and Change in Warlpiri Songs* draws together insights from senior Warlpiri singers and custodians of their song traditions, profiling a number of senior singers and their views of the changes that they have witnessed over their lifetimes. The chapters in this book are written by Warlpiri custodians in collaboration with researchers who have worked in Warlpiri communities over the last five decades.

Spanning interdisciplinary perspectives including musicology, linguistics, anthropology, cultural studies, dance ethnography and gender studies, chapters range from documentation of well-known and large-scale Warlpiri ceremonies, to detailed analysis of smaller-scale public rituals and the motivations behind newer innovative forms of ceremonial expression. *Vitality and Change in Warlpiri Songs* ultimately uncovers the complexity entailed in maintaining the vital components of classical Warlpiri singing practices and the deep desires that Warlpiri people have to maintain this important element of their cultural identity into the future.



*The Heart Will Find A Way*  
*An Anthology: Stories of heartache, heartbreak and heartbalm*

edited by Anjanette Fennell, Anne-marie Taplin, Megan Close Zavala.  
Published by Southern Key Press, February, 2024.

Exciting, diverse, moving and uplifting, this exquisite collection of memoirs and short stories packs an emotional punch. The selected authors share their deeply authentic truths. They unfold their hopes, express their hurts, reveal memories and offer glimpses into their wildest imaginations. They reaffirm life and remind us of the importance of being led by the quiet beating, the rushing, the hammering, the breaking and then the healing of our hearts.



# Enjoy an afternoon of culture and community in the park



Big Talk One Fire (BTOF) has become an eagerly-anticipated fixture of North Queensland's arts calendar.

The First Nations multi-arts outdoor festival returns to Munro Martin Parklands in Cairns next month for an afternoon of storytelling, dance, kid's crafts, food stalls, a market, and a deadly line-up of performers that will keep festival-goers entertained throughout.

The festival is presented by UMI Arts and supported by the Cairns Regional Council with a host of local sponsors. In its 17th year, BTOF has expanded its program of learning, sharing and interactive cultural experiences.

According to UMI Arts' Artistic Director Lisa Michl Ko-manggén, OAM, Big Talk One Fire plays an integral role in achieving the organisation's mission to preserve, strengthen, maintain and celebrate all aspects of Indigenous arts and culture.

"For the past 17 years, Big Talk has brought people together for a joyful afternoon in beautiful surroundings," she said.

"Always a highlight of Big Talk One Fire is our concert featuring local Indigenous bands, traditional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural dance and pop-up visual art and markets.

"We hope everyone from across the city and region will join us in learning about and celebrating the strength and vibrancy of this region's First Nations people, arts and culture," she said.

Big Talk One Fire is a free, family-friendly cultural festival, to be held on Saturday, September 7 from 3-9pm at Munro Martin Parklands, Cairns.

For more information visit [umiarts.com.au/](http://umiarts.com.au/)



Nancy Baker teaching TSI music and dance workshop. Pictures BTOF



A highlight of Big Talk One Fire is the concert featuring local Indigenous bands and traditional dance performances.



Artistic director of Karul Projects, Thomas ES Kelly, leads a dance workshop.

## Dancer call out: Leading Qld dance company seeks First Nations dancers



Queensland First Nations dance company, Karul Projects, is calling for First Nations artists to join them in developing a new major dance theatre project, *Mighty Mob*, full of First Nations superheroes protecting the Mob.

Karul Projects is among the leading dance companies in the nation, with their recent production *Silence* touring nationally and NZ to overwhelming acclaim.

The company is seeking dancers or actors who are over 18 and identify as First Nations Australian to join them at Karul Projects Studio on the Gold Coast for three weeks, from October 21 to November 8 this year. This is a paid opportunity and includes travel and accommodation.

The callout closes this Friday, August 16, so be quick to fill out your online application form at [karulprojects.com/opportunities](http://karulprojects.com/opportunities)

# Albert has winning vision



Tony Albert, a descendant of the Girramay/Yidinji/Kuku-Yalanji peoples and one of the country's leading contemporary artists,

has been appointed Artistic Director of the 5th National Indigenous Art Triennial.

Showcasing the work of contemporary First Nations artists from across Australia, the 5th National Indigenous Art Triennial: *After The Rain* will open at the National Gallery in Kamberri/Canberra in December 2025, before embarking on a national tour in 2026.

Albert has a long-held interest in the cultural misrepresentation of First Nations people. Drawing on both personal and collective histories, he has developed a unique language expressed through his multidisciplinary art practice that seeks to rewrite historical mistruths and injustice.

The National Indigenous Art Triennial was established in 2007 as an exciting contemporary art event, celebrating the vitality and diversity of First Nations art in Australia. To date, over 450,000 visitors in 11 locations across the country have experienced the extensive Indigenous art showcases.

Albert is the first artist to hold the title of artistic director for the Triennial, the first four iterations having been led by a First Nations curator, the most recent exhibition *Ceremony* by Arrernte and Kalkadoon artist Hetti Perkins in 2022. Revealing how ceremony is



Tony Albert (Girramay/Yidinji/Kuku-Yalanji peoples) in *The Aboriginal Memorial, 1987 - 88*, National Gallery of Australia, Kamberri/Canberra.

at the nexus of Country, of culture and of community, the exhibition has been seen by over 135,000 people in six locations across Australia. Albert will bring new perspectives and intention to his presentation – *After The Rain*. He hopes to celebrate intergenerational legacies by working closely with First Nations artists to present new immersive projects that resonate with the idea of rebirth and cycles of cleansing.

"I am thrilled to be appointed artistic director of the 5th National

Indigenous Art Triennial, over a decade after my work was first exhibited in the Triennial.

"I'll be working with leading contemporary artists from around the country to present a new vision – a homage to the culture warriors of the past, present and future," Albert said about his appointment to the role.

Albert exhibits internationally and nationally and in 2023 was announced as the inaugural Fondation Cartier pour l'art contemporain First Nations

Curatorial Fellow, a role that involved working closely with 14 artists to realise their works for the Sydney Biennale.

Albert has a history of working closely with artists including as a founding member of the Queensland Indigenous art collective proppaNOW which was set up in 2003 to give urban-based Aboriginal artists a voice and supportive environment to explore social and cultural issues through art.

Albert's appointment as artistic

director of the 5th National Indigenous Art Triennial speaks to the National Gallery's continued commitment to elevate First Nations art and artist's voices, and to explore contemporary ideas that have global resonance.

National Gallery Director, Dr Nick Mitzevich, said he was excited to see Tony Albert's vision come to fruition.

"In this moment, when First Nations art and cultures are receiving more attention on the world stage than ever before, appointing an artist committed to championing other emerging and established First Nations artists was a clear choice," he said.

"Albert has achieved extraordinary visibility and critical acclaim for his art practice and perhaps more significantly he has sought and taken every opportunity to platform First Nations art."

Albert's own work has been exhibited in two Triennial exhibitions at the National Gallery, *unDisclosed* (2012) and *Defying Empire* (2021), the significance of which is noted by the artist.

The 5th National Indigenous Art Triennial: *After The Rain* is made possible through the continued generosity of the National Gallery's First Nations Arts Partner Wesfarmers Arts and key philanthropic supporters.

Wesfarmers Arts has supported the exhibition showcase since 2009, each time enabling an extensive presentation in Kamberri/Canberra, an ambitious national touring schedule and expansive artist engagement through public programming.



# On the trail of artists in the West



ART lovers in WA will once again have the opportunity to peek into 'the artist's secret world' as the Margaret River Region Open Studios (MRROS) event returns for 16 days in September.

The Margaret River region is the traditional land of the Wadandi (Saltwater) People who, for over 60,000 years, have maintained an unbroken connection to their Boodja (Country), establishing deep cultural knowledge that has been carried through Wadandi song lines across time.

Since colonisation, the natural beauty of the area, combined with fertile soils and seasonable weather, has continued to draw people, growing the region into a substantial hub known for its viticulture and fine food, as well as a strong arts community.

From the hobbyist to emerging and professional, many artists and creatives operate out of private studio spaces, scattered around the region.

Since 2014, the unique open studio event has seen these artist spaces opened to the public, sharing the diverse and vibrant character of the local art community.

Visitors to the region are invited to venture along quiet back roads, discovering studios in homes, hobby farms, converted water tanks, beach shacks, industrial sheds, sea containers, shearing sheds, bush blocks, and even a 'Sheila shack'.

This year, four Indigenous artists join the open studio event, bringing inspiration from Aboriginal history, traditional stories and culture.

In a studio in Dunsborough/Quedjinup, Noongar, Banyjima, Nyiyarpali artist, Kim Kiosses reflects on culture, Country and identity using intricate dots, lines, symbols and textures to tell a story.



**Boodja Koondarminy – Country Dreaming**, by First Nations artists India Armstrong, Melanie Hume and Stefan Calyon from Busselton in WA.

Aboriginal artist India Armstrong works from Busselton/Undalup and is influenced by her family and culture. Her painting, sketching and digital art is inspired by Aboriginal history and the issues surrounding Aboriginal people.

Also from Undalup, Melanie Hume created a mural with local First Nations artists India Armstrong and Stefan Calyon, behind the Busselton Woolworths shop. The mural, *Boodja Koondarminy – Country Dreaming*, depicts the ocean and the connection between Aboriginal people and the Busselton community.

In Margaret River/Wooditup, Jo Bear works across a range of art forms, including ceramics, drawing, sculpture and mixed-media. She is interested in themes including interconnection with nature, birthing, and family ancestry – how attitudes to culture and colour impacted her

ancestors' opportunities.

Further information about the studio locations, opening times and other relevant visitor information, including detailed maps, can be found on the event website. Studios are typically open from 10am-4pm daily.

Margaret River Region Open Studios Inc is a not-for-profit organisation, administered by a committee of professionals, artists, volunteers and contracted personnel to promote the arts throughout the region.

The event has grown to be the biggest of its kind in Australia and was awarded the prestigious Gold Award for Events & Festivals by Tourism WA.

Margaret River Region Open Studios (MRROS) runs from September 7-22.

For information visit the website, [mrropenstudios.com.au/](http://mrropenstudios.com.au/)

## Regional art award call for entries



Visual artists living in regional and remote Queensland are encouraged to enter the Queensland Regional Art Awards,

Australia's largest prize pool for a regional competition, offering over \$140,000 in prizes.

Entries open August 19 and artwork should be guided by the 2024 theme 'Resolution'.

Finalists' work will be exhibited, and the winners announced, at a gala reception at the Judith Wright Centre in Brisbane on December 7.

Entries close October 7, 2024

## Songwriting opp for young Mob



Adelaide Festival Centre is hosting a songwriting workshop for Year 9-12 First Nations students who have some experience in music

and an interest in songwriting.

The workshop is led by artists performing in the upcoming show *Blak Country* – a celebration of First Nations music curated by Barkindji songwoman Nancy Bates and backed by a full band.

Participation in the workshop includes a ticket for the student and a parent to attend the *Blak Country* performance on Friday, September 13.

**Blak Country: Songwriting Experience** is on at Adelaide Festival Centre on Tuesday, September 10.

For info visit [adelaidefestivalcentre.com.au/](http://adelaidefestivalcentre.com.au/) and search 'Black Country songwriting'.

# Shining light on the past

In a new, major public art installation, showing at PUNQ 2024 festival in Gurumbilbarra/Townsville, Mer Islander artist and curator, Gail Mabo, explores an often unacknowledged dark side of Australian colonial history (then again, isn't it all?!): slavery and human trafficking.

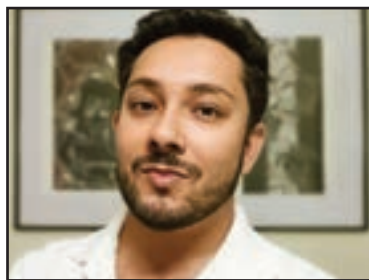
The daughter of land rights campaigner Eddie Mabo and educator and activist Bonita Mabo, Gail has found success, in her own right, as a highly respected multidisciplinary artist. Through her art practice, which includes dance, print-making, sculpture and installation, Gail shares her connection to family, culture and Country.

*Indentured* – her large-scale installation artwork – shines a light on blackbirding.

My own great-grandfather was blackbirded from Vanuatu by a ship captain whose surname was Ling. Following the practice at that time, part of my First Nations family now bears the Ling surname (Mapoon descendants, whereas our Waanji heritage carries the surname King).

My great-grandfather passed away whilst pearl diving in the waters of Gail's Zenadth Kes/Torres Strait homelands.

Blackbirding was not an innocent, or linear, practice. It was a combination of lies and luring, outright kidnapping and theft, and all of it was human trafficking. It was also the backbone of industry and development across the state of Queensland. Cotton, then



**Jack Wilkie-Jans**

sugarcane fields, bush tracks to railway lines, and cattle mustering stations: *all* almost exclusively built and worked on by slaves or indentured servants.

Slavery continues to be hidden by Australia's colonial history which likes to blur the truth. From the same playbook used to enslave Aboriginal people brutally, the people taken from their home islands and forced into work were also forced to accept basic rations including tobacco, sugar, flour and beer as payment while their actual wages were withheld.

Queensland's decades-long Stolen Wages fight largely stemmed from this 'arrangement', with calls for justice and a class action in the early 1980s exposing the true extent of the theft.

Likewise, during the period of blackbirding, indentured humans in Queensland were positioned as underdogs by the 'Act' (*Aboriginals Protection and Restrictions of the Sale of Opium Act, 1897* and 20th Century amendments).

*Indentured* is a work that speaks



**Mer Islander artist and curator Gail Mabo's new artwork puts a spotlight on the practice of 'Blackbirding'.** Picture: Sia Duff

directly to this shameful, largely hidden, history of Queensland: a bold and brave statement from Gail, who, herself, hails from a bold and brave family.

The artwork is installed on the façade of the old Bank of New South Wales building, speaking directly to an in-situ bronze statue of Robert Towns (1794-1873).

He was the founder of Townsville township, and a major human rights violator and key figure in the filthy trade of humans for labour exploitation and slavery.

"Many people may be shocked to learn that the past still echoes in the present, and exploitation of Pacific and South Sea Islander workers is still happening here under our noses. Back in the late 18th century, my ancestors were brought here on ships without permission, kept shackled in tunnels and sold like livestock,"

Gail told *Koori Mail*.

"They worked long hours in brutal tropical heat, far from their families. They were stripped of basic human rights, access to fair wages and decent working conditions. These were the indentured!"

Charged with determination and defiance, Gail's artwork is groundbreaking in confronting the truth of the practice of blackbirding.

It's estimated that around 62,500 Melanesian people were trafficked through the blackbirding era. It's important for us to reflect on this period, to know about it, but also, to acknowledge what are now our shared bloodlines and familial and historic ties with Melanesia and the Pacific.

"This history is woven into the fabric of my family. Through this artwork, 62,500 lives are made present and impossible to ignore in

the heart of Gurumbilbarra/Townsville," Gail said.

*Indentured* was commissioned for PUNQ festival, a biennial festival presented by Umbrella Studio Contemporary Arts, and presents life-size silhouettes and large format numbers looking down at viewers from the street.

"PUNQ is a platform for artists and audiences to explore our histories, presents and possible futures.

"Through large-scale installations like *Indentured*, we support artists to shed light on critical socio-political issues of our region and beyond. This year's festival explores a range of themes, and we invite everyone to join the dialogue", Kate O'Hara, director of Umbrella Studios, told *Koori Mail*.

PUNQ (Pop Up North Queensland) is a biennial cultural festival, inspired by the distinct landscapes of the North and presented by Umbrella Studio Contemporary Arts.

Its footprint of multi-arts events and activations expands across Gurumbilbarra/Townsville, Yunbenun/Magnetic Island, Hinchinbrook (Warrgamay, Nywaigi and Bandjin Country) and Charters Towers (Gujdal Country).

*Indentured* by Gail Mabo will be on show for the duration of PUNQ 2024, from Thursday, August 1 until Sunday, August 18, with 24-hour visibility.

For more information and to view the interactive PUNQ Art Trail Map for directions, visit [umbrella.org.au/indentured/](http://umbrella.org.au/indentured/)



event listings

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

**Umoona: Long Life**  
(artworks from Coober Pedy collective)  
**when:** until Aug 29  
**where:** Short St Gallery, Broome  
**info/bookings:**  
shortstgallery.com.au/

**Meeyakba Shane Pickett: Six Seasons**  
(exhibition)  
**when:** until Aug 25  
**where:** WA Museum Boola Bardip, Perth Cultural Centre, Perth  
**info/bookings:**  
visit.museum.wa.gov.au/boola-bardip/meeyakba-shane-pickett-six-seasons

**Fire and Water**  
and  
**Epenarra Artists – Pammy & Magdalene Foster**  
(exhibition)  
**when:** until Aug 20  
**where:** Gallery 1 & 2 respectively, Japingka Aboriginal Art Gallery, Fremantle  
**info/bookings:**  
adelaidefestivalcentre.com.au/

**The Indian Ocean Craft Triennial**  
Exhibition of international craft artists and groups from six Indian Ocean countries  
**when:** Aug 17- Oct 27  
**where:** Fremantle Arts Centre  
**info/bookings:** free entry, visit fac.org.au/whats-on/post/iota24-indian-ocean-craft-triennial/

**Pila Nguru: Art and Song from the Spinifex People**  
**when:** until Nov 10  
**where:** Museum of Geraldton, Batavia Coast Marina, Geraldton  
**info/bookings:** free entry, for more visit.museum.wa.gov.au/geraldton

**The Lester Prize**  
(exhibition)  
**when:** Sep 13 - Oct 27  
**where:** WA Museum Boola Bardip, Perth  
**info/bookings:**  
visit.museum.wa.gov.au/boola-bardip

**Ensemble Q and William Barton**  
**when:** Sep 30  
**where:** Perth Concert Hall, Whadjuk Noongar  
**info/bookings:**  
musicaviva.com.au/concert-season/2024/ensemble-q-william-barton/

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

**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

**Ever Present: First Peoples Art of Australia**  
**when:** Aug 31, 2024 - Oct 2025  
**where:** Level 1, Gallery 1–6, National Gallery of Australia  
**info/bookings:** Free with



Umoona lives



Artists from the Coober Pedy area have been enjoying the benefits of their community arts centre, which was established in 2020. The centre is located in the Umoona community (Coober Pedy) in South Australia, and is Indigenous-owned and governed, joining neighbouring art centres on the APY Lands to build sustainable pathways to employment for its artist members. Since the centre's opening, the artists have worked collectively to ensure their dream of running the centre as a permanent operation is realised. Short St Gallery in Broome, WA, is holding an exhibition to celebrate the success of the small but important community arts centre. *Umoona: Long Life* showcases the distinctive style of artists from the area, known for using strong, bold colours and connected concentric circles to create large-scale canvas works that depict traditional stories of Country. Umoona Community Arts Centre has made a strong

start, with many of its artists already recognised on prestigious stages. George Cooley's work, *My Painted Country 1*, was featured at this year's Art Gallery of South Australia's Biennial Inner Sanctum, filling the vestibule wall of the main entrance with his expressionistic painting of Coober Pedy Country. Umoona artists Myra Kunatjaji, Jeannie Minunga and Kay Finn joined Mr Cooley as finalists in the prestigious Wynne Landscape Award at the Art Gallery of NSW, and artists from Umoona Community Arts Centre were represented amongst the finalists of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards (NATSIAAs). Artists showing at the exhibition are George Cooley, Charmaine Mungkari, Joanne O'Toole Tjitja, Myra Kumantjara, Jeannie Minunga and Kay Finn. *Umoona: Long Life* is on at Short St Gallery in Broome WA from August 2 -29. Artworks from the exhibition are also presented online, for viewing and sales. Visit the gallery's website at [shortstgallery.com.au/exhibitions/](http://shortstgallery.com.au/exhibitions/)

ticket, for more visit [nga.gov.au/exhibitions/ever-present/](http://nga.gov.au/exhibitions/ever-present/)

**Ensemble Q and William Barton**  
**when:** Oct 5  
**where:** Llewellyn Hall, School of Music Australian National University, Canberra, Ngunnawal Country  
**info/bookings:**  
musicaviva.com.au/concert-season/2024/ensemble-q-william-barton/

TASMANIA

**Artrage 2023**  
Showcasing works by year 11 and 12 Tasmanian students  
**when:** until Sep 14  
**where:** Upper Gallery, Level 2, Devonport Regional Gallery, Devonport  
**info/bookings:**  
paranapleartscentre.com.au/events/artrage-2023/

**REX GREENO: Memories through Sea Stories**  
**when:** until Sep 14  
**where:** Devonport Regional Gallery, Devonport  
**info/bookings:**  
paranapleartscentre.com.au/

**2024 Women's Art Prize Tasmania**  
**when:** until Sep 22  
**where:** Devonport Regional Gallery, Devonport  
**info/bookings:**  
womensartprizetas.com.au/

QUEENSLAND

**Freshwater Saltwater**  
(group members' annual exhibition)  
**when:** until Sep 12  
**where:** UMI Arts Gallery, Jensen St, Cairns North  
**info/bookings:**  
umiarts.com.au/

**Seeds and Sovereignty**  
(exhibition)  
**when:** until Aug 18  
**where:** Gallery of Modern Art

(GOMA) and Gallery 3.5  
**info/bookings:** free entry, [blog.qagoma.qld.gov.au/qagoma-2024-program-announced/](http://blog.qagoma.qld.gov.au/qagoma-2024-program-announced/)

**Dusk of Nations**  
(exhibition)  
**when:** until Dec 14  
**where:** Level 3, University of Queensland Art Museum, Brisbane  
**info/bookings:** art-museum.uq.edu.au/dusk-nations

**Horizon**  
Bangarra dance  
**when:** August 7-17  
**where:** The Playhouse, QPAC, Brisbane/Meanjin Country  
**info/bookings:**  
bangarra.com.au

**Straight from the Strait**  
A Torres Strait Island musical, performed in Meriam Mir, Kala Lagaw Ya, Torres Strait Creole, English, and developed through collaboration and consultation with the Yumpla Nerkep Foundation and Torres Strait Islander artists, Elders, and communities, *Straight from the Strait* is led by a team of First Nations creatives, performers, musicians, and cultural advisors.  
**when:** Aug 29-31  
**where:** The Playhouse, QPAC  
**info/bookings:** Free talk begins an hour before each performance, inside the Playhouse Lounge. To book go to [qpac.com.au/whats-on/2024/opera-queensland-straight-from-the-strait](http://qpac.com.au/whats-on/2024/opera-queensland-straight-from-the-strait)

**The Dream Weaver: Guardians of Grace**  
Designs of Grace Lillian Lee presented by Brisbane Festival and Brisbane Powerhouse  
**when:** Aug 30 - Sep 21  
**where:** Stores Studio,

Brisbane Powerhouse, New Farm  
**info/bookings:**  
[brisbanefestival.com.au/whats-on/2024/dream-weaver](http://brisbanefestival.com.au/whats-on/2024/dream-weaver)

**Quandamooka Festival**  
**when:** Aug 30-31  
**where:** Minjerribah Ganaba, Nth Stradbroke Island  
**info/bookings:**  
[quandamookafestival.com.au/](http://quandamookafestival.com.au/)

**Camerata, Lou Bennet & Lior: Ngapa William Cooper**  
The story of Yorta Yorta man, Uncle William Cooper by Lior, Nigel Westlake and Dr Lou Bennett AM and chamber orchestra, Camerata.  
**when:** Sep 7  
**where:** Concert Hall, Queensland Performing Arts centre (QPAC)  
**info/bookings:** Search 'Camerata' at [qpac.com.au/](http://qpac.com.au/)

**Big Talk One Fire festival**  
**when:** Sat, Sep 7, 3-9pm  
**where:** Munro Martin Park, Cairns  
**info/bookings:**  
umiarts.com.au/

**Dear Brother**  
**when:** Sept 7-28  
**where:** Bille Brown Theatre, (Queensland Theatre), South Brisbane  
**info/bookings:** Tickets to some sessions selling fast. Check the website. [queenslandtheatre.com.au/plays/dear-brother](http://queenslandtheatre.com.au/plays/dear-brother)

**Big Name, No Blankets**  
Ilbjerri Theatre  
**when:** Sep 20-21  
**where:** Concert Hall, Queensland Performing Arts Centre (QPAC), Brisbane  
**info/bookings:**  
[qpac.com.au/whats-on](http://qpac.com.au/whats-on)

VICTORIA

**Spirit of the Animals**  
**when:** until Nov 24  
**where:** Koorie Heritage

Trust( KHT, Birrarung Building, Fed Square  
**info/bookings:**  
[kht.org.au/whats-on/#exhibitions](http://kht.org.au/whats-on/#exhibitions)

**Touring Exhibition: Layers of Blak**  
(contemporary jewellery)  
**when:** until Aug 25  
**where:** Gippsland Art Gallery  
**info/bookings:** exhibition heads to Bendigo from Sept - Nov, see [kooieheritagetrust.com.au/whats-on/exhibitions/layers-of-blak/](http://kooieheritagetrust.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

**NORTHERN TERRITORY**  
**National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards 2024 (NATSIAAs)**  
**when:** until Jan 27, 2025  
**where:** Museum and Art Gallery of NT (MAGNT)  
**info/bookings:**  
[magnt.net.au/natsiaa-finalists](http://magnt.net.au/natsiaa-finalists)

**Desert Song Festival**  
**when:** Sep 17-22  
**where:** various venues in Alice Springs  
**info/bookings:**  
[desertsong.com.au/](http://desertsong.com.au/)

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

**Ensemble Q & William Barton**  
**when:** Oct 3  
**where:** Adelaide Town Hall, Kaurana Country  
**info/bookings:**  
[musicaviva.com.au/concert-season/2024/ensemble-q-william-barton/](http://musicaviva.com.au/concert-season/2024/ensemble-q-william-barton/)

**OUR MOB**  
(exhibition)  
**when:** until Oct 12  
**where:** The Galleries

Adelaide Festival Centre  
**info/bookings:**  
[adelaidefestivalcentre.com.au/](http://adelaidefestivalcentre.com.au/)

**Who Are We?**  
(Iteka Ukarla Sanderson-Bromley & Temaana Yundu Sanderson-Bromley in collaboration with First Nations secondary students)  
**when:** until Oct 12  
**where:** Adelaide Festival Centre  
**info/bookings:**  
[adelaidefestivalcentre.com.au/whats-on/who-are-we](http://adelaidefestivalcentre.com.au/whats-on/who-are-we)

**Binyurr Wirrpanda**  
(exhibition)  
**when:** Sep 12 - Oct 5  
**where:** Hugo Michell Gallery, Beulah Park, Kaurana Land  
**info/bookings:**  
[hugomichellgallery.com/](http://hugomichellgallery.com/)

NEW SOUTH WALES

**Barbara McGrady Ngijyaningy Maran Yaliwaunga Ngaara-li (Our Ancestors Are Always Watching)**  
(photography)  
**when:** until Oct 13  
**where:** Campbelltown Arts Centre  
**info/bookings:**  
[c-a-c.com.au/](http://c-a-c.com.au/)

**The Archibald, Wynne and Sulman Prizes 2024**  
**when:** until Sep 8  
**where:** Naala Nura, lower level 2, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney  
**info/bookings:**  
[artgallery.nsw.gov.au/](http://artgallery.nsw.gov.au/)

**Her Meditations: Biddy Napanangka Timms**  
(exhibition)  
**when:** Aug 3-24  
**where:** Cooeee Art Leven Gallery, Redfern  
**info/bookings:**  
[cooeeeart.com.au/](http://cooeeeart.com.au/)

**Ngaya (I am)**  
video installation exploring the multiple identities of queer Ngarigo artist Peter Waples-Crowe.  
**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/](http://mhnsw.au/)

**Longstanding**  
(exhibition)  
**when:** until Aug 17.  
**where:** Lone Goat Gallery, Byron Bay.  
**info/bookings:**  
[lonegoatgallery.com/exhibitions/longstanding](http://lonegoatgallery.com/exhibitions/longstanding)

**Saltwater Freshwater Arts Exhibition 2023**  
(touring exhibition)  
**when:** Aug 10 - Sep 23  
**where:** Nulla Nulla Gallery, Kempsey  
**info/bookings:** visit [saltwaterfreshwater.com.au/](http://saltwaterfreshwater.com.au/) and follow links in dropdown menu to 'Art award and exhibition.'

**Beyond: Aboriginal Arts and Culture in Regional NSW**  
An exhibition celebrating the diversity of contemporary artistic practice of Aboriginal artists from beyond the sandstone curtain.  
**when:** until Aug 20  
**where:** Fountain Court, NSW Parliament House Sydney  
**info/bookings:** visit [artsoutwest.org.au](http://artsoutwest.org.au)



# Employment

EXECUTIVE • PROFESSIONAL • POSITIONS VACANT

## Mob prep for career on the water



TWELVE Indigenous Australians from across Sydney have a greater chance of charting a career aboard one of Sydney's Harbour's iconic ferries

following their graduation last month from a Marine Operations course.

The award-winning training and employment program, Certificate 1 in Marine Operations (General Purpose Hand), was delivered by employment services provider, Asuria, Babana Aboriginal Men's Group, and Tribal Warrior.

The qualifications are the culmination of three weeks' hands-on training with Tribal Warrior aboard the Mari Nawi and Lady Northcott covering critical survival skills, firefighting, first aid, and nautical terminology.

Employment services provider, Asuria, and Babana Aboriginal will now continue to work with the program's participants to facilitate their passage into employment.

Isabella Flick, a program graduate from Maroubra, said she enjoyed learning alongside other Aboriginal people.

"We supported each other... It was challenging to balance it with taking care of my child, but in the end, I was able to complete it. I hope the program will be



Graduates of the Certificate 1 in Marine Operations celebrate their success on Sydney Harbour.

available again for our young people so they can have career opportunities," she said.

This year Transdev Australasia, operator of the iconic Sydney Ferries fleet, covering 38 wharves over ten key

routes, came on board to provide employment pathways for the program's graduates.

Nicole Norris, DEI and Talent Acquisition Manager at Transdev Australasia said the company often seeks

talent to join the Sydney Ferries team.

"We look forward to progressing employment prospects for First Nations Peoples, who have become qualified General-Purpose Hands, through this unique and tailored pathway. Currently 7% of our workforce at Sydney Ferries identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, so connecting with Tribal Warrior, Babana and Asuria, and the program's participants, has provided us with a great opportunity to grow that number."

Tribal Warrior Aboriginal Corporation is the only Indigenous Maritime Training Company operating within Australia.

Mark Spinks, Chairperson of Babana Aboriginal and Tribal Warrior, said, "It's always with immense pride and admiration that we celebrate another group of hard-working Indigenous people as they come through a challenging program to prove their readiness for a rewarding career on the water."

"Our thanks go out to Asuria for their continual support and belief in this special program, giving Indigenous people a chance to shine."

To express an interest in future Maritime Operations Programs, visit [www.asuria.com](http://www.asuria.com)

## On-the-job learning granted



APPLICATIONS are now open for this year's Elsa Dixon Aboriginal Employment Grants (EDAEG) offering First Nations people potentially life-changing career opportunities through a program designed to enhance access to education, training, and employment within the NSW Government.

The EDAEG subsidises the salary, development and support costs of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander employees, helping promote diversity and innovation in public service agencies and local government authorities.

The annual grants are named after Aboriginal activist Elsa Dixon, who played a key role in improving social outcomes for Aboriginal

people, particularly in the 1970s and 1980s.

Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education, Steve Whan, said, "The grants not only create employment opportunities but also ensure that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees receive the support and development they need to succeed and thrive in their careers."

"This year, with an allocation of \$1.88 million, we look forward to supporting even more Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander individuals in securing meaningful employment and advancing their professional skills."

Last financial year, the program achieved record-breaking results seeing a record of 315 employment positions approved with several agencies still recruiting. A record 85 employment

grants were also approved, the most yet by the EDAEG team.

The EDAEG will fund the following programs in 2024/2025:

- School-based apprenticeships and traineeships**

- \$10,000 one-off payment to support school-based apprenticeships and traineeships.

- Post school element**

- up to \$30,000 (part-time or full-time employment status) to support the continuation of employment for a learner who successfully completed a High School Certificate (HSC, Year 12).

- Aboriginal Adult Apprenticeships and Traineeships (AAAT)**

- up to \$40,000 to support the creation of employment of an apprenticeship or traineeship.

- Permanent Ongoing**

Jade Tapfield started her health career with a school-based traineeship through the Elsa Dixon Aboriginal Employment Grant program. She's currently studying and working as an Assistant in Nursing and Health Worker with NSW Health. Jade also travels as a VET Ambassador, sharing her VET experiences and discussing career pathways with regional students throughout Western NSW and beyond.



**Employment**

– up to \$40,000 to support the creation of permanent employment.

For more information on the

Elsa Dixon Aboriginal Employment Grants and how to apply, visit [education.nsw.gov.au](http://education.nsw.gov.au) and search Elsa Dixon Aboriginal Employment Grant.

## 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](mailto:advertising@koorimail.com) or see our website – [www.koorimail.com](http://www.koorimail.com)

*Koori Mail – Our ABC audit means our readership is guaranteed.  
No other newspaper aimed at the Indigenous market can offer this!*

**Advertising disclaimer:** Budsoar Pty Ltd, publisher of the Koori Mail, reserves the right to alter, omit or change advertisements, and while every care is exercised, it is not responsible for errors or non-insertions. No adjustments will be made for errors unless attention is drawn to them within the first week of

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competition entries, and to improve our products and services. We may be in touch to let you know about goods, services or promotions which may be of interest to you. We may also share your information with other persons or entities who assist us in providing our services, running competitions or with other companies

who provide prizes for competitions or reader offers. If you would prefer that we do not do this, please write to us at: [admin@koorimail.com](mailto:admin@koorimail.com) or phone (02) 66 222 666, or fax (02) 66 222 600. Mail can be sent addressed to General Manager, Budsoar Pty Ltd, PO Box 117, Lismore NSW 2480.



## Aboriginal Cultural Safety Project Officer

Fixed Part Time Contract  
32 Hours per fortnight until 30/06/2025

## Reconciliation Project Officer

Fixed Part Time Contract  
16 Hours per fortnight until 30/06/2025

Colac Area Health is committed to improving Aboriginal Cultural Safety and invites you to help us achieve this!

Colac Area Health is a values based organisation providing a unique integrated health service comprising of over 500 employees, providing Acute Care, Aged Care, Community and Allied Health Services.

As an organisation, we celebrate our diversity and welcome all people regardless of ethnicity, faith, age, disability, culture, language, gender identity or sexual orientation. We acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders as Australia's First Peoples and as the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we work. We welcome lesbian, gay, trans, gender diverse and intersex (LGBTQIA+) people at our services. We pledge to provide inclusive and non-discriminatory services.

The Aboriginal Cultural Safety Project Officer and Reconciliation Project Officer will work with the organisation on its journey to improve the experience and health outcomes for our local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community, including with the development of our Reconciliation Action Plan.

The roles include

- Development and implementation of our Reconciliation and Aboriginal Cultural Safety plans and activities.
- Engaging with our local community to hear their thoughts and ideas.
- An innovative and creative approach to building Cultural Safety
- Providing education to staff, volunteers and the community.

If we can assist you with any reasonable adjustments in order to submit your application for this role, please contact Alice Bennett via [alice.bennett@cah.vic.gov.au](mailto:alice.bennett@cah.vic.gov.au)

The Aboriginal Cultural Safety Project Officer role is a special measures role and only Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples are eligible to apply, as per the Equal Opportunity Act 2010.

For a copy of the position description please email: [humanresources@cah.vic.gov.au](mailto:humanresources@cah.vic.gov.au)

To apply or for further information visit: <https://peopleplus.swarh.vic.gov.au/CAH>

### Diversity and Inclusion

We believe in the power of diversity and inclusion. We celebrate the unique backgrounds, perspectives, and talents of our team members, fostering an environment where everyone feels valued and respected. Our commitment to diversity strengthens our ability to provide compassionate and equitable care to all individuals, regardless of their backgrounds, abilities and identities.

We are committed to providing positive employment opportunities and a workplace that promotes wellbeing, and welcomes applications from those who identify as an Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person

We actively encourage individuals with disabilities and diverse backgrounds and identities to apply for our positions. Should you require any reasonable adjustments or support during the recruitment process, we are here to assist you every step of the way.

We are strongly committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people. Click here for further information on the Victorian Government's Child Safe Standards: [About Child Safe Standards | Victorian Government \(www.vic.gov.au\)](http://www.vic.gov.au)

We are also proud to be Totally Smoke Free.

To join our team, all candidates are required to be fully vaccinated against Covid-19 and influenza, aligning with our health services immunisation policy.



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[ruok.org.au/strongertogether](http://ruok.org.au/strongertogether)

## 2 x Full time ongoing positions (part time considered)

- Opportunities are based at Bendigo, Shepparton, Melbourne and Dandenong office locations
- Salary based on experience, range: \$76,426 - \$98,901 (pro rata) plus super
- Sensitive environment offering connection and community with access to staff networks, culturally sensitive leave options and EAP services
- Excellent employee benefits from salary packaging, hybrid work arrangements and leave options

Independent Mental Health Advocacy (IMHA) is a non-legal advocacy service that is staffed and led by professionals with backgrounds in community development, consumer advocacy, mental health advocacy, community sector advocacy, social work, mental health service provision and similar fields. IMHA has a First Nations team that works with First Nations consumers and community.

Apply now at <https://www.legalaid.vic.gov.au/careers>



## 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](mailto:CEO@koorimail.com)  
outlining your interest in the role, including a copy of your Resume/CV.

For more information please contact  
Naomi Moran, CEO, Koori Mail on 0499 991 625.

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## Aboriginal Wellbeing and Support Manager Tasmanian Aboriginal Legal Service

The Tasmanian Aboriginal Legal Service (TALS) has a new opportunity for an Aboriginal Wellbeing and Support Manager to join our team.

TALS specialises in providing culturally appropriate legal assistance, advice, and support in the areas of criminal, civil and family law to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in Tasmania. We also influence policy, law reform and operate a number of programs in the justice sector.

We are a Tasmanian, Aboriginal-controlled organisation. Our team deeply care about their work, clients, and each other. We are strong advocates for social justice and making a difference in local communities.

### The role

The Aboriginal Wellbeing and Support Manager is responsible for the Aboriginal Wellbeing Program and leads the supports for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in custody ("people in custody") by providing and coordinating cultural and wellbeing support, connection to family and community, and the coordination of services to assist persons in custody. This position works closely with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations, stakeholders, and external service providers to coordinate and assist with responsive program access and engagement.

This role is critical to improving Aboriginal people's experience with the justice system by providing and facilitating supports that promote the health, wellbeing and 'healing' of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in custody, their families, and the broader Aboriginal communities in a manner that promotes rehabilitation and reintegration.

This is an identified position, and open only to Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander persons. TALS considers being Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander is a genuine occupational requirement. We adopt the Commonwealth definition of Aboriginality.

This is a fixed term role until 30 September 2026 and is based at Risdon Prison.

### Selection criteria

- Demonstrated experience working in prisons and an understanding of the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in custody.
- A demonstrated ability to assess, plan, manage, lead, and co-ordinate services, support, and programs tailored to individual needs.
- Strong knowledge and appreciation of the cultural and social needs of Aboriginal communities including an ability to identify and link individuals with culturally appropriate



services, including employment service providers and registered training organisations.

- Demonstrated communication and interpersonal skills, particularly with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, custodial staff, stakeholders, and other service providers.
- Proven ability to be self-directed and able to work effectively both independently and as part of a team in a high-pressure environment using skills such as sensitivity, empathy, perseverance, and resilience.
- Demonstrated experience in data collection and reporting.
- Ability to understand and apply the requirements of relevant WHS legislation and other mandated requirements in your areas of responsibility.

### What we offer

This is a rewarding opportunity to join a forward thinking and inclusive organisation who is focused on making a difference, where it really matters.

A competitive salary is on offer and will depend on experience.

TALS employees have access to salary packaging of up to \$18,550 per year (increasing your take-home pay). Our team also enjoy flex time benefits and generous leave provisions.

This position is full time for 35 hours per week based at Risdon Prison.

Flexible working options can be considered, including part-time.

Relocation assistance or a sign-on bonus may also be provided to help support you in your new role.

### Requirements

The successful candidate will need to undergo a National Police Check and apply for a Working with Vulnerable Persons registration prior to commencement of employment. The successful candidate will also be required to be able to obtain and maintain a Tasmanian Prison Service clearance card.

If you would like further information about the role, please contact Lee-Anne Carter at [lcarter@tals.net.au](mailto:lcarter@tals.net.au) using the subject line: **Aboriginal Wellbeing and Support Manager enquiry via Koori Mail** or on 0490 520 480.

**Applications close at 5pm on 26th August**, for more information or to apply, please visit our website at [www.tals.net.au](http://www.tals.net.au)





Aboriginal Corporation

has a range of exciting roles on offer across Bundjalung Country

follow the QR code to see them all!



The Minister for Mental Health is currently seeking applications for a number of member positions on the Mental Health Tribunal.

- Part time Community, Legal and Psychiatrist Member
Sessional Community, Legal, Psychiatrist and Registered Medical Practitioner member

The positions will be advertised on the Join a Public Board website- Join a Public Board - Vacancies until 26th August 2024

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

For more information, please contact recruitment@mht.vic.gov.au or call on 03 9032 3200.

- Multiple Full time positions for Senior Lawyer and Lawyer roles in the Equality Law team (part time considered)
Salary based on experience, range: \$87,779 - \$123,624 (pro rata) plus super
Sensitive environment offering connection and community with access to staff networks, culturally sensitive leave options and EAP services
Excellent employee benefits from salary packaging, hybrid work arrangements and leave options

About Victoria Legal Aid:

We provide legal representation to those who need it most. With over 1000 staff employed in 15 offices across Victoria, we help people with their legal problems by providing information, advice and education with a focus on the prevention and early resolution of legal problems.

Our clients come from all walks of life and so do we. We hire great people from a wide variety of backgrounds and foster a work culture that's inclusive as well as diverse.

Civil Justice

The Civil Justice program's vision is a fairer, stronger, and more inclusive community. We advocate for equality, enable people to protect their rights and promote accountability of systems.

The Civil Justice program consists of sub-programs including Mental Health and Disability Law, Independent Mental Health Advocacy, Migration, Economic and Social Rights, and the Equality Law Program, with approximately 180 FTE state-wide and an operating expenditure of approximately \$24 million.

Equality Law Program

The Equality Law Program helps people who have experienced discrimination, sexual harassment, victimisation, or racial or religious vilification in areas such as education, employment, receiving goods or services, accommodation, clubs and sporting activities.

We also provide legal advice and representation to victims of crime as part of the Victims Legal Service, which is delivered together Women's Legal Service Victoria, Victorian Aboriginal Legal Service (VALS), Djirra and other community legal centres.

The Equality Law Program provides opportunities to engage in high level advocacy and complex case work, to influence policy change and drive law reform and to deliver community legal education. This program collaborates with other programs across VLA, government agencies, tribunals, courts, the community legal sector and other service providers.

This position will assist the Equality Law Program Management team to develop and implement the expansion of VLA's sexual harassment discrimination law services, taking into account the particular needs of workers facing intersectional discrimination.

Apply now at https://www.legalaid.vic.gov.au/careers



Clarence Valley Council has the following positions available to people of First Nations descent

- Cultural Heritage Officer
Field Operator (General)
Field Operator (Water Cycle)

If you would like further information or are interested in applying, go to www.clarence.nsw.gov.au

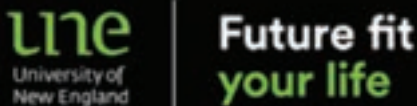
Council is an EEO employer and First Nations People are encouraged to apply.

2 x Full time ongoing positions (part time considered)

- Opportunities are based at Bendigo, Shepparton, Melbourne and Dandenong office locations
Salary based on experience, range: \$76,426 - \$98,901 (pro rata) plus super
Sensitive environment offering connection and community with access to staff networks, culturally sensitive leave options and EAP services
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Independent Mental Health Advocacy (IMHA) is a non-legal advocacy service that is staffed and led by professionals with backgrounds in community development, consumer advocacy, mental health advocacy, community sector advocacy, social work, mental health service provision and similar fields. IMHA has a First Nations team that works with First Nations consumers and community.

Apply now at https://www.legalaid.vic.gov.au/careers



DIRECTOR Oorala Aboriginal Centre

Join the University of New England as the Director Oorala Aboriginal Centre for a Fixed-term, full-time period of five years, with the possibility of extension.

About the role

Working closely with the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous), the Director provides leadership across Indigenous issues and success at UNE. The Director manages engagement strategies and activities for student success and strives to expand the access and participation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

Enquiries and additional information

To discuss this role please contact Professor Simon Evans, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, email: dvc@une.edu.au

Please visit www.une.edu.au/jobs-at-une for further information about this position and how to apply. Refer to vacancy 224109.

Sydney Local Health District



Aboriginal Mental Health Care Navigator

Location: Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Camperdown
Classification: Counsellor/Social Worker/ Occupational Therapist Level 4, Senior Psychologist or Clinical Nurse Consultant Grade 1
Employment Type: Permanent Full-Time
Salary: Based on Qualifications
Enquiries: Merryn Sheather on 0477 755 951 or Merryn.Sheather@health.nsw.gov.au
Closing Date: 18 August 2024

This is an Identified Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander Position. Applicants for this position must be of Aboriginal descent through parentage, identification as being Aboriginal and being accepted in the community as such. Exemption is claimed under Section 14 of the Anti Discrimination Act 1977.

To apply visit jobs.health.nsw.gov.au Search for Job Reference Number: REQ509554

NSW Health Service: employer of choice

Sydney Local Health District



Aboriginal Care Coordinator

About your new job

- Temporary Full-Time 38 hours per week up to May 2025 with Temporary Part-Time 20 hours per week considered.
Health Manager Level 1
\$41.14 to \$54.73 per hour + 11% Superannuation + annual leave loading
You will come in to work at Concord Repatriation General Hospital, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital and Chris O'Brien Lifehouse

This is a Sydney Local Health District (SLHD) wide service providing care for patients receiving care & treatment at Concord Repatriation General Hospital, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital and Chris O'Brien Lifehouse.

The Aboriginal Care Coordinator will perform a liaison role: supporting, guiding, and referring Aboriginal clients, family members and carers to access timely and appropriate SLHD services for cancer prevention and management.

The position aims to improve access, equity, and health care for Aboriginal people with cancer, encouraging a patient-centred and patient-led approach to health and wellbeing. The role works to ensure care coordination for each person is informed by cultural considerations such as connection to land, gender, and kinship. The role also entails building and strengthening relationships within the local Aboriginal community and with local Aboriginal organisations.

Our Ideal candidate

- This is an Identified Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander position. Applicants for this position must be of Aboriginal descent through parentage, identification as being Aboriginal and being accepted in the community as such. Exemption is claimed under Section 14 of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977.
Currently holds qualifications in Aboriginal primary health care or other health related discipline, or equivalent experience.
Active involvement and 'lived experience' in the local Aboriginal community, with a deep understanding and commitment to improving the health issues impacting Aboriginal communities.

This is an identified Aboriginal position. Applicants for this position must be of Aboriginal descent, identify as being Aboriginal and be accepted in the community as such. An applicant's race is a genuine occupational qualification and is authorised under Section 14(d) of the NSW Anti-Discrimination Act, 1977.

Stepping Up aims to assist Aboriginal job applicants by providing information about applying for roles within NSW Health. For more information, please visit: steppingup.health.nsw.gov.au

Applications Close: 28 August 2024

For enquiries, please contact Eleanor Romney on 0428 839 012 or via email at Eleanor.Romney@health.nsw.gov.au

To apply visit jobs.health.nsw.gov.au and search for Job Reference Number: REQ508390

NSW Health Service: employer of choice

POWER THE HAPPY FOR SICK KIDS LIKE NED



Ned, age 5

Since being diagnosed with leukaemia at age two, hospital has been Ned's life. But thanks to Captain Starlight, the fun of being a kid hasn't stopped. And it shouldn't.

Because a healthy dose of fun and happiness is essential to the health of sick kids like Ned. Donate this Starlight Day to help more sick kids like Ned discover the power of happy.

DONATE NOW starlight.org.au





**CALL OUT FOR INSPIRING LEADERS TO JOIN CREATIVE BOARDS**

Creative leaders and skilled community members across Victoria from all backgrounds and walks of life are invited to express their interest in potentially joining one of Victoria's creative industries boards. People who submit their interest will be included in a talent pool from which board appointments will be selected.

Expressions of interest (EOI) are now open for people with skills, experience and an interest in serving on one of Victoria's creative industries portfolio boards. People do not need to have experience working for an arts organisation in order to express interest.

Creative industries agencies include ACMI, Arts Centre Melbourne, Docklands Studios Melbourne, Geelong Arts Centre, Museums Victoria, Melbourne Recital Centre, Melbourne Arts Precinct Corporation, National Gallery of Victoria, State Library Victoria, The Wheeler Centre and VicScreen.

The Victorian Government also makes appointments to the boards of several non-government creative organisations including Victorian Opera, Heide Museum of Modern Art, RISING and ACCA.

As part of the Victorian Government's commitment to ensuring that government boards reflect the rich diversity of the Victorian community, the EOI process welcomes applications from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, people of all ages, women, people with disability, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, LGBTIQA+ people and rural and regional Victorians.

Information about the EOI process, full position description for board roles and details on the application process are now available on the Victorian Government's Join a Public Board website - [www.boards.vic.gov.au](http://www.boards.vic.gov.au)

**EOIs close at 11:59pm 31 August 2024.**

RS0018

**Notice of a non-claimant application for determination of native title in New South Wales**

**Notification day: 28 August 2024**



National Native Title Tribunal

A 'non-claimant' application has been made to the Federal Court of Australia (Federal Court) seeking a determination that native title does not exist in the area described below. The Applicant has a non-native title interest in the area, which is set out in their application and summarised below.

Under the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth), there can be only one determination of native title for an area. Unless there is a relevant native title claim, as defined in section 24FE, over the area described below on or before **27 November 2024**, the area may be subject to protection under section 24FA and **acts may be done which extinguish or otherwise affect native title.**

A person who claims to hold native title rights and interests in this area may wish to file a native title claimant application or become a party to this non-claimant application. These may be the only opportunities to have those rights and interests taken into account in the Federal Court's determination. Any other person may also wish to become a party.

If you want to become a party to this application, you must file a Form 5 (Notice of Intention to become a Party) with the Federal Court, **on or before 27 November 2024**. Further information regarding how to file a Form 5 is available from [www.fedcourt.gov.au](http://www.fedcourt.gov.au). After **27 November 2024**, you will need to seek leave from the Federal Court to become a party.



**Applicant's name:** Grong Grong Sports Club Limited ACN 001 625 314  
**Federal Court File No:** NSD812/2024

**Non-native title interest:** A new term lease under the *Crown Land Management Act 2016* (NSW) over Crown land at Grong Grong being the area of land covered by this application

**Order sought by Applicant:** The applicant seeks a determination that native title does not exist in the land and waters comprising the application area

**Description:** The application area covers about 6.77 ha and is located over Lot 178 on DP 750821 in the Riverina regional town of Grong Grong

**Relevant LGA:** Narrandera Shire Council

For assistance and further information about this application, call Vasile Tiano on (02) 8067 2158 or visit [www.nntt.gov.au](http://www.nntt.gov.au)



**13 11 14**

**Heritage Act 1977**

**Notice of intention to consider listing on the State Heritage Register**

The Heritage Council of NSW maintains the State Heritage Register which is a list of places of particular importance to the people of NSW, including Aboriginal and other heritage.

The Heritage Council is currently considering whether or not to recommend the listing of the following place on the State Heritage Register in acknowledgment of its heritage significance.

**Mount Kembla Mine Disaster Site, Kembla Heights**

Written submissions on this listing are invited from any interested person by 8 October 2024. Enquiries to Dr Damian Tybussek on 0488 188 527.

The Heritage Council is interested in receiving information in writing, by email, telephone or in person from the Aboriginal community or Aboriginal organisations on the potential Aboriginal significance of this place.

SH1893

**See more details about the nominated place at:** [environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/heritage/request-a-heritage-listing/nominate-an-item-for-listing-on-the-state-heritage-register/comment-on-nominations](http://environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/heritage/request-a-heritage-listing/nominate-an-item-for-listing-on-the-state-heritage-register/comment-on-nominations)

**Make your submission at:** [haveyoursay.nsw.gov.au/mount-kembla](http://haveyoursay.nsw.gov.au/mount-kembla)

or direct your submission to:  
Heritage Council of NSW  
Locked Bag 5020  
Parramatta NSW 2124

**Heritage Council of NSW**

**Heritage Act 1977**

**Notice of intention to consider listing on the State Heritage Register**

The Heritage Council of NSW is considering whether to recommend amendment of the listing of the place below on the State Heritage Register

**Palace Hotel, Broken Hill (SHR No. 00335)**

Written submissions on this listing are invited from any interested person by 6 September 2024. Enquiries to Judith Coombes on (02) 9873 8500.

The Heritage Council is interested in receiving information in writing, by email, telephone or in person from the Aboriginal community or Aboriginal organisations on the potential Aboriginal significance of this place.

LP2487

**See more details about the nominated place at:** [environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/heritage/request-a-heritage-listing/nominate-an-item-for-listing-on-the-state-heritage-register/comment-on-nominations](http://environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/heritage/request-a-heritage-listing/nominate-an-item-for-listing-on-the-state-heritage-register/comment-on-nominations)

**Make your submission at:** [haveyoursay.nsw.gov.au/palace-hotel](http://haveyoursay.nsw.gov.au/palace-hotel)

or direct your submission to:  
Heritage Council of NSW  
Locked Bag 5020  
Parramatta NSW 2124

**Throsby Creek Connected Pathways Newcastle, NSW**

**ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT**

**INVITATION TO REGISTER AN INTEREST**



Artefact Heritage and Environment, on behalf of City of Newcastle (CN), is undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHAR) for the Throsby Creek Connected Pathways project. CN is seeking to gather information from Aboriginal Community knowledge holders relating to the areas directly adjacent Throsby Creek in Carrington, Tighes Hill, Islington, Maryville and Wickham. Artefact has been engaged to accurately and respectfully record the Aboriginal connections surrounding the creek, prior to CN undertaking planning and design of dual walking and cycleway paths.

The contact details for the proponent are:

Jill Roberts  
City of Newcastle  
Ph: 4974 2000  
[newcastle.nsw.gov.au](http://newcastle.nsw.gov.au)

The study area is located within the Newcastle Local Government Area and the boundaries of the Awabakal and Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Councils (LALC).

We are inviting registrations of interest in the project from Aboriginal groups and individuals who hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the locality of the project. Please note that the consultation guidelines require us to provide details of Registered Aboriginal Parties to Heritage NSW (formerly Office of Environment and Heritage) and the Awabakal LALC. In your response could you please advise if you would not like your details to be provided.

Please register your interest in the project by end of day on 28 August 2024, by contacting:

Aboriginal Heritage Consultation  
Artefact Heritage and Environment  
Unit 71, 8 Spit Island Close, Mayfield West NSW 2304  
[consultation@artefact.net.au](mailto:consultation@artefact.net.au)

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# NOTICE TO GRANT AMALGAMATION APPLICATIONS

## NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

The State of Western Australia HEREBY GIVES NOTICE that the Minister for Mines and Petroleum, C/- Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004 may grant the following amalgamation applications under the *Mining Act 1978*:

Exploration No.	Applicant	Amalg No	Area	Locality	Centroid	Shire
25/524	MONGER EXPLORATION PTY LTD	707244	9880.73HA	61.9km E'ly of Onslow	Lat: 21° 26' S: Long: 115° 40' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
26/182	MONGER EXPLORATION PTY LTD	707240	31.56HA	32.9km E'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 31° 9' S: Long: 122° 0' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY

**Nature of the act :** Grant of amalgamation applications which authorises the applicant to explore for minerals.

**Notification day:** 14 August 2024

**Native title parties:** Under Section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*, persons have until 3 months after the notification day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to the applications. The 3 month period closes on **14 November 2024**. Any person who is, or becomes a native title party, is entitled to the negotiation and/or procedural rights provided in Part 2 Division 3 Subdivision P of the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*. Enquiries in relation to filing a native title determination application to become a native title party should be directed to the Federal Court of Australia, 1 Victoria Avenue, Perth, WA 6000, telephone (08) 9268 7100.

**Expedited procedure:** The State of Western Australia considers that these acts are acts attracting the expedited procedure. Each amalgamation application may be granted unless, within the period of 4 months after the notification day (i.e. **14 December 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 Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004, or telephone (08) 9222 3518.

DMIRS\_22644

## Notice of an application to register an area agreement on the Register of Indigenous Land Use Agreements in the Northern Territory

**Notification day:** 21 August 2024



### National Native Title Tribunal



### D12023/004 Upper Daly (Repeat) Land Claim No. 128 Settlement ILUA

#### Description of the agreement area:

The agreement area covers a combined area of about 302 sq km and is located approximately 65 kms northwest of Katherine

**Relevant LGAs:** Victoria Daly Regional Council and Un-Incorporated (Marrakai-Douglas Daly) Area

#### The agreement contains the following statements:

[Explanatory notes in brackets inserted by the National Native Title Tribunal]

##### 3.1 Condition precedent

(a) It is a condition precedent to both: (i) the Native Title Group's consent to the surrender and extinguishment of native title rights and interests (if any) under clause 3.2; and (ii) the Native Title Group's agreement to the validation of the Acquisition under clause 3.3(a), that the Stray Creek Grant occur.

(b) For the avoidance of doubt, the validation, surrender and extinguishment described in clause 3.1(a) will only take effect on and from the date of the Stray Creek Grant.

##### 3.2 Surrender of native title

(a) The Native Title Group consents to surrender to the Territory all native title rights and interests (if any) that may subsist in the Roads.  
(b) The Parties agree that the surrender of native title under clause 3.2(a) is intended to wholly extinguish the native title.

##### 3.3 Validation of Acquisition

(a) The Native Title Group agrees to the validation of the Acquisition.  
(b) The Parties agree that the consequence of clause 3.3(a) is that native title rights and interests (if any) in the Acquisition Lots have been wholly extinguished.

##### 3.4 Right to negotiate

(a) Subdivision P (Right to Negotiate) of Division 3 of Part 2 of the NTA is not intended to apply to the Relevant Acts.

##### 3.5 Non-extinguishment principle

(a) The Parties acknowledge and agree that except in accordance with this clause 3, nothing in this agreement is intended to extinguish customary or native title.

**"Acquisition Lots"** means the land the subject of the compulsory acquisition notified in NT Government Gazette S39 dated 21 July 2000 included at Annexure C, and which now comprise NT Portions 6068-6077 as depicted on Survey Plan S2000/223A-D, included at Item 2 of Annexure B.

**"Acquisition"** means the acquisition of native title over the Acquisition Lots as set out in the Notice of Acquisition at Annexure C.

**"Agreement"** means this Indigenous Land Use Agreement.

**"ILUA Area"** means the Acquisition Lots and the Roads as depicted on the Map of the ILUA Area at Annexure D.

**"Native Title Group"** has the meaning given in section 24CD of the NTA.

**"native title"** has the meaning given in section 223 of the NTA.

**"non-extinguishment principle"** has the meaning given in section 238 of the NTA.

**"NTA"** means the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)* as amended.

**"Parties"** means the Land Council and the Territory.

**"Stray Creek Conservation Area"** means, collectively [the whole of NT Portions 6073, 6076 and 6077 as depicted respectively on Survey Plans S2000/223C, S2000/223B and S2000/223A].

**"the Relevant Acts"** means the acts defined and referred to in clauses 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3.

**"the Roads"** means, collectively [Part Umbrawarra Road (refer Item 4 of Annexure B) and the 100m wide road corridor within the external boundaries of NT Portions 4200, 5919, 5920 and 5990 as depicted respectively on S2000/186A, S2000/186B, S2000/186C and S2000/212B (refer Item 3 of Annexure B)].

**"the Stray Creek Grant"** means the grant under the [Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976 (Cth)] of the Stray Creek Conservation Area as Aboriginal Land vested in the Wagiman (No. 2) Aboriginal Land Trust.

#### Parties to the agreement and their contact addresses:

Northern Territory of Australia c/- Solicitor for the Northern Territory GPO Box 1722, Darwin NT 0801	Northern Land Council GPO Box 1222 Darwin NT 0801
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#### Objections to the registration of an ILUA where the application for registration has been certified:

This application for registration of an indigenous land use agreement (ILUA) has been certified by the Northern Land Council, the representative body for the area. Any person claiming to hold native title to any part of the area covered by the ILUA may object in writing within the notice period to the registration of this agreement if they think that the application to register the ILUA has not been properly certified. If you wish to object to the registration of this agreement (and you hold or claim to hold native title in any part of the area covered by the agreement) you may only object for one reason: in your view, the application to register the ILUA has not been properly certified, as stated in section 203BE(5)(a), (b) and (c) of the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*. You must make this objection in writing and send it to the **Native Title Registrar, National Native Title Tribunal, PO Box 2528 St Georges Terrace Post Shop, Perth WA 6831** by **21 November 2024**. Generally, procedural fairness will require that the material you provide is given to certain other persons or organisations for comment. It may also be taken into account in the registration of other ILUAs and claimant applications and thus be provided to relevant persons or organisations for comment.

Details of the terms of the agreement are not available from the National Native Title Tribunal.

For assistance and further information about this application, call Huia McGrath on 08 6317 5442 or visit [www.nntt.gov.au](http://www.nntt.gov.au).



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## NOTICE TO GRANT MINING TENEMENTS

### NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

The State of Western Australia HEREBY GIVES NOTICE that the Minister for Mines and Petroleum, C/- Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004 may grant the following tenement applications under the *Mining Act 1978*:

Tenement Type	No.	Applicant	Area*	Locality	Centroid	Shire
Exploration Licence	38/3779	LAKE WELLS EXPLORATION PTY LTD	14BL	180.6km N'ly of Laverton	Lat: 27° 2' S: Long: 122° 49' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	38/3930	GWR GROUP LIMITED	140BL	212.9km NE'ly of Laverton	Lat: 26° 53' S: Long: 123° 20' E	LAVERTON SHIRE, WILUNA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	80/5964	RICHMOND, William Robert	4BL	43.5km E'ly of Halls Creek	Lat: 18° 8' S: Long: 128° 4' E	HALLS CREEK SHIRE
Mining Lease	36/697	MLG OZ LIMITED	527.47HA	14.7km SE'ly of Leinster	Lat: 28° 1' S: Long: 120° 47' E	LEONORA SHIRE

**Nature of the act:** Grant of mining leases, which authorises the applicant to mine for minerals for a term of 21 years from notification of grant and a right of renewal for 21 years. 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: 14 August 2024**

**Native title parties:** Under section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*, persons have until 3 months after the notification day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to applications. The 3 month period closes on **14 November 2024**. Any person who is, or becomes a native title party, is entitled to the negotiation and/or procedural rights provided in Part 2 Division 3 Subdivision P of *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*. Enquiries in relation to filing a native title determination application to become a native title party should be directed to the Federal Court of Australia, 1 Victoria Avenue, Perth WA 6000, telephone (08) 9268 7100. The mining tenements may be granted if, by the end of the period of 4 months after the notification day (i.e. **14 December 2024**), there is no native title party under section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)* in relation to the area of the mining tenements.

For further information about the act (including extracts of plans showing the boundaries of the applications), contact the Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004, or telephone (08) 9222 3518.

\* - 1 Graticular Block = 2.8 km<sup>2</sup>

DMIRS 22643



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## NOTICE OF PROPOSAL TO GRANT PETROLEUM SPECIAL PROSPECTING AUTHORITY

### 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 Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004 may grant the following Petroleum Special Prospecting Authority application/s applied for under section 31 of the *Petroleum and Geothermal Energy Resources Act 1967 (WA)*.

TITLE TYPE	APPLICATION NUMBER**	APPLICANT	CO-ORDINATES	AREA	SHIRE
Special Prospecting Authority	STP-SPA-0103	2H RESOURCES PTY LTD	NE Corner: Lat: 30°24'55.56"S Long: 117°0'5.21"E SE Corner: Lat: 31°34'55.56"S Long :117°35'5.31"E	5880.42km <sup>2</sup>	CUNERDIN SHIRE, DOWERIN SIRE, DALWALLINU SHIRE, KOORDA SHIRE, TAMMIN SHIRE, WONGAN-BALLIDU SHIRE, WYALKATCHEM SHIRE
Special Prospecting Authority	STP-SPA-0107	H2EX LTD	NE Corner: Lat: 29°19'55.33"S Long: 120°20'5.12"E SE Corner: Lat: 31°54'55.32"S Long :122°30'5.28"E	29502.57km <sup>2</sup>	DUNDAS SHIRE, CITY OF KALGOORLI-BOULDER SHIRE, COOLGARDIE SHIRE, MENZIES SHIRE

**Nature of the act:** The grant of a petroleum special prospecting authority will authorise the holder to explore for petroleum and to carry on such operations and execute such works as are necessary in accordance with the conditions to which the special prospecting authority is subject too, for a term of 6 months from the date of the grant.

**Notification day: 14 August 2024**

**Native title parties:** Under section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*, persons have until three months after the notification day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to applications. The three month period closes on **14 November 2024**. Any person who is, or becomes a native title party, is entitled to the negotiation and/or procedural rights provided in Part 2 Division 3 Subdivision P of *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*. Enquiries in relation to filing a native title determination application to become a native title party should be directed to the Federal Court of Australia, 1 Victoria Avenue, Perth WA 6000, telephone (08) 9268 7100.

**Expedited procedure:** The State of Western Australia considers that these acts are acts attracting the expedited procedure. Each authority may be granted unless, within the period of 4 months after the notification day (i.e. **14 December 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 authority 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 Energy Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004, or telephone (08) 9222 3518.

\*\* - A technical description of the boundaries of the proposed petroleum special prospecting authority area can be provided on request

DMIRS\_22645



## 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 Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004 may grant the following tenement applications under the *Mining Act 1978*:

Tenement Type	No.	Applicant	Area*	Locality	Centroid	Shire
Exploration Licence	08/3423	NORTH WEST SOLAR SALT PTY LTD SOL MAR HOLDINGS PTY LTD	31BL	61.9km E'ly of Onslow	Lat: 21° 26' S: Long: 115° 40' E	ASHBURTON SHIRE, KARRATHA CITY
Exploration Licence	15/2039	LCT PRECIOUS METALS PTY LTD	2BL	35.1km W'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 31° 2' S: Long: 120° 48' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	15/2095	EASTERN COOLGARDIE GOLDFIELDS PTY LTD	10BL	9.2km W'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 30° 57' S: Long: 121° 4' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	20/1072	FASTFIELD PTY LTD	70BL	34.7km N'ly of Cue	Lat: 27° 8' S: Long: 118° 0' E	CUE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	20/1073	FASTFIELD PTY LTD	57BL	40.7km N'ly of Cue	Lat: 27° 3' S: Long: 117° 55' E	CUE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	27/738	BLACK HURRICANE HILL PTY LTD	10BL	54.6km NE'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 30' S: Long: 121° 57' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	28/3430	DYNAMIC METALS LIMITED	12BL	62.3km NE'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 31' S: Long: 122° 4' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	29/1275	TOUCAN GOLD PTY LTD	4BL	125.2km SE'ly of Sandstone	Lat: 28° 59' S: Long: 119° 53' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	29/1276	TOUCAN GOLD PTY LTD	1BL	123.1km SE'ly of Sandstone	Lat: 28° 57' S: Long: 119° 54' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	31/1381	MARINER MINING PTY LTD	12BL	57.8km NE'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 4' S: Long: 121° 44' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	36/1100	DYNAMIC METALS LIMITED	12BL	27.7km E'ly of Leinster	Lat: 28° 0' S: Long: 120° 57' E	LEONORA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	57/1445	LAKE BARLEE GOLD PTY LTD	64BL	107km S'ly of Sandstone	Lat: 28° 56' S: Long: 119° 25' E	SANDSTONE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	59/2885	SYNDICATE MINERALS PTY LTD	30BL	48.6km N'ly of Yalgoo	Lat: 27° 55' S: Long: 116° 33' E	YALGOO SHIRE
Exploration Licence	77/3076	STALLION LITHIUM PTY LTD	1BL	52.3km S'ly of Marvel Loch	Lat: 31° 55' S: Long: 119° 37' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Exploration Licence	77/3078	STALLION LITHIUM PTY LTD	1BL	56.3km S'ly of Marvel Loch	Lat: 31° 57' S: Long: 119° 38' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Exploration Licence	77/3098	GOLDBRIDGE SL PTY LTD	1BL	50.1km S'ly of Marvel Loch	Lat: 31° 54' S: Long: 119° 36' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Exploration Licence	77/3221	LITHIUM STAR PTY LTD	2BL	59.6km N'ly of Hyden	Lat: 31° 55' S: Long: 119° 3' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	24/5752-S	GIRDLER, Daniel William	7.25HA	7.5km NW'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 24' S: Long: 121° 15' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	25/2817	JENKINS, Lloyd Robert	87.27HA	51.4km E'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 31° 6' S: Long: 122° 11' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	28/1420	MCGREGOR, Todd Anthony	188.07HA	74.1km NE'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 28' S: Long: 122° 10' 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: 14 August 2024**

**Native title parties:** Under section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*, persons have until 3 months after the notification day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to applications. The 3 month period closes on **14 November 2024**. Any person who is, or becomes a native title party, is entitled to the negotiation and/or procedural rights provided in Part 2 Division 3 Subdivision P of *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*. Enquiries in relation to filing a native title determination application to become a native title party should be directed to the Federal Court of Australia, 1 Victoria Avenue, Perth WA 6000, telephone (08) 9268 7100.

**Expedited procedure:** The State of Western Australia considers that these acts are acts attracting the expedited procedure. Each licence may be granted unless, within the period of 4 months after the notification day (i.e. **14 December 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 Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004, or telephone (08) 9222 3518.

\* - 1 Graticular Block = 2.8 km<sup>2</sup>

DMIRS 22642

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Shaneice Swain.

## Swain claims NBL1 South Youth Player of the Year award



SHANEICE Swain was rewarded for her exceptional 2024 NBL1 South season at the competition's annual awards last week.

The Cairns-born 20-year-old won the NBL1 South Youth Player of the Year award.

Swain, who plays for Sydney Uni Flames in the WNBL, had an incredible 2024 season.

In the 22 games she played for Geelong United, she averaged 23.05 points, 6.27 rebounds, 3.95 assists, 3.32 triples and 2.64 steals per game.

This also was her first NBL1 South season with the regional Victorian club.

The former Australian Gem (U19s) world championship winner and guard edged out fellow finalists Dallas Loughride (Dandenong), Gemma Potter (Diamond Valley), Manuela Puoch (Dandenong) and Erin Riley (Eltham) for the prize.

Swain's strong season also saw her nominated as one of the 10 finalists for the NBL1 South MVP award, which Keilor's Isabelle Bourne ultimately took out.

Swain is one of Australian women's basketball's top prospects.

At the 2023 WNBA draft, she was selected in the second-round, 14th overall, by the Los Angeles Sparks, home to Australian Opal Steph Talbot.

# Fejo sisters, Lions roar toward NBL1 Central title

By PETER ARGENT



A BLISTERING final quarter has elevated the Fejo sisters, Jasmin and Renai, and their Central

Districts Lions teammates to NBL1 Central premiers glory.

The Lions girls defeated Forestville Eagles 79-67 at the 36ers Arena on Saturday night to claim the club's first-ever title.

It was an intercept and steal by Jasmin early in the final quarter, after which she drained a three-pointer, that shifted the momentum for the Lions to win; they were down 49-55 at that point. They took the lead at the six-minute mark and would charge home to win by 12.

The final whistle sparked emotional celebrations among the players and support staff, and the Fejo girls and their large family contingent.

Jasmin, who also plays SANFLW league football with Sturt, said the Lions victory was personally better than the 2022 NBL1 Central triumph she won with the West Adelaide Bearcats, because this one was with her sister.

Jasmin was tasked with changing her game-role in the grand final, an assignment she happily accepted.

She finished with 11 points, three assists, a couple of rebounds and three important steals.

The Lions started slowly and

were down by 2pts at the first break, 5pts at the half, before an even third quarter.

"I was asked to play a defensive role in this contest and hit the scoreboard as much," she said.

"I had an offensive impact in the second half (and) that coincided with the momentum shift in the game.

"It is a night to celebrate a special achievement."

Following the victory, Renai said she would finish playing at NBL1 level.

"I played for Woodville a couple of seasons back but this is so special playing alongside my sister, with heaps of the family in the crowd," Renai said.

"This is a wonderful way to

finish playing hoops at this level."

Incredibly, this was the first grand final for the Central Districts Lions team in over 43 years since the women's program was introduced in the early 1980s.

Lions coach Joe Noone was a happy man with the team, and the Fejo girls.

"Both are amazing girls and talents," he said.

"The Fejo girls played a tremendous role in connecting this squad. Jassy and Renai were integral to this win. They have now etched themselves into club history.

"It is a special night in the history of the Central District women's program."



Renai Fejo drives the Lions forward.



Jasmin (left) and Renai Fejo celebrate their historic NBL1 Central grand final triumph. Pictures: Peter Argent



Jasmin Fejo takes the Lions safely out from defence.

# Hickey at the top of his game with Bandits in NBL1 East

By DARREN MONCRIEFF



WILL 'Davo' Hickey has added to an extraordinary 2024 season by winning a trio of personal awards in the super-competitive NBL1 East competition.

The Illawarra Hawks NBL point guard turned out for the Albury-Wodonga Bandits in the Eastern Conference of the NBL1 where he picked up a slew of awards that is sure to raise his stocks in the NBL.

Hickey won the Bandits' 2024 MVP Award, the NBL1 East Defensive Player of the Year Award, and he made the NBL1 East All-Star Five.

He was also considered extremely unlucky not to take out the NBL1 East MVP Award.

These personal accolades have added to the gold medal he won with the Gangurru at the 3x3 Basketball Asia Cup earlier this year.

Hickey has made a steady rise in basketball in recent times.

He first entered NBL ranks as a development player, first at Melbourne United, then at South East Melbourne Phoenix.

His recruitment by Illawarra was a welcome return home, and where he was joined by childhood friend Biwali Bayles.

He graduated from development player at the Hawks to full roster.

Hickey was also reportedly close to making the four-man squad for the Gangurru 3x3 men's team for the Paris Olympics Games.



Will Hickey, the Albury-Wodonga Bandits' 2024 MVP. Pictures: NBL 1







Fitzroy Stars senior men's Division 3 team celebrate their 2024 Northern Football League minor premiership. *Picture: supplied*

## Fitzroy Stars secure minor premiership



**ABORIGINAL** football club Fitzroy Stars has completed a remarkable season in the Melbourne metropolitan Aussie rules competition they play in. The Stars ended the regular season of the

Northern Football League Senior Division 3 on top of the league ladder and as minor premiers after 16 rounds of tough competition. The Koorie-run footy club dropped just two games all season and look on track to have a big say in the finals. The Stars' record this year

was 14-2 with 56 premiership points. Nearest were Old Paradians in second on 12-4 (48pts). The Stars capped the home-and-away season with a solid final-round win over Kilmore, 11.15 (81) to 6.9 (45) in which Patrick Farrant

booted five goals and inspirational skipper Jai Burns kicked three. The Fitzroy Stars will enjoy a week's rest this weekend before launching into the finals campaign. The club has several teams in the NFL – seniors, senior reserves, women and juniors.

## Comm Games costings come under scrutiny



A CONSULTING giant hired to crunch the numbers on Victoria's bid for the Commonwealth Games did not scrutinise the supplied costings.

A long-running inquiry into the doomed 2026 Games resumed public hearings last week.

The ill-fated event was axed in July 2023 following a massive estimated cost blowout.

The auditor-general ultimately ruled the business case for the Games relied on "desktop research" of what previous Games had cost, which did not properly account for Victoria's multi-city model and tight deadline.

Ana Delevska, one of three academics who wrote an independent paper on the cancelled Games, said the review omitted basic information.

"If a student submitted this as an assignment, missing these aspects, they would fail," the Melbourne Polytechnic lecturer said.

In response, department secretary Tim Ada said the business case was completed under "incredible time pressure".

"That was led by a desire, including by the Commonwealth Games Federation, to have a host in time for the Birmingham Games," he said.

The Commonwealth Games Federation is yet to reveal a replacement host for the 2026 event despite planning to announce one in May. – AAP

# Wigan a world away for Casey

By KRIS FLANDERS



THE NRLW isn't the only rugby league competition being set alight by talented Indigenous players.

Across the seas in the Women's Super League (England) is 21-year-old Rease Casey who is living her dream and playing the sport she loves in England.

The lock/second-rower is playing with the Wigan Warriors, one of the most famous and celebrated clubs in rugby league.

Casey has represented the Indigenous Roosters Academy in Sydney at 18 before moving north to play with Wynnun-Manly Seagulls and the Western Clydesdales in the QRL Women's Premiership in Brisbane.

"I've been playing a long time and playing at the highest level over in Australia under the NRLW so I wanted to have a go overseas," Casey said.

"I was quite nervous coming over but the group have been really welcoming."

The Wigan side is coached by legendary English player, Denis

Betts, who played for Wigan, Auckland Warriors (NRL) and over 30 Tests for Great Britain.

Betts is excited about Casey being at the club and what she brings to Wigan.

"We were looking for quality players in the marketplace," he said.

"Rease had a desire to play in Super League and she's got some great qualities.

"She can play pivotal roles across the park, a lot of good skills and she's been playing a long time at a really good standard.

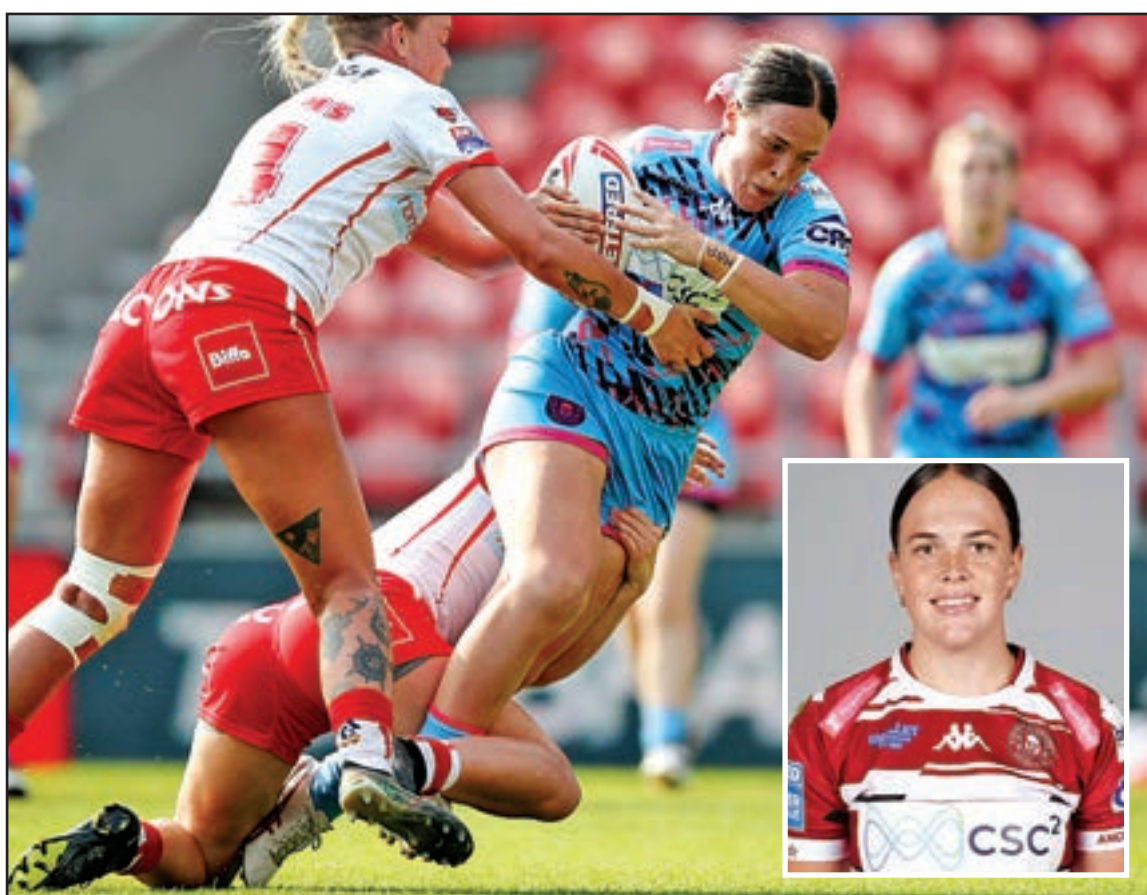
"She's got the potential to really light up Super League this year.

"Rease has the potential to go on and play NRLW but she has a drive to want to play in this country.

"She's made herself available not only to experience rugby league over here but it's also a chance for her to see another part of the world, and she is young enough to do so."

Casey's English rugby league career got off to a great start.

The tough and skillful forward has played over 10 matches for Wigan through the Super League and Challenge Cup and has crossed for five tries.



Main and inset: Rease Casey made the move to play for Wigan in the Women's Super League (England). *Pictures: Getty Images/Wigan Warriors RLFC*



## Gagai seeks extension at Rabbitohs

**AUS** JACOB Gagai has gone from considering throwing away his NRL dream to being on the cusp of receiving a contract extension with South Sydney in the space of six months.

Late bloomer Gagai – younger brother of Newcastle centre Dane – has been one of the rare shining lights in a disastrous 2024 campaign for the Rabbitohs.

The journeyman earned his NRL debut in the Las Vegas season-opener at the age of 28 and has gone on to score nine tries in 12 NRL games.

The winger's haul means he will become the first Souths player in five years to beat the prolific Alex Johnston to the Rabbitohs' top try-scorer award. – AAP



South Sydney's Jacob Gagai.



The Bwgcolman State and St Michael's Catholic School teams which played at the Obe Geia Junior Rugby League Carnival at Palm Island. Pictures: Cynthia Cormack

## Big numbers at Palm Island junior carnival

By ALF WILSON

**QLD** A BIG turnout of primary school rugby league teams took part in the Obe Geia Junior Rugby League Carnival at Palm Island.

The carnival is named after Palm Island's first footballer to play for North Queensland in the NRL.

Palm Island teams from Bwgcolman State and St Michael's competed against their mainland counterparts including Currajong State School, Good Shepherd Catholic Community School, Kelso State School, Magnetic Island

State School, Marian Catholic School, Rasmussen State School, St Clare's Catholic School, St Joseph's School, The Strand, The Cathedral School.

Held at the Palm Island Barracudas Oval, 15 local and mainland primary school boy's and girl's teams played in the 10-12 years division carnival.

Apart from sport, the carnival – established in 2009 – promotes the benefits of sport, fitness and healthy living and grassroots rugby league and also aims to increase positive attitudes and behaviours and reduce truancy.



Obe Geia Jnr. (centre) with former Cowboys player Ray Thompson (left) and local man Archie Fraser.

# Soward banking on academy

**AUS** ST GEORGE-Illawarra NRLW head coach Jamie Soward will be looking to the club's women's academy for future prospects; prospects that can't come soon enough.

Soward, a six-time Indigenous All-Star representative and Dragons premiership player (2010), could barely contain his frustration at his team's 0-2 start to the 2024 season.

A first-round loss to Gold Coast (10-18) followed by a narrow defeat to North Queensland (34-38) in Townsville has the four-year coach searching for answers.

A visit to Newcastle at the weekend pitted his team against the reigning two-time premiers, the Knights.

"There were a lot of points (scored) from both sides, they'd be happy they won, but neither of (us) coaches would be too happy about that," he said after the game in Townsville.

"We have a couple of serious injuries.

"It's tough, mate.

"It's a relatively short competition, we've got a lot of broken hearts here.

"We've had two tight games now and unfortunately we're in this predicament.

"No-one outside these four walls is gonna help us, but we'll stick together."

In his first season as coach, Soward took the Dragons to the grand final, which

they lost to the Sydney Roosters.

The following season they reached the semi-finals, but fell short to eventual premiers, Newcastle.

Hopefully, for Soward and Dragons fans, the club's NRLW Academy will bolster the team's stocks.

Already, a quartet of teenagers took to the field for the 'Red V' in the club's season-opener at WIN Stadium along with several other graduates of the club's pathways pipeline.

Soward and his coaching staff have been busy nurturing the club's women's pathways throughout the year with results beginning to be seen on the field.

The club's academy has this year provided a collection of elite juniors from St George, the Illawarra, and beyond, an



St George-Illawarra NRLW coach, Jamie Soward.

opportunity to further their rugby league careers and enhance their skills.

"We know that we've got a talented junior base at both ends that we can draw from and now it's about nurturing that talent and making sure we get as many as we can into that NRLW system," Soward said.

"The NRLW Academy's been going for eight weeks. It's been a mix of Lisa Fiaola Cup (Under-17s) and Tarsha Gale Cup (Under-19s) girls from both the Dragons and Steelers. We've picked our top 15 girls, and we've educated them on what the systems are at the next level.

"Most of the girls are contracted to us at the moment, so it's been nice to be able to get them in and have us share with the next gen what those standards

are going to be at the next level."

The academy squad were put through an opposed session against some of the best talent from Group 7 (South Coast Rugby League).

"It's been great to have that connection with Group 7," he said.

"It's such a huge community of football and great people down there, so having them bring their academy up is great.

"I think it's shown that our pathways are strong. We want to keep our best talent and bring that through."

Soward believes that it is important for the club to be at the forefront of developing the women's game and is proud to play his part.

"It's been a work in progress, but we've been proud to say that we've got an academy," he said.

"It's something that I've prided myself on since coming to the club being a part of that and running it myself, so it's great that the club has invested in myself to be full-time and be able to do that.

"(The women's game) is still in its infancy with a lot of things.

"For us, we know that we've got a talented junior base at both ends that we can draw from and now it's about nurturing that talent and making sure we get as many as we can into that NRLW system."



# A NFL-style 'Wildcard Weekend' would add much to the AFL finals

In 2023, the VFL introduced a 'Wildcard Round' – an expansion of its finals series, and it seemed to have worked. Now, it looks like the AFL maybe interested in implementing something like it.

It's been a proposal that has come and gone over recent years.

With Tasmania to come in as the 19th team, and a potential 20th down the track, this would seem like a good idea.

There are several 'pros' to a Wildcard Weekend. It originally comes from the American NFL,

which has 36 teams but who play only a 17-round season within their respective conferences (there are three), so playing in the finals, or 'play-offs' there, is not guaranteed.

The Wildcard Weekend there



Shelley Ware

addresses this.

If we had it here, games toward the end of the season would carry much more meaning. We would potentially see various combinations of 8th vs. 9th or 7th vs. 10th, etcetera. Another option is to just let whichever teams in 8th and 9th to have a straight-out 'knockout' final match. All of this would be good for teams who place 5th and 6th who would enjoy a pre-finals bye.

And theoretically, a team that finishes 9th or 10th can even win the premiership. Wouldn't that be something! We saw the Western

Bulldogs rise from 7th to win the flag in 2016.

Really, all a Wildcard Weekend is just an extra week of finals. It's been working for years in the American sports system where divisional winners advance into the play-offs, then the next best team advances and qualifies as a wildcard.

The other thing in its favour would be money. An extra game with extra interest would add much to the broadcasters, and to the next broadcast rights deal. The fans may grumble – and there already is a bit of that – but

eventually they would come around. It maybe not the 'traditionalist' way of things, but more teams in the AFL was always going to mean more games.

There may also be more overlap with the AFLW but I don't see this as a big problem.

It will be interesting to see how the AFL handle this.

**\*Shelley Ware is a proud Yankunytjatjara and Wirangu woman from Adelaide. She has worked in the AFL industry for over two decades.**

# All-Australian all the time

**WA** TWO of Western Australia's up-and-coming junior footballers have won selection in the 2024 15 Years & Under Australian Football All-Australian Girls team following standout performances in Queensland. Tiama Collard and Arybella Nelson played for

the Sandgroppers at the School Sport Australia national footy competition against teams from every state and territory. Tiama Collard is a Noongar girl attending Comet Bay College, and Arybella Nelson is Noongar and Yamatji who goes to Mater Dei College. Arybella was the captain of WA and was

also awarded the team's tournament MVP. She is one to watch. This was Arybella's second year named in the 2023 SSA All-Australian team. She is also eligible to play at the annual tournament in 2025. Tiama's selection was doubly joyful after being named the All-Australian State 16s team earlier.



Arybella Nelson (left) and Tiama Collard were recently named in the 2024 15 Years & Under Australian Football All-Australian Girls team.

## Final-day fixture sets up a bumper AFL finals race

**AUS** THE AFL finals race its set for a thrilling crescendo with final round 24 fixtures locked in. The league last week confirmed the schedule of matches for round 24, which will decide the Top 8 ahead of the finals. Up to a dozen teams could still be in the finals hunt at that stage (see ladder below). A Melbourne-Collingwood Friday night clash will open round 24 at the MCG, while Geelong, Hawthorn and Sydney are all in action on the Saturday. Brisbane host Essendon at the Gabba on the Saturday night in a contest that could have finals ramifications for both sides. But the Sunday fixture is the highlight, starting with the Western Bulldogs hosting GWS in Ballarat. Finals hopefuls Carlton host St Kilda before Fremantle take on Port Adelaide in Perth in the final game of the home-and-away season. – AAP

ROUND 21 LADDER		
1	SYDNEY SWANS	58 126.1
2	BRISBANE LIONS	54 125.1
3	PORT ADELAIDE	52 113.6
4	OWS GIANTS	52 111.2
5	GEELONG CATS	52 108.8
6	FREMANTLE	50 116.7
7	WESTERN BULLDOGS	48 122.4
8	CARLTON	48 112.1
9	ESSENDON	48 95.9
10	HAWTHORN	44 104.1
11	COLLINGWOOD	44 100.2
12	MELBOURNE	40 97.0
13	GOLD COAST SUNS	38 100.4
14	ST KILDA	32 94.9
15	ADELAIDE CROWS	30 89.8
16	WEST COAST LEOPARDS	18 70.0
17	NORTH MELBOURNE	12 67.0
18	RICHMOND	8 64.7

## Port's rise due, in part, to the Power of Rioli

By PETER ARGENT **AUS** A KEY factor for Port Adelaide's rise up the 2024 AFL premiership ladder, and climb back into premiership contention over the past month, can, in no small part, be put down to the resurrection of their forward-line, with the key component being the return to form of small forward Willie Rioli.

Rioli played a huge role in Port Adelaide's hefty 112-point defeat of (former) premiership favourites, Sydney in round 21 at Adelaide Oval (3 August). Strategically, Rioli not only plays a key role in the Port structure but his four goals against the Swans was significant reward for his work-rate and team-first ethos. He booted four goals from just 10 possessions in this

game. At this point of the season, Rioli has played 13 games for a yield of 24 goals (an average just below two-goals per game). His other four-goal performance was against Geelong in round 10 which resulted in another win for Port. It was an amazing night for Port Adelaide who amazingly kicked the first 71 points of the match before the Swans registered even a score. In this crazy season, Port Adelaide have two of the biggest First Nations names in the game's history – Burgoyne (Jase) and Rioli (Willie) who are playing significant roles for the team. Rioli has had to step up because Port are without the services of enforcer Sam Powell-Pepper, who was injured early in the 2024 season and is undergoing rehabilitation for a ruptured ACL.



Willie Rioli (left) and teammate Jase Burgoyne celebrate one of Rioli's four goals against the Sydney Swans at Adelaide Oval in round 21. Picture: Peter Argent



# Bitter-sweet end to Mills' Olympic career



Patty Mills had an outstanding game against Serbia in the quarter finals at the Paris Games this week. *Picture: Basketball Australia*

By **DARREN MONCRIEFF**



**PATTY** Mills' final Olympic Games ended on bitter-sweet terms after he led the Australian Boomers' scoring in a heartbreaking 90-95 quarter-final loss to Serbia in a dramatic finish in over-time in Paris.

Australia was down by 2pts with less than a second to play in regular-time before 6-foot Mills wrong-footed the 6-foot-11 Luka Jokic to land a mid-range basket that tied the game 82pts apiece.

But the Serbs effected two turnovers in over-time to keep possession and score, and win.

The loss brings down the curtain on Mills' Olympic career, his fifth Games. He turned 36 on Sunday (11 August).

Mills piled on a team-high 26pts against Serbia. He almost single-handedly led the Aussies to a game-high 24pts before the Serbs worked to reel that in and take the lead in the third quarter.

Mills had a relatively quiet start to the

Games but his previous two games were nothing short of inspirational. He set the tone for the Boomers, and the game, in last week's quarter-final. At one point, his personal tally was more than that of the Serbs.

"It's the Olympic Games, it brings out the best," Mills said, still catching his breath, immediately after the match.

"We threw everything at them (Serbia) but it wasn't our day.

"They were great, they had that toughness, and played a helluva game.

"We've had a blast, we've stuck together, stayed connected as a group, these are the moments you wanna be in...the support's been there, through thick and thin, ups and downs.

"We've learnt a lot about ourselves, and myself, and what it means to play for my country."

The Aussies turned an otherwise underwhelming group-phase stage into a potential podium finish after advancing to the quarter-final stage to meet the Serbs, who they defeated at the Tokyo Games for

an historic first Olympic medal (bronze).

Australia barely escaped the group stage with a 1-2 win-loss record; one of those losses coming against lowly Greece in their final group game (77-71).

Their progression to the quarter-finals was also reliant on group-leaders Canada defeating France, which they did, but only just (88-85).

At the end of the Group phase, the Boomers placed second to Canada in Group A.

Overall, in the 12-nation Olympic campaign, Australia placed sixth, the final spot possible to qualify for the quarter-finals.

Mills is also out-of-contract and a NBA free-agent. He had limited opportunities with Miami Heat this past NBA season and would welcome a return to the team.

There is talk of him joining the B.League, the top-level and professional basketball competition in Japan, but that is speculation at this stage.

Incidentally, both the Boomers and Opals played their Serbian counterparts in the quarter-finals.

## How our countrymen and women fared in Paris



### Abbey Connor – Swimming (200m butterfly)

Olympic debutante Abbey Connor made the final in her event. Progressed to the final via a second-place in the heats (Heat 3) and third in the semi-final (Semi-Final 3) both with consistent times; improving her heat time of 2m-07.13s in the semi, 2m-07.10s. In a field of eight in the final, Abbey placed 7th with a time of 2min-08.15s, 5.12s off the pace from the winner. *Pictures: Getty Images*

### Maurice Longbottom (right) – Rugby 7s

Maurice Longbottom and the Aussie men's team went through the group phase undefeated, with several big wins; the biggest, 18-0 over the US. Aiming for a spot in the final, however, they were outplayed by Fiji, 7-31. Further heartbreak followed in the play-off for bronze, losing to South Africa 19-26.



### Ally Wilson – 3x3 Basketball

Another debutante at the Games, Ally Wilson and the Gangurrus started with a hiccup in Paris – a 14-22 first-up loss to Canada before wins in their next five games. But a 17-21 loss to Spain curtailed their medal hopes, as did losses to France (18-16) and Canada again (10-21).



### Conor Nicholas – Sailing (mixed dinghy)

Crewmate Conor Nicholas and helmswoman Nia Jerwood kept the pace with their fellow competitors in their seven races at Marseille Marina, and they reached the final. In the final, however, the pair's overall points tally saw them place sixth.





**Callum Peters – Boxing (80kg)**

Olympic debutant Callum Peters fought like a demon in his opening bout at the Games, landing some telling blows upon Nurbek Oralbay (pictured) from Kazakhstan. The men shared a round-win each (1 and 2) of the three-round bout. In the third round, two of the five judges award the final round to Callum, however the remaining three awarded it to his opponent, who won 3-2. In Olympic boxing, one loss and you're out.



**Brooke Peris (above), Mariah Williams – Hockey**

Another Olympics, another heartbreak for the Hockeyroos, whose 4-0 run in the group stage was halted by China at the quarter-final stage, 2-3.



**Calab Law – Athletics**

Calab Law followed in the footsteps of his idol Cathy Freeman into the Olympic arena. Calab was part of the 4x100 relay team, also competing in the 200m. In the first heat of the 200m, Calab was 7th (from 8), qualifying for the repechage round (a "second-chance" heat) but, wanting to focus his energies on the relay, Calab pulled out. In their relay heat, Calab and the Aussies set an arena record (38.12s) to place 7th from lane 9. Calab, third in line to receive the baton, ran his leg in 9.13s.

**Taliqa Clancy – Beach Volleyball**

Looking to go one better from Tokyo, where Taliqa and Mariafe Artacho del Solar reached the final (vs. Canada) only to have to settle for silver, the beach volleyball pair in Paris were knocked out of the gold medal-game by Canada. In the play-off for bronze against Switzerland, the Aussie pair came unstuck and lost in two sets.

**Pictures: Getty Images**







Alex Winwood.

## Count down is on for world title tilt



**NATIONAL NAIDOC's 2024 Sportsperson of the Year Alex Winwood will put it all on the line when he**

**faces long-reigning WBA straw-weight champion Thammanoon Niyomtrong at Perth's Rectangular Stadium next month (September 7).**

Winwood, 27, has made a perfect start to a professional career in its infancy – he is 4-0.

The 2020 Tokyo Olympian turned pro late in 2021.

In Winwood's corner with Dragon Fire Boxing is one of Western Australia's greatest boxing exports, Danny Green, whose bouts with Anthony Mundine two decades ago captured the attention of the nation and put boxing front and centre.

Niyomtrong has successfully defended the WBA belt a phenomenal 11 times – boxing's longest ongoing title reign across a single division.

# Rose open to welcome Olympians to pro ranks

By DARREN MONCRIEFF



NO Limit Boxing's George Rose said the current crop of Aussie Olympians in the boxing team have the potential to do well in professional ranks.

Rose, the Indigenous All-Star and Koori Knockout champion winner with Walgett BAC, manages a growing stable of highly world-ranked professional boxers, notably Tim Tszyu.

Rose has kept a close eye on the boxing team at the Paris Games and nominated lightweight (63.5kg) Harry Garside and super-heavyweight (+92kg) Teremoana Teremoana who he would welcome into his stable.

Boxers who compete at the Olympic Games must be amateurs. Many turn pro after competing at the Games.

Garside won bronze at the Tokyo Games but lost his first-round bout in Paris. But it was his post-fight interview that was heart-wrenching, calling himself a failure and that he let down his country.

Garside had the opportunity to turn to professional ranks after Tokyo but felt he had unfinished business in the Olympic arena.

He had previously worked with



No Limit Boxing promoter George Rose. Picture: Supplied

Rose at No Limit.

"Harry Garside is not a failure by any regard," Rose said.

"He's out there putting everything on the line, his heart and soul.

"That was a tough and awkward fight; he has not lost a single supporter.

"He chased (Olympic) greatness but just didn't achieve that; he is an amazing fighter, and person, and has a big future.

"We would love to see him in the pros, people love him and support him, there's a great professional career in front of him.

"We'll support him and we loved working with him in the past."

Teremoana had a solid run at Paris. He effected a first-round knockout on Ukraine's Dmytro Lovchynskiy in the preliminaries (round of 16) but lost on points to

Uzbekistan's Bakhodir Jalolov in the quarter-final stage. Rose is keen to speak with him.

"I like big boys, I'm a big boy," he said when asked if he'd have Teremoana at No Limit.

"I like seeing our Australian boxers in Paris."

Australia's boxing contingent in Paris was the country's largest at any Olympic Games, and it featured young prospect, Aboriginal man Callum Peters."



## Orange the new Blak for Hinkley



MIKAYLA Hinkley's return to Western Australia and the Perth Scorchers bolsters the franchises batting stocks ahead of Weber WBBL|10.

The dynamic middle-order bat, one of a handful of Aboriginal women in top-level cricket, has signed on for the next two seasons.

This will be her second stint in orange, following her five appearances for the club in WBBL|03.

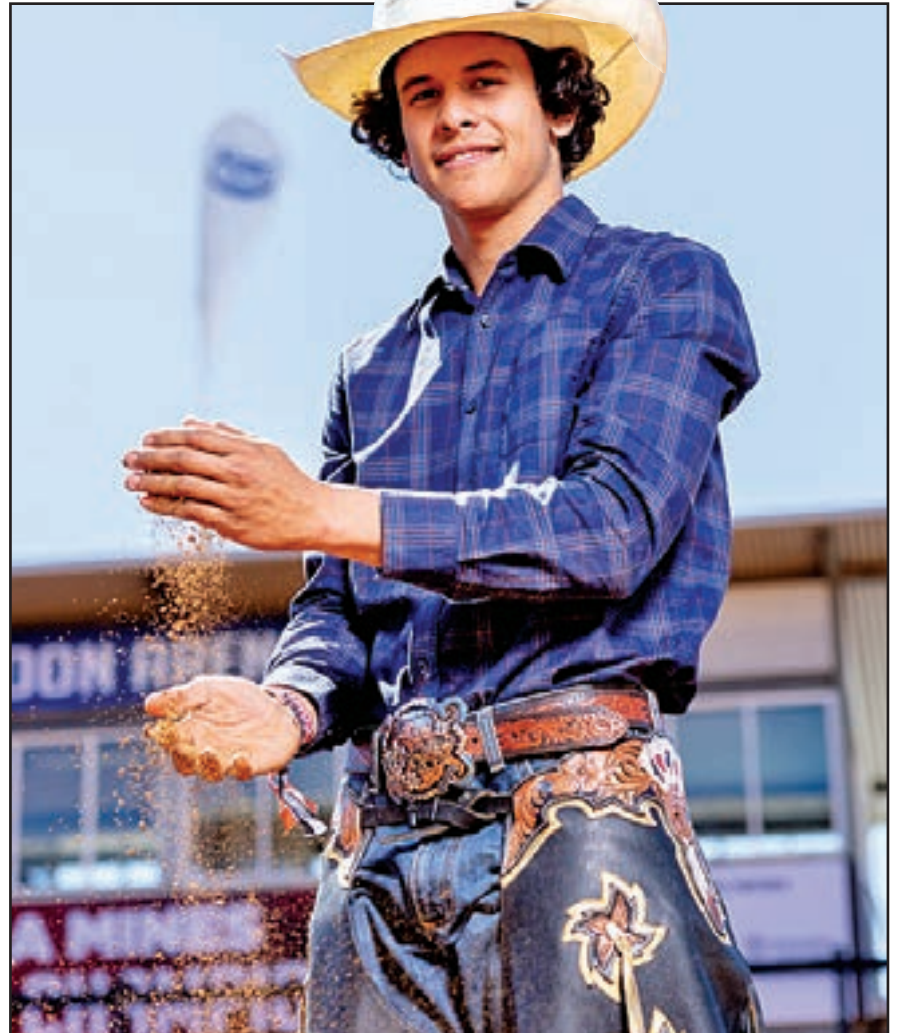
The 25-year-old is a known commodity in the WBBL, having played 64 matches during stints with the Scorchers, Brisbane Heat, Hobart Hurricanes and Sydney Thunder since her debut as a 16-year-old in WBBL|01.

A powerful right-hander, Hinkley has been a reliable run-scorer during her time in the competition, compiling 348 runs in 37 innings.

Known for her versatility, Hinkley can occupy multiple positions in the batting order, with her powerful batting style and composure at the crease set to play an important role in the Scorchers line-up in WBBL|10.

Mikayla Hinkley joins the Perth Scorchers for the next two WBBL seasons. Picture: Getty Images





Above left: Bull-rider Peter Gregory Jnr. celebrates a successful ride at the Mount Isa Indigenous Rodeo in the far-western Queensland capital at the weekend. Above right: Getting that famous red dust on his hands, first-time at the Mount Isa Rodeo, Indigenous rider Ethan Williams from Burpengary near Brisbane drove 1800km to ride a bull. Below right: Māori competitors from Aotearoa perform the haka in front of the Traditional Owner dance group during the opening ceremony at Mount Isa. Pictures: Getty Images /Luke Marsden.



# Breaking new ground at the Mount Isa Indigenous Rodeo



IN just its third year, the Mount Isa Indigenous Rodeo championships is growing in stature. The annual event has for the first time invited Māori bull-riders and horsemen.

New Zealand has a long history of rodeo, horse-riding and bull-riding. The union of Aboriginal and Māori people at Mount Isa breaks new ground in bringing together to First Nations people in the arena.

Captain of the Māori team, 29-year old cowboy Merv Church is the grandson of the godfather of New Zealand rodeo Mervyn Church, and the son of Corey Church, who won six NZRCA All-Round titles and his mantlepiece is full of national bull-ride buckles.

The proud Ngāti Maniapoto, Ngāti Pikiao, Ngāti Tūwharetoa man said he had dreamt of riding at the legendary Mount Isa Rodeo since he was a little boy. "My dad and uncles all talk about

Mount Isa Rodeo, everyone talks about riding at this rodeo." he said

"It would be the icing on the cake to take home a famous Mount Isa Rodeo buckle (trophy).

"I'm so privileged to be riding one of Shane Kenny's (legendary Australian cowboy) horses, which makes it one of the best in the world, and the whole team is so thankful to have incredible horses for this rodeo.

"We hope this Trans-Tasman Rodeo

Challenge can become an annual event."

Ethan Williams, from Burpengary near Brisbane, has family from the Torres Strait. He made a 1800km trip to compete at Mount Isa. While the apprentice carpenter may have not grown up in rodeo, he has had a taste now and was keen to get on a bull.

"I'm excited about the personality of the Mount Isa bulls and am dead keen to get going," he said.

"It's a long way and it's worth it."





# Australia's best Games – but medals elude our Top 10

By DARREN MONCRIEFF



A LATE flurry of medals at the 2024 Paris Games led Australia past its previous best result of 17 gold in Athens 2004 and Tokyo 2020, and 16 in Sydney 2000.

At the end of competition, Australia's final gold-medal haul sat at 18.

Though the overall tally in medals in Sydney (58) was greater than Paris, the IOC likes to count gold at the medal table.

Which meant that in Paris, Australia was placed third in the final standings, behind the billion-people China and the powerful United States.

There were several firsts for Australia in Paris: first-ever gold in the women's pommel horse, the women's time-trial (cycling), the women's kayak cross, the women's BMX racing, a first-ever medal in the women's 1500m, and a first men's 50m freestyle gold.

Other firsts included swimmers and sailors defending gold medals, and tennis players winning back-to-back doubles.

And while we may bathe ourselves in reflective medal glory, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander athletes in Paris were unable to secure a podium finish.

First-round exits, group-phase disappointments, and misses by milliseconds, even pre-Games injuries interrupting their preparations, left each of our Top 10 athletes agonisingly out of reach of a chance at a medal.

Despite this, they certainly made a mark in Paris.

Each of them won selection in the Australian team by hard work, dedication and sacrifice, and have forever added their names to the growing pantheon of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander athletes at The Greatest Show on Earth (see graphic).

● How they fared in Paris – Pages 48 and 49

## AUSTRALIAN INDIGENOUS OLYMPIANS

60 known Indigenous Australians have competed at the Olympic Games from Tokyo 1964 to Tokyo 2020.

<b>MICHAEL AH MATT</b> Basketball - 1964 Tokyo	<b>JAMES SWAN</b> Boxing - 1996 Atlanta, 2000 Sydney	<b>JOSHUA ROSS</b> Athletics - 2004 Athens, 2008 Beijing	<b>LYDIA WILLIAMS</b> Football - 2016 Rio, 2020 Tokyo
<b>ADRIAN BLAIR</b> Boxing - 1964 Tokyo	<b>KYLE VANDER-KUYP</b> Athletics - 1996 Atlanta, 2000 Sydney	<b>DESMOND ABBOTT</b> Hockey - 2008 Beijing	<b>TALIQUA CLANCY</b> Beach Volleyball - 2016 Rio, 2020 Tokyo
<b>FRANCIS ROBERTS</b> Boxing - 1964 Tokyo	<b>HENRY COLLINS</b> Boxing - 2000 Sydney	<b>LUKE BOYD</b> Boxing - 2008 Beijing	<b>JOEL SWIFT</b> Waterpolo - 2016 Rio
<b>ROBERT CARNEY</b> Boxing - 1968 Mexico City	<b>DANIEL GEALE</b> Boxing - 2000 Sydney	<b>ROHANEE COX</b> Basketball - 2008 Beijing	<b>JON PORCH</b> Rugby Sevens - 2016 Rio
<b>JOSEPH DONOVAN</b> Boxing - 1968 Mexico City	<b>ANTHONY MARTIN</b> Weightlifting - 2000 Sydney	<b>PAUL FLEMING</b> Boxing - 2008 Beijing	<b>LEILANI MITCHELL</b> Basketball - 2016 Rio, 2020 Tokyo
<b>JOHN KINSELA</b> Wrestling - 1968 Mexico City, 1972 Munich	<b>BRIDGETTE STARR</b> Football - 2000 Sydney	<b>BENN HARRADINE</b> Athletics - 2008 Beijing, 2012 London, 2016 Rio	<b>MARIAH WILLIAMS</b> Hockey - 2016 Rio, 2020 Tokyo
<b>NORMAN STEVENS</b> Boxing - 1980 Moscow	<b>KASEY WEHRMAN</b> Football - 2000 Sydney	<b>PATRICK MILLS</b> Basketball - 2008 Beijing, 2012 London, 2016 Rio, 2020 Tokyo	<b>HARLEY WINDSOR</b> Figure Skating (Pairs) - 2018 PyeongChang
<b>DANNY MORSEU</b> Basketball - 1980 Moscow, 1984 Los Angeles	<b>BRADLEY HORE</b> Boxing - 2000 Sydney, 2004 Athens	<b>JOEL CARROLL</b> Hockey - 2012 London	<b>ALEX WINWOOD</b> Boxing - 2020 Tokyo
<b>DARRELL HILES</b> Boxing - 1988 Seoul	<b>PATRICK JOHNSON</b> Athletics - 2000 Sydney, 2004 Athens	<b>CAMERON HAMMOND</b> Boxing - 2012 London	<b>ANGELINE BLACKBURN</b> Athletics - 2020 Tokyo
<b>JUSTANN CRAWFORD</b> Boxing - 1992 Barcelona, 1996 Atlanta	<b>NATHAN THOMAS</b> Waterpolo - 2000 Sydney, 2004 Athens	<b>DAMIEN HOOPER</b> Boxing - 2012 London	<b>ASH BARTY</b> Tennis - 2020 Tokyo
<b>ROBERT PEDEN</b> Boxing - 1992 Barcelona, 1996 Atlanta	<b>JAMIE PITTMAN</b> Boxing - 2004 Athens	<b>BEKI LEE</b> Athletics - 2012 London	<b>BRANDON WAKELING</b> Weightlifting - 2020 Tokyo
<b>SAMANTHA RILEY</b> Swimming - 1992 Barcelona, 1996 Atlanta	<b>DEAN SEMMENS</b> Waterpolo - 2004 Athens	<b>JESSE ROSS</b> Boxing - 2012 London	<b>DYLAN PIETSCH</b> Rugby Sevens - 2020 Tokyo
<b>CATHERINE FREEMAN</b> Athletics - 1992 Barcelona, 1996 Atlanta, 2000 Sydney	<b>ANTHONY LITTLE</b> Boxing - 2004 Athens, 2008 Beijing	<b>KHALEN YOUNG</b> Cycling (BMX) - 2012 London	<b>MAURICE LONGBOTTOM</b> Rugby Sevens - 2020 Tokyo
<b>BAEDEN CHOPPY</b> Hockey - 1996 Atlanta	<b>JADE NORTH</b> Football - 2004 Athens, 2008 Beijing	<b>BROOKE PERIS</b> Hockey - 2016 Rio, 2020 Tokyo	<b>TARNI STEPTO</b> Softball - 2020 Tokyo
<b>NOVA PERIS</b> Hockey, Athletics - 1996 Atlanta, 2000 Sydney	<b>STACEY PORTER</b> Softball - 2004 Athens, 2008 Beijing, 2020 Tokyo	<b>KYAH SIMON</b> Football - 2016 Rio, 2020 Tokyo	<b>THOMAS GRICE</b> Shooting - 2020 Tokyo



Eiffel Tower Stadium – or where the beach volleyball was played – was perhaps the most iconic location of the Paris Games. Picture: Getty Images

The Australian Olympic Committee's records indicate 60 Indigenous Olympians have represented their country since the great trio of Michael Ah Mat, Adrian Blair and Frank Roberts broke new ground at the 1964 Tokyo Games. By our reckoning, after Paris, that total now stands at 65. Image: AOC

# Hawks trio take racism claim to Federal Court



AFL premiership star Cyril Rioli has lodged a statement of claim in the Federal Court against his former club

Hawthorn, as he and others continue to pursue legal action over alleged racism.

Rioli is the lead applicant alongside his wife Shannyn Ah Sam-Rioli, former players Carl Peterson and Jermaine

Miller-Lewis, his partner Montanah-Rae Lewis, and Hawthorn's former Indigenous liaison officer Leon Egan.

The step comes after mediation between the group and those accused of racism – including former Hawks coach Alastair Clarkson and his assistant Chris Fagan – was terminated by the Human Rights Commission in May.

The Hawthorn Football Club is listed

as the sole respondent in the Federal Court documents, while Clarkson and Fagan were not specifically named.

Hawthorn commissioned a cultural safety review in 2022 to investigate allegations of systemic mistreatment of First Nations players at the club.

The findings were made public via a media report in AFL grand final week that year.

An AFL investigation later found no adverse findings against Clarkson, Fagan and former Hawks welfare manager Jason Burt.

Clarkson, Fagan and Burt have consistently denied wrongdoing and rejected accusations of racism.

The Federal Court documents were lodged on Friday, August 26, before deadline. – AAP