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Violence report fails to deliver

No justice for missing and murdered First Nations women while they remain 'invisible'



A LANDMARK report into missing and murdered First Nations women and children is merely "tinkering at the edges" and won't deliver justice, an expert has warned.

Justice can never be achieved for missing and murdered First Nations women and children while they remain "invisible" and unprotected.

That is the message from Indigenous women across Australia following the release of

a Senate inquiry's final report.

The report, delivered recently after two years of public hearings, found there had been "little, if any justice" for First Nations women and children who had been murdered or disappeared.

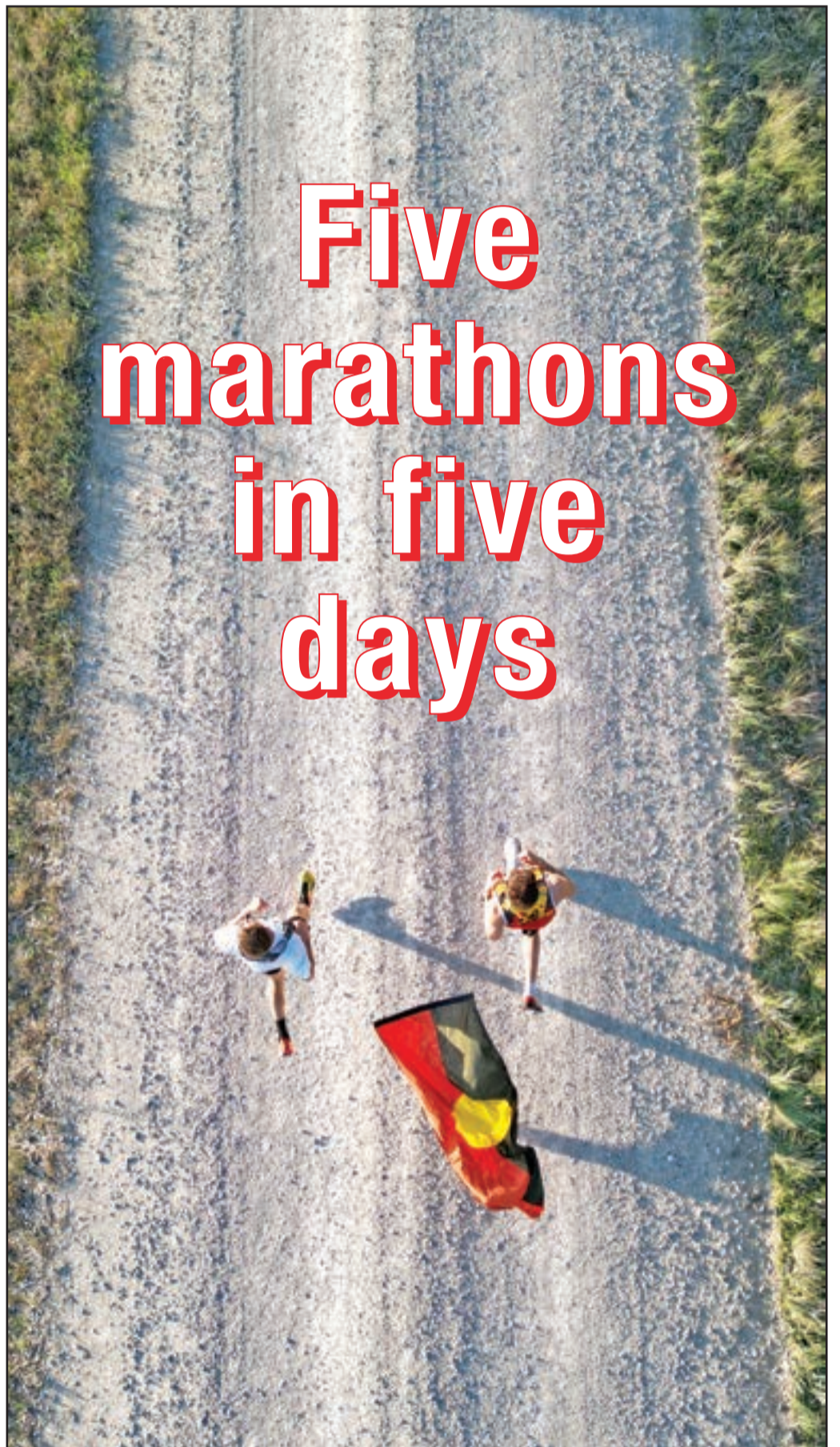
Lawyer Karen Iles, the founder of the Make Police Investigate campaign, said it was positive the committee had recommended the appointment of an advocate for First Nations women and children within the Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Commission.

● Full story, page 8



Saving the seas in a 'rubbish' boat

Page 3



Five marathons in five days

By DARREN COYNE



(equivalent to five marathons)

GUNDITJMARA brothers Javier and Darchi Clarke aim to run over 220km in five days

to raise funds and awareness around mental health and suicide prevention.

Their run will start in Ballarat, Victoria, on Tuesday, September 10 (World Suicide Prevention Day), and they aim to arrive in Echuca five days later.

They will be supported along the way by their parents, Paul and Clare, and their mate, Lachie Trotman, who will be riding a bike.

They have a Gofundme page (ClarkeRun) to raise money for Lifeline Australia.

● Full story, page 23

Supply Nation's *Connect* kicks off in Brisbane, page 25

INSIDE



What's your spirit animal?

PAGE 5



Cultural burns in high demand

PAGES 10-11



Buyers flock to Darwin art fair

PAGE 18



Supply Nation marks 15 years

PAGE 25

MY FAMILY Elia Ware, Cairns, Qld



As a family we enjoy lots of time together including going camping, fishing and also rugby league football.

I am aged 36 and have Erub and Moa descent whilst my wife Kristin has bloodlines on Boigu which is near PNG.

We have two children Anjelo, aged 13, and Trey, 16.

I also have a daughter Kayla, 23, and James, 20, and we love spending family time together.

Often we go down to Trinity Beach in Cairns but I don't go in the water because of crocodiles and lay on the sand and relax.

Also we get out to Yarrabah near Cairns and love camping at a spot there called Wongu Beach.

I would have to say our major family passion is rugby league and I am president of the Edmonton Storm which is a club in the Cairns and District competition.

Kristin is a volunteer and all of the kids play rugby league and we travel together

to Allblacks carnivals round the district.

We are organising our own women's carnival at Edmonton in October.

My father Ned Ware and mother Kathy sell fruit from beside the highway at Cairns and some of the children help them from time to time.

They are role models in our lives and we love them dearly.

Also James and his partner are expecting a baby in November which will be our first grandchild.

We are very excited about this.

Your photographer saw myself, Kristin and Anjelo in Townsville on August 10 when the Cowboys played the Brisbane Broncos.

We are both proud of our heritage and most years get back to the Torres Strait and visit family and friends on TI, Moa and Erub. Soon we will be getting to Boigu where we have never been before.

Life is great thanks to our wonderful family.

From left are myself Elia Ware, son Anjelo and wife Kristin.

SHARE YOUR FAMILY WITH OUR READERS

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

OUR CHILDREN



Widda dancers from the Weir State School in Queensland at the Garbutt Magpies Cup in Townsville. Full story and more pictures on pages 26-27.

Koori Mail

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Rubbish boat's journey to highlight plastic pollution

By JILLIAN MUNDY



A WHOLE heap of plastic 'rubbish' was recently welcomed to the shores of Truwuna/Cape Barren Island.

It didn't wash in on the tide. Instead it came in the form of *Heart*, a boat built by Samuel McLennan entirely from materials salvaged from the marine environment, with the exception of some silicon used to patch a buoy.

Despite a proud boat building history on Truwana, locals checking out *Heart* commented they couldn't build one like it as there are no fish farms close by littering the oceans - and that's the way want to keep it.

Truwuna, off the north east of Lutruwita/Tasmania was returned to the Tasmanian Aboriginal community in 2005. It is one of six in the Furneaux Group returned.

Truwana and Pakana Rangers who care for the islands are working toward Sea Country around the islands being declared an Indigenous Protected Area (IPA).

A yet-to-be released proposed IPA management plan lists marine plastic pollution as a high risk to the environment and cultural practices.

When rangers do their monthly beach clean ups, they usually find water bottles from other countries, rope and debris from fishing boats, and mirco plastics small enough for fish and birds to consume - unlike southern Lutruwita beach clean ups, where the bulk of rubbish comes from controversial, industrial scale, foreign owned, Atlantic salmon farms which are driving native species to extinction and polluting waterways.

The Tasmanian Liberal government is determined to expand the salmon industry.

Furneaux Islands locals are campaigning to wipe areas designated for fish farm leases in nearby waterways from government plans. A draft 2023 government report says they will 'progress statutory planning processes' to do this by 2028.

McLennan built *Heart* mainly



Kie Simon-Brown and his mother, Truwana Ranger, June Brown, from Truwuna, pose for a photo with admiral of the fleet and captain of *Heart*, Samuel McLennan, with the salvaged canvas and plastic tube painted by Takira Simon-Brown (Kie's sister and June's daughter) from Nipaluna/Hobart, for the vessel. Kie and June were surprised about the canvas and Samuel delighted about the connection.

from pipes and other debris from salmon farms and oyster farms in southern Lutruwita.

In 2022, returning home from Sydney to Lutruwita - heartbroken, his business gone bust and homeless, McLennan wrote to the Tasmanian government with the idea of repurposing the decommissioned Bruny Island vehicle ferry into an 'innovation island' which could include finding solutions for environmental issues caused by local salmon farms.

"I was complaining to dad about my application being rejected, and he said - well why don't you build your island out of fish farmed debris, there's plenty around," McLennan explained.

Heart took two years to build.

He struggled to get licences from marine authorities for the vessel until ABC and SBS got onto the story. Next thing a

marine surveyor offered to survey it, a licence was granted and he was off.

Through a couple of chance meetings there are two support vessels - although McLennan would have made the journey without them. The fleet of three left Nubeena (southern Lutruwita) in March and hope to reach Eora Country (Sydney) by Christmas.

Along the way they explore, educate, learn and yarn with locals and do beach clean ups waiting for favourable tides and weather.

Man on a mission

McLennan is a man on a mission 'to stop waste from entering the environment and remove the waste that's already there'.

"This is your home, and this is your planet, look after it.

"Life was actually pretty simple

for me, all I've got to do is just make this planet better than what it was when I arrived here, and I can go up and pass away, simple as that," he told the *Koori Mail*.

It is estimated that 14 million tonnes of plastic end up in the ocean every year.

When synthetic plastics were first made in the early 1900s, they slowed the exploitation and looming extinction of elephants and turtles whose tusks and shells were used for things like piano keys, billiard balls, combs and knitting needles.

Fast forward to 2024 and plastic has infiltrated every part of our lives.

The same properties that make it so useful and durable make it incredibly hard to dispose of. Plastic has even found its way into the food we eat and our bodies.

Last week *The Guardian*

reported on academic studies which detected tiny shards and specks of plastics in human brains, lungs, placentas, reproductive organs, livers, kidneys, joints, blood vessels and bone marrow.

A 2019 Australian study found an average person could be ingesting five grams of plastic a week - the equivalent of a credit card.

In November a United Nations committee with representatives from 176 nations is set to finalise a global plastics treaty to end plastic pollution. There have been reports lobbying and intimidation by fossil fuel and chemical companies have hampered talks so far.

As the *Koori Mail* went to press *Heart* had just arrived at Flinders Island. You can follow the voyage on 'Project Interrupt' Facebook and Instagram pages.



Wal Maynard was among the locals who raced down to the Truwuna wharf to welcome the 'rubbish boat' in. Pictures: Jillian Mundy



The community of the Furneaux Islands have been campaigning to keep salmon farms out of island waters.

Statement challenged

By ADAM C LEES



THE International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM), a leading global mining industry organisation that includes some of the world's largest and most influential mining companies, has released a new Indigenous Peoples Position Statement.

Established in October 2001, the ICMM aims to enhance ethical, environmental, and social performance within the mining and resources sector, while building trust and collaboration with external stakeholders.

The refreshed and contemporised Indigenous Peoples Position Statement represents the third update since the original in 2008, following a revision in 2013. The new statement nudges ICMM members toward higher environmental, social and governance (ESG) standards and commits them to a more respectful, inclusive and rights-based approach to Indigenous communities.

Developed over two years, the new position statement was drafted in collaboration with Indigenous participants, human-rights experts, legal professionals, and member companies. Aligned with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the ICMM now expects member companies to conduct thorough due diligence, improve cultural heritage protection and management, engage with Indigenous communities early on, and ensure that benefit-sharing reflects their aspirations.

Speaking recently, ICMM CEO and

president Rohitash Dhawan says these important commitments reinforce the ICMM's dedication to respecting Indigenous Peoples' rights, participating in meaningful engagement, and supporting the fair and equitable participation of Indigenous Peoples in the development of mining projects and activities on their lands and territories.

"With these revisions, we hope to provide much-needed clarity on the role of companies, alongside states, to contribute to the free, prior and informed consent of Indigenous Peoples in decisions that affect them.

"Alongside many positive examples of respectful and enduring partnerships that have advanced the social and economic development of Indigenous Peoples, we recognise that in some instances, mining activities have harmed their rights," he said.

However, some advocacy groups, including the Securing Indigenous Peoples' Rights in the Green Economy (SIRGE) Coalition and the Right Energy Partnership with Indigenous Peoples (REP), have challenged the statement; they argue the commitments are loose and still do not fully guarantee Indigenous rights. They have called upon the ICMM and its member companies to make Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) a minimum, non-negotiable requirement for all mining projects.

Other critics highlight that compliance with the ICMM statement principles are voluntary and lacking enforcement penalties. Without establishing mandatory measures, they contend the mining industry will still significantly and negatively impact Indigenous rights and interests.



Footballers and stars of the film *Like my Brother* enjoying the world premiere at MIFFS. Left to right: Freda, Rina, Jess. Front, left to right: Melea and Jocelia.

Films aim to create better pathways

During the Melbourne International film festival this August I was privileged to see our people's and some dear friend's voices shared, lifted and celebrated across the big screen at ACMI. The first film *Like my Brother* and then *Voice* are two very different films but both, highlighting young First Nations people's voices and lived experiences, have merit and are important to listen to.

Like my Brother is a coming-of-age story that follows four Tiwi Island AFLW players Rina, Freda, Juliana and Jess for five years as they openly share their dream to play AFLW for a team at the MCG in Melbourne. I have known these amazing young women for a while, from our time together in the Indigenous Literacy Foundation Create Program.

We saw Essendon Football Club in the film tried to give them a shot but it lacked a cultural understanding and players were put in a house in the middle of nowhere with not a tree in sight. It was beautifully articulated by Rina "...this place looks dead."

I don't think the AFL has tried hard enough and hides too easily behind home sickness as a reason for the transition to AFL not working. An NT team would have been a quick-fix solution or culturally safe spaces that care to make it work.



Shelley Ware

In fact, Rina was in the top 10 of the AFLW stats in 2018 and not drafted and I remember watching the 2020 draft closely hoping for Freda's name to be called just after covid but it wasn't. That hurt to watch again in the film! I saw these four play in Milikapiti this year. They are still better, sorry to say, than over half of the AFLW current list playing this up and coming season.

Freda said: "We hope a change in the systems comes after watching this film, that leads to better pathways, to make it easier for community Mob who dream of making it big outside of their community."

Rina agreed saying: "We hope that *Like my Brother* helps to create better pathways for players from all remote communities and that we are still young enough to play and its not over for us." I believe and hope this too.

I also watched a young

man Manny Williams whom I was lucky enough to mentor, when I worked at Culture is Life and as we know our young ones stay in our lives forever. I headed to MIFF to see *Voice* because he was in it. A film about a convey of our young people travelling 3000km with the Indigenous-run collective Deadly Inspiring Youth Doing Good (DIYDG) to 'the Freedom Festival' to learn more about the *Voice* campaign.

We heard from young people about what it's like to live as a young First Nations person in remote communities and how the *Voice* to Parliament was a way of speaking their truths to their needs.

After the screening of *Voice* Manny said: "What I gained from this experience were the lifelong connections and the opportunity to surround myself with people who may hold different views but we can healthily work through them. What I hope is the film will allow this country to see, hear and feel what we as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, live and breathe every day of our lives."

I couldn't agree more with Manny's words highlighting the hope and love we carry in our hearts for each other. They acknowledge that "We continue to uplift each other, dig deep and keep pushing forward that our strength lies in our culture and our community".

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Inmate's death prompts call for urgent review



AN urgent review into correctional officers' use of firearms has been recommended by an inquiry into the death of an Indigenous man shot while fleeing custody.

The death of an unarmed Indigenous man who was shot while fleeing custody has prompted a coroner to recommend an urgent review of laws governing the use of firearms by correctional officers.

Dwayne Johnstone, a 43-year-old Wiradjuri man, was shot dead outside Lismore Base Hospital as he ran in leg shackles and handcuffs from a prison van after receiving medical treatment on March 15, 2019.



Dwayne Johnstone.

A correctional officer fired three shots at Mr Johnstone as he tried to flee, including an initial warning shot.

The third bullet fatally struck him in the back.

Delivering her findings into Mr Johnstone's death last Wednesday, State Coroner Teresa O'Sullivan recommended the NSW attorney-general and minister for corrections conduct an urgent review of legislation regarding correctional officers' use of firearms.

Ms O'Sullivan noted Corrective Services NSW had made significant changes to training and other protocols since 2019, which she said demonstrated a sincere desire to avoid a similar incident occurring again.

"It is appropriate that correctional officers are taught what the expectations are when an inmate is unarmed and shackled," she said.

Ms O'Sullivan found that

information regarding two previous escape attempts by Mr Johnstone in 1999 and 2013 was available but did not appear to have been properly "absorbed" by the officers accompanying him on the day of his death.

Following the release of the findings, Mr Johnstone's mother Kerry Shanahan urged the attorney-general and corrections minister to "take note" of the coroner's call for a review.

"Please do it so no one else has to go through it," she said.

"That's what I was fighting for all this time."

Ms Shanahan said she did not hold any animosity towards the custodial officer who shot her son, saying he was doing his job the

way he was taught.

"Nothing's ever going to bring him back," she said.

"Now he can rest in peace."

The inquest was suspended in October 2020 after Ms O'Sullivan referred the case to the Department of Public Prosecutions.

The officer involved in the fatal shooting – who can legally only be referred to by the pseudonym "Officer A" – was charged with manslaughter in February 2021, with the charge upgraded to murder in August 2022.

His first trial in the NSW Supreme Court resulted in a hung jury in November 2022 and a second trial ended with a not-guilty verdict in November 2023.

– AAP

Explore the importance of animals

By ALI MC



A NEW exhibition has recently opened at the Koorie Heritage Trust in Federation Square, Naarm (Melbourne).

Titled *Spirit of the Animals*, the exhibition features nearly fifty works from the Koorie Heritage Trust collection that reflect the importance of animals in south-eastern First Nations' identity and culture.

Mammals, fish, birds, reptiles, vertebrates and even insects are part of this exhibit, displayed in a variety of media such as painting, animation, sculpture, tools and adornment.

Coree Thorpe, a Yorta Yorta, Gunditjmara, Gunai, Wurundjeri artist, is one of the featured artists in *Spirit of the Animals*.

The artist – who also goes by the name of Lucid Juncture – told the *Koori Mail* that depictions of animals are an important aspect of his culture and identity.

"If we go back pre-colonisation, animals are an important part of how we intersected with the environment," he said.

"Some of them told stories. Some of them were our protectors. Some of them were our totems. So for me it's always paying respect to where we've come from."

In particular, Thorpe is passionate about the theme of birds in his work, with the inclusion of his Kingfisher artwork in the exhibition.

He has also previously emblazoned one of Melbourne's 'art trams' with a bold interpretation of Bunjil the ancestral wedge tailed eagle.

For many south-eastern Mobs, Bunjil holds a significant place in culture and spirituality.

Thorpe said he found birds' ability to fly fascinating.

"When you're a kid, you're like,



The exhibition almost fifty artworks that reflect the cultural importance of animals to various Aboriginal Mobs.

"Oh, I'd love to be able to fly," he said. "For me, birds hold a pretty sacred meaning in some clan groups I come from."

Spirit of the Animals also includes a diverse array of artists such as Albert and Richard Mullett (Gunai/Gunai, Monero Ngarigo), Brook Andrew (Wiradjuri), Glenda Nicholls (Waddi Waddi, Yorta Yorta, Ngarrindjeri) and Lin Onus (Yorta Yorta).

Along with contemporary interpretations and representations of animals, the exhibition also features a range of objects and cultural belongings such as boomerangs and shields.

Thorpe said he is excited about the diversity and range of creative works on display.

"The diversity of art and the creativity of it is really a snapshot

of what our culture would do," he said.

"You know, we would evolve with our environment, and I think that shows with the knowledge in the room. There is real traditional stuff which pays respect to the history. And then there's some really creative practices that also allows for understanding of what we have to live with and traverse every day."

Koorie Heritage Trust curator Jessica Row told the *Koori Mail* that a vital aspect of the exhibition is the inclusion of artist statements and quotes about the works and the importance of the animals depicted.

It was also one of the parameters the curatorial team used when selecting works out of the thousands held in the Koorie

Heritage Trust collection.

"One parameter that we gave ourselves for selecting works in the exhibition, since there were so many to narrow down, was to try and select works that we had a quote from the artist in their own words describing the work and the animal and why it was important to them in many ways," she said.

Row said that visitors to the exhibition will be greeted by a sculpture of a camp dog by Gunai/ Kurnai artist Len Tregonning.

Alongside the artwork is a statement made by the artist, which describes the importance of camp dogs to First Nations communities.

"Camp dogs are an important part of community. They differ from household dogs, as no one

person owns a camp dog. Rather, they are connected to the community and are free to come and go."

Row said that it was vital that such statements were included in the exhibition, so that people attending the exhibition would gain an understanding of the artist's thoughts and feelings about the importance of the animal they had depicted.

"The exhibition shows people how important animals are to First People's culture," she said. "And the artists themselves say that in the labels alongside the exhibition."

● *Spirit of the Animals* is open at the Koorie Heritage Trust from Saturday, July 27 until Sunday, November 24, 2024.

Out-of-home care rates rise

By ALI MC



THE latest Closing the Gap data has shown that once again, the number of First Nations children in out-of-home care across the country continues to rise.

Nationally, numbers have increase since 2019, when 54.2 per 1,000 First Nations' children were in child protection, to 57.2 per 1,000.

Victoria has seen the sharpest rise, with more than 10 percent of Aboriginal children reported to be in out-of-home care, nearly double the national average.

The Productivity Commission – which compiled the data – reported that Aboriginal children in Victoria are 22 times more likely to be in out-of-home care than non-Indigenous children.

Muriel Bamblett, CEO of the Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency (VACCA), told the *Koori Mail* the increased rate is “frustrating.”

“Victoria has one of the highest over-representation rates as compared to other states and territories, which is frustrating, because the best level of reform is happening in Victoria – the investment in child welfare and the legislation we've got is the best in Australia,” she said.

Bamblett – a Yorta Yorta and Dja Dja Wurrung woman – has been working with VACCA for twenty-five years. She told the *Koori Mail* when she first started at VACCA she had a ‘vision’ for First Nations’ children.

“I've been at VACCA for 25 years,” she said. “And I did have a vision. When I started I thought that child protection could be a thing of the past, and that we would move to a different model of supporting families. We would really be helping families and really keeping children out of child protection.”

She said the reasons for the increased rates are complex, and underscored by poverty and family violence.

“Many of our families still live in poverty. When you look at the families that are in our child



Winner of the NAIDOC Person of the Year Muriel Bamblett said increasing rates of out-of-home care were ‘frustrating’.

protection system, they're often families that are exposed to huge amounts of violence,” she said. “It's really quite alarming – 72 per cent of children come into care because of family violence and an inadequate ability to address family violence.”

The Closing the Gap policy sets annual national targets to reduce inequalities between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples across a range of health and social indicators.

Key target

A key target is to reduce the rate of overrepresentation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children (0–17 years old) in out-of-home care by 45 per cent by 2031.

Yet the Productivity Commission – who monitors Closing the Gap progress – stated that nationally “the target is worsening.”

Bamblett said one of the contributing factors is the ‘siloeing’ of organisational responses and said that instead,

wraparound services were required.

“We tend to silo everything. You work in child protection over here, you work in housing and homelessness over there,” she said. “Our people have to fit within the silos of government programs and services.”

Bamblett also said that First Nations women in prison also needed more support; like out-of-home care, the incarceration rate of First Nations peoples has also increased.

As of March 2024, First Nations peoples make up 35 percent of all prisoners across Australia. This includes women, the majority of whom are mothers.

Bamblett said more support needed to be provided to women upon exiting the prison system to remain free from violence, provide essential services such as housing and reconnect with their children.

“Too many women leave the criminal justice system and go back to offending because,

sadly, the prison will offer them a house, a home, and three meals a day,” she said.

“That's the tragedy of incarceration, because sometimes it's safer to be in the prison system than to be on the outside.”

In Victoria, the ongoing Yoorook Justice Commission investigated the failures of the state's child protection system last year. Their report contained 46 recommendations which highlighted the link between child protection and the criminal justice system, and recommended urgent reform.

Yoorook response

In response to the latest data, Yoorook Deputy Chair and Commissioner Sue-Anne Hunter stated, “to see Victoria's already deplorable rates of Aboriginal child removal get even worse is devastating for our people, and a dark stain on the moral conscience of society.”

“We have to remember that every statistic is a person with a

family; a child whose life has been decimated by the colonial system,” she said.

“Far too often engagement with the child protection system acts as a pipeline to youth justice and then the adult justice system.”

Catherine Little, CEO of the national Indigenous peak child-care body SNAICC (Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care) also shared the concerns of both Bamblett and Hunter.

“If we keep going on this trajectory, we are never going to reverse the trajectory of our children entering out-of-home care and continuing on a path to youth detention and adult incarceration,” she said in a media statement.

“To be absolutely clear, these are not the failings of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people or culture. These are fairly and squarely the failures of the systems that impact us the most being built without us, to work against us.”

Welcome funds for NT public schools



THE Coalition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peaks (Coalition of Peaks) welcomes an announcement by the Commonwealth and Northern Territory governments of a significant agreement to fund all Northern Territory public schools fully and fairly by 2029.

The agreement will see an additional estimated \$737.7 million invested in the Territory's public schools from 2025 to 2029.

Pat Turner, Lead Convenor of the Coalition of Peaks, says it is an important step towards Closing the Gap on education outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people as they move through the education system.

“Educating our children is one of the very best ways we can improve their future, and then generations to come after that,” Ms Turner said.

“As the Closing the Gap data report shows us, the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people completing Year 12 or equivalent is increasing, but the 95 per cent target is not on track to be met by 2031. So I am pleased



PAT TURNER

there funding now available through this agreement to better support our young people.

The funding equates to an additional \$33,764 for every student in public schools, and \$7,596 for every student in non-government schools, on average.

“New targets for increasing the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff in Territory schools will also ensure our kids can learn from people who understand their culture and community,” Ms Turner said.

“I thank the Federal and Northern Territory education ministers, Jason Clare, and Mark Monaghan, for their leadership and commitment to improve outcomes for Aboriginal people in the Northern Territory.

“This is what can be achieved when

governments adhere to their commitments under the National Agreement on Closing the Gap – to partner in decision-making with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

“At last we will see Northern Territory public schools move towards full funding levels.”

Ms Turner stressed the importance of all governments – federal, state and territory – delivering on the National Agreement to support Closing the Gap.

“It is imperative that initiatives like these are undertaken with the full implementation of the four Priority Reforms in the National Agreement on Closing the Gap, which each level of government signed up to with the Coalition of Peaks in July 2020,” Ms Pat Turner said.

Students to share culture in Japan

By CHRISTINE HOWES



A CHANCE meeting in a remote far north Queensland research station on Green Island has led to a group of Indigenous rangers and school boys heading for Japan on a cultural and environmental exchange this week.

Mamu Country's Goondoi rangers and a group of boys from Radiant Life College in Innisfail will make the two-week trip on knowledge exchange with a Sendai school.

Radiant Life principal Nathanael Edwards said they were invited into the Japanese school's community to share their culture and some of the work they were doing with the rangers.

"We're building a relationship with this school in the north of Japan," he said.

"We're going over there with the Goondoi Land and Sea Rangers to showcase culture and their conservation work within their schooling.

"It sparked their interest and they wanted to hear more about our engagement with the rangers and our culture, which is an important part of our



Desmond Weare, Nathanael Edwards and Davontai Mooka at the Radiant Life College in Innisfail.

curriculum here."

The school's activities coordinator, Magnus Edwards, was also a Goondoi Land & Sea Ranger.

"The rangers work really closely with the school," he said.

"We get the kids to help, so the seniors, instead of being in a classroom, it gets them out having work experience.

"When things like this (Japan) come we all get really happy and excited because we get to showcase our culture and what we do."

Ranger Mitchell Martin said he was also excited about representing, not just his Mob, but all of Australia's Mob.

"We take it all over there with pride," he said.

"I just want to showcase our culture and trips like this, it will be a big eye-opener for these boys and for all of us."

Principal Edwards said conservation work they had done around the school with the rangers included a healthy water program, building a Dreamtime trail and seagrass planting.

"The school does a lot around

First Nation conservation efforts," he said.

"And the kids are engaged with the rangers throughout the school term.

"Part of this trip is showcasing that work with the rangers, and it's also an opportunity for them to look at the STEM program.

"So they'll be visiting Google in Japan and the STEM labs in Tokyo to see what sort of technology may be applied here.

"I think it's a great opportunity for them to work on an international stage."

Davontai Mooka, 14, and Desmond Weare, 13, neither of whom had travelled further than Brisbane in their lives, said their passports were ready.

Davontai said the most exciting part of the trip was keeping their own culture alive through sharing.

"Our art and our culture is unique," he said.

Desmond said he was also excited to let other people know about his culture.

"We also hope to see all their culture and what it's like over there," he said.

Mr Edwards said they would also meet with the Queensland Trade Commission for Japan and there may be an opening for them to take part in next year's World Expo in Osaka.



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Justice remains elusive for our murdered and missing women

By KEIRA JENKINS



A LANDMARK report into missing and murdered First Nations women and children is merely "tinkering at the edges" and won't deliver justice, an expert has warned.

Justice can never be achieved for missing and murdered First Nations women and children while they remain "invisible" and unprotected.

That is the message from Indigenous women across Australia following the release of a Senate inquiry's final report.

The report, delivered on Thursday, August 15, after two years of public hearings, found there had been "little, if any justice" for First Nations women and children who had been murdered or disappeared.

Lawyer Karen Iles, the founder of the Make Police Investigate campaign, said it was positive the committee had recommended the appointment of an advocate for First Nations women and children within the Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Commission.

Ms Iles also welcomed the call for a sustainable funding mechanism for support services, including Aboriginal-controlled organisations, and a recommendation that the media reflect on their portrayal of the issue.

But the Dharug woman said the report was "tinkering at the edges" and did not believe its 10 recommendations would lead to any decrease in the abduction, sexual assault and murder of Indigenous women and children.

"There are some positive things in this report but I think overwhelmingly families who have experienced this unspeakable trauma of unresolved justice, you can never achieve justice," she said. "You can't even access justice at the moment because of how deep the systemic issues of bias in our police force go."

"Our laws are quite clear on abduction, sexual assault and murder ... they're just not being enforced and until we send a message to perpetrators that if you commit these horrible crimes you can expect the force of the law to come down on you like a tonne of bricks it's not going to change."

The committee also recommended that the nation's police ministers review and "harmonise" policing practices by the end of 2025.

It said cultural awareness training for employees, support and promotion of Indigenous people and appropriate guidelines for the review of past cases should all be considered.

Ms Iles said there must be an alternative mechanism to police for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander victims and their families to report to after generations of trust being eroded in existing systems.

"This stuff causes so much



A report into missing and murdered First Nations women has received a mixed response.



Karen Iles.

trauma in community and families, mums and dads. It is not good enough to simply say that the police should do some training," she said.

"And it's not good enough that the police are reviewing themselves.

"What I think we actually want to see is when the states and territories sit down and have a hard look at their conduct, that they're actually involving and listening to the voices of families and communities that have been impacted by this problem. And genuinely being led by them, not paying them lip service."

The chief executive of Indigenous-led family violence prevention service Djirra, Antoinette Braybrook, welcomed the recommendations to increase capacity and ensure funding for organisations to support First Nations women.

"This inquiry is an important first step in bringing the devastating realities of the epidemic of violence facing First Nations women and children to national attention, but it is only an initial first step," she said.



Antoinette Braybrook.

"If the recommendations had been bolder and delivered the urgent, practical actions our women and children need to be safe – it could have been an even bigger step."

Ms Braybrook said she was concerned the recommendations did not address the outdated data which impacts decisions made on

"Our laws are quite clear on abduction, sexual assault and murder ... they're just not being enforced and until we send a message to perpetrators that if you commit these horrible crimes you can expect the force of the law to come down on you like a tonne of bricks it's not going to change."

Indigenous women's and children's safety.

Greens senator Dorinda Cox, who was a member of the committee which headed up the inquiry, said the available statistics were harrowing.

She said more than 300 First Nations women have been murdered in Australia and while representing three per cent of the entire population, Indigenous people make up 20 per cent of homicide statistics.



Senator Dorinda Cox.

Senator Cox said the report did not go far enough, pointing out the "glaring omission" of improving data collection.

"We know how many people died on the roads because we have a national body that does that," she said.

"We don't know how many First Nations women and children are being murdered.

"We remain invisible while not being counted in this country for critical statistics like this."

Human rights lawyer and Noongar woman Hannah McGlade said while the recommendations

were largely positive, she still had concerns about the review into policing practices.

"Perhaps it's a start but we know these issues around policing and racial profiling and abuse of Aboriginal women are so deeply entrenched," Dr McGlade said.

"I have previously called for an Aboriginal justice council – a national body – and I think that's actually really what's needed to seriously address the issue of over-incarceration and violence to



Dr Hannah McGlade.

women, as well as this very severe problem of racism in the legal system."

Although many have expressed their disappointment in the report's recommendations, Dr McGlade said it was important First Nations women, children and their families had their stories heard through the inquiry process.

"There is an air of history-making in this because it has been swept under the carpet by governments for far too long," she said.

"Aboriginal women have been fighting for decades now to bring it to light and to do something about it and we've been largely unsupported and unheard."

Ms Braybrook said there must now be bipartisan support among national, state and territory leaders to invest in solutions which will put Indigenous women and children's safety first.

"Through this landmark inquiry, First Nations people have told our truths," she said.

"Truth is uncomfortable. It can be painful. But it must be spoken, it must be heard, and Governments must act on it.

"You cannot un-hear us now. We are watching, and we will continue to demand change."

– AAP

Activist lawyer says no thanks to Australia Day nomination

By JILLIAN MUNDY



PALAWA activist and law graduate Maggie Blanden has knocked back a Young Australian of the Year Award nomination.

It was a decision she did not take lightly.

"I know that this award would be a meaningful opportunity to amplify the voices and stories of those who have shaped me – my resilient family and staunch community," Maggie explained.

"I know I could use this platform for important truth-telling about our ongoing struggle as Palawa in Lutruwita.

"However, I am a proud sovereign Palawa woman, I cannot in good faith accept a nomination for an award celebrated for being 'Australian'.

"It's not in line with my values, my community's values, and values of Mob across the nation."

Maggie hopes her decision will empower other young First Nations people to say no when things don't feel right.

Had she accepted the nomination, been shortlisted and won the state award, Maggie would have been invited to the national awards ceremony in Canberra for the 'Australia Day' eve announcement of winners.

Instead, she will be in Nipaluna/Hobart ready for the Invasion Day Rally to protest



Maggie Blanden

and mourn with her community.

"January 26 marks the beginning of invasion, dispossession and inter-generational trauma for our people.

"Invasion day is our annual reminder that Australia is built upon a false declaration of Terra Nullius, and that the settler law of this country does not reflect the overwhelming

truth that our sovereignty was never ceded.

"It is a day that is built upon the violent legacy of genocide and the privilege White Australia holds in this colony."

She hopes those that do accept nominations will use their platform to call out the racism and inequality that characterises so called Australia.

"I have heard nominees have walked out on ceremonies and instead attended the Invasion Day March – perhaps more should be doing this, Blak or not, walk with us, learn from us and continue to call out injustice.

"I've always been taught, if you are fortunate enough to have a voice, use it for those who may be voiceless, reflect on your privilege and positionally, who can you uplift today and everyday?"

Maggie does not hesitate to use her voice.

She caught up with the *Koori Mail* just hours before the final exam of her law degree which will see her admitted as a solicitor any day now. Maggie has worked in legal and human-rights spaces advocating against the disproportionate representation of Aboriginal people in the criminal justice system, violence against Aboriginal women and limited human rights protections in Australia, is the co-founder of Naarm Law Students community led legal education by youth for youth, gives practical support to Uncle Jim Everett's current sovereignty and forest protection campaigns, is a sought after public speaker and sits on committees including the

Global Institute for Women's Leadership's Youth Committee, Tasmanian National Preventative Mechanism and the US Embassy's Youth Advisory Council.

Regardless of declining the nomination, Maggie is grateful to the anonymous person who selected her and was touched to have her work recognised.

She often introduces herself as the great granddaughter of Aunty Ida West AM (1919-2003) and is proud to announce the 'AM' after her name – put there on January 26 in 2002 when she was named as a Member of the Order of Australia.

"I don't want to diminish that, I am proud that she was recognised for her resilience and excellence despite the colony's attempts to silence and deem Blak women invisible.

"She instead chose to rise up against this for the benefit of future generations.

"In the face of adversity, she has instilled in us not only resilience but also the profound capacity to transform darkness into light."

Last month Maggie was recognised by her own community, accepting a state NAIDOC Special Achievement award.

"It meant a lot, and it really filled up my cup again, gave me the strength to keep going."

Maggie joins a list of Palawa who have, over the years, declined Australia Day Award nominations including Jim Everett, Michael Mansell, Jamie Graham-Blair, Caleb Nichols-Mansell, Nunami Sculthorpe-Green, Bianca Templar and Madeline Wells.



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Growing demand for

By MARION WILLIAMS



THE Walbunja Rangers of Batemans Bay cannot keep up with demand for their cultural burns.

They are working across Walbunja Country, up and down the Eurobodalla shire and inland to Braidwood.

The NSW Government's Cultural Fire Management Unit funded a movie to spread the word about their work, but the word is already out. The 47-minute documentary, *Yana Djamaga Ganji/Walk Good Fire*, won the Diversity Award at the 2024 Far South Film Festival which showcases stories told by regional and remote filmmakers from across Australia.

Warnings fell on deaf ears

It is quite a turnaround from five years ago when Walbunja man Uncle Andy White and his mentor Walbanja Traditional Owner and Elder Uncle Les Simon warned government agencies of the fires to come as threatened species like quolls



Uncle Les Simon at a cultural burn in Dalmeny on August 13. Picture: Marion Williams.

fled to the mountains to save themselves.

"Before the Black Summer bushfires, we went to a few agencies saying this is going to be catastrophic," Mr White said. "It fell on deaf ears."

"We started doing a few little burns around Nelligen, but the

agencies put restrictions on us given the drought conditions," he said.

Uncle Les said for two weeks they watched fires going over the escarpments covered in two feet of leaf litter, needlessly killing koalas, kangaroos, and other wildlife.

Even small burns help

When they returned to inspect the damage to Country two weeks later, the impact of their little burns was obvious.

"We had saved a lot of canopy and habitat for threatened species," Mr White said. "It

showed what we did on a small scale could have been done on a larger scale."

Several bushfire recovery meetings with various government agencies and landowners followed.

"There was a big push to help macropods, but we need to look after everything: the bees that pollinate, the ants that distribute the seeds," Mr White said.

"We looked at what they were doing and put out small water stations and molasses for wildlife to feed. That brought other species in, and the cycle began."

Community, RFS coming on board

In August the Walbunja Rangers did cultural burns on Dalmeny headland for Eurobodalla Shire Council. It is choked thick with weeds. One section was noticeably different though, where they had done a cultural burn two years earlier.

"All the neighbouring residents really applauded what we did last time," Mr White said. "It is a bonus for us to get them on board and interested in different avenues of healing and managing Country with fire."



Worimi Conservation Lands Registered Owner Voting



The Registered Aboriginal Owners of the Worimi Conservation Lands are notified to attend the Aboriginal Owners Meeting.

We are seeking nominations for **one vacant deputy position** for the **2024—2028 Board of Management.**

When: Saturday 7th September 2024

Time: 10am

Where: Room 1, Great Hall, Murrook Culture Centre, Williamstown.

This meeting will be conducted by the Office of the Registrar, Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983.

Morning tea will be provided.

The 4,200-hectare Worimi Conservation Lands is managed by the local Worimi Traditional Owners, in partnership with the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service. The Aboriginal-owned park is managed to ensure the protection of the natural and cultural values of the Stockton Bight landscape, while providing public access and promoting safe and sustainable recreational and commercial use.



7 – 28 SEP BILLE BROWN THEATRE

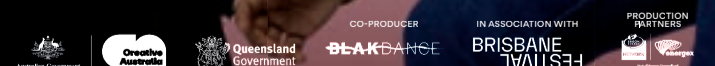
DEAR BROTHER

BY LENNY DONAHUE AND TIBIAN WYLES
DIRECTED BY ISAAC DRANDIC

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WRESTLING WITH
IDENTITY.



QUEENSLAND THEATRE



more cultural burns



School children learning about cultural burning. *Picture: Far South Film Festival*

Council's natural resources and sustainability coordinator Heidi Thomson hopes to add new sites to its cultural burning program and that other landowners will follow.

She said it is beneficial for the community to see fire back in the landscape and see it can be healing.

The burn is trying to promote kangaroo grass which is medicine for Country, food and a resource.

They are also working with

Local Land Services around Braidwood and Mongarlowe. "No one else can do this work," Mr White said.

Small RFS brigades are very interested but the legislation makes that difficult. "They are not allowed to participate as the RFS, only as community members," Mr White said.

Country's survival depends on it

He said the documentary tells this story of their journey after the

fires and getting the community and agencies on board. It was intended to be a six-minute film but as their Elders started talking, momentum grew. The agency was happy to fund a longer film.

Uncle Les said his generation were taught cultural burning as kids in the 1960s. "It is like a rebirth and to regenerate the land, produce food and medicine, and food for wildlife.

"We must pass this knowledge onto our young. It is a necessity for Country to survive."



Walbunja Rangers Braidon Parsons and Jedda White tending to the cultural burn at Dalmeny Headland on August 12. *Picture: Marion Williams*

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History-making run in Sydney mayoral race

By CHRISTIAN MORROW



PLEDGING to drop the 'Lord' from the title Lord Mayor of Sydney, Yvonne Weldon, the first Aboriginal woman elected to Sydney

Council in its 180 year history, has thrown her hat in the ring to become the council's first Aboriginal mayor in September's council elections.

"The time is right and I'm ready for it," Yvonne said.

"For me leading is about walking with the people, serving them rather than presiding over them. That's why I think the title change is important."

Born and raised in Sydney, Yvonne maintains strong ties to her Wiradjuri homelands of Cowra and the Riverina areas of New South Wales.

The independent councillor has also led the push to have plaques on statues of colonial figures such as Lachlan Macquarie updated to include details of the real harm they wrought on First Nations People.

Macquarie ordered the 1816 massacre in Appin of Aboriginal men, women and children who were shot and hung from trees as a warning to others. But Ms Weldon is not in favour of removing the statues.

"I'm not about pulling down any statues, they should stand because the history needs to be remembered and the plaques need to include truth telling. How do we make change if we don't put the truth up there," she said.

Recognised as the NSW Aboriginal Woman of the Year in 2022 and appointed a Member of the Order of Australia for her service to the Aboriginal community, Yvonne follows in the footsteps of her legendary auntie, 'Mum Shirl', who worked in the area of community health and welfare in Sydney during the 1970s. As part of that legacy she continues to push to make sure no-one is left behind, advocating for affordable housing, accessible streets, community and domestic violence supports, greater representation of First Nations culture, transparent decision-making and public information access.

"I'll work with the state government to approve more housing and require major developments to include affordable rental housing built on site. I'll also double the city's affordable housing fund to provide more homes for essential workers, creatives and those escaping domestic violence," Yvonne said.

The *Koori Mail* caught up with Yvonne on the eve of her history making run.

Koori Mail: How significant



Sydney mayoral candidate Yvonne Weldon.

would it be for a First Nations woman to lead Sydney Council?

Yvonne Weldon: I certainly have made history myself by being the first Aboriginal councillor and hope to top it by being the first mayor that is Aboriginal. It would be history making for the city and for myself and for the whole country. Sydney is the first city and the first state (of Australia), it was the place that saw the first impact of colonisation. For ground zero of colonisation to be able to make that change, would be history making.

KM: Should you be elected, one of the first things you said you would do is to drop the 'Lord' from the 'Lord Mayor' title. Are there any other specific ways that you would lead the council?

YW: For me leading is about walking with the people, serving them rather than presiding over them. That's why I think the title change is important, but really it's about getting back to the basics – representation of the people by the people

KM: What would be the big mainstream issues you are going to hit should you become mayor? It's often said that councils are all about rates, roads and rubbish, is there anything else that you are going to focus on?

YW: Definitely, looking at the state we are in across the country, I think we have to build more affordable housing and accelerate our transition to the green economy. I want to work

with the state government to approve more housing and make sure major developments include affordable rental housing. Our local artists and businesses have been struggling and I really want to champion them also.

KM: You have spoken about wanting First Nations culture to be more visible around the city. You've toured Gadigal Station, part of Sydney's new metro rail system and mentioned putting up a statue of Patyegarang? (A woman from the Cammeraygal clan of the Dharug nation who is thought to be one of the first people to have taught an Aboriginal language to the early colonists including William Dawes). What other examples of a more visible First Nations culture would there be?

YW: There is often a fixed viewpoint around what 'culture' represents. But if that view doesn't have the First Nations people represented in a meaningful way and in a way that tells the right stories, and include all the stories, then there is often just one sort of view presented that is not necessarily the truth of what has been lived.

Putting up a statue of Patyegarang would be a start certainly, changing the plaques to include truth telling on those colonial statues around the place would be another. The plaques need to be honest about the impact of colonialism. If you want to look at the statue of Macquarie and what is written on his plaque, that's not the truth about the impact he had on the First Nations people. I was fortunate to

get that change (to the plaque on the Macquarie statue) through on council but didn't get the Patyegarang statue through. I think the mayor may have used her casting vote to vote it down. When we finally get some truth telling and also have inclusion in this country and particularly in this city then we can truly make it inclusive for everyone.

KM: So would you just be changing the plaques to acknowledge the truth of what happened or are you interested in removing or relocating any of those colonial era statues?

YW: No. I'm not about pulling down any statues, they should stand because the history needs to be remembered, that's why the plaques need to include truth telling. How do we make change if we don't put the truth up there. It's about today and what's taken place yesterday and what we can have in our future tomorrow.

KM: You've spoken of the importance of affordable housing and during your career you have served on many government and non-government bodies in the area of social justice. Is this an echo of your auntie 'Mum Shirl'? (Colleen Shirley Perry – a tireless community worker and powerful advocate for Aboriginal rights and welfare. 'Mum Shirl' assisted in setting up the Aboriginal Medical and Legal Service in Redfern in the 1970s, visited prisoners in gaols and opened her home to the addicted and homeless.)

YW: I think it's a family thing, there have been so many people

such as Auntie Shirley and so many others of my family, that have been on the front line, making the change for our people and making the change for all people. Not only pushing for inclusion but also making sure we don't leave anyone behind and that we are making positive change. There is so much that we need to continue doing and standing for public office is not something that I ever dreamed of doing. But when I think about walking alongside people like Mum Shirl and having them lead me throughout my life and see what they offered to others I realise that service to others is what drives me – it's where I come from.

KM: You grew up in Redfern. What was that like, do you have any fond memories of that time?

YW: It's a very different Redfern now. My children went to pre-school in Pitt Street, opposite the old Rachel Foster Hospital and I went there as well before it was condemned. But so much of that has changed today, people can't live locally, including our essential workers, our creatives and our young people – it's a missing part of our city, a missing part of our society and of our neighbourhoods. I recall very clearly hearing the hooter go back in the day and seeing all the local workers leave the factories and walk home to their social or affordable housing. That's what we really need to get back to because that's what I grew up knowing, that community is where we all belong, not just some in our society.

KM: You've specifically mentioned the importance of the creative community in Sydney. Are there any initiatives or projects you have in mind to help the creative community in Sydney flourish?

YW: There has been a council initiative, supported by state government, that would allow live bands and the like to operate for an hour longer. I think an hour is a good start for those venues but I think that maybe a bit more than an hour would be better.

There are other cities to the north and south of here and other parts of our city where it is quite vibrant and humming with opportunity and it all comes back to social and affordable housing and what opportunities our creatives have to exist in our community and if you don't have affordable housing you will lose more and more people. We also need to have incentives for mixed-use developments to ensure there are opportunities for businesses and cultural creatives to be included in our city.

KM: You mentioned bands and venues earlier. Over your time living in Sydney did you have any favourite bands?

YW: Oh yeah, Midnight Oil and Hunters and Collectors – I actually danced on stage with Midnight Oil when I was into dancing as a teenager. I've got some pretty cool photos and memories from back in the day.



Yvonne Weldon, Sydney's first Aboriginal councillor pictured with her family.

Bands like Coloured Stone and The Warumpi Band still turn up in my playlist today and I wish they were still around. There's even a play about the Warumpi Band *Big Name No Blankets* touring around. What was so deadly about that is that they were actually the support act for the Oils when we danced onstage with them that night.

KM: And finally a broader

question, post the referendum defeat, what do you think the next step is in the process of reconciliation?

YW: Certainly, having more First Nations people in decision-making positions is important and what a bonus that would be for Sydney to have its first Aboriginal mayor - the time is right and I'm ready for it.

The country is ready for lots of change and inclusion, I know it wasn't the outcome we wanted in terms of the vote, but there is so much good will in this Local Government Area (LGA). The goodwill and support in this LGA for the yes vote was overwhelming but there are so many parts of our country where we can do so much better.

I have little grandchildren and

I owe it to them to make our country and each of us better by walking with others and even walking with those that don't necessarily want to walk with me. I know that by sharing and leading and existing and being in places that a person like me hasn't historically been before is a part of truth telling, and part of teaching others how they can walk with us.



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Linda Burney says goodbye



THE defeat of the Voice referendum will be a catalyst for change for Indigenous people, outgoing MP Linda

Burney says, expressing honour at being a trailblazer for Aboriginal women in politics.

In a valedictory speech to federal parliament, the former Indigenous Australians minister said she hoped she would leave politics having earned respect.

Ms Burney, who became the first Indigenous woman elected to the House of Representatives, announced in July she would resign at the next election.

"When I first entered this house, I knew I was walking a path that had never before been walked by someone like me ... a path paved with hope, with responsibility and a deep commitment," she told parliament last Wednesday.

"I hope to leave having earned respect for the way I have worked."

Political life

Her foray into federal parliament followed more than a decade of service in the NSW state parliament.

In 2003 she was the first Indigenous person to be elected to the New South Wales Legislative Assembly, winning the seat of Canterbury. She resigned in 2016 to contest the federal election, winning the seat of



Outgoing MP Linda Burney used a valedictory speech to federal parliament to express hope for Indigenous people.

Barton, New South Wales.

She won that election, and again in 2019 and 2022.

She was appointed Indigenous Australians Minister in 2022 following Labor's return to office.

She was in the ministerial position during the Indigenous Voice referendum in October 2023, which was defeated.

While Australia voted 'no' to the constitutional reform for

Indigenous people, Ms Burney said she was optimistic about the future.

"The referendum did not achieve the outcomes that many of us, all of us, wanted, but I

believe it can and will be a catalyst for progress and positive change in our nation," she said.

"Australia sometimes struggles with our identity, because we never came to terms with our own story, never embraced the breadth and depth of it, certainly not its truth."

Ms Burney was honoured during the speech with Indigenous singers, who gave a performance from the public gallery.

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese also paid tribute to the outgoing MP.

"She leaves parliament as she entered it, with a message of hope, with a positivity that I just would wish that we could all embrace," he said.

"Linda Burney has always been on the side of hope. She has engaged with grace, with kindness, and importantly, with remarkable courage. That's why she leaves this place with the admiration of anyone who has dealt with her."

Ms Burney said working within parliament had been one of her greatest honours, and expressed hope for Indigenous reconciliation.

"We don't have to choose between so called practical and symbolic reconciliation. It's a false choice. It's a phony argument," she said.

"Having a roof over your head and a job are vitally important ... but important, too, is having pride in your culture, identity and language."



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- Corrections – adult correctional centre (Alexander Maconochie Centre)
- Disability – supported accommodation for people with disabilities
- Mental Health – mental health facilities (such as Adult Mental Health Unit)/community housing
- Homelessness – homelessness services.

Generally, Official Visitors are appointed to work in only one operational area. For example, a successful applicant could be appointed as either a Corrections Official Visitor or a Disability Official Visitor.

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Appointments will be for a period of up to three years. Remuneration is as a Part-time office holder, up to \$615 per day plus superannuation. This role provides networking opportunities and flexible working arrangements.

People of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander descent are strongly encouraged to apply.

How to apply

Please contact Stefan Dzwonnik on 02 6207 0978 or ovs@act.gov.au for a copy of the selection package. The selection package can also be found in the ACT Diversity Register website on www.diversityregister.act.gov.au. Applicants will need to address the selection criteria in the selection package and send their expression of interest documents to ovs@act.gov.au.

Applications close on 22 September 2024

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21 years ago ...



Ms Burney's first interview with the Koori Mail as a politician.

Racism claim over fatal diagnosis



A CORONER has recommended the doctor who fatally misdiagnosed an Indigenous man with complications stemming from excessive cannabis use be referred to the health-care watchdog.

Ricky "Dougie" Hampson died from ruptured stomach ulcers on August 16, 2021, less than 24 hours after he was discharged from Dubbo Base Hospital in western NSW.

The 36-year-old Kamilaroi-Dunghutti man and father of eight was wrongly diagnosed with the drug-related condition cannabinoid hyperemesis syndrome despite lacking key symptoms of nausea and vomiting.

In delivering her inquest findings on Tuesday, August 20, Deputy State Coroner Erin Kennedy recommended emergency doctor Sokol Nushaj be referred to the Health Care Complaints Commission for potential unsatisfactory professional conduct.

"Dougie's death was preventable," she told a large group of family members and supporters who turned out to hear the findings.

Mr Hampson's family welcomed the findings, with father Rick Hampson saying the reality is Australian hospitals kill Aboriginal people.

"We define racism by the outcomes and impacts of our Mob's experiences and the truth that Australia's healthcare system is rotten to the core," he said.

"Let this inquest be a warning to all doctors in this country.

"You cannot get away with treating patients poorly. You cannot get away with not doing your job properly."

While Ms Kennedy did not find any



Rick Hampson's father Rick Hampson Snr (left), and mother Lydia Chatfield outside the Lidcombe Coroners Court in Sydney. Rick 'Dougie' Hampson, 36, a Kamilaroi/Dunghutti father of eight died in agony from perforated stomach ulcers after being discharged from Dubbo Base Hospital. (AAP)

specific racial bias, either conscious or subconscious, played a part in Dougie's death, she noted Aboriginality was an important factor to consider in delivering health care.

"No real attention was actually given to Dougie's Aboriginality," the coroner said.

"The concept of colour-blind treatment does not work in a section of our community that are prone to far worse outcomes."

Dr Nushaj earlier told the inquest "cognitive bias" led him to misdiagnose Mr

Hampson, saying he recognised symptoms of agitation and pain and closed his mind to other alternatives.

As a result of the misdiagnosis, Mr Hampson was administered the sedative droperidol which the inquiry concluded masked his pain and made further diagnosis unreliable.

Mr Hampson said Dr Nushaj shouldn't be treating patients, Aboriginal or otherwise, and that justice for his family will be seeing him held accountable.

"These hospitals and doctors keep using fancy words to describe racism – 'cognitive bias, anchoring bias, early diagnostic closure, colour-blind bias'," he said.

"They can use whatever term they want at the end of the day, it means blackfellas get killed in the health system – and that's racism."

Among recommendations made by the inquiry were that the Western NSW Local Health District consider establishing a standing Indigenous consultation and advisory group.

It was also recommended NSW Health consider whether it should amend its practices to ensure all medical and nursing clinicians are advised of the Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander status of patients.

National Justice Project lawyer Karina Hawtrey welcomed the recommendations, including that staff receive face-to-face training in delivering First Nations healthcare.

"Engagement with First Nations people is so important for doctors and nurses to understand the impact that colonisation has had, and continues to have, on First Nations people and the impact that it has on their health care," she said.

A Western NSW Local Health District spokesperson said they will carefully consider the findings and recommendations.

"The care provided to Mr Hampson at Dubbo Health Service did not reflect the required standard of care, and we sincerely apologise," they said.

"The Western NSW Local Health District has made changes and improvements to processes following Mr Hampson's death.

"NSW Health offers its sincere condolences to the family and friends."

– AAP

NSW Aboriginal Woman of the Year 2025

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

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Nominations now open

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



NSW prisons settle case over Indigenous inmate's death



A LAWSUIT brought against NSW prisons for alleged shortcomings that led to an Indigenous inmate's asthma-attack death has been settled for a confidential sum and will not go to trial.

Nathan Reynolds, who is of Anaiwan and Dunghutti heritage, died in 2018 at the minimum-security Geoffrey Pearce prison in northwest Sydney.

The 36-year-old suffered an acute asthma attack for which he received an inadequate level of medical care, according to the findings of a 2020 inquest.

His widow Karen Pochodyla sued Justice Health NSW and Corrective Services NSW alleging they failed in their duty of care and were negligent before Mr Reynolds' death.

Her NSW Supreme Court lawsuit was settled on August 6 with a confidential sum paid to Ms Pochodyla.

Neither Justice Health NSW nor Corrective Services NSW admitted liability in settling the case.

In court documents Ms Pochodyla says she, her child with Mr Reynolds and several of her children from a previous relationship, were partially financially dependent on him week-to-week.

In its defence, Justice Health NSW admitted several failures to manage Mr



Family of Nathan Reynolds, aunty Lynda Reynolds, cousin Sharna Reynolds, grandmother Toni Reynolds and mother Jodie following the inquest into the death in custody of Aboriginal man Nathan Reynolds at the NSW State Coroner's Court in Sydney.

Reynolds' asthma but denied that these breaches led to his death.

The state-run prison health service also denied that Ms Pochodyla was entitled to any compensation, saying it was not responsible for the psychological anguish of her or her children.

In the hours leading up to his death in

September 2018, Mr Reynolds spoke to Ms Pochodyla over the phone and told her he felt "horrible".

She asked him if he had seen a doctor, to which he replied, "you don't see doctors around here, nobody gives a s*** about you," according to the coronial findings.

Mr Reynolds initiated an emergency

alarm from his cell about 11.27pm that night, telling the corrections officer on duty he was finding it hard to breathe and requesting a nurse.

But rather than immediately contacting a nurse or an ambulance, officers followed what they believed to be protocol, requiring them to assess the situation in person first.

As a result, it took the nurse on duty 22 minutes after the initial call to arrive at Mr Reynolds' side, by which time he was no longer breathing and had no detectable pulse.

"By the time corrective services officers attended Nathan, his condition had rapidly deteriorated," the coroner found.

"The delay deprived Nathan of at least some chance of surviving his acute asthma attack."

The coroner noted it had been "profoundly distressing" for Mr Reynolds' family to hear he did not receive the care he needed.

His identity as an Indigenous man was also acknowledged in the finding, which noted much more needed to be done to meet the health needs of First Nations people in custody.

More than 540 Indigenous people have died in custody nationwide since the end of the Aboriginal deaths in custody royal commission in 1991, according to official data.

— AAP

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Bruce Simpson Mayor, Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council

R U OK? Day is 12 September 2024 but you can ask R U OK? Any Day.

THE ART OF COLLABORATION

Gifted artists and visual storytellers are among the talented Woodside Energy employees who step outside of their technical roles to inspire and encourage reconciliation through powerful and evocative artworks.

Two First Nations Woodsiders, Victor Bellotti and Tana Kickett, collaborated to create stunning pieces that are on display at the Karratha Gas Plant (KGP) and at the Pluto Operations Centre in Woodside's Mia Yellagonga Headquarters, Perth.

Their celebrated masterpieces include a 4-metre long mural at KGP titled 'For Our Elders', inspired by the 2023 NAIDOC theme, and the x-ray style, monochrome artwork 'Moorditj Danjoo' ('Stronger Together' in Noongar language) displayed in Perth.

Victor is a KGP maintenance technician and proud Indigenous artist whose Woodside career began in 2013 as an apprentice. His artistic achievements include designing the Fremantle Dockers' 2019 Indigenous round jumper and winning the Indigenous category at the 2022 Dampier Art Awards for his piece 'Mangrove Jack'.

Tana is a Ballardong Whadjuk Noongar woman from the South West of Western Australia. Having lived in the Pilbara for 24 years, she acknowledges the Ngarluma people as the

traditional custodians of the land on which she works and lives and shares her cultural pride through contemporary art. Tana is also proudly a wife, mother of three, and is completing an electrical instrumentation apprenticeship with Woodside via Programmed.

Tributes to elders, symbols of interconnectedness

Victor and Tana's collaborative mural 'For Our Elders' features contributions from hundreds of Woodside employees with each individual piece paying tribute to their elders. This invites viewers to discover something new with each glance. It's a deeply significant image, with most workers at KGP and some site contractors adding to the piece during lunch breaks, to create a unique, shared expression of respect.

'The picture reveals the land and the sea, with the land symbolised by the six semi-circles and the sea surrounding them.'

Victor Bellotti, Artist

A journey to unite, a story from past to future

The powerful art collaboration 'Moorditj Danjoo' (Stronger Together) was inspired by Western Australia's vast landscape. In striking monochrome style, Victor and Tana tell of journeying from sea to land, onward to

Derbal Yerrigan (Swan River) and ultimately to Woodside's Mia Yellagonga Headquarters in Perth. This visual narrative adorns the Pluto Remote Operations Centre, symbolically uniting onshore and offshore operations, and representing a meeting place where past stories blend into the future.

'I believe our history and culture should be embraced by all Australians. I love that my artworks offer a way to educate and inspire future generations.'

Tana Kickett, Artist

A commitment to Reconciliation and shared storytelling through art

The striking 'Moorditj Danjoo' artwork was chosen for Woodside's 2023 Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) Report. Head of First Nations Affairs Sharon Reynolds said: 'We love the design and the story that have become a celebrated part of Woodside's initiatives to deepen the connection between employees and their cultural heritage.'

Scan the QR code to learn more about these inspiring artworks and to download a copy of Woodside's 2023 RAP Report.



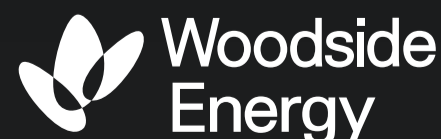
For Our Elders Artwork



Woodside employees and artists, Tana Kickett and Victor Bellotti



Moorditj Danjoo Artwork



Buyers flock to art fair

By NICK PATON



THE Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair (DAAF) has been and gone for another year, once again showcasing the contemporary fine art and design of more than 70

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Centres from across Australia.

Held annually each August on Larrakia Country at the Darwin Convention Centre, and now also online, the 18th DAAF provided arts-industry buyers and art and design lovers with a unique opportunity to purchase art directly from Indigenous owned and incorporated art centres.

Jahna Lugnan from Indigenous Fashion Projects (IFP) said this year's DAAF was looking to be the biggest and most successful to date.

"We are just so excited about this year's DAAF, and we have already had thousands of people through the doors since we opened – and we expect to see thousands more before we close on Sunday," Ms Lugnan told the *Koori Mail*.

"We can already see that things are going to be really busy, which is deadly for our Indigenous artists and art centres in terms of sales," she said.

"But just being here, it's really about connection, and connecting with the artists and all of the art centres."

The DAAF is committed to honouring the work of emerging and established artists, featuring stunning art inspired by Australia's most varied locations – from remote desert and coastal regions, to rural and urban communities.

Every year a wide range of styles, mediums and products are presented and available for purchase including paintings on canvas, bark paintings, works on paper including limited-edition prints, sculpture, didgeridoos, fibre art and cultural regalia.

Last year the DAAF represented more than 1,600 emerging and established artists from across Australia, working with a record 78 art centres.

It achieved a new record in sales, generating \$4.4 million through the physical and online fairs, with a whopping 140 artists attending the DAAF in person.

And since DAAF takes no commission, 100% of these sales went directly back to the art centres and their communities.

"Everything about the DAAF this year, seems to have skyrocketed," Ms Lugnan said.

"The textiles, the garments, and the art – the calibre of everything this year – is just through the roof," she said.

"It will be interesting to see how the DAAF did this year once the stats come out, but from what I can tell so far with the thousands of people who have already attended the event online and in person, this year's DAAF is going to go down as the biggest and most successful DAAF yet."



The Tiwi Designs team: Dylan Balaam, Alan John Kerinaia, Gerard Orsto, John Tipungwuti and Brenda Tipungwuti.



Karen Noble, Annie Roberts, Daphne Ahwon and Claire Roberts Thompson from Waralungku Arts.



Jarjum Taika Kepa with Allery Sandy in front of her artwork, *Rugged Country of the Pilbara*.



Ruth Rawnsley and Kerry Romanis check out the Yamaji art stall.



Lily Roy travelled from North East Arnhem Land to Darwin for the art fair.



Shania Wurrarama and Janette Murrungun representing Numbulwar Numburindi Arts.



Jake Powers and Jahna Lugnan from Indigenous Fashion Projects (IFP).



Ngunnawal Wiradjuri woman Megan Daley and Wiradjuri woman Rechelle Turner try their hand at weaving at the DAAF weaving workshop.

Housing class action filed



A CLASS action on behalf of thousands of Aboriginal tenants living in substandard public housing across remote areas of Western Australia has been filed in the Federal Court by law firm Slater and Gordon.

Almost 200 public-housing properties in several remote communities across the state were surveyed as part of the law firm's investigation with residents alleging they have been forced to 'put up and shut up' with properties that are in shocking states of disrepair.

Slater and Gordon class-actions principal lawyer Gemma Leigh-Dodds said public housing tenants deserved better.

"Aboriginal Australians are paying hundreds of dollars a fortnight to live in houses that don't provide even the most basic needs," Ms Leigh-Dodds said.

"It's as if the state has decided, 'that'll do' when it comes to Aboriginal Australians. This class action will establish, among many other things, that the supply of safe drinking water is a basic legal entitlement that every tenant should have access to in Australia in 2024."

"Through this class action, we're holding those responsible for WA's public housing accountable. We're saying, you can't collect rent and not uphold your end of the bargain and we are demanding better housing justice for Aboriginal Western Australians."

She said almost 200 public housing properties in several remote communities across the state were surveyed earlier this year in preparation for the case.

Many houses surveyed were without working toilets, showers, cooking facilities, lights, safe drinking water, doors, functioning



Bayulu community leader Vivienne Gordon: "The main thing we want to do is just live in peace and harmony in our community, we want to make sure our Elders are looked after and that they're living in their properties at a good standard, we want to make sure that families have got everything working in the property, especially with the plumbing issues... We still don't have hot water in some of the houses."

locks, reliable electricity or adequate heating and cooling.

Tenants have allegedly been forced to live in properties with broken windows, blocked pipes and inadequate hot water, exposed electrical wiring, widespread mould, insect and rodent infestations.

The class action alleges that many property defects have left tenants vulnerable to health problems, while a lack of adequate perimeter fencing and holes in walls and doors has resulted in animals, including venomous snakes and large cattle, entering premises and potentially putting tenants' lives at risk.

"There are some communities where the water from the tap is not safe to drink due to high levels of contaminants such as nitrates and uranium. As a result, some community members are forced, in some cases for



Junjuwa father Eric Bedford: "I'll say to the government, it's not how you start to race, it's how you finish. If you can start to look after us, then maybe Aboriginal people will change their views on the way they view the government. Stop putting us last in line, maybe give us a fair crack at our own."

years, to rely on bottled water for drinking and cooking," Ms Leigh-Dodds said.

She said members of remote communities and activists had been advocating for homes to be fixed for years. In many instances, repeated requests for repairs had been ignored by the housing authority or state, were inadequately fixed, or not remediated within a reasonable time frame.

The class action, filed in the Federal Court, accuses the housing authority and state of WA, as lessors of public housing in remote Aboriginal communities, of breaching multiple residential tenancy, contract and consumer protection laws between 1 July 2010 and 19 August 2024.

It also alleges the housing authority and state engaged in unconscionable conduct towards Aboriginal tenants claiming that as there were limited providers of housing in

remote Aboriginal communities, the respondents knew, or ought to have known, that Aboriginal tenants had few alternative options, lacked negotiating power and information about their rights, and were, therefore, particularly vulnerable.

The housing authority and state are also accused of taking advantage of Aboriginal tenants by charging them high rent for poor-quality properties, and that the amount of rent charged varied without sufficient explanation.

The statement of claim suggests there are thousands of public housing premises leased by Aboriginal tenants across remote communities in the East Kimberley, West Kimberley, Pilbara, Wheatbelt, Mid West, Gascoyne, and Goldfields-Esperance regions of WA. Those who leased the properties between the relevant 14-year timeframe are automatically included in the class.

The lead applicant and group members are seeking financial compensation for the losses and damages they have suffered, including repayment of rent where the property was without basic working amenities, and for inconvenience, disappointment and distress that housing-related concerns have allegedly caused together with repayment of expenses they have incurred to rectify housing defects and issues, such as buying and installing air conditioners, door locks, increased power costs, among other costs.

The class action follows a landmark High Court decision relating to housing rights of Aboriginal tenants in the Northern Territory run by Australian Lawyers for Remote Aboriginal Rights (ALRAR), which has teamed up with Slater and Gordon for this class action.

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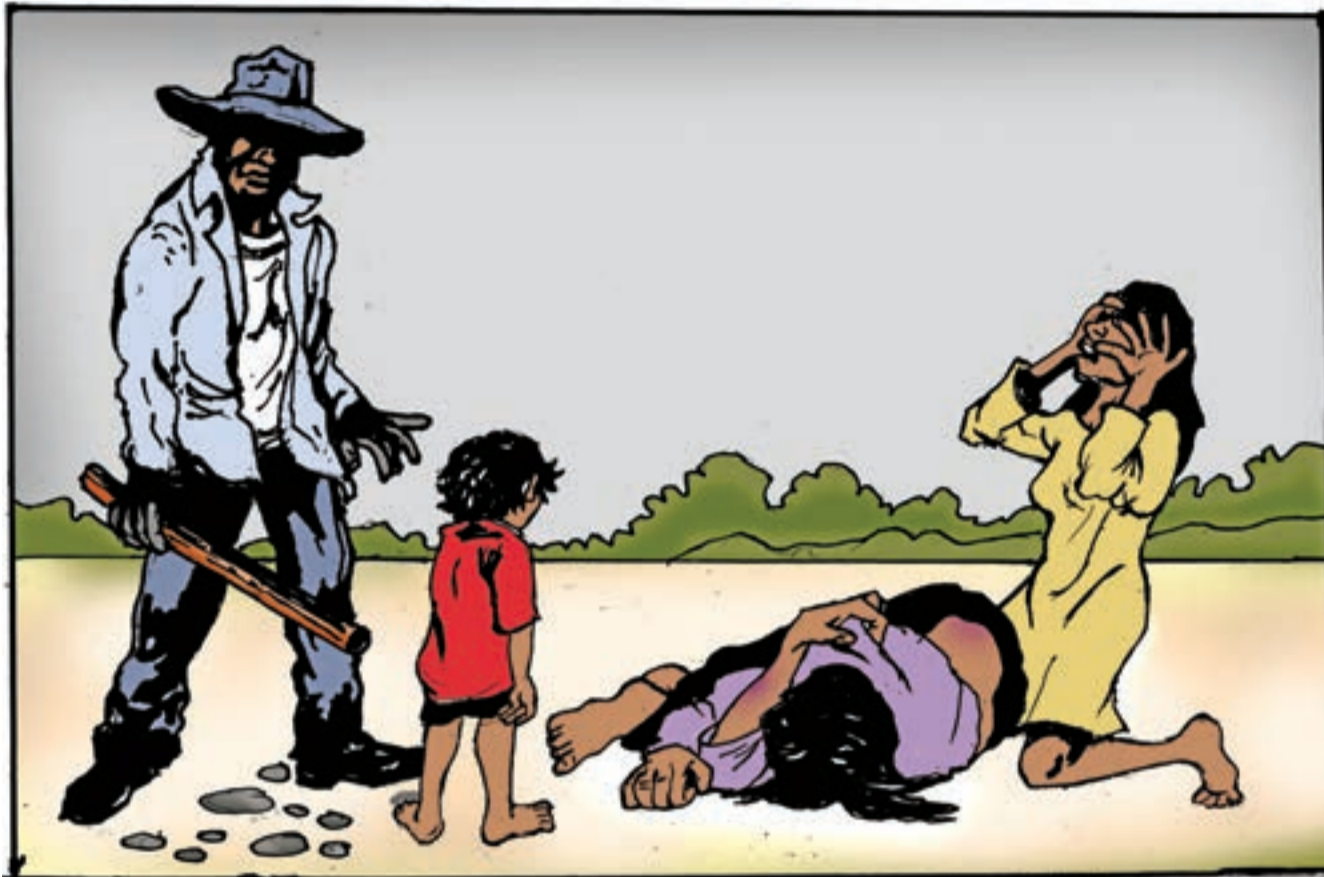
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Danny Eastwood's view

PUT AN END TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES



DON'T SILENCE THE VIOLENCE

Danny Eastwood

A YARN WITH...



Naiama Mau Darwin NT

Favourite bush tucker? Berries.

Favourite other food? Sushi Ham and Avocado.

Saltwater food? Turtle.

Non-Indigenous food: Corn beef and rice.

Favourite drink? Amino energy drink raspberry.

Favourite music? Country and Western.

Favourite sport? Rugby league barrack for Canberra Raiders.

Favourite holiday destination? Torres Strait.

Favourite Movie? The Incredible Hulk.

What do you like in life? Meeting new and interesting people.

What don't you like in life? Lazy people.

What person would you like most to meet? My late grandfather Abraham so I could tell him I am doing well.

Which people or person would you invite for a night around the campfire? My family on Dauan Island and have a chat to my dad who I don't see often.

Who/what inspires you? All my family.

What would you do to better the situation for Indigenous people? Tell them if they are struggling to ask for help and make good choices.

Quote



“Australia sometimes struggles with our identity, because we never came to terms with our own story, never embraced the breadth and depth of it, certainly not its truth.”

– Outgoing Labor MP Linda Burney in her valedictory speech to parliament

● See page 14

Unquote

Stop violence against women

It's a sad indictment on our Australian society that after two years of public hearings it was found that there had been little if any justice for First Nations women and children who had been murdered or gone missing.

We are talking about mothers and sisters, wives and aunties, and the young ones they raise.

It's not as if our politicians and leaders have been unaware that this remains a real issue for many families throughout the country.

Yet despite all the work that no doubt has gone into preparing what was described as a 'landmark report', the reaction from the experts is nothing short of depressing.

As Dharug woman Karen Iles said, the report has delivered some positive recommendations, but on the whole she maintains that it merely tinkers at the edges of the problem.

“There are some positive things in this report but I think overwhelmingly families who have experienced this unspeakable trauma of unresolved justice, you can never achieve justice,” she said. “You can't even access justice at the moment because of how deep the systemic issues of bias in our police force go.”

Ms Iles called for a tougher approach but was not confident it would be delivered.

“Our laws are quite clear on abduction, sexual assault and murder ...



they're just not being enforced and until we send a message to perpetrators that if you commit these horrible crimes you can expect the force of the law to come down on you like a tonne of bricks it's not going to change.”

The problem remains that too often the very real warning signs are being ignored by police and other service providers. Too many women remain 'invisible' and unprotected by the very systems that are meant to be there to help them in their times of need.

The appointment of an advocate for First Nations women and children within the Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Commission is of course a positive step, but the real change has to happen at the grassroots level, and it needs to come about with improvements in the way data surrounding murdered and missing First Nations women and children is collected.

It also needs to come at the frontline of policing, where the cries of help from families concerned for their missing loved ones are first heard.

The listening has happened, but now bold action is required.

KOORI MAIL 100% ABORIGINAL-OWNED

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

By CATHERINE HUNT



FAR North Queensland-based Indigenous fashion designer and artist Grace Lillian Lee is at the

top of her game. With a career built on hard work and passion for sharing her heritage through her art, Grace opens her debut major exhibition this weekend, as part of the Brisbane Festival. *The Dream Weaver: Guardians of Grace* is a commissioned body of work made up of 16 pieces, eight shields and eight body sculptures, each representing one individual from Grace's family tree: both sets of grandparents (maternal and paternal), her parents and then Grace and her partner.

It's an exciting opportunity for a designer who has already reached lofty heights in the fashion industry and it comes on the back of a year that could only be described as thrilling.

Opportunity knocks

Grace's formidable reputation on the international fashion scene caught the eye of 2024 Brisbane Festival artistic director, Louise Bezzina, who invited her to bring a Queensland element that would compliment one of the festival program drawcards, fashion's enfant terrible, Jean Paul Gaultier and his *Fashion Freak Show* — fifty years of pop culture through the fashion icon's eyes.

Gaultier, whose career reaches back to the 1970s, is responsible for boundary-pushing, genre-bending moments that brought fashion into pop culture — readers likely remember the conical bra, a flesh-coloured corset with pointed cups worn by Madonna on the *Blonde Ambition* tour at the height of her fame.

Grace is a boundary pusher too. Her striking, signature woven sculptures merge tradition with innovation and blur the line between art and fashion. Almost performative, they weave together the stories of her Chinese and Torres Strait Islander heritage.

"It was a very nice surprise," Grace tells the *Koori Mail*, laughing to acknowledge her understatement. "When she called me and asked if I wanted to collaborate with Jean Paul Gaultier, I said 'Who says no to Jean Paul Gaultier? I don't!'"

True to her name, Grace was grateful and humbled by the opportunity to work with Gaultier.

At the same time, having shown her creations on runways around the world, sharing her story in her own unique way, she knows her worth and working with one of fashion's leading boundary-pushers seemed a natural fit.

"I'm excited to be doing my first major solo exhibition alongside his showcase.

"There are lots of synergies. His *Fashion Freak Show* is his life story in fashion, and my show is about the making of me," she said.

Paris and Jean Paul

The invitation to put together a show for the Brisbane Festival included a trip to Paris earlier this year to meet with the celebrated master of French haute couture and prêt-à-porter fashion. While there, Grace was able to go through Gaultier's archives with

Fashioning the state of Grace



Cairns-based fashion designer Grace Lillian Lee shares her Torres Strait heritage through her work. Above: Woven snake-like coils wrap around the model's head and torso, demonstrating Grace's innovative adaptation of the traditional weaving technique taught to her by Elder Uncle Ken Thaiday.

him, as well as visiting his atelier — the designer's top-secret creative space.

Speaking about the experience she says, "He's lovely... he feels the people he invites into his world are a part of his family.

"We just giggered-out on fashion and design and art.

"I'm lost for words as to what that experience was like because it was just unbelievable — that's what it was. Unbelievable."

Growing up

Grace grew up in Gimuy

(Cairns), spending time in her hairdresser mother's salon and artist father's gallery. In these spaces, she was surrounded by people whose success came from working with their hands.

It would seem Grace had begun her journey to the top of contemporary design before she knew it. She recalls as a student at Cairns State High School, being more focused on the end-of-year wearable-art competition than her final exams.

With two working parents as positive role models in her life, Grace developed a strong work

ethic early on. She says being passionate about her work helps.

"I think I worked hard. But, it wasn't difficult because it's aligned with my purpose, which is to celebrate who I am and where I come from.

"It's a big part of my journey, my dedication to my cultural background and to my family."

Pivotal journey back

In 2010, Grace took her paternal grandmother back to the Torres Strait Islands, where she was returning for the first time in 57 years.

"I feel like there was a disconnect.

"Back then they didn't have mobile phones or good communication, travel wasn't easy ... there was also the White Australia policy which really affected people's movement."

All of this meant that Grace's father grew up without the connection to his Torres Strait heritage. It was easier, safer, freer for him to grow up with his father's Chinese identity.

Bringing home the ways in which colonisation had impacted her family, the return made a strong impression.

"The knowledge that my father wasn't privy to, that's what is behind this strong urgency to be loud and proud of who I am and where I come from."

Grace's trip to the Torres Strait with her grandmother seems to have been pivotal. She had developed a work ethic, skills and qualifications in the field she loved to work, but the revealing journey gave her work drive and purpose.

It is also where her relationship with Torres Strait Island senior knowledge holder Uncle Ken Thaiday developed into a precious mentorship.

Uncle Ken taught Grace the traditional weaving technique that, many years later, she has innovated to create her woven sculptures.

The traditional grasshopper weaving technique, taught to children from a young age, uses coconut-palm fronds to create a pattern that appears like the belly of a grasshopper. It is the foundation of Grace's recent work.

"I've been weaving for 14 years. I learned it from Uncle Ken Thaiday who has nurtured and supported my creative practice over that time, and continues to do so.

"He has been like a cultural beacon of light to me," Grace said, conveying her deep respect for his cultural knowledge and his position in the Torres Strait Island community.

What's next?

While Grace feels the pull of international fashion capitals like Paris and Milan, her passion is driven from somewhere closer to home.

"I think what we have here locally is truly special. This is where the heart of what I'm creating is.

"The draw to be in Europe is about us being a part of that conversation, and to be on the same platform so that the world can see what we're doing.

"In Australia, we can get a bit left behind.

"I really feel that especially Indigenous fashion hasn't been seen in the high-end couture fashion world and I would love to be a part of making that happen."

The Dream Weaver: Guardians of Grace is showing at Stores Studio, Brisbane Powerhouse, from August 30 to September 21. Learn more about Grace Lillian Lee on her website, gracelillianlee.com/ The exclusive Australian season of Jean Paul Gaultier's *Fashion Freak Show*, runs from August 30 to September 15. Both fashion designer's exhibits are presented as part of the Brisbane Festival. For more information visit the festival website at brisbanefestival.com.au/

Have you seen Jeremiah?

By TANGIORA HINAKI



JEREMIAH Rivers has been missing since 2021.

The Kimberley man from Western Australia was last seen in a remote corner of south-west Queensland, while on a camping trip with six other people.

No trace has been seen of Jeremiah since then.

Queensland Police appear to have given up interest, but his heartbroken family, from the East Kimberley region of Western Australia, will not rest until they know what's happened to him.

Jeremiah's mother Marcia Purdy recently shared her heartfelt plea for answers regarding her son's disappearance in Queensland.

She emphasised the family's need for closure and the deep pain they endure daily.

Mystery Jeremiah, a beloved and respectful young Gija man known for his kindness and love for outdoor activities, vanished under mysterious circumstances.

Marcia recounted the police's initial response, criticising their failure to follow protocol within the critical first 48 hours.

She highlighted the mishandling of witnesses and the impact of COVID-19 restrictions, which allowed key individuals to cross state borders without proper investigation.

Despite the family's continuous efforts and the support of the local community, they have faced numerous obstacles in their quest for answers.

The family urges those who know what happened to



Jeremiah Rivers went missing in October 2021 in a remote corner of South West Queensland, while on a camping trip with six other people.

Jeremiah to come forward.

Marcia mentioned a particular individual, who was Jeremiah's best friend, who has remained silent despite the family's close relationship with him.

She pleaded for him to speak up and share what he knows, hoping for the truth to finally emerge.

Marcia called on the police to dedicate more resources to finding Jeremiah, similar to the

extensive efforts made in other missing-person cases, like that of Cleo Smith.

Frustration

She expressed frustration over the lack of financial incentives or rewards to encourage information from those who may know something.

Seeing pictures of Cleo Smith in a remote Queensland roadhouse "was horrible and it

made me so angry," Marcia said.

Reflecting on Jeremiah's legacy, Marcia described the immense void left by his absence, not only within the family but also in the broader community.

The emotional toll is evident as she recounted the daily struggle of living with uncertainty and the recurring nightmares.

But the family's resolve remains strong as they continue

to seek justice and bring him home.

Marcia's message is clear: those who have information must come forward.

The family's pain is palpable, and their plea is a call for compassion and truth.

They hope that keeping Jeremiah's name in the media will eventually lead to the breakthrough they desperately need.

Women in Media conference sheds light on violence against women

By ASAD KHAN



THE Women in Media National Conference was held in Sydney earlier this month with the event hosting women in

media from all across Australia. A panel of accomplished women discussed the difficulties and rise of family violence faced by women.

The panel, which included Amanda Rishworth, Federal Minister for Social Services; Moo Baulch, the Chair of Our Watch; and Aboriginal screenwriter, director, and actress, Leah Purcell, discussed the issues.

Ms Purcell said discussing the complexities of understanding violence against women emphasises the important role of art and theatre in making the stories fictional in

order to make people feel more comfortable. She said she wanted the scenes in her film *The Drover's Wife* to be raw, as the perpetrators do not see themselves when the action happens.

"If only they could visualise and see," she said.

Ms Purcell said when leaving the theatre, there'd be men sort of with their heads in their glass of red wine, and when asked if they were okay, they responded that they now worry for their daughter's future.

"There's a lot we don't know about people who choose to use violence in relationships," Ms Purcell said.

"There is some early research being done and so we're starting to understand the perpetrators," she said.

Federal Minister for Social Services, Amanda Rishworth, made a startling

revelation while speaking about one incident that shook her when she visited the town of Kununurra in Western Australia's Kimberley region.

"I visited a shelter in Kununurra, and the perpetrators were able to get through the roof and attack the women," she said.

"I said, how is that possible?" Ms Rishworth said she was told they were children in that particular refuge, and so they knew the whole building. She said jail time is the right thing to do in some instances, but she also acknowledged the importance of the behavioural change programs for the perpetrators.

"Put them all in jail," Ms Rishworth said.

"And absolutely, I've got to be clear that is the right justice response in some places, but there are other responses we must be looking at as well."



The panel for Women in Media conference discussing the family violence against women earlier this month.

These articles were reproduced with permission from Ngaarda Media. Ngaarda Media was created by the Yindjibarndi community for all Aboriginal people of the Pilbara region. They are the only licensed Aboriginal broadcaster in the 500,000-square kilometre region and the collective voice of more than 30 language groups of Traditional Owners.

Brothers to run five marathons in five days

By DARREN COYNE



GUNDITJMARA brothers Javier and Darchi Clarke are hoping to shine some light on the darkness of mental health.

They aim to run over 220km in five days (equivalent to five marathons) to raise funds and awareness around mental health and suicide prevention.

Their run will start in Ballarat, Victoria, on Tuesday, September 10 (World Suicide Prevention Day), and they aim to arrive in Echuca five days later.

They will be supported along the way by their parents, Paul and Clare (who is a nurse), and their mate, Lachie Trotman, who will be riding a bike.

They have a Gofundme page (ClarkeRun) to raise money for Lifeline Australia.

Javier Clarke told the *Koori Mail* that he and Darchi were motivated to help others, but also had personal reasons for undertaking the epic journey.

“Five years ago we lost an uncle to suicide so we have felt the effects firsthand,” he said.

“I have personally also suffered with mental health. As a teenager I really struggled and now I speak openly about it because I want others to speak out about their issues, and to seek help.

“We are hoping to create a conversation within Mob, family, at the footy club, wherever. It’s something that is not talked

about enough.”

Raising funds for good causes appears to run in the Clarke family. Their father Paul Clarke completed a similar fundraising journey about 21 years ago, riding from Ballarat to Canberra with his relative, Uncle Albert ‘Alby’ Clarke.

Uncle Alby has made a name for himself over the years having completed numerous ultra-marathons, on bikes and by running.

Javier said he and Darchi had been training hard for their own fundraiser, and fully expected the run to be challenging.

“We hope our journey, the blisters, sore legs, the pain and sweat and tears will be a small sacrifice in comparison to the mental health challenges felt by many individuals,” he said.

“We’ve been doing between 170 and 180 kilometres a week, building up to 200 kilometres, and we will be scaling back just prior to the run.”

Their run will begin on September 10 outside the Ballarat Base Hospital, arriving at the Gypsy Bar in Echuca on September 14.

Adding to the family element, the brother’s three sisters – Jamiah, Eesha and Tazarni – are planning to join them on the final leg of their run into Echuca.

● All funds donated will go directly to Lifeline Australia via the secure GoFundMe platform. Follow their journey on 2clarkes on Instagram, and Facebook. Donate to Gofundme page at ClarkeRun.



Javier and Darchi flying the flag for mental health. Pictures supplied.



The brothers, Javier, 23, and Darchi, 19, have been running up to 180 kilometres per day in training for their marathon effort.

- Statistics indicate that 1 in 4 young people aged between 16 – 24 years old experience mental health illness.
- 8.6 Australians die every day by suicide. That's more than double the road toll.
- Suicide is the leading cause of death for Australians between the ages of 15 and 44.
- About 75% of those who take their own life are male.
- The suicide rate in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples is twice that of non-Indigenous people.

How black cladding impacts on grassroots communities

Let's talk about black cladding businesses. It seems as though Indigenous spaces are becoming more and more filled with fraudulent humans wanting to take money away from our communities by either black cladding their business or just straight-up lying about their heritage.

Why is this so damaging? Look, don't get me wrong if you have found out that you have an Indigenous ancestor, please by all means walk the long path of initiations and reclamation back to your family and lands, but please don't assume the right to take Indigenous grant money, status or hold the microphone to speak as a representative of the community that you so newly become a part of. We request and ask what can you give back before you start to take? What does your community or land need now that you have found your connection?

The colonial and capitalist mind will have us wanting to take over, rise above and capitalise on our culture but if you are still new to our culture please take the time to sit on Country, learn from your Elders or ask your community what do you need and how can I support you before you assume the right to be our representative. We see this happening all the time and the issue is that when we



Ella Noah Bancroft

have newcomers taking up spaces, they water down our knowledge system, they romanticise our culture and if they are disconnected from community and Country they do not speak to the ongoing devastating impacts that colonisation has had on our communities and Country.

It seems that many silly and Johnny-come-latelys feel that applying for black scholarships or grants is how they can retrace their way back, but this only disadvantages our grassroots organisation and leaders who deserve to be the ones standing up and speaking the truths of our very different communities and culture all over this continent known as Australia.

Imagine that as you found out about your Indigenous heritage you return to being in the womb, you still have to be birthed into the world and do more than 20 years of education before you can take a mic or grant. Imagine the years you walk the path to be your initiations, imagine if you asked what you could give back instead of what you can take because of it.

We are not just individuals, we come carrying our communities, families, stories and culture with us.

We need true representation because the watered down version only does a disservice to our communities. It does not allow for truth telling to truly take place.

People will say well if I don't claim my Indigeneity then the colony wins. Yes I agree, they tried so hard to breed the black out of our Country and you are more than welcome to identify, maybe please don't assume the right to take up grants, jobs and self-appointed leadership roles until you have a lived experience of what it is to be an Indigenous person living under the colony, until you have worked with your families or communities to truly understand our fight. Here we are faced with a time of great challenge where we all have to check our colonial mindsets and

how we profit off black and brown bodies and identities.

A true reminder that we must learn to give back before we take.

There has been an emergence of non-Indigenous people standing up claiming that they have been delivered a message from our ancestors that they need to be the ones to bring us together. White-saviour complexes disguised as spiritual healers who apparently can hear our ancestors better than us and then create black-facing businesses under the illusion of giving back but actually once again profiting from our people. This is black cladding. Non-Indigenous people making bush food businesses and running spiritual events that are "Indigenous led". That's what we call gammon. How is it that less than 1% of bush food industry is Indigenous owned? Time and time again our ancestral knowledge and culture is used for the interests of white industry and white individuals.

There is black cladding in all the industries and the arts industry is one of the biggest.

New Indigenous artists who find out their ancestry in their early 30s and by their mid 30s are self-appointing themselves as representatives to white audiences and their communities

don't even know them. Taking commissions and grants. How does this go unchecked? Our communities and Country has been victim to this capitalist system since the European boats arrived in 1788 and it still continues today.

In the frameworks of capitalism people forget that we as Indigenous people have a lore system, protocols and procedures that we need to adhere to. Non-Indigenous Australia is blissfully unaware of our deep connections to one another, that we are only three per cent of the population sometimes is an advantage in the way that our community is small and known. There is no lateral violence here just living by lore. This current system is loveless. People taking and powering over is the culture we have created but we are not a loveless people, we keep our own in check with respect and protocols. An important part of being an Indigenous person is being connected to Indigenous community, even if it's not your bloodline community. We support one another, we care for each other and we take each other with us.

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

Making Acknowledgements Great Again

Last year, I was invited to speak at a business forum and share my experiences about Indigenous employment and contracting opportunities within the mining industry. This unremarkable forum consisted of introductions, a Welcome to Country, some individual addresses, a panel session, a wrap-up and a forum closing.

Despite years of public speaking, I still suffer from the occasional bout of stage fright. I usually hide out in the back row, sweating and churning while waiting for my turn to go to the front.

I was sitting in the far back corner, observing the proceedings from a distance. As the Elder delivered the Welcome to Country, my thoughts were interrupted by a well-dressed man in a grey suit in the next row. He reminded me a little bit of Robert Redford from a certain angle. Visibly frustrated, 'Robert' began quietly muttering under his breath, "I'm sick of this crap." He made a series of quiet hissing sounds and disapproving tssks, looking like he was suffering from indigestion.

It took me a moment to realise what was



ADAM C LEES

happening; the Welcome to Country seemed to disagree with him.

It felt like the Elder on stage had a power like a priest from 'The Exorcist', chanting to drive out a stubborn demon. I couldn't shake the phrase "may the power of Christ compel you" from my mind. As if being driven away by an exorcism, the man abruptly stood up, flung open the doors, and exited the room. He later peeked back in and settled into his seat after the Welcome.

Initially, I wasn't sure what to make of his reaction. I'd seen people like him before, typically in the comment sections of conservative news sites. But this was my first encounter with such a critic

Despite ongoing criticism, Welcomes and Acknowledgements are here to stay. They can be powerful and unifying rather than divisive and time-consuming.

in person. Those opposed to Welcomes to Country and Acknowledgments of Country often describe them as divisive, boring, fake, tedious, overused, cringeworthy, predictable, a cash grab, and monotonous. Others argue, "We are all Australian. I'm Indigenous too; I don't need to be welcomed in my own country."

It only takes a little searching to find instances of shires and councils choosing not to support Welcomes or Acknowledgements. For example, last month, Croydon Mayor Trevor Pickering made headlines across Queensland and beyond with his comment, 'I've got a nephew who is Aboriginal, other family members who identify as Aboriginal, I grew up with Aboriginal people, I befriended Aboriginal people, and that Welcome to Country stuff is all pure

bullshit.' I was more intrigued by the large photo of the journalist and mayor digging into a generous serving of fish and chips. The image didn't fit the story.

The reasons for objection to Acknowledgments and Welcomes are also becoming more bizarre. Recently, it was reported that a Christian pastor is facing an appearance before the Queensland Human Rights Commission on allegations of racial vilification and humiliation. He reportedly told someone at a religious event that he wouldn't start a meeting with an Acknowledgement of Country because it was 'incompatible' with Christianity. Well, how?

Have Welcomes to Country and Acknowledgements of Country moments overstayed their welcome? Some newspapers suggest

they have. This criticism may have a kernel of truth, and some concerns are worth considering.

Growing up in the 1970s and 1980s, Acknowledgments and Welcomes, as we know them today, seemed non-existent. Thanks to Reconciliation Action Plans, native-title recognition, and a resurgence of some cultural traditions and practices, they've become a common feature of many public events. But for some, the novelty has worn off well and truly.

Acknowledgements in many cases come across as rehearsed and mere formalities, delivered with as much enthusiasm as a flight attendant's impersonal, rote-learned safety briefing. I've also been guilty of sticking to the same script. But now, I am more mindful. Before I step up to speak at external events—where everyone else tends to use the same formulaic

Acknowledgement—I make a point to rethink my approach. I try to keep the message fresh and meaningful, with authenticity. Acknowledgements should be inspiring, engaging and personal. As for Welcomes,

that's a matter for Traditional Owner groups to decide.

Despite ongoing criticism, Welcomes and Acknowledgements are here to stay. They can be powerful and unifying rather than divisive and time-consuming. Take last September, for example, when sports commentator Sam Newman criticised Welcomes to Country at AFL games and even encouraged fans to boo them. Yet, at the Brisbane Lions vs Carlton match in Brisbane, the massive crowd joined the Traditional Owners Welcome chant, sending a clear message of appreciation and support.

Back to the protesting Robert Redford lookalike—when it was my turn to speak at the forum, I glanced his way, thanked the Elder for her Welcome, and felt absolute satisfaction in paying my respects to Elders past and present.

● 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.



Connecting First Nations businesses

By KATE RUSSELL



This year, Supply Nation celebrates its 15-year anniversary, and I am proud of what it has achieved.

I am proud of its contributions, not only to the Indigenous business sector, but to the economic empowerment of our people.

We now have over 5,000 verified Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses on our national Indigenous Business Direct database, and more than 820 corporate, government and non-profit members.

Supply Nation is dedicated to supporting the growth and success of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander owned businesses.

We do that through commitment to the concept of supplier diversity and the belief that businesses benefit when they procure products and services from diverse, often underrepresented and minority groups within the economy.

Supply Nation is not a business, it was founded as a not-for-profit entity to achieve very specific and ambitious goals.

In a letter commemorating the launch of the Australian Indigenous Minority Supplier Council, the then prime minister Kevin Rudd wrote:

"The 2009 House of Representatives Standing Committee on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs Inquiry Report, *Open for Business: Developing Indigenous enterprises in Australia*, recommended that given the success of minority supplier councils overseas, the Australian Government establish a pilot here."



Kate Russell.

On September 15, 2009, in the Mural Hall – Australian Parliament House – Canberra, the Australian Indigenous Minority Supplier Council was launched, later becoming what we now know as Supply Nation in 2013.

Fifteen years on and the world has changed remarkably.

The digital economy and technology have changed forever how businesses operate, grow and transfer products and

services through supply chains.

Procurement of products and services, a fundamental part of business operations, is changing constantly.

Supply Nation, like the businesses we support, has also had to adapt, offering different ways of providing our services and forming strategic partnerships that allow us to do more, and importantly, do it more effectively and efficiently.

The economy is now full of

start-ups, entrepreneurs, and disruptive forces such as artificial intelligence and robotics that support many traditional industries, but also power new and exciting areas of the economy that a few years ago seemed like fantasy.

Ongoing disruption and challenges are many, but we know that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses are resilient and innovative.

The Indigenous business sector is growing. The number of businesses is growing and the contribution to their communities and the broader Australian economy is growing.

There is momentum and positive sentiment driving even more success.

The ideals and aspirations that founded Supply Nation have never been more real or needed.

Commitment to diversity and inclusion will create value to business, it will drive innovation and a corporate culture able to meet challenges and thrive in a competitive environment.

Last year, Supply Nation facilitated \$4.1 billion of spend into verified Indigenous businesses from our members including corporates, government's, education providers and other non-profit organisations.

A commitment to supplier diversity and collaboration with Indigenous owned businesses drives job creation and skills development.

It creates real benefits across social outcomes such as health and education.

We know this because that is what business is telling us.

Indigenous owned businesses are also clear on what drives them.

They are clear on their values and purpose. A purpose that often has community and

sustainability at heart.

Our Connect event this year will host over 200 exhibitors and a large international delegation of First Nation's organisations and businesses from the United States, Canada and New Zealand.

The event delivers real outcomes for the sector.

Our Supplier Diversity Awards recognise the excellence and achievements of both individuals and organisations in developing supplier diversity and creating real value that drives growth and contributes to ESG goals.

This year's theme for Connect 2024 is 'Legacy'.

We have been thinking a lot about what legacy Supply Nation has left after 15 years of working to support Indigenous business and the Australian economy.

I believe that the optimism and faith we have today in the future success and growth of businesses owned and managed by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples is a legacy to be proud of.

The next fifteen years will of course, hold complex challenges and uncertainties.

Businesses will adapt and change with the times. The stories are yet to be told but we have been telling those stories of trade and commerce for an extraordinarily long time and will continue to do so.

We will see a greater recognition of the contribution of Indigenous business to the prosperity of all Australians and that will be something to be especially proud of.

Supply Nation is proud of its legacy and will be an important part of the next fifteen-year journey.

● Kate Russell is chief executive officer of Supply Nation.

Children celebrated

By ALF WILSON



ABORIGINAL and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day was celebrated with 24 primary school teams contesting the 10th Garbutt Magpies Cup at Queen's Park in Townsville on July 30.

No winner or player awards were given and it was more a social event where the participants and their family and friends could enjoy themselves in a friendly atmosphere.

Included were Indigenous teams Bwgcolman State and St Michael's Catholic schools from Palm Island, Shalom Christian College and Garbutt State.

Every team included Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander players.

Most of the other Australian Rules teams were based in Townsville region and one had travelled by ferry from Magnetic Island across Cleveland Bay.

The opening ceremony included a speech from club official and MC Randall Ross as Elders looked on from under a tent nearby.

"We had at least 500 players and many spectators including parents, grandparents and relatives. It was a great day and we never even had a winner or players' awards because we just wanted everybody to enjoy the social side and meet others," Randall said.

At the opening there were excellent performances by youngsters from Weir State School Widda Dance Academy.



Widda dancers performed on the day.

Entertainment

Afterwards the event included entertainment, food trucks, stalls, and giveaways.

The *Koori Mail* was there and saw former Garbutt Magpies players David Nogar hold the Aboriginal flag, Butch Macdonald the Australian flag and Francis Tapim the TS flag.

"This is an incredible event and good to see so many people here," David said.

Young Mislam Sam from North Shore School designed the jumpers for the day after winning a hotly contested art competition.

"Mislam is a very humble young man and we were delighted with his design on the shirts," Randall said.

As hundreds of adults watched their children, grandchildren and relatives in action and there was no parking space around the huge park.

Numerous tents were on the sidelines and the day didn't finish until 2pm.

High schools students were also involved as volunteers and I spoke to Rasella Solomon from Shalom College who was a goal umpire.

Sponsors were Ausco, Kinetic, Townsville City Council, Hinterland Aviation, Sealink, Davco Farming, Red Dust, Smith Family and Community Gro.

The Garbutt Magpies which was founded in 1955 is a sporting and cultural club based on traditional First Nations practices and philosophies to guide reconciliation.

It creates and extends traditional song and storylines in the contemporary world through positive sporting and cultural activities.

The Garbutt Magpies have a strong Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, providing the local community with a social space where young men and women feel connected and safe.

Garbutt Magpies is a fourth generation club which comprises mostly Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders players and members.

Two of the club's founding members were the late Anastasia Maria Ross (nee Kanak) of Darnley Island descent and her husband Manny Ross of Aboriginal Juro and Kunjuun heritage.

The club will celebrate its 70th anniversary in 2025.



North Shore School's Kylie Henaway, Mislam Sam, who designed the event jumpers, and Amanda Buddy.



The MC on the day was Randall Ross.



Volunteers manned a food stall to keep the children fed.



Samara Luta.

at annual sports day



Students from the schools watch the official opening.



Alex Illin jnr travelled from Moranbah, where he works, for the day.



There was plenty of action at the sporting fields throughout the day.



Malcolm Tamwoy.



Widda dancers from Weir State School performed during the opening ceremony.



Holding the flags after the opening were from left David Nogar, Butch Macdonald and Francis Tapim.



Garbutt State School team.

New talent shines at



THE winners of South Australia's annual First Nations art prize, OUR MOB 2024 – Art by South Australian Aboriginal Artists (and OUR YOUNG MOB for artists from SA under 18 years of age) were announced at the prize's exhibition launch earlier this month.

Now in its 18th year, OUR MOB is an annual showcase presented by the Adelaide Festival Centre in the spirit of reconciliation.

The art prize offers emerging and mid-established artists living in South Australia the opportunity to have their work shown in a professional gallery and winners across the different categories, determined by age and ability, also receive financial, material and mentoring support, provided by sponsors and partners of the event.

Wirangu, Kokatha and Mirning artist, Jasmine Kerdel, was awarded the \$5,000 Don Dunstan Foundation Emerging Artist prize at the exhibition launch on Friday, August 2.

"Winning this prize means so much as it is the first time I've shown my work in a public space.

"It gives me a lot of self-confidence that I can tell my family's stories," Jasmine said in an interview following the launch.

Her winning artwork *Interconnection* is inspired by her reflections on the nature of the universe, on interconnectedness and the way people, Country and sky are forever connected.

"Connection to Country is something very important to me and I can't wait to explore that more through my art."

Arabunna Elder Reginald Dodd OAM received the \$2,000 Trevor Nickolls Art Prize. The prize was established as part of OUR MOB in 2021, through the generosity and vision of South Australian artist Trevor Nickolls. Nickolls rose to prominence in the 1970s as a leading Aboriginal artist.

The Country Arts SA Professional Development Initiative Award was won by Gudjula and Girramay artist, Kat

Bell, a previous recipient of the Trevor Nickolls prize. She creates digital prints using augmented reality. Put simply, the technique involves taking an image created with traditional materials and manipulating it using social media and other digital tools. It is a medium with endless possibility, allowing the artist a wide range of mood and style, as seen in Bell's *Birds in the Wilderness*, which has the appearance of a black and white linocut, and *Mothers Tears*, with a watercolour or pen-and-ink appearance.

The Ku Arts Award, which honours the founding chairperson of the peak arts body, Inawinjtji Williamson, went to Ngarrindjeri artist Belinda Wilson.

There were three OUR YOUNG MOB winners: Adnyamathanha artist Rosie Cruse, Narungga artist Brianna Warrior and Mirning artist Maya Baker.

Guests at the launch enjoyed Paul Vandenberg's Munda Wines and First Nations catering

OUR MOB 2024 is an exhibition in parts. Artworks from this year's iteration of the art prize, including finalists and winners, will be shown, as well as solo exhibitions by last year's Don Dunstan Foundation Prize recipient, Lesley Coulthard; and the 2023 Trevor Nickolls award recipient, Samantha Gollan. Both solo exhibitions stem from the previous year's prize, which includes support and mentorship towards an exhibition.

OUR MOB and OUR YOUNG MOB is presented by the Adelaide Festival Centre and supported through partnerships with SA peak arts body Ku Arts; Country Arts SA; The Don Dunstan Foundation; TARNANTHI: Festival of Contemporary Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art; and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts and culture centre managers and coordinators across South Australia.

OUR MOB and OUR YOUNG MOB will be showing at the Adelaide Festival Centre Galleries until October 12. Artworks can be viewed and purchased at Adelaide Festival Centre's online shop. For more information search OUR MOB on the festival centre's website.



Winner of the 2024 Don Dunstan Foundation Our Mob Emerging Artist Prize, Jasmine Kerdel, is flanked by her proud parents, father Scott Kerdel and mother Kaylene Dynall Wombatholds, as she holds her award. Pictures: Peter Argent



Seeding Our Future, by 2024 Trevor Nickolls Art Prize winner, Arabunna Elder, Reginald Dodd OAM.



Robert Taylor performing his special Welcome to Country.



Birds in the Wilderness by Country Arts SA Professional Development Initiative Award winner, Gudjula and Girramay artist, Kat Bell. Picture: supplied.



Narungga woman Mali Harkin-Noack, fronts her poem *Birayirga Winaba*.



Horrors of Humanity, by Mirning artist Maya Baker, OUR YOUNG MOB 2024 winner.

OUR MOB exhibition



Jasmine, with one of her 2024 OUR MOB winning artworks, *Interconnection*, acrylic on canvas.



Adelaide Festival Centre's First Nations programming executive, Celia Coulthard MC'd the launch.



Artist Alexandrina Campbell (right) and proud mother Lorraine Campbell (left) beside her work, *Kuranye Waninyar – The Rainbow Song*.



Artist Jack Minungka Tur-Martens with his work *Kililpi Tjuta (Many Stars)*, a digital print.



Trevor Nickolls 2023 award recipient, Samantha Gollan's works *Barramundi Dreaming*



OUR MOB exhibition launch patrons and participants Pareesa Mohtasham, Mali Harkin-Noack, Harry Smiles, Euan William Leatherbarrow-Pudney and Jack Minungka Tur-Martens.



Adnyamathanha, Narungga and Yarluyandi artist Temaana Sanderson-Bromley, who won the Don Dunstan OUR MOB award in 2022, attended the launch with girlfriend Tashani Wyatt.



Elijah Bravington recites his poem as *defi-Nations* creates a space to deliver First Nations voices at OUR MOB.



Childhood Memories, a mid-fire clay piece presented at OUR MOB in a solo exhibition by Lesley Coulthard.



Narungga artist Brianna Warrior was one of three winners in the 2024 OUR YOUNG MOB Prize, with her acrylic on canvas painting, *Sister Girls*.



Award presenter Laverne Ngatokorua, with fellow guests Melissa Juhanson and Lisa Phillips, stand beside *Harmony at the Mouth of the Murray* by 2024 Ku Arts Award-winner Belinda Wilson.



Joshua Abdulla and Kelly Poole stand in front of Joshua's painting, *Blue Dreaming* at OUR MOB launch.

The growing mental health gap killing Aboriginal men



NATHAN Appo's father is his "best mate". But when his dad fell into depression, he felt shut out of his life.

"He wasn't leaving his room, he wasn't able to talk to myself or talk to our family," Mr Appo said at a promotional event for Movember.

"It was heartbreaking ... because my best mate couldn't talk to me and I didn't understand."

But Neil Appo turned a corner, and his struggle became an important part of his son's advocacy for Indigenous men's health.

"Now we're able to talk about that and be in spaces to talk about our experiences."

Mr Appo is a Mamu man and Indigenous health advocate who acts as a spokesperson for groups including the Movember Institute of Men's Health and Deadly Health.

As a young man he was invited to Parliament House by legendary activist Charles Perkins to advocate for the Indigenous health program.

His father saved himself when he chose to open up to his family and see a therapist for his depression, but many men in their community aren't so lucky.

While the life expectancy of Indigenous people has been slowly rising over the past decade,



Nathan Appo is a Mamu man and Indigenous health advocate.

it is still about 10 years shorter than that of other Australians with Indigenous men being worse off than women.

Australian men, in general, are less likely to seek medical and mental health support for preventable conditions, and men are three times more likely to die by suicide than women.

But the rate for Indigenous men is three times higher than that, and most of the victims are

between the ages of 15 and 24.

Indigenous people still face barriers to culturally appropriate healthcare and mental health support, and for Indigenous men these intersect with health barriers the broader male population face.

Many Indigenous men don't seek treatment for mental health due to feeling shame speaking up and pressure to present a strong image to their community.

"Indigenous men don't feel as

comfortable going through the healthcare system and looking for the appropriate support," he said.

Indigenous Australians may also face discrimination, a lack of understanding or a denial of identity from the mainstream healthcare system.

"I personally felt discrimination with the healthcare system and it had an effect on my father not wanting to reach out."

According to a study by the

Movember Institute, Indigenous men are 16 per cent more likely to feel disrespected after their first visit to a health provider than other men, and 21 per cent more likely to feel disempowered.

The federal government announced a four-year funding agreement for Aboriginal community controlled health organisations in June alongside an investment of \$300 million.

These organisations provide culturally appropriate healthcare to Indigenous communities and are typically staffed by local community members.

They are also located within a reasonable distance from the communities they serve, with lengthy travel times from remote communities another healthcare barrier Indigenous people face.

"We know what works with our people and more services, more support, more healthcare, more infrastructure in those areas are needed," Mr Appo said.

Indigenous men's health has a "ripple effect" across the Indigenous community with children losing out on male role models and families feeling isolated and abandoned.

"When we're screaming for more role models, it's hard to when they're grieving a lot, when they're passing away because of suicide," he said. "We need these young men building and growing into strong Indigenous men leading our communities."

Forum addresses the impact of trauma



A HARD hitting forum addressing the way trauma impacts the lives of Aboriginal men took place in Bourke this month with organisers hailing the event as a welcome space for openness, accountability, and love.

Organised by Bourke Aboriginal Corporation Health Services (BACHS) and other local partners, the Men of Bourke Forum saw participants opening up about their trauma and discovering wellbeing tools and building resilience.

With the likes of Joe Williams, Ivan Clarke, and Lukas Williams as guest speakers the forum also had a youth component with Corey Anderson as the guest speaker.

CEO of BACHS, John Feutani, said the forum was months in the making through a consultative committee of service partners including Catholic Care, Aboriginal Legal Services, Community Corrections, Maranguka and RED.I.E.

Benchmark event

"We were able to all come together and produce a benchmark event for the local men of Bourke," Mr Feutani said.

"The topics we covered were hard-hitting but necessary including trauma and identifying how they impact all men, but most importantly Aboriginal men.

"Uncle Ivan Clarke's keynote address focussed on the issue of Aboriginal men being stigmatised as so called 'bad men'. However, he rephrased this to say that, in



Participants and presenters at the first Men of Bourke Forum.

fact, Aboriginal men are traumatised men – this in turn impacts Aboriginal men through attitudinal and lifestyle choices.

"As CEO of BACHS, it was heartening for me to see participants open up about their trauma and discover well-being approaches like participating in a yoga session."

Lukas Williams, who is based in the Northern Territory and a recipient of the Northern Territory Government Aboriginal Medical Services Remote Worker of the Year Award in 2018, provided some insights into why the Northern Territory Men's Forums have been so successful and what (similar forums) can look like for Bourke.

"The reason why men's forums have

been successful in the Northern Territory is that when we have other men gather around and share our stories, we recognise them within our bodies and brains. This is something universal to all men not just Aboriginal men and what I saw at the forum is that men in Bourke have stories and now have a safe space to share them at the Men's Hub," he said.

Something significant

BACHS chair James Moore said the forum marked the start of something more significant for the men living in Bourke and surrounding townships, as it would help deliver a more holistic approach to the healthcare needs of men which will have a positive flow-on effects for families.

"For many men, it's hard to open up about their feelings, let alone their trauma. This is having long-term health impacts on how they see themselves and how they're viewed by others, including their family members. This forum is helping to create a safe space for openness, accountability, and love through the lens of other men with similar lived experiences."

Mr Moore said the forum, the first in a significant time in Bourke, was much needed and that BACHS was working with other services like Catholic Care and Maranguka to empower both men and women.

Engaging youth

"Earlier this year, we had Women's Health Week, and now we have a men's forum. All we need to do now is ensure our youth, including Aboriginal youth living in Bourke, are engaged on the same level and are connecting to culture to progress their communities and families," he said.

"BACHS has recently hired a new senior administration and special projects staff member who will be tasked with building on the success of this forum so that events like this and the Women's Health Week become long-standing events that everyone living in Bourke can mark in their diaries to attend."

Bourke Aboriginal Health Corporation Service (BACHS) is an accredited primary health care service operated by our local Aboriginal community to deliver holistic, comprehensive, and culturally appropriate health and dental care to the community.

A partnership with heart in remote Queensland



CARDIAC care has literally been rolling out to First Nations communities in North-West Queensland thanks to a partnership between Gidgee Healing and Heart of Australia.

Since March 2024, cardiac care has been provided to 184 patients in remote areas including Mount Isa, Mornington Island, Normanton and Doomadgee, with thirteen of them being referred for tertiary care or investigation.

It all comes via Heart of Australia's custom-designed 34-wheel road train loaded with specialists and testing equipment directly to remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, enabling diagnosis and monitoring of conditions like Rheumatic Heart Disease (RHD) and other cardiac issues.

Cardiovascular disease leads to higher hospitalisation rates, with these communities being 1.5 times more likely to be hospitalised compared to non-Indigenous Australians and is responsible for 24% of all deaths among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Gidgee Healing offers primary healthcare to First Nations patients in remote communities facing barriers like isolation, socioeconomic challenges, and discrimination.

Their community-led approach is significantly improving health outcomes in some of Australia's most disadvantaged areas.

Gidgee Healing CEO, Cherrie Glasson, said that since partnering with Heart of Australia they have been able to deliver essential cardiac services to First Nations communities



The Heart of Australia and Gidgee Healing team on the road in remote Queensland.

across remote parts of north-west Queensland.

"We work with our people and communities on their health journeys and deliver holistic and culturally appropriate health services that address physical, social, emotional and cultural needs," Ms Glasson said.

Heart of Australia founder, director and cardiologist, Dr Rolf Gomes, said the trust and rapport Gidgee Healing has built within the community has allowed them to deliver critical cardiac services tailored to the needs of communities.

"The holistic care model of Gidgee Healing has amplified the impact of our cardiac services, ensuring patient and

community-centric care that respects local cultural contexts," Dr Gomes said.

Gidgee Healing and Heart of Australia continue to work together to expand access to essential cardiac care and improve health outcomes for First Nations communities in north-west Queensland. It is an Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation with a range of services and infrastructure in the Mount Isa and Lower Gulf communities.

Heart of Australia is a leading mobile healthcare service that provides equitable access to specialist healthcare for those living in rural, remote and First Nations communities.



Heart of Australia's custom-designed 34-wheel road train loaded with specialists and testing equipment.

Protecting our Elders from abuse



FIRST Nations Elders Yalmay Yunupinju, 2024 Senior Australian of the Year, and Charlie King OAM have joined together to urge

community to have a yarn about the abuse of older people.

"Elders are the backbone of our families and communities, and they deserve dignity and respect, but sometimes abuse can happen to our older people," said Yalmay. "We all know the abuse of older people isn't part of our culture, so we need to come together and yarn about it so we can stop it from happening."

Veteran sports broadcaster turned human rights campaigner, Charlie King OAM is a proud Gurindji man from the Northern Territory and said "None of us like to think that the abuse of our older



Yalmay Yunupinju and Charlie King are part of a new campaign to fight Elder abuse in our community.

people is happening in our communities, or in any communities across Australia.

"But if you feel like something isn't right with you or someone you know, have a talk to someone you trust, such as a family member, a

friend or a health care worker. Together, we can all do something about it, starting with a yarn."

With one in six aged 65 years and older across Australia experiencing some form of abuse, a new Australian Government campaign aims to highlight the help and services available, and the importance of working together as a community to help support our older people.

Yalmay and Charlie have come together in a video to ask all Mob to yarn about the abuse of older people, and highlight that support is available. "Older people are our cultural custodians, mentors, advocates, leaders and cherished loved ones, and abuse of our older people is never okay," said Charlie.

"We need to learn how to spot it and understand how to help, so that our older people can live with

the dignity they deserve."

Sometimes, abuse can be hard to spot, as it's often carried out by someone a person knows and trusts such as a partner, family member or carer. It can be even harder to spot because abuse isn't always physical. There are five main types of abuse of older people, including:

Emotional or psychological abuse – this can include name calling, being put down, or being shamed.

Financial abuse – this is when an older person's money is spent without their knowledge or against their will. Sometimes, family members will sell an older person's home without permission, keep their change after helping with shopping, or constantly humbug them for money.

Neglect – this happens when

someone who is looking after an older person doesn't meet their basic needs, such as preparing meals or helping them to shower. Neglect can happen deliberately, or it can be unintentional, like when a carer is struggling to cope but feels as if they can't ask for help.

Physical abuse – if an action causes or threatens physical pain, injury or distress, it's wrong.

Sexual abuse – anything that makes an older person feel uncomfortable, uneasy or unhappy about their body, gender or sexuality is considered abuse, or any act of a sexual nature done without an older person's consent.

Yalmay and Charlie's videos, and further information, can be found at: <https://www.compass.info/campaign/beginswithaconversation/first-nations/>

Community Day shines light on First Nations knowledges at Science Week



SCIENCE came to Redfern last week with Macquarie University hosting events celebrating science and technology and connections to Aboriginal knowledges and cultures.

Co-Chair of the National Indigenous Science Education Program of Macquarie University, Professor Joanne Jamie, said, "It is hard to believe that National Science Week is at an end."

"Along with our Community Day on Saturday for our Indigenous Science Experience at Redfern program, we had the most gorgeous three days at the Redfern Community Centre with children across the week.

"This included primary school students from Darlington, Glebe and Plunkett Street Public Schools, and Jarjum Redfern College, pre-school children from Only About Children, and home-schooled high school students from Western Sydney, supported by Welfare Aid International.

"They were captivated by all the science, technology and connections to Aboriginal knowledges and cultures.

"Thank you to all our wonderful presenters from Macquarie University Faculty of Science and Engineering, Faculty



Aunty Donna Ingram addressed the gathering at Redfern.

of Medicine, Health and Human Sciences chiropractic students, Walanga Muru and Numeracy Centre and including Macquarie University Natural Sciences, BirdLife Australia, Bush to Bowl, Qwestacon – The National Science and Technology Centre (with Patrick Helean and Brianna Keys), National Indigenous Science Education Program secondary student leaders along with Aunty Glenda Macphail and Shane McLeay from Yaegl Country and Jake Ferguson.

"At the Community Day at the

iconic Redfern Community Centre, we had a beautiful opening ceremony, led by Aunty Donna Ingram, with a Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony by Uncle Brendan Kerin."

The Science Week events also included presentations from Professor Joanne Jamie and Councillor (Waskam) Emelda Davis on the significance of Indigenous knowledges to science and technology, and the importance of empowering Indigenous youth through

science as part of the National Indigenous Science Education Program. Presenters including Aunty Glenda Macphail and Shane McLeay from Yaegl Country also shared their medicinal and food plant knowledges.

"It was Yaegl Elders that initiated NISEP when they requested almost 20 years ago for Macquarie University to work with them to empower their youth, and the Indigenous Science Experience @Redfern annual program for National

Science Week has an unbroken record of Yaegl Elders being a part of the program," Professor Jamie said.

"There were also many other NISEP partners and STEM and outreach organisations contributing to this science day, including Bush to Bowl (co-founded by Yaegl man Clarence Bruinsma), Aboriginal artefacts, beautiful cultural dances by Wiradjuri cultural educator Rayma Johnson and NISEP school students co-leading many activities."



The Indigenous Science Experience @ Redfern Community Day, on 20 August, offered a wide range of Indigenous and Western STEM activities for locals to drop in and experience.

Ecologist credits culture for her love of knowledge



A PASSION for Western and Indigenous knowledge has set Tiwi and Rambarrnga woman Kinjia Munkara-Murray on the road to a career in science.

The 27-year-old aquatic ecologist, who started working at Melbourne Water as a Traditional Owner Partnerships Officer this year, developed her passion for science after growing up exploring the lush tropical environment of Garramilla (Darwin).

"My love of insects, science and nature came from my Tiwi and Rambarrnga culture, particularly from my mother and grandmother, who were my first science teachers," she said.

Ms Munkara-Murray studied a Master of Bioscience on insect biodiversity on the Tiwi Islands and has studied the health of waterways around Victoria by monitoring aquatic 'macroinvertebrates', such as insects and crustaceans.

"Testing water in a lab is just one way to see if a waterway is healthy," she said.

"Looking at what's living in our rivers and creeks is often the best way to gauge the health of the river. Macroinvertebrates are just one bioindicator of waterway health."

Kinjia's passion for combining Western and Indigenous knowledge informs her role as a Traditional Owner Partnerships Officer at Melbourne Water.

"I am passionate about using Western



Kinjia Munkara-Murray wants to be a role model for other young people to pursue a career in science.

and Indigenous knowledge to share information about how special the Tiwi Islands are, and I also want to be a role model for other young people to pursue a career in science."

"After finishing university, I spent lots of time outdoors in nature as well as in a laboratory by working as an aquatic ecologist.



Kinjia Munkara-Murray at work out in the field.

"I've been able to do field visits to waterways around Melbourne and collect macroinvertebrate samples, looking at insects under the microscope, and comparing the results to what we expect to find in a healthy waterway."

Reflecting on her path in science, Ms Munkara-Murray said having First Nations community members represented in STEM

roles encourages the future generation of Indigenous scientists.

"Being a scientist can look like many different things.

"I've learnt that it's okay to change your mind about what you want to study. I started studying for a Bachelor of Arts, decided that wasn't for me, and then transferred to studying Science and absolutely loved it!"

Bulgul Artists reveal the vibrance their of Country



The Bulgul Artists are a small collective of family and friends from the Northern Territory's Bulgul community, celebrated for their innovative use of vibrant colours and intricate dot work to depict narratives of deep cultural significance.

Established in 2003 with Helen McCarthy Tyalmuty's initial foray into painting, the group now spans three generations and includes 17 artists. Their journey has seen a flourishing of new talent and the revitalisation of long-dormant careers, contributing to their dynamic evolution.

The Bulgul Artists' operation is independent of government support. They have built their own studio, becoming a vibrant centre for creativity and cultural expression. Their work has been featured in over 100 shows and exhibitions worldwide, earning accolades and establishing a reputation for innovation and excellence.

An exhibition showcasing new work by the group is set to open at the Kate Owen Gallery in Sydney, on September 14.

The exhibition presents an impressive lineup of talent, including esteemed and highly collectible Bulgul Artists Helen McCarthy Tyalmuty, Kerry Madawyn McCarthy and Dianne Tchumut. Also showing at the exhibition are recent art prize finalists Heath Minjin Wilson (finalist in 2024 National Contemporary Art Prize, 2024 Mosman Art Prize and 2023 National Capital Art Prize), Allen Stephensen (finalist in 2023 Hadley's Art Prize, 2023 Collie Art Prize and 2021 Calleen Art Award), Camelia Blitner (finalist in 2022 Hadley's Art Prize and 2021 Calleen Art Award), and Regina Bamagaya McCarthy (finalist in 2023 Ravenswood Australian Women's Art Prize, 2022 Korean Australian Art Foundation Art Prize and 2021 Muswellbrook Art Prize).

In addition, a group of emerging artists will be on display, each offering a unique perspective through their innovative use of color and intricate dot work.

The Bulgul community, located approximately 220km southwest of Darwin, is a profound source of inspiration for the artists. The natural beauty and cultural heritage of the region, integral to the Wadjigan people, deeply influence their work. The artists frequently return to their homeland to reconnect with their culture, share stories, and engage in traditional practices.

Bulgul Artists is on at the Kate Owen Gallery, Rozelle, Sydney from September 14 to October 13. For more information, visit the gallery's website.



Nana Jenny Throwing Back the Gold by Kerry Madawyn McCarthy and Allen Munggi Stephensen, acrylic on linen.

Pictures: supplied by Kate Owen Gallery



Bulgul Artists Tory Marngyi McCarthy, Helen McCarthy Tyalmuty, Dianne Tchumut, Rosemary Parrabaty Morgan, Maria McCarthy and Regina Bamagaya McCarthy.

Opportunities

Koori Mail Art Award Deadline extended



THE closing date for the *Koori Mail* Indigenous Art Award has been extended until September 15, 2024.

The art award celebrates the incredible talent and creativity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists. It attracts entries from established, mid-career and emerging artists working across various mediums and is open to artists in every state and territory.

First Nations curator, writer and cultural heritage researcher, Rebecca Ray, has been announced as the guest judge for the award.

Rebecca is a Meriam woman descended from the Torres Strait Islands. She has extensive curatorial experience working across grassroots communities, remote art centres, universities and galleries at regional and national levels. Rebecca is currently Curator of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Collections and Exhibitions at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney.

For more information and to enter the art award, visit lismoregallery.org/koori-mail-indigenous-art-award

49th Katherine Prize Artist call-out



ENTRIES are now open for the longest running visual art award in the Northern Territory, the 49th Katherine Prize, which returns to to Godinymayin Yijard Rivers Arts & Culture Centre, Friday, November 1.

The prize is open to Northern Territory residents and artworks must relate to the NT, in terms of concept, subject matter or materials.

There are three awards:

Julie and Geoffrey Newton Major Award (\$5,000)

Katherine Town Council Award (\$2,000)

People's Choice Award (\$500)

Entry forms are available online at gyracc.org.au/whats-on/ and must be recieved by 5pm, Friday, October 4, 2024.

Departing artistic director reflects on time at the top



AFTER a successful two-year tenure, Cairns Indigenous Art Fair's artistic director, Francoise Lane, has announced

her resignation and will step down on September 6, 2024, marking the beginning of a new chapter in her career.

Ms Lane expressed her heartfelt gratitude and reflected on the recent success of CIAF 2024, which marked the 15th-anniversary celebration of Queensland First Nations arts and culture.

"This year's event was truly remarkable, with so much to be thankful for, including the largest Art Fair to date, featuring over 700 unique artworks," Ms Lane said.

"We were blessed with sold-out



Cairns Indigenous Art Fair's artistic director, Francoise Lane, has announced her resignation. *Picture: Blueclick Photography, supplied by CIAF*

fashion performances of *Country Speaking: Light the Fire*, a memorable night of *Music at Tanks* featuring the two female powerhouses, Barkaa and Simone

Stacey, immersive workshops, and engaging yarns and speakers at the CIAF Symposium," she said.

For Ms Lane, a particular highlight of CIAF 2024 was the opening of the signature exhibition *Not Selling Cakes: Celebrating 15 Years of CIAF*, a testament to the vibrant legacy built by the organisation since its inception in 2009.

Ms Lane also acknowledged the contribution of new partners such as the Tim Fairfax Family Foundation, Cairns Museum, Brisbane Portrait Prize, and WOW Australia, who helped make the event a resounding success.

Reflecting on her time at CIAF, Ms Lane said, "Since joining CIAF in August 2022, it has been an absolute honour to serve as artistic director and to help shape

the 2023 and 2024 Art Fairs.

"My focus has been positioning CIAF as the premier Queensland event celebrating First Nations arts and culture in alignment with the *Strategic Plan*.

"I am particularly proud of my role in launching the *Bloom* and *Catapult* programs to accelerate Queensland's emerging and independent artists to a point where they can leverage the opportunities that CIAF brings."

CIAF chair Dr Bianca Beetson thanked Francoise for her dedication and leadership.

"On behalf of the board and the entire CIAF community, I want to extend our deepest thanks to Francoise for her outstanding contribution over the past two years," said Dr Beetson.

"Francoise's vision and passion have elevated CIAF to new

heights, and her legacy will continue to inspire us as we move forward.

"We wish her all the best in her future endeavours," she said.

Dr Beetson also announced that the recruitment process for a new artistic director will commence in the coming weeks.

"We are committed to finding the right individual who will continue to build on the solid foundation laid by Francoise and further advance CIAF's mission of celebrating and promoting Queensland First Nations arts and culture to a local, national and global audience."

Ms Lane will continue to work on the *Big Sculpture* touring exhibition at the Brisbane Powerhouse as part of the Brisbane Festival until she departs from CIAF in early September.

Mparntwe sings in spring



EVERY year in September, singers, musicians and choirs from Alice Springs and Central Australia come together with visiting interstate and international artists and musicians to present a series of events celebrating Aboriginal languages and culture, and connection to Country through song.

The Desert Song Festival is held on Arrernte Country of Mparntwe/Alice Springs to coincide with the coming of the desert spring.

Festival performances are uniquely staged to take advantage of the natural beauty and cultural significance of outdoor venues and the iconic heritage venues within the built environment of Alice Springs.

In 2024, the festival, which is billed as 'six glorious days of music in September', includes a Gathering of the Choirs, a mood-setting, meet-and-greet jamboree bringing singers together before the festival officially kicks off; by popular demand, NIMA award-winning Central Australian Aboriginal Women's Choir present *Arrkanala Lyilhitjika* in a concert at the Araluen Theatre; family fun at the Todd Street Mall Party, with food carts, traders



Performers sing on Country, against the majestic backdrop of the Ormiston Gorge. Picture: courtesy of Desert Song Festival

and live music; all culminating in the festival-ending outdoor concert, 'A cappella in the Gorge', set against the majestic backdrop of Ormiston Gorge. Desert Song Festival is on from

September 17-22 in venues around Mparntwe/Alice Springs.

For festival program information, venues dates and times, please visit desertsong.com.au



New music from Naarm Aboriginal-led indie punk band, Chasing Ghosts.

Chasing Ghosts take on the cult of forgetfulness



NAARM Aboriginal-led indie punk band Chasing Ghosts' new single *Amnesia Everybody* takes aim at the 'cult of forgetfulness'

that lies at the heart of mainstream Australia's version of history.

The new single continues where the band left off after their critically acclaimed EP *Homelands* once again pairing up-tempo indie punk with incisive lyrics.

The band was nominated in the New Talent of the Year award at the 2021 National Indigenous Music Awards and singer Jimmy Kyle, who hails from Thungutti Country, has emerged as one of Australia's most important Indigenous songwriters in recent years.

"Anthropologist W.E.H. Stanner talked about 'The Cult of Forgetfulness', and 'The Great Australian Silence' in reference to non-Indigenous Australia's failure to acknowledge not just the atrocities of our past, but also choosing to not think about them at all," he said.

"Instead, a different history arose in Australia – one of negative stereotypes that victim-blamed First Nations people for our own marginalisation and systematic decimation.

"*Amnesia Everybody* references the stark realities and historical data of this country's history, that 50% of Australian massacres were led by colonial police and often murderous politicians. Yet it is these same perpetrators who have streets named in their honour, heritage listed graves, statues, electorates, towns, and cities glorifying their names and misrepresenting their reputations, all part of a sanitised and palatable version of history.

"Yet the statistics and the truth remain, as does the reality that sees Australia's First Nations community continue to be blamed for their own decimation and current marginalisation."

But even amidst all this, Kyle's impassioned delivery and open sense of songwriting reveals the resilience remaining at the song's heart.

Chasing Ghosts will play three headline shows in Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne in October on their *Amnesia Everybody* tour and will be joined on every date by Naarm's very own MUDRAT.

Chasing Ghosts – Amnesia Everybody is out now on Believe. For details of the upcoming shows go to Facebook.com/chasingghostsmusic

Short-film debut is a cultural collaboration

By MARION WILLIAMS



IT has been a steep learning curve for Djiringanj Yuin Elder Warren Foster Snr. He has co-written and co-directed his first short film, *LOST*.

Uncle Warren developed the concept for the film with co-writer and co-director Jane Gordon. Both believed it was time for cultures to work together and learn from each other. This idea, the coming together of two cultures to listen and learn, forms the central theme of *LOST*, finding its focus in listening to the wisdom of First Nations people who understand the land in a way that others do not.

There was a full house for the cast, crew and community screening in Narooma earlier this month. *LOST* has been submitted to 54 film festivals around the world.

Lyrebird totem

Uncle Warren is no stranger to the screen. He has appeared in films, TV series and theatre productions, and has three documentaries to his name.

Uncle Warren is also a singer-songwriter, founder of traditional dance troupe the Gulaga Dancers and a cultural mentor to many South Coast community members. Recognising that his journey would include singing, dancing and performance, his Elders gave him the lyrebird as his totem.

In 1995, he enrolled in a three-year course to study film, theatre and television at Melbourne's Swinburne University. There he



Writer/director, Warren Foster Snr, with cast members Ashweeni Mason, Billy Crew, Waruu Penrith and writer/director Jane Gordon at the cast, crew and community screening of *LOST* in Narooma on August 8. Picture: David Rogers Photography.

learnt about directing, writing, editing and acting.

"At the time, I was doing music. I thought it would help with the music side of things and telling stories, and that these media would be a good way to get our stories across."

Strength and empowerment

LOST was shot in 2023 around Wallaga Lake. It tells the story of two families, one Indigenous and one non-Indigenous, whose sons go missing on an adventure.

The non-Indigenous family panic and awkwardly reach out to

the Indigenous family for help.

The short film aims to improve people's awareness and bring together cultures that would not normally meet.

The cast came from the Bega Valley and Eurobodalla shires. Uncle Warren plays the role of the Aboriginal father. His 13-year-old son, Waruu Penrith, plays his on-screen son.

Ms Gordon said *LOST* tells the story of an empowered Indigenous family. "They are living and feeling comfortable on Country and that strength comes through really well."

"It is the non-Indigenous family who seem lost," she said.

"They don't know where they are or who they are." She said the story immediately resonated with cast and crew.

More to come

Ms Gordon and Uncle Warren met in 2012. A mutual friend suggested she contact Uncle Warren about the feature-length film she was writing because they shared the same ideas about cultures supporting each other.

In 2018, experienced producer Hiromi Matsuoka joined them.

She suggested they worked on two short first films to get their credentials as writers and directors. She felt it would help them to get funding for the feature film.

Production and post-production funds for *LOST* were crowd-funded through the Australian Cultural Fund, with donors from all over Australia and beyond.

The film's creators hope *LOST* highlights the skills and talents of south-east NSW regional screen creatives.

"It can be difficult for Indigenous people to break into the industry so you must try to come in the back door," Uncle Warren said.

"We are doing short films so people can see the potential."

Uncle Warren developed the concept for their next short film, *Busker*, which is about to go into production.

"I think it's important to direct these films so we can get our stories out and connect with people.

"We can write and tell our own stories, but by taking on the role of director we are in control of the story that ends up being told."

Watson unearths evidence in the archive



A new exhibition of works by world-renowned Waanyi artist Judy Watson unearths evidence buried within the state's archives, opening the closet doors to Australia's skeletons, the mistruth of terra nullius and fostering an alternate national narrative to further understanding, education and healing.

Curated by Amanda Hayman (Wakka Wakka/Kalkadoon) of Blaklash Creative, the Queensland State Archives exhibition, *skeletons*, will debut in Gurambilbarra/Townsville this September as part of Umbrella Studio Contemporary



shadow bone (still), 2022, by Judy Watson. Projection/single-channel HD video, 6:18 mins. Picture: Joshua Maguire.



Waanyi artist Judy Watson. Picture: courtesy of the artist and Milani Gallery, Brisbane.



Regardé Aqua (indicative installation), 2024, by Rhonda Stevens. Picture: Amanda Galea, courtesy Umbrella Studio Contemporary Arts.

Arts' partnership with North Australian Festival of Arts (NAFA).

Skeletons delves into Australia's concealed histories, colonial conflicts, and the continuation of Aboriginal resistance.

The exhibition also draws inspiration from Watson's own familial history. The artist discusses her Queensland State Archives commissioned work, *shadow bone*, in *New York Times* article, *Illuminating a Forgotten History* (9 December 2022).

"Both in my work and life, I am inspired by my great-great-grandmother, Rosie, who survived a massacre in the Boodjamulla (Lawn Hill) area of North West Queensland," Watson said.

"She concealed herself by putting stones on her body to weigh herself down underwater, where she breathed through straw-like reeds. Because she survived, we are here."

This powerful body of work underscores Watson's enduring influence and commitment to truth-telling.

Skeletons is a homecoming of sorts for the artist too, a long-time collaborator and founding member of Umbrella Studio Contemporary Arts.

Watson has been working on a new video commission, focused on North West Queensland histories, specifically for the NAFA and Umbrella iteration of the exhibition.

Alongside Watson's impactful

exhibition, Yunbenun/Magnetic Island-based artist, Rhonda Stevens, presents *Regardé Aqua*. Her evocative sculptural installation embodies an elevated spring, symbolising the fundamental role of water in the universe.

Watson and Stevens have also both been recent exhibitors in Umbrella's touring program in partnerships with Museums and Galleries Queensland. Watson exhibited in *Legacy: Reflections on Mabo*, which toured nationally 2019-2023. Stevens has work touring Australia now, in the curated group exhibition *POSTWORLD*.

Both exhibitions open on Friday September 13. For details visit umbrella.org.au/skeletons/

When anything is possible

Jessie Chong Grainer and I became fast friends during the time we both worked for the Cairns Indigenous Art Fair (CIAF), from late 2020 to early 2023.

I was the Marketing and Communications Manager and Jessie came through the CIAF Evolution Traineeship II. However, Jessie was no novice to First Nations arts events and festivals. She is a singer-songwriter and mother of two, from Mareeba on the Atherton Tablelands, west of Gimuy/Cairns. She is a festival worker by trade. Jessie is also a mentor and reference group member for Music NT's Indigenous Women's Music Program, in the Desert Divas and Sister Sounds music development programs.

Jessie is a proud Muluridji and Kuku Djungan woman, with ancestral ties to Wakamin, Kunjen, Tagalaka, and Yidinji peoples. She comes from a family who have achieved success in other fields: Jessie has two sisters Phoebe and Sasha Grainer, an actress and model respectively, and her aunty, Carol Chong, is a Native Title lawyer and prize-winning body-builder – and also a friend of mine from my formative Cape York advocacy years.

Jessie started her formal training in the arts as a singer-songwriter in the Desert Divas program, a ten-week workshop in writing, musicianship, stage presence and the music

opinion



Jack Wilkie-Jans

business. Jessie says the program "was a great way to connect with other women in the business and make lifelong friends".

This program culminated in a showcase concert. It was 2017, and Jessie's first professional public performance.

Since then, Jessie honed her practice across the creative industries working with Music NT as Indigenous Music Development Officer from 2019 to 2021, Shine On Gimuy, as an Assistant Stage Manager in 2023, Cairns Indigenous Art Fair from 2022 to 2023, and currently as a mentor for the Desert Divas and Sister Sounds programs.

Her first gig as a singer-songwriter was in 2012 performing alongside her cousin in Mareeba. In the following years, she went on to perform with bigger billing at Parrtjima, Tarnanthi,



Singer-songwriter Jessie Chong Grainer is a proud Muluridji and Kuku Djungan woman, with ancestral ties to Wakamin, Kunjen, Tagalaka, and Yidinji peoples

Darwin Fringe Festival, and Tennant Creek Harmony Festival, to name but a few.

Jessie says working alongside Cassie Williams, niece of prodigious musician and living legend Warren H Williams, and Patsy Coleman from Tennant Creek, was a stand-out experience and led to the formation of the Mums on Tour collective in 2019.

"I loved this project because I felt supported in friendship. We (Cassie,

Patsy and I) shared the stage, we held conversations between us and with the audiences, we played our own music, we travelled", Jessie says.

"We wanted people in the audiences to know that anything's possible—do what you love and follow your dreams!"

When asked about how she found her talent, Jessie says it "runs in the family," but it took time for her to find her niche.

"I've always played guitar, my mother and grandparents played guitar. I guess I learned by watching them and by ear", she says.

"Singing, however, I was a bit shame at first, but my confidence is blooming now. I'm currently studying a Diploma in Music at TAFE. Through the Divas program I learned to express creativity inside, as a songwriter".

As a mentor and a professional with personal experience of the benefits and opportunities opened by on-the-job training and through study, like CIAF's traineeship and TAFE, Jessie shares her thoughts on the importance of skills development for First Nations peoples, in fields across the creative arts sector.

"Working in the arts broadly, festivals and music too, is important. We need First Nations Mob involved in the behind-the-scenes at First Nations events, festivals and in the creative industries. We need to support ourselves so we can grow together. Take the opportunities to diversify and gain experience", Jessie says.

And, of course, Jessie and I are lucky to find seasonal work where we can in this space, but across the country, festivals are in dire straits, with more closing than ever before — big-name ones, too. In reflecting on the industry, Jessie says more can be done towards its own sustainability.

"It starts closer to home. For example, my TAFE Diploma is currently being offered as a free course.

"This—and having a car to travel from a semi-regional town to a city to study—are a huge bonus for me.

"I think more funded opportunities for training and coursework in the creative arts are necessary as well as funding for regional and remote events. This is where I'd focus to bring about more participation in the (industry) right across Australia. The rest will flow into a stronger 'biz'," Jessie says.

"I'd also recommend more subsidised student accommodation for TAFE and other types of education and training programs for regional and remote creative arts students. So that people far afield can—for example—participate in the CIAF traineeship like I could".

I very much look forward to working with Jessie again, and many times into the future. In the meantime, it's worth also keeping your ears open for any upcoming records or singles ... anything is possible, right?

Stay in touch with Jessie Chong Grainer and follow her upcoming gigs and future performances by following her at [Facebook.com/JessieKMusic](https://www.facebook.com/JessieKMusic)

● Jack Wilkie-Jans is a Waanyi, Teppathiggi and Tjungundji multidisciplinary artist and writer who contributes a regular Arts column for the Koori Mail.

event listings

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Bold, Brilliant, Beguiling
An exhibition introducing emerging artist Isaac Lane, supported by established First Nations artists Bugai Whyoulter, Katjarra Butler, and Janice Stanley
when: until Sep 15
where: Artitja Fine Art Gallery, Terrace Greenhouse, South Fremantle
info/bookings: artitja.com.au/latest-exhibition/

Sonya Edney – Burringurrah Dreaming (exhibition)
when: Aug 30-Sep 30
where: Gallery 1, Japingka Aboriginal Art Gallery, Fremantle
info/bookings: japingkaaboriginalart.com/exhibitions/

The Indian Ocean Craft Triennial
Exhibition of international craft artists and groups from six Indian Ocean countries
when: Until 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 (exhibition)
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/boolabardip

Ensemble Q and William Barton (concert)
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 (exhibition)
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 (exhibition)
when: Aug 31, 2024 - Oct 2025
where: Level 1, Gallery 1–6, National Gallery of Australia
info/bookings: Free with ticket, for more visit nga.gov.au/exhibitions/ever-present/



Deadly Logie stars celebrate

The 64th annual TV Week Logie Awards ceremony was held at the Star Sydney Casino on Sunday, August 18. 'Representing' in award categories across the networks, deadly First Nations stars and celebrities dressed up in their finest accoutrements to walk the red carpet at the Australian television industry's 'night of nights'. The SBS network, including NITV, was nominated for six awards across five categories. *Eddie's Lil Homies* (NITV and Netflix) picked up a nomination for Best Children's Program, while Deborah Mailman went the whole way, winning Lead Actress in a Drama for *Total Control* (ABC). Pictured on the Logies red carpet from left are: Darren

Dale, Blackfella Films, *Total Control* (ABC), nominated for multiple Logies; Rob Collins, nominated for Best Lead Actor in a Drama for *RFDS* and *Total Control* (ABC); Deborah Mailman, winner of Best Lead Actress in a Drama for *Total Control* (ABC); Brooke Boney, previously at NITV, recently left a presenter role at *Today (Nine)* to study overseas; Eddie Betts, producer on *Eddie's Lil Homies* (NITV & Netflix), nominated for Best Children's Program; Miah Madden, voice actor in *Eddie's Lil Homies*; Hunter Page-Lochard, voice actor in *Eddie's Lil Homies*; Matty Mills, TV/podcast host presents entertainment segments for NITV News; Leah Purcell, nominated for Best Supporting Actress for *The Lost Flowers of Alice Hart* (Prime Video); John Paul Janke, host of NITV and SBS's *The Point: Road Trip*.

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/

QUEENSLAND

Freshwater Saltwater (group members' annual exhibition)
when: until Sep 12
where: UMI Arts Gallery, Jensen St, Cairns North
info/bookings: umiarts.com.au/

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/what-s-on/2024/dream-weaver

Quandamooka Festival
when: Aug 30 - 31
where: Minjerribah Ganaba, Nth Stradbroke Island
info/bookings: quandamookafestival.com.au/

Camerata, Lou Bennet and 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,
when: Sep 7
where: Concert Hall, Queensland Performing Arts centre (QPAC)

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

info/bookings: Search 'Camerata' at qpac.com.au/

Big Talk One Fire festival
when: Sat, Sep 7, 3-9pm
where: Munro Martin Park, Cairns
info/bookings: umiarts.com.au/

skeletons by Judy Watson
when: Sep 13 - Oct 27
where: Umbrella Studio of Contemporary Arts, Gurambilbarra / Townsville
info/bookings: umbrella.org.au/skeletons

Big Name, No Blankets
Ilbijerri Theatre
when: Sep 20-21
where: Concert Hall, Queensland Performing Arts Centre (QPAC), Brisbane
info/bookings: qpac.com.au/whats-on

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

Baker Boy at Dream Aloud (music festival)
when: Sat, Oct 5, from 1.30pm - 10pm
where: Munro Martin Parklands, Cairns
info/bookings: tickets

Horizon
Bangarra dance
when: August 28 - Sept 7
where: Arts Centre Melbourne/Wurundjeri Country
info/bookings: bangarra.com.au

available now at bakerboyofficial.com/

VICTORIA

Spirit of the Animals (exhibition)
when: until Nov 24
where: Koorie Heritage Trust (KHT, Birrarung Building, Fed Square
info/bookings: kht.org.au/whats-on/#exhibitions

Touring Exhibition: Layers of Blak (contemporary jewellery)
when: Sep 14 - Dec 8
where: Bendigo Art Gallery
info/bookings: koorieheritagetrust.com.au/whats-on/exhibitions/layers-of-blak/

Baker Boy headlining Blaktivism
when: Nov 22
where: Hamer Hall, Southbank, Melbourne
info/bookings: bakerboyofficial.com/

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Ensemble Q and William Barton
when: Oct 3
where: Adelaide Town Hall, Kaurna Country
info/bookings: musicaviva.com.au/concert-season/2024/ensemble-q-william-barton/

OUR MOB/OUR YOUNG MOB (exhibition)

when: until Oct 12
where: The Galleries Adelaide Festival Centre
info/bookings: 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

Binygurr Wirrpanda (exhibition)
when: Sep 12 - Oct 5
where: Hugo Michell Gallery, Beulah Park, Kaurna Land
info/bookings: hugomichellgallery.com/

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

Desert Song Festival
when: Sep 17-22
where: various venues in Alice Springs
info/bookings: desertsong.com.au/

NEW SOUTH WALES

Mia Boe: The Aboriginal Robot (exhibition)
when: until Sep 14
where: Roslyn Oxley Gallery, Paddington, Sydney
info/bookings: roslynoxley9.com.au/exhibitions

Sydney Contemporary Lily Yirdingali Jurrah Hargraves Nungarrayi
when: Sept 5-8
where: Cooee Art Leven, Sydney
info/bookings: for information about this exhibition visit cooeeart.com.au/exhibitions and visit sydneycontemporary.com.au/ to see full event program.

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/

Eumeralla, A War Requiem for Peace
Choral work by Deb Cheetham Fraillon AO
when: Sep 11
where: Concert Hall, Sydney Opera House
info/bookings: sydneyorchestra.com.au/concerts/eumeralla-debhorah-cheetham-fraillon

Bulgu Artists (exhibition)
when: Sep 14 - Oct 13
where: Kate Owen Gallery, Rozelle, Sydney
info/bookings: kateowengallery.com/shows/showlist.htm

Saltwater Freshwater Arts Exhibition 2023 (touring exhibition)
when: until Sep 22
where: Nulla Nulla Gallery, Kempsey
info/bookings: visit saltwaterfreshwater.com.au/ and follow links in dropdown menu to 'Art award and exhibition.'

Inspire (exhibition)
when: until Oct 5
where: Boomalli, Leichhardt, Sydney
info/bookings: boomalli.com.au/

Barbara McGrady Ngiyaningy 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/

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: exhibition will show in Hobart, Oct-Nov. For more info visit womensartprizetas.com.au/

Employment

EXECUTIVE • PROFESSIONAL • POSITIONS VACANT

Job expo draws students

Story and pictures
by ALF WILSON



HUNDREDS of North Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students from high schools checked out the many potential careers at a Job Expo in Townsville.

It was held on August 8 at the Aitkenvale PCYC and representatives from 35 organisations including government departments, police, Defence Forces, mining and private companies all had stands with advice on a range of employment opportunities.

Katrina Appleton was one of the organisers and said it was a great success.

"More than 300 First Nations Youth were able to connect with over 35 businesses and organisations," she said.

The *Koori Mail* was there and spoke to some of the youths from different schools.

Sixteen-year-old Mescha Dugong from Mornington Island is a boarding school student at Shalom Christian College and said she was looking at a job in the mining industry.

"I would really like to drive one of these big mining trucks," Mescha said.

Jerry Prior, Lyndon Georgetown and Stewart Williams had a few ideas about what they want to for work.

"I want to be an electrician when I leave school," Jerry said.

Lyndon is from a big Palm Island family said he was looking towards a job for a big supermarket chain.

"I think that Coles would be good to work for," Lyndon said.

However, Stewart said the expo was great for someone still thinking about their career, like he is.

"I am undecided and will be having a look at many options here," Stewart said.

The Gudjuda Land and Sea Rangers stand was popular with job seekers.



Mescha Dugong from Mornington Island.



Students check out the Gudjuda Land and Sea Rangers stand.



Jerry Prior, Lyndon Georgetown and Stewart Williams.



Students check out the job prospects.



PLO Karen Loban was at the police recruiting stand.



Sealink's Renee Edwards and Eillen Tom.



Jamarlia Coutts at the First Nation's Women Legal Services stand.

Your guide to employment

Welcome to the *Koori Mail's* Indigenous Job Opportunities section. Each edition we publish scores of employment advertisements from around the nation. To be part of this section, simply give our advertising staff Chris or Stuart a call on (02) 66 222 666, email advertising@koorimail.com or see our website – www.koorimail.com

*Koori Mail – Our ABC audit means our readership is guaranteed.
No other newspaper aimed at the Indigenous market can offer this!*

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publication. Advertisers agree that all advertisements published by Budsoar Pty Ltd may also appear on a relevant web site operated by Budsoar Pty Ltd.
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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 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.



ADVERTISING MANAGER Full-Time Based in Lismore, NSW

The Koori Mail - Australia's leading independent fortnightly national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander newspaper - based on Bundjalung country in Northern NSW, is seeking a strong applicant for the role of Advertising and Production Manager.

This role oversees the incoming print advertising of the Koori Mail each fortnight, and supports the overall production of the Koori Mail (print ready), each edition.

The role requires a strong focus on communication skills, high level client liaison, ability to work to deadlines, and initiative to support strategy and ideas to generate ongoing advertising opportunities.

About the Role:

- Managing the Print Advertising Sales of the Koori Mail including incoming bookings, quotes, design proofs and approvals.
- Supporting new advertising leads
- Supporting Koori Mail Advertising and Editorial Production files and assets ready for print

About You:

- Do you have experience working in advertising sales for newspaper print advertising, and account management?
- Do you have excellent communication and people skills?
- Are you an organised worker with a focus on attention to detail?
- Can you work to deadlines?
- Do you have an understanding of working with an Indigenous organisation, and an understanding of the Koori Mail brand and purpose?
- Are you a creative thinker, with a willingness to respectfully share ideas, opinions and feedback?
- Can you work both as part of a team, and unsupervised/independently when required?

Required experience or similar:

- Experienced MAC User
- Experience with Quark Express, or similar (InDesign).
- Familiarity with Adobe Acrobat, Photoshop.

To apply, please email a cover letter to CEO@koorimail.com outlining your interest in the role, including a copy of your Resume/CV.

For more information please contact Naomi Moran, CEO, Koori Mail on 0499 991 625.



Coonamble Local
Aboriginal Land Council

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Full time
(Remuneration Package Negotiable)
Full Time/Permanent (35 Hours)

The Coonamble Local Aboriginal Land Council (CLALC) is seeking applications from experienced and motivated people interested in a rewarding career undertaking the challenging role of full-time Chief Executive Officer.

This position holder will provide an extensive range of assistance and support to the elected Board through the day-to-day management of the Coonamble LALC's affairs in accordance with delegated authorities, the provision of sound and accurate advice and the implementation of the Board's resolutions in a timely and appropriate manner.

The successful applicant will have demonstrable knowledge and understanding of the Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983 (ALRA) (or the ability to rapidly acquire), the capacity to interpret and implement legislation and sound communication skills. Organisational and management experience is essential together with an understanding of accounting practices and principles. A sound knowledge and appreciation of Aboriginal issues would also be required.

All applicants must obtain a copy of the recruitment package containing the Position Description and selection criteria and address the selection criteria for their application to be considered.

For a recruitment package contact the Coonamble LALC office, by email: ceo@coonamblelalc.com.au or on (02) 6822 2100.

ONLY APPLICATIONS ADDRESSING THE SELECTION CRITERIA ALONG WITH YOUR RESUME WILL BE CONSIDERED

Applications and an up to date copy of your resume can be forwarded to ceo@coonamble.com.au or marked "Confidential" and posted to:

The CEO Recruitment Panel
Coonamble Local Aboriginal Land Council
16 Castlereagh Street
COONAMBLE NSW 2821

Applications close DATE 26th September 2024

RVTS Applications are

OPEN NOW

until 1st September 2024 for January
Training.

RVTS is a vocational training program for medical practitioners in rural, remote and First Nation communities across Australia. The purpose of the program is to train doctors in remote communities for remote communities. The training provided meets the requirements for Fellowship of both ACRRM and RACGP.

For any enquiries, please reach out to our Recruitment and Selection Officer, Camryn Kendall at ckendall@rvts.org.au or call on 0260 573 421.



Thiyama-li Family Violence Service Indigenous Corporation (Thiyama-li) Employment Opportunity - Moree office

Thiyama-li is a Family Violence Prevention Legal Service funded by the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA). We are a regional, holistic and trauma informed community legal practice with 3 offices in north-west NSW (Moree, Walgett & Bourke) servicing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

Thiyama-li provides access to free legal services (from legal advice to full legal case work and court representation), non-legal support services, early intervention and prevention and community legal education for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Victims or Survivors of domestic, family and sexual violence.

We currently have the following vacancy open:

Solicitor - 35 hours per week

Salary: \$120,000 – per annum + Superannuation + Salary Packaging options + Flexible working conditions

Close Date: 5:00pm - Friday, 20 September 2024

Qualification Requirements: Current Practising Certificate issued by the Law Society of NSW or Immediately eligible to hold a Practising Certificate issued by the Law Society of NSW.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants are encouraged to apply

For more information, details on how to apply, please email **Executive Assistant:** elizabeth.haines@thiyamali.com.au or telephone 02 67521188.



NSW Police Force

Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer (Identified role) Coffs/Clarence Police District, Grafton & Coffs Harbour

- Clerk Grade 3/4
- 1 x Ongoing Full-time, Grafton
- 1 x Temporary Full-time, Coffs Harbour
- \$97,218 pa. Package includes salary (\$79,032 to \$86,539), employer's contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading.

About the Role

We have an opportunity for an **Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer (ACLO)** to be part of our Coffs/Clarence Police District team. The Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer is responsible for providing advice and support to commands in the management of local Aboriginal issues. They assist in establishing and maintaining close personal rapport with Elders, Leaders, and the members of the Aboriginal community by developing network contacts to strengthen co-operation and communication and to assist community members in their dealing with local policing issues and their contact with other statutory bodies.

Applicants for this role must be of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander descent. Aboriginality is a genuine occupational qualification as authorised by Part 5, Clause 26 of the *Government Sector Employment Rules 2014*.

- A Working With Children Check (WWCC) is a prerequisite for this role; and
- Applicants must hold a current driver's licence with no traffic offences recorded on their driving history within the last six (6) months.

How to Apply

If you identify as a person with disability and require further information on the role or you require specific arrangements to participate in the recruitment process, please contact HR Diversity Team by email at PCC-INCLUSION@police.nsw.gov.au

If you would like assistance with your application or have any enquiries, please contact the NSWPF Aboriginal Employment & Engagement team at PCC-AEET@police.nsw.gov.au

Applications Close: Sunday 8 September 2024, 11:59 pm AEST

If you require any further information about this opportunity, please contact **Andrew Pettit** via **(02) 6691 0812**.

Applications can only be submitted electronically via the *I Work for NSW* website iworkfor.nsw.gov.au and search via the job reference numbers **0000AOTE** & **0000AOEJ**



Identified Resource Officer

Youth Justice; Region – Brisbane & Moreton Bay – Youth Justice; Service Delivery – Youth Justice

Department of Youth Justice

Salary: \$3,331.20 - \$3,652.80 p/f and \$86,908 - \$95,298 p/a

Location: Bowen Hills

REF: QLD/583109/24

Key Duties: Key responsibilities:

- Deliver culturally appropriate support, intervention and referral services to children, young people, and their families in accordance with the objectives of the Youth and Family Support Service.
- Participate as a member of a multidisciplinary team to ensure the delivery of high quality client services in accordance with relevant departmental policies, practice standards and procedures.
- Liaise and develop links with a range of internal and external stakeholders and service providers to achieve quality casework outcomes.
- Undertake a range of record and information management tasks including maintenance of case records, review processes and performance reporting and data entry to ensure casework and accountability.
- Actively participate in training and professional development activities to develop, maintain and enhance knowledge and competencies to ensure that service delivery is based on evidence and best practice principles and is consistent with current practice trends and departmental objectives.
- Develop collaborative, professional relationships with relevant Government and non-Government agencies to facilitate cooperation on case related matters to ensure integrated and holistic service delivery.

Skills/Abilities: Role specific/technical skills:

- You understand the impacts of historical and contemporary policy and practices upon Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. You have a demonstrated ability to engage and communicate with humility and effectively with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
- You have demonstrated skills in working with young people at risk of offending and their families and experience in assessment and case work intervention including knowledge of a range of intervention strategies. You have knowledge of theoretical perspectives that relate to youth justice practice, including the impacts of historical and contemporary policy and practices upon Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

For mandatory licenses:

- Drivers' license: it is a mandatory requirement for the occupant of this position to hold an unrestricted auto driver's license or be prepared to obtain a auto license if they do not. Officers are required to drive government vehicles as a part of their day to day work.
- Blue card: this role provides support services to children and young people and therefore will require a valid Blue Card with the organization. Please refer to the Blue Card Services website (<http://www.bluecard.qld.gov.au/>) for further information.

Mandatory requirements:

- Travel may be a requirement of this position; therefore, it is a requirement that the applicant hold a current "C" or "CA" Class Drivers license.
- It is a genuine occupational requirement that this position be filled by an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person.
- One of the referees must be an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person who can attest to the applicant's background, knowledge, skills, and experience as they relate to the cultural capabilities.
- Youth and Family Support Services is a shift work-based work unit, Work may be required to be performed within the spread of hours of 06:00 to 21:00, Monday - Saturday.

Enquiries: Caroline Savage – 07 3097 1305 – caroline.savage@cyjma.qld.gov.au

To apply please visit www.smartjobs.qld.gov.au

Closing Date: Friday, 6th September 2024





CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (CEO)

Bandjalang Aboriginal Corporation Prescribed Body Corporate (PBC) Registered Native Title Body Corporate (RNTBC) seeks someone with strong leadership qualities for the role of CEO.

This is an exciting opportunity to help lead a developing corporation, which is responsible for holding and managing the native title rights of the Bandjalang People on trust.

The role will be offered full-time.

The role will be based in Evans Head, New South Wales. Salary package to be negotiated, depending on qualifications, skills and relevant experience.

The position is Aboriginal identified.

Bandjalang descendants are strongly encouraged to apply. Previous experience working with Bandjalang People and knowledge of Aboriginal Culture and Heritage is essential.

Applications close at 5.00pm Australian Eastern Standard Time on September 11, 2024.

For a copy of the role profile and application details, contact the Business Manager, Tara Mercy on (02) 6683 2625 or 0460 329 186 during normal business hours. Alternatively, by emailing bandjalangmanager@gmail.com



BUSINESS MANAGER (BM)

Bandjalang Aboriginal Corporation Prescribed Body Corporate (PBC) Registered Native Title Body Corporate (RNTBC) seeks someone with business management qualities for the role of BM.

This is an exciting opportunity to help lead a developing corporation, which is responsible for holding and managing the native title rights of the Bandjalang People on trust.

The role will be offered full-time.

The role will be based in Evans Head, New South Wales. Salary package to be negotiated, depending on qualifications, skills and relevant experience.

The position is Aboriginal identified.

Bandjalang descendants are strongly encouraged to apply. Previous experience working with Bandjalang People and knowledge of Aboriginal Culture and Heritage is essential.

Applications close at 5.00pm Australian Eastern Standard Time on September 11, 2024.

For a copy of the role profile and application details, contact the Compliance and Finance Officer, Rebecca Woods on (02) 6683 2625 or 0493 818 126 during normal business hours.

Alternatively, by emailing bandjalangceo1@gmail.com



CULTURAL HERITAGE MANAGER (CHM)

Bandjalang Aboriginal Corporation Prescribed Body Corporate (PBC) Registered Native Title Body Corporate (RNTBC) seeks someone to lead and manage the Cultural Heritage business of the Corporation.

This is an exciting opportunity to help lead a developing corporation, which is responsible for holding and managing the native title rights of the Bandjalang People on trust.

The role will be offered full-time.

The role will be based in Evans Head, New South Wales. Salary package to be negotiated, depending on qualifications, skills and relevant experience.

The position is Aboriginal identified.

Bandjalang descendants are strongly encouraged to apply. Previous experience working with Bandjalang People and knowledge of Aboriginal Culture and Heritage is essential.

Applications close at 5.00pm Australian Eastern Standard Time on September 11, 2024.

For a copy of the role profile and application details, contact the Compliance and Finance Officer, Rebecca Woods on (02) 6683 2625 or 0493 818 126 during normal business hours.

Alternatively, by emailing bandjalangceo1@gmail.com

Family Group Meeting Convenor

Child and Family; Region – North Queensland; Service Delivery – Child and Family Department of Child Safety, Seniors and Disability Services

Salary: \$3,841.40 - \$4,166.40 p/f and \$100,219 - \$108,698 p/a

Location: Mount Isa
REF: QLD/585127/24

Key Duties:

- Coordinate family group meetings from a diverse range of backgrounds
- Liaise with relevant internal staff and the Independent Person
- Maintain accurate records of case plans and relevant information
- Enhance the local regional community, practicing and promoting excellence in service delivery.

Skills/Abilities:

- Making insightful decisions
- Stimulating ideas and innovation
- Building enduring relationships
- Driving accountability and outcomes
- Fostering healthy and inclusive workplaces
- Demonstrating sound governance.

Enquiries: Alesha Sonogan – 4795 6400
Alesha.sonogan@dcssds.qld.gov.au

Candidates apply for your job on:
<https://smartjobs.qld.gov.au> using the reference number above.

Closing Date: Monday, 2nd September 2024



Government of South Australia
Department for Environment and Water

Ranger – Employment Pool

Various locations across SA
Term and Ongoing contracts available
\$58,709 - \$63,154 p.a. (OPS2), plus 13.1% loading for weekends/public holidays worked.
Vacancy No: 615372

Within the National Parks and Wildlife Service, under the direction of the Senior Ranger, the Ranger is responsible for contributing to the effective operational management of National Parks and Reserves. Core responsibilities include the management of park conservation and wildlife values, supporting park visitors to ensure they enjoy a safe and memorable experience, supporting the maintenance and presentation of park facilities and assets, participation in fire and emergency response, and working with key partners, such as park neighbours, conservation partners, volunteers and Aboriginal communities.

This is a merit pool and applicants may be offered a position on a term or ongoing basis based on organisational needs. Positions are available state-wide.

Enquiries to:
enquiriesrangerpool@sa.gov.au

To apply and for more information visit the I WORK FOR SA website:
www.iworkfor.sa.gov.au and search by vacancy number.

Applications Close: 11pm, Saturday 7 September 2024

Applications Instructions: Applicants are to submit a CV and letter of application (max 3 pages) addressing the technical, professional and qualifications outlined in the Role Description. Please complete a Pre-Employment Declaration.

The South Australian Public Sector promotes diversity and flexible ways of working including part time. Applicants are encouraged to discuss the flexible working arrangement for this role.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are strongly encouraged to apply.

www.environment.sa.gov.au



Case Manager / Counsellor Drug and Alcohol on Darkinjung Country

Permanent part-time 32 hours/week plus rotating on call roster

\$91,570 per year commensurate with SCHADS Level 6

About Kamira

Kamira provides residential treatment options for women, pregnant women, and women with children from across NSW who are experiencing problematic alcohol and/or other drug use. We prioritise Aboriginal women who account for more than 50% of admissions.

About the Opportunity

You will be primarily responsible for improving client physical and mental health outcomes through evidence-based AOD treatment interventions. You will also be responsible for enhancing relationships and improving social outcomes for clients, their children, and families.

Specifically, your duties will include:

- providing assessment, referral, individualised treatment plans, group facilitation, and counselling for clients
- respecting and integrating Aboriginal cultural practices and values
- developing and maintaining strong therapeutic relationships with all clients creating a safe, respectful, and culturally affirming environment based on trust and authenticity
- providing on call support to our out of hours support team (rotating roster)

About You

We need you to have:

- a relevant degree in Social Work, Psychology, Social Sciences or a related field, along with experience with individual case management and counselling
- a strong understanding of the unique challenges faced by Aboriginal women in recovery
- high level administrative and operational skills, as well as the ability to contribute to organisational objectives in a service delivery environment
- experience working in a multi-disciplinary team, together with exceptional interpersonal and communication skills, as you will be engaging with clients and staff across all levels
- the ability to act as a positive role model for others, and able to work in a team and follow the organisation's guidelines
- high level organisational skills and experience in managing competing priorities effectively
- a current driver's licence and availability for the out of hours on call roster

The Board and staff of Kamira recognise the knowledge, insights and capabilities of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Their strength, resilience and cultural competence are highly valued.

Kamira considers being an Aboriginal woman as a genuine occupational requirement for this position under sections 25 and 31 of the Anti-discrimination Act (NSW)

All staff must have current vaccinations, including Pertussis, Influenza, Tetanus, and Covid 19. Kamira is a smoke free, abstinence-based environment.

Why join us?

We are committed to growing our Aboriginal workforce to better reflect the communities we serve, and we believe Aboriginal staff can better support Aboriginal clients.

We provide initial training, supervision, and support for ongoing professional development. We offer an attractive remuneration package including optional salary packaging and generous leave arrangements.

How to apply

Include in your application:

- A letter telling us how you meet the seven essential criteria in the 'About You' section.
- Your current resume setting out your work and other relevant experience
- Email your letter and resume to accounts@kamira.com.au

Applications close Sunday 22 September.

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Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (NSW)

Prosecution Officer (Lawyer) Level 2 Temporary, for a period of up to 12 months

\$153,987. Package includes salary (\$117,362 - 137,070 p.a.), employer's contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading.

Statewide Talent Pool

About us

The Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) is the independent prosecuting authority of New South Wales (NSW) and is responsible for the prosecution of all serious offences committed against the laws of the State on behalf of the people of NSW.

About the role

The ODPP seeks solicitors with a strong interest in criminal law for roles throughout NSW.

As an ODPP solicitor you will manage a large and varied criminal law practice and be responsible for:

- Assessing the evidence and recommending appropriate charges.
- Attending case conferences and negotiating early guilty pleas where appropriate.
- Conducting lists, hearings and other complex advocacy work in the Local, Children's and District Courts.
- Instructing Crown Prosecutors and other prosecutors in trials and sentences in the District Court and Supreme Courts.
- Providing advice to and on behalf of the Director.

About you

- You will have a degree or diploma in law and admission as an Australian legal practitioner.
- You will have obtained a Practising Certificate issued by the Law Society of NSW prior to commencing.
- You will have experience in criminal law, including advocacy experience.
- You will be able to actively listen, explain complex concepts and arguments to individuals and groups, tailor communication to various audiences, and write fluently in a range of styles and formats.
- You will have sound decision making skills, the ability to problem solve, manage your time, project manage and keep organised.
- If interested in our regional offices, you will need to have a current driver's licence.

Interviews

The interview process will be conducted virtually, and no travel will be required. Shortlisted applicants may be required to complete an online assessment during a 24-hour period between 19 September- 27 September.

How to Apply

Please visit jobs.odpp.nsw.gov.au, and search reference number 1109. Here you will have access to the role description and full application requirements (including targeted questions to be addressed in your cover letter). For general enquiries please contact Bianca Burgess, Recruitment Business Partner on (02) 8268 2693 or recruit@odpp.nsw.gov.au.

Closing date: Tuesday 10 September (11:59 PM)



Nurse Practitioner

Full Time and or Part Time Position Available

We are seeking a dedicated Nurse Practitioner to join our Waminda family. Candidate must have a current registration as a Nurse Practitioner and possess a diverse skill set suitable for working within a general practise environment.

Salary is in accordance with the Nurses Award - Nurse Practitioner

Only female applicants to apply

To apply for the position, please request an application package via peopleandculture@waminda.org.au



The Northern Rivers Community Legal Centre (NRCLC) is seeking to recruit to the position of:

DOMESTIC & FAMILY VIOLENCE SOLICITOR

Up to 35 hours per week
Fixed Term to 30 June 2025
Lismore

The salary range for SCHADS 6 is \$106,676 top \$113,391 pro-rata, plus super, leave loading and PBI salary packaging.

NRCLC is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Aboriginal and Torres Strait peoples and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds are strongly encouraged to apply

Applications close on Friday 20 September 2024.

The Northern Rivers Community Legal Centre (NRCLC) has been operating in Lismore since 1996. NRCLC has grown from a free legal service to a centre that offers wrap around support to clients and communities which includes the Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service (WDVCAS), Tenants' Advice and Advocacy Service (TAAS) & Disaster Recovery Team.

For further information about the position and to apply, please visit our website
<https://northernriversclc.org.au/work-or-volunteer/>

Enquires should be directed to
recruitment@northernriversclc.org.au



Ref No: 96164

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FIRST NATIONS ARTIST TENDER

The Opportunity

For 75 years, Snowy Hydro has played an important role in Australia's energy landscape, leading the way in the renewable energy transition. Throughout its proud history, Snowy Hydro has remained committed to supporting our communities. We recognise the Traditional Owners of the lands where Snowy Hydro operates and appreciate that our First Nations people have been on this land for tens of thousands of years.

Snowy Hydro invites established and emerging Indigenous artists connected to Ngarigo, Wiradjuri and/or Walgalu Country to submit an expression of interest in designing and developing original artwork for Snowy Hydro, celebrating connections and shared storytelling.

Key dates

- EOIs close: 16 September 2024
- Artists advised of EO outcome: 1 October 2024

Submission Requirements

Interested parties are required to complete submission documentation.

Please contact procurement@snowyhydro.com.au for a submission pack or if you have any questions regarding this EOI.



Notice Under Section 29 of the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) Exploration Licence Application 6786 (Act 1992)

This notice is given in accordance with the requirements of Section 29 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth).

Description of the nature of the act

The Minister administering the *Mining Act 1992* intends to grant an exploration licence under section 22(1)(a) of the *Mining Act 1992* (NSW) on land subject to native title.

Should a licence be granted, the licence holder may apply to renew or transfer the licence prior to it expiring (including partial renewals or partial transfers).

Note: If the licence is granted, the renewal, re grant or re-making (including partial renewals or partial transfers) or extension of the term of the licence may be valid pursuant to section 24MD(1) of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) without further notification, provided the requirements in section 26D(1) are satisfied.

Stannum Pty Ltd (ACN 121 771 695) is the applicant for Exploration Licence Application 6786 which, if granted would authorise the prospecting for Group 1 minerals for an initial term of up to 6 years.

Description of area that may be affected

The entire area of Exploration Licence Application 6786 that covers an area of about 101 units situated approximately 46 kilometres northeast of the town of Griffith, in the State of NSW as shown on the diagram below.

Name and postal address of person by whom the act would be done

The Minister administering the *Mining Act 1992*, PO Box 344, Hunter Region Mail Centre, NSW 2310.

How further information about the act can be obtained

Further information may be obtained from; Assessments and Systems, NSW Resources within the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development on (02) 4063 6600 or titles@regional.nsw.gov.au.

Notification Day

For the purposes of Section 29(4) of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) the notification day is 12 September 2024. 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 this notice.



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Department of Premier and Cabinet Senior Policy Analyst x

Hobart TAS

Permanent Full Time (003317)
Fixed Term - 12 months Full Time (003225)
\$125,536 - \$132,826

Having a diverse workforce that represents the wider Tasmanian community is very important to us and we actively encourage applications from people with disabilities, from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, people who may identify as LGBTIQ+, and all genders. We recognise the value, unique skills and knowledge that Aboriginal employees bring to the workplace and welcome and encourage applications from Aboriginal people.

We are committed to putting the rights and wellbeing of children and young people at the centre of what we do. We will employ the right people. We will embed a culture of self-reflection and continuous improvement. We will have the courage to change what needs to be changed. We will regularly review our policies and structures through a child and youth safety lens. Our people will be equipped with the skills to recognise and respond to signs of harm. We are growing a culture where everyone takes responsibility, shares information, and speaks up if something doesn't seem right. Together, we're creating a place where all children and young people are safe from harm.

We support reasonable adjustment requests in any stage of the assessment process to remove barriers and facilitate full participation in all aspects of employment for applicants. If you have individual requirements that need to be accommodated in order to participate in an interview or recruitment activity, please inform the contact person listed for this vacancy.

We understand that people have different needs to manage their work and life and to support people we embrace the benefits of flexible working arrangements. Talk to us about how this could work for you.

Hours per fortnight

Up to 73.5 hours - flexible options available.

Duties

1. Research, analyse and assess a variety of policy proposals from the perspective of the Government's strategic directions and priorities, and provide solutions, proposals and recommendations – with particular regard to Tasmanian's at vulnerable life stages and diverse population groups.
2. Develop and implement policies that progress the Government's strategic directions and priorities – in collaboration with government agencies, non-government organisations, business and the community. This may

require facilitation and leadership including negotiation of agreed positions within defined parameters.

3. Monitor the implementation and impact of strategic or whole of government policies – particularly in regard to identified priority population groups.
4. Liaise, consult and negotiate at senior management level with other spheres of government (Commonwealth State, and Local), private enterprise and community organisations.
5. Undertake research, analyse policy developments outside Tasmania and advise on implications.
6. Prepare complex submissions, briefings, correspondence and reports on agency, whole-of-government and inter-governmental issues.
7. Act as team leader for designated projects, programs and initiatives of significance
8. Represent the Department in a range of relevant forums.

Essential Requirements

- Current Tasmanian Working with Vulnerable People Registration.
- Ability to communicate effectively and sensitively with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and a knowledge and understanding of contemporary Aboriginal culture and society, under *Employment Direction No. 10, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Employment in Tasmanian State Service*.

Desirable Requirements

- Tertiary qualifications in a policy related discipline and/or commensurate experience in analysis and comment.

Download the Statement of Duties and any Associated Documents

How to apply

Electronic submission of application is preferred via www.jobs.tas.gov.au and you be prompted to upload a 1-2 page short application outlining your experience, skills and knowledge as they relate to the Statement of Duties and a resume.

Please note that we do not require a separate statement addressing the selection criteria.

If you have any difficulty uploading your application, please contact us prior to the closing date on (03) 6270 5607 or (03) 6270 5599.

For more information

Marnie Bower
Senior Policy Analyst
Marnie.Bower@dpac.tas.gov.au
Phone: (03) 6232 7382

Applications to close 11.55pm Sunday 1st September 2024



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4. Liaise, consult and negotiate at senior management level with other spheres of government (Commonwealth State, and Local), private enterprise and community organisations.
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For more information

Marnie Bower
Senior Policy Analyst
Marnie.Bower@dpac.tas.gov.au
Phone: (03) 6232 7382

Applications to close 11.55pm Sunday 1st September 2024

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment: Invitation to Register Interest

Maronite Sisters of the Holy Family, Marrickville – Retirement Village 1

On behalf of the trustees of the Maronite Sisters of the Holy Family (the proponent), Curio Projects (heritage consultants) are commencing Aboriginal community consultation for the redevelopment of The Maronite Sisters of the Holy Family Village 1 (the study area, see map below), located at 28 Marrickville Avenue and 46 Pine Street, Marrickville, within the Inner West Council LGA.



Figure 1: Entire Maronite Sisters of the Holy Family boundary (red) and boundary of Village 1 redevelopment study area (blue) Source: Six Maps

The Maronite Sisters of the Holy Family are planning to redevelop the existing aged care building to improve and expand on the current care facilities. The purpose of this community consultation with Aboriginal people is to aid in the preparation of an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (ACHAR) in accordance with the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974.

Community consultation is being undertaken to assist the assessment of cultural significance of the study area. This notification is being undertaken in accordance with Section 4.1.2 of the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) and the Aboriginal cultural heritage requirements for proponents 2010.

Curio Projects invite Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects(s) and/or places in the area to register an interest in a process of community consultation.

Please note that when you register an interest in this project your details will be forwarded to Heritage NSW and Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council, unless you specify that you would not like your details released.

Please forward registrations to Curio Projects no later than 11 September 2024 via phone, email or mail to:

Daisy Cutcliffe
consultation@curioprojects.com.au
 (02) 8014 9800
 Curio Projects
 Suite 3.01/Level 3 249 Pitt Street
 Sydney NSW 2000



Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Invitation to Register Interest

Proposed 105 Miller Street Redevelopment

On behalf of Investa (the proponent), Curio Projects (heritage consultants) are commencing Aboriginal community consultation for a proposed development located in North Sydney. The study area is shown below, located at 105 Miller Street in North Sydney, within the North Sydney LGA.



The Proponent is seeking to develop the 105 Miller Street site for adaptive re-use, in order to create a new education facility in the centre of North Sydney, which will involve accessible street-level amenities, arrangement of floors for classes and education, as well as any required augmentation of services and infrastructure.

This education space will take advantage of the current and ongoing development and revitalisation of the North Sydney area that is projected to be further aided by the new Sydney Metro lines in the area as well as the potential pedestrianisation of Miller Street.

The purpose of community consultation with Aboriginal people is to assist the proposed applicant in the preparation of an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (ACHAR) in accordance with the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974, and to assist the NSW Department of Planning and Environment in their consideration and determination of the application.


Community consultation is being undertaken in order to assist the assessment of cultural significance of the 105 Miller Street study area. This notification is being undertaken in accordance with Section 4.1.2 of the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) *Aboriginal cultural heritage requirements for proponents 2010*.

Curio Projects invite Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects(s) and/or places in the area to register an interest in a process of community consultation.

Please note that when you register an interest in this project your details will be forwarded to Heritage NSW and Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council, unless you specify that you would not like your details released.

Please forward registrations to Curio Projects no later than 12 September 2024, via phone, email or mail to: consultation@curioprojects.com.au

Or alternatively mail to: Att: Rebecca Agius
 Curio Projects
 5 Blackfriars Street
 Chippendale NSW 2008



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	38/3936	LAKE WELLS EXPLORATION PTY LTD	31BL	192.2km N'ly of Laverton	Lat: 26° 55' S : Long: 122° 45' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	38/3937	LAKE WELLS EXPLORATION PTY LTD	123BL	209.2km N'ly of Laverton	Lat: 26° 46' S : Long: 122° 52' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	38/3938	LAKE WELLS EXPLORATION PTY LTD	192BL	190.5km N'ly of Laverton	Lat: 26° 59' S : Long: 122° 59' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Mining Lease	25/382	MAJESTIC GOLD MINES PTY LTD	97.23HA	42.3km E'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 50' S : Long: 121° 54' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY

Nature of the act: Grant of mining leases, which authorises the applicant to mine for minerals for a term of 21 years from notification of grant and a right of renewal for 21 years. 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: 28 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 **28 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. **28 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 km²

DMIRS 22836



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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 105 of the *Petroleum and Geothermal Energy Resources Act 1967 (WA)*.

TITLE TYPE	APPLICATION NUMBER**	APPLICANT	CO-ORDINATES	AREA	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 ²	DUNDAS SHIRE, CITY OF KALGOORLIE-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: 28 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 **28 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. **28 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_22838



DOING THE MOST GOOD



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
77/2691	GOLDEN HORSE MINERALS (AUST) PTY LTD	699149	106.40HA	20.1km NW'ly of Southern Cross	Lat: 31° 5' S : Long: 119° 11' E	YILGARN SHIRE
77/2691	GOLDEN HORSE MINERALS (AUST) PTY LTD	699152	163.42HA	18.3km NW'ly of Southern Cross	Lat: 31° 6' S : Long: 119° 12' E	YILGARN SHIRE
77/2691	GOLDEN HORSE MINERALS (AUST) PTY LTD	699153	90.53HA	16.7km NW'ly of Southern Cross	Lat: 31° 6' S : Long: 119° 12' E	YILGARN SHIRE
77/2691	GOLDEN HORSE MINERALS (AUST) PTY LTD	699156	58.97HA	9km NW'ly of Southern Cross	Lat: 31° 10' S : Long: 119° 15' E	YILGARN SHIRE
77/2691	GOLDEN HORSE MINERALS (AUST) PTY LTD	699158	153.32HA	12.7km NW'ly of Southern Cross	Lat: 31° 8' S : Long: 119° 14' E	YILGARN SHIRE
77/2691	GOLDEN HORSE MINERALS (AUST) PTY LTD	699160	155.05HA	10.6km NW'ly of Southern Cross	Lat: 31° 9' S : Long: 119° 15' E	YILGARN SHIRE

Nature of the act : Grant of amalgamation applications which authorises the applicant to explore for minerals.

Notification day: 28 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 **28 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. **28 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_22837



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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	15/2064	MCAULAY, Darren Michael	8BL	25.9km W'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 31° 10' S : Long: 121° 24' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	24/242	SOLSTICE MINERALS LIMITED	5BL	30km N'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 10' S : Long: 121° 24' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	27/739	EMPIRE RESOURCES LIMITED	9BL	61km NE'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 26' S : Long: 121° 59' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	28/3361	GLR AUSTRALIA PTY LTD	7BL	91.3km E'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 31° 3' S : Long: 122° 36' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	28/3462	PLAVSIC, Nicky	5BL	62.4km NE'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 28' S : Long: 122° 2' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	36/1101	WYX MINERALS PTY LTD	27BL	65.6km SW'ly of Leinster	Lat: 28° 16' S : Long: 120° 9' E	LEONORA SHIRE, SANDSTONE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	51/2124	CASTLE MINERALS LIMITED	70BL	81.5km E'ly of Meekatharra	Lat: 26° 45' S : Long: 119° 17' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	51/2243	AURIGEN PTY LTD	52BL	29.7km S'ly of Peak Hill	Lat: 25° 53' S : Long: 118° 49' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	51/2244	AURIGEN PTY LTD	67BL	48km SE'ly of Peak Hill	Lat: 25° 49' S : Long: 119° 9' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	52/4359	STANIFER PTY LTD	6BL	76.2km E'ly of Peak Hill	Lat: 25° 37' S : Long: 119° 29' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	57/1409	REDScope ENTERPRISES PTY LTD	15BL	28.9km SW'ly of Sandstone	Lat: 28° 13' S : Long: 119° 9' E	SANDSTONE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	77/2994	POLARIS METALS PTY LTD	7BL	131.6km N'ly of Southern Cross	Lat: 30° 2' S : Long: 119° 13' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Exploration Licence	77/3204	GOLDEN HORSE MINERALS (AUST) PTY LTD	1BL	34km NW'ly of Southern Cross	Lat: 30° 58' S : Long: 119° 7' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	15/6814	ALTIA RESOURCES PTY LTD	169.98HA	21.6km SW'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 31° 5' S : Long: 121° 0' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	15/6815	ALTIA RESOURCES PTY LTD	156.12HA	20.8km SW'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 31° 5' S : Long: 121° 1' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	15/6858	VAN HERK, Tristan Joel	4.99HA	3.2km E'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 30° 57' S : Long: 121° 11' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	15/6859	VAN HERK, Tristan Joel	40.03HA	2km S'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 30° 58' S : Long: 121° 9' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	24/5755	STEHN, Anthony Paterson	51.91HA	17.7km W'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 18' S : Long: 120° 53' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	25/2818	MCKAY, Glenn Michael	9.65HA	36.7km NE'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 30° 55' S : Long: 121° 52' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	26/4758	BOWDEN, Graeme Fredrick	7.22HA	26km SE'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 56' S : Long: 121° 36' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	27/2589	FISHER, David Craig	74.20HA	28.7km E'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 23' S : Long: 121° 37' 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: 28 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 **28 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. **28 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 km²

DMIRS 22835

Notice of an application for determination of native title in Queensland
Notification day: 11 September 2024



This is an application by a native title claim group which is asking the Federal Court of Australia (Federal Court) to determine that the group holds native title in the area described below.

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 10 December 2024**. Further information regarding how to file a Form 5 is available from www.fedcourt.gov.au. After **10 December 2024**, you will need to seek leave from the Federal Court to become a party.

Under the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) there can be only one determination of native title for a particular area. If a person with native title rights and interests does not become a party to this application, there may be no other opportunity for the Federal Court, in making its determination, to take into account those native title rights and interests in relation to the area concerned.



Application name: Johnson Chippendale & Ors on behalf of the Wuthathi People Sea Claim Group v State Minister for the State of Queensland
Federal Court File No: QUD570/2023
Date filed: 14 December 2023
Registration test status: The Native Title Registrar has **not accepted** this application for registration. Although this application has not been registered, the Federal Court may still refer the application for mediation and/or make a determination in relation to it

Description: The application area covers about 8,172 sq km and is located over lands and waters east of Captain Billy Landing in the Coral Sea including Shelburne and Wreck Bay, Moulter and Maclennan Cays and Raine Island
Relevant LGA: Cook Shire Council

For assistance and further information about this application, call Sylvia Jagtman on 07 3052 4248 or visit www.nntt.gov.au.



Nguddaboolgan Native Title Aboriginal Corporation RNTB
SAVE THE DATE!

AGM NOTICE
Annual General Meeting for Members

NNTAC are pleased to invite all members of the corporation to the Annual General Meeting for members only.

Start Time: Bus departing **8:00am** Depart Yarrabah – FIRST STOP Bishop Malcolm Park Yarrabah.
 SECOND STOP in front of Police Station Yarrabah.
 Bus departing **8:00am** Depart Mareeba 42 Byrnes Street, Piagnos News Mareeba

Date: **Friday 1 November 2024 starts at 9:45am**
Place: Serbian Cultural & Information Centre Cairns Inc.
 67 Greenslopes St, Edge Hill QLD 4870

End Time: Bus will be returning to Yarrabah and Mareeba from Serbian Cultural & Information Centre at 4 pm

ZOOM TELECONFERENCING AVAILABLE IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND.

Please contact 07 4041 9966 for teleconference invitation or email admin@nguddaboolgan.com

MEETING NOTICE
Meeting for Compensation Claim

Please note: The compensation meeting is not a new native title claim or changing existing native title determination. It is solely about compensation for lost or interfered native title.

NNTAC are pleased to invite all Djungan People.

Start Time: Bus departing **11:00 am** Depart Yarrabah FIRST STOP: Workshop Street, Bishop Malcolm Park Yarrabah and SECOND STOP pick up in front of Police Station Yarrabah

Bus departing **11:00 am** Depart Mareeba 42 Byrnes Street, Piagnos News Mareeba

Date: **Friday 1 November 2024 starts at 12:30 for registration**
Place: Serbian Cultural & Information Centre Cairns Inc.
 67 Greenslopes St, Edge Hill QLD 4870

End Time: Bus will be returning to Yarrabah and Mareeba from Serbian Cultural & Information Centre at 4 pm

ZOOM TELECONFERENCING AVAILABLE IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND.

Please contact: 07 4041 9966 for teleconference invitation or email admin@nguddaboolgan.com

APIX On arrival at the meeting, members are to sign in with contact details.
 Nguddaboolgan Native Title Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC
 ICN: 7727 | ABN: 67 538 614 556



A conversation could change a life.

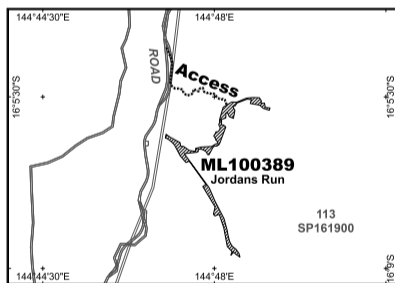
ruok.org.au

NOTICE OF PROPOSED GRANT OF MINING LEASES

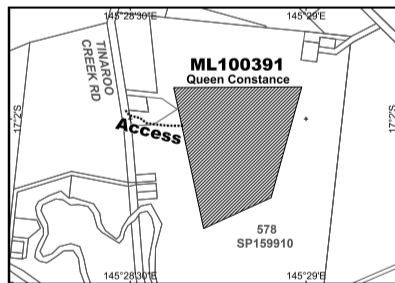
NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

The Queensland Minister for Resources and Critical Minerals, PO Box 15216, City East, Queensland, 4002, hereby gives notice in accordance with section 29 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) of the proposed grant of the Mining Leases (ML) shown below, subject to the provisions of the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld).

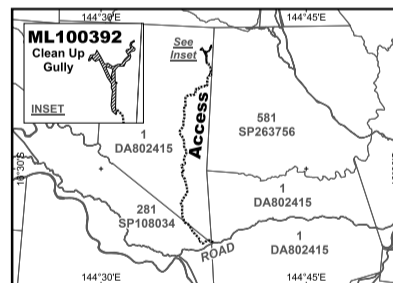
ML 100389 applied for by North Queensland Mining Pty Ltd, ACN 152 890 643, over an area of 134.73 ha, centred approximately 28km southwest of Lakeland, in the locality of the Cook Shire Council.



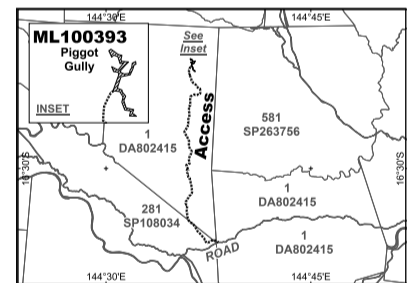
ML 100391 applied for by Scott Troy Davis (25%), Phillip Wayne Manitta (25%), Francesco Tatti (25%), and Jason Anthony Whatley (25%) over an area of 32.56 ha, centred approximately 7.6km southeast of Mareeba, in the locality of the Mareeba Shire Council.



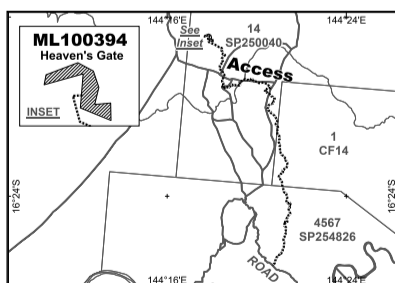
ML 100392 applied for by Ashleigh Kym Fitzgerald, over an area of 49.7 ha, centred approximately 110km northwest of Mareeba, in the locality of the Mareeba Shire Council.



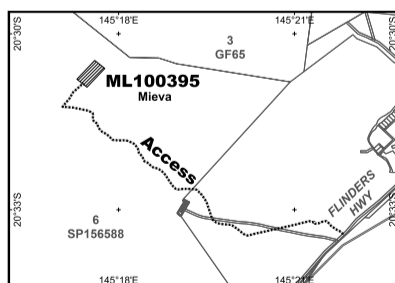
ML 100393 applied for by Dennis Ronald Fitzgerald, over an area of 20.72 ha, centred approximately 111km northwest of Mareeba, in the locality of the Mareeba Shire Council.



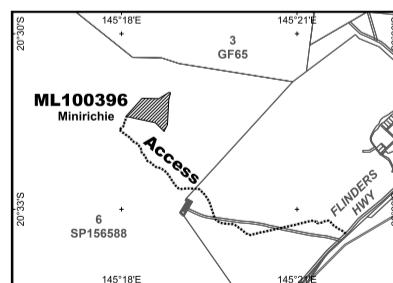
ML 100394 applied for by KC-MAR Pty Ltd, ACN 132 782 453, over an area of 15.01 ha, centred approximately 93km northwest of Mount Carbine, in the localities of the Cook Shire Council and Mareeba Shire Council.



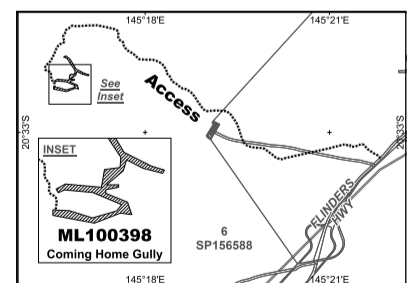
ML 100395 applied for by Duncan Read, over an area of 31.11 ha, centred approximately 11km west of Pentland, in the locality of the Charters Towers Regional Council.



ML 100396 applied for by Jason Read, over an area of 82.38 ha, centred approximately 11km west of Pentland, in the locality of the Charters Towers Regional Council.



ML100398 applied for by Peter Vincent Shevill (50%), and Margaret Therese Shevill (50%), over an area of 15.2 ha, centred approximately 13km west of Pentland, in the locality of the Charters Towers Regional Council.



Nature of Act(s): The grant of a Mining Lease under the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld) authorises the holder to mine and carry out associated activities subject to the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld) for ML 100393 and ML 100398 for a term not exceeding ten (10) years, with the possibility of renewals for terms not exceeding ten (10) years, for ML 100391, ML 100392, ML 100394, ML 100395 and ML 100396 a term not exceeding fifteen (15) years, with the possibility of renewals for terms not exceeding fifteen (15) years and for ML 100389 a term not exceeding twenty-five (25) years, with the possibility of renewals for terms not exceeding twenty-five (25) years. The grant of a Mining Lease includes the granting of access as shown above.

Name and address of person doing acts: It is proposed that the Mining Leases be granted subject to the provisions of the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld) by the Queensland Minister for Resources and Critical Minerals, PO Box 15216, City East, Queensland, 4002.

Native Title Parties: Under the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) any person who is a "native title party" is entitled to certain rights in relation to the proposed grant of the Mining Leases. Under section 30

of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth), persons have until three (3) months after the Notification Day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to this notice. Enquiries in relation to filing a native title determination application may be directed to the Federal Court, Brisbane Registry, Level 6, Commonwealth Law Courts, 119 North Quay, Brisbane, Queensland 4000. Telephone: 1300 720 980 or Email: nativetitleQLD@fedcourt.gov.au. Enquiries in relation to the registration of a native title determination application may be directed to the National Native Title Tribunal, Brisbane Registry, Level 5, 119 North Quay, Brisbane, Queensland 4000. Telephone: (07) 3052 4040.

Further Information: May be obtained from the Department of Resources, Mining Registrar, Mineral Assessment Hub, Level 9, Verde Tower, 445 Flinders Street, Townsville, Queensland, 4810. Telephone: (07) 4447 9230 or Email: MineralHub@resources.qld.gov.au.

Notification Day: 11 September 2024



King, Kangas tipped to win flag

AUS MIA KING and her North Melbourne team are predicted to go one-better than last year and win the 2024 AFLW Premiership – that is according to the 18 club captains.

With all 18 club representatives on hand at the new season launch in Melbourne last week, they were anonymously polled on five key questions on how they believe the season will unfold.

The results showed that North Melbourne (nine votes), Brisbane (eight votes) and Geelong (one vote) drawing nominations for which other club apart from their own is most likely to push into this year's grand final.

Reigning premiers Brisbane were tipped as the club most likely to win the McClelland Trophy (eight votes). This was consistent with the AFL captains who also predicted a stellar year for the Lions, followed closely by current ladder leaders Sydney (six votes), with the captains predicting a similar display of dominance

from the Swans' AFLW team.

Four-time Club Champion winner, Jasmine Garner (North Melbourne), was tipped to be the stand-out player of the competition ahead of reigning MVP Monique Conti (Richmond), and Ebony Marinoff (Adelaide) to win this season's league best-and-fairest.

Melbourne captain, Kate Hore, is predicted to win back-to-back league leading goal-kicking awards with five votes, followed by two-time club leading goal kicker Dakota Davidson (Brisbane) with three votes and Bonnie Toogood (Essendon) with two votes.

The 2024 Rising Star is predicted to be won by talented midfielder Shineah Goody (Port Adelaide) who received four votes, following a stand-out U18 National Championships campaign in both 2022 (as MVP) and 2023 (runner-up MVP).

Last year's draft picks No. 3 and 6, Kaitlyn Shroj (GWS) and Elaine Grigg (Western Bulldogs), respectively, were tipped close behind Goody with two votes each.

Clubs, players and a new AFLW season ahead

By PETER ARGENT

AUS THE 19 First Nations players across the 18 clubs ahead of the 2024 AFLW Premiership season represent a strong cross-section of the type of players most teams would want.

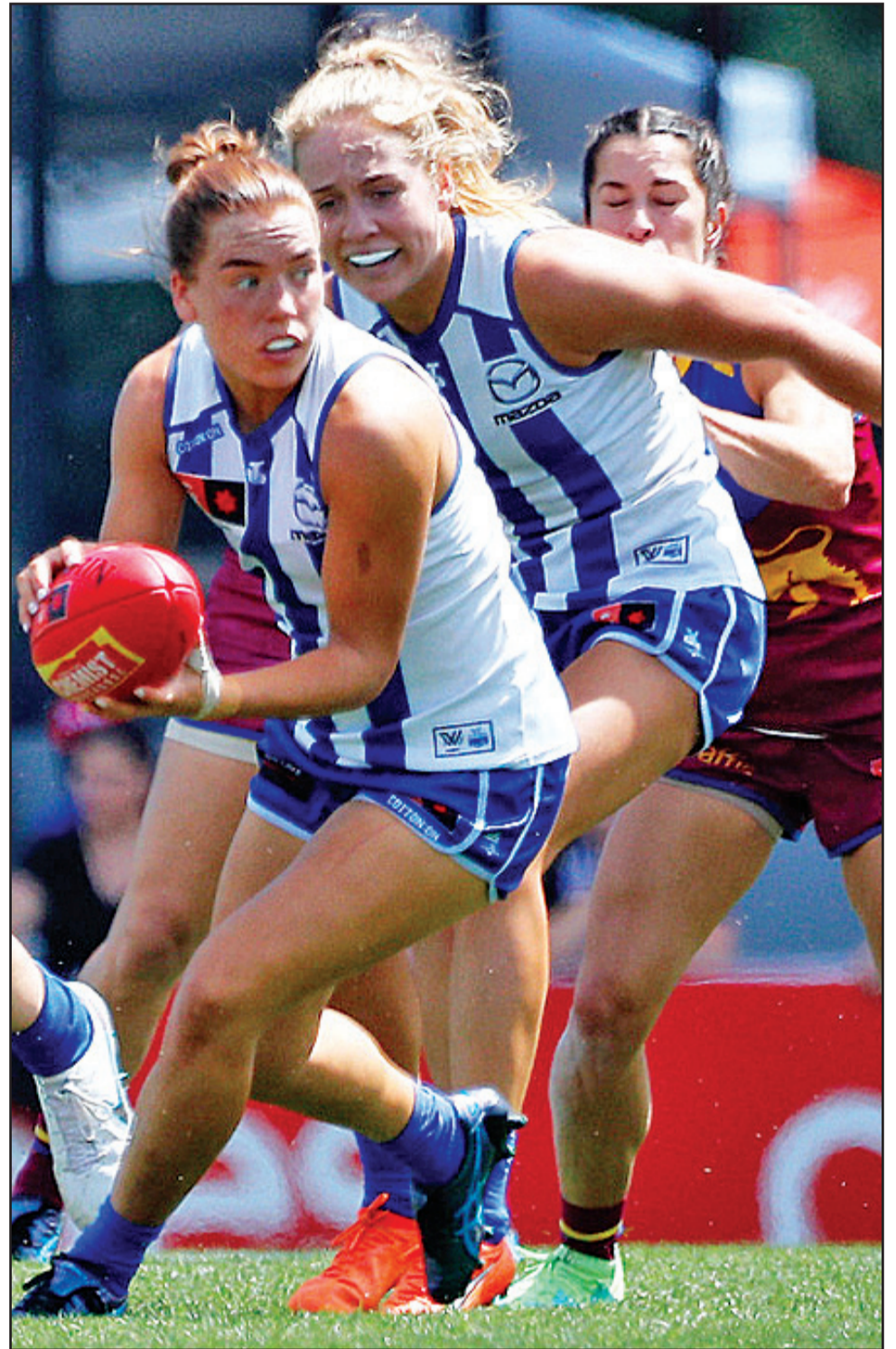
Although the number of First Nations AFLW players may have been reduced from the 25 that represented their communities last season, those that remain and the ones newly-recruited should account for their team's general good fortunes.

Among them are key-position types who can take the game on at will, like

Port Adelaide's Gemma Houghton, and mainstays like the tireless Ally Anderson at Brisbane, Anderson's teammates Courtney Hodder, who can kick-start a game with an electrifying burst, or Adelaide's classy forward Danielle Ponter, who can conjure up goals at will.

Last season saw Lions' Aboriginal trio of Anderson, Hodder and Dakota Davidson win the league premiership with a fast-finishing win over Mia King's North Melbourne.

Of the 18 AFLW clubs, Carlton, Melbourne, the Western Bulldogs, Sydney and West Coast do not have an acknowledged Indigenous player on their respective lists this season.



North Melbourne's Mia King is tipped to win the 2024 AFL Premiership. Picture: Peter Argent

By PETER ARGENT

ADELAIDE (1) Danielle Ponter

A two-time premiership veteran at the Crows, Danielle Ponter is still only 24 and in the prime of her already strong career. Since this Darwin girls' debut in 2019, she is a regular fixture at Adelaide, playing 58 games and kicking 66 goals. Among her many career highlights include the 2019 and 2022 AFLW premierships and All-Australian last season. Ponter was the Crows' leading goal-kicker in 2020 and 2023.

BRISBANE (3) Ally Anderson

A superstar midfielder and foundation AFLW player, Ally Anderson was among those who played in the first exhibition game between the Western Bulldogs and Melbourne in 2013 – a precursor to the AFLW. Now, one of the game's marquee midfielders, Anderson has a collection of premierships – 2021 and 2023 – and 2022's AFLW best-and-fairest. Among the myriad of honours are All-Australian team selections in 2019 and 2023, and three Brisbane Lions best-and-fairest awards – 2019, 2021 and 2023.

Dakota Davidson

An 180cm extroverted key forward and ruck, Dakota Davidson is now a 51-game AFLW player, after making her debut in 2020, and kicking 55 goals. Davidson is also a dual AFLW premiership player (2021, 2023) and last year forced her way with weight of performances into the All-Australian team. Davidson was Brisbane's leading goal-kicker in both 2021 and 2023.

Courtney Hodder

One of the game's quickest and clever small forwards, Courtney Hodder is an elite dual-code footballer. Originally from rugby union, Hodder played with the Western Force and was the leading goal-scorer in the competition, a skillset she transferred over to Aussie rules football. In her debut season (2021), Hodder kicked the AFLW Goal of the Year, and has now played 49 matches for the Lions, and kicked 33 goals. Hodder has been a key member of Brisbane's premiership teams in 2021 and 2023.

CARLTON (0)

COLLINGWOOD (1) Kalinda Howarth

Now at her third club, the dynamic

Kalinda Howarth celebrated her 25th birthday this month. Unfortunately, she was confined to the sidelines during the 2023 season after ripping her ACL during training. After 35 senior games with the Suns, Howarth shifted to Collingwood for the 2024 season. Originally at Brisbane, but not having played for the Lions, Howarth played 35 games at Gold Coast where she kicked 20 goals and stamped herself as an exciting player. In her debut season, Howarth won selection in the All-Australian team and twice was the Suns' leading goal-kicker in 2020 and 2021.

ESSENDON (1) Madison Prespakis

One of the bona fide superstars of the AFLW, Madison Prespakis is still only 23 and ahead of her is a decade to dominate. Carlton understood her brilliance, selecting her with pick No. 3 in the 2018 national draft, although she was generally regarded as the best player in the system that year. She played 34 games for the Blues in a highly-decorated four years at Princes Park. Prespakis was the AFLW's best-and-fairest winner in the Covid-ruined 2020 season, and a three-time Carlton best-and-fairest – 2019, 2020, 2022 – and won the Rising Star and AFLPA best first-year player

awards in 2019. Prespakis has three All-Australian selections to her name – 2019, 2020, 2022 – and an Essendon best-and-fairest award in 2022. Having played 21 games for the Bombers, Prespakis has increased her career total to 55 games, having kicked 26 goals.

FREMANTLE (1) Mikayla Morrison

Swan District talent Mikayla Morrison exploded onto the AFLW landscape in 2022 with three goals in her third game and a Rising Star nomination. The creative forward then endured an ACL reconstruction and hasn't donned the purple since. Now 22, it has been two years since her fourth and previous AFLW match.

GEELONG (1) Georgie Prespakis

An outstanding junior Georgie Prespakis has many of the same ball-winning attributes of her big sister, Maddy, along with be durable and consistently impactful. Last year, she won Geelong's best-and-fairest award and was desperately unlucky not to be named in the All-Australian team (which she achieved in 2022). She has played 32 games across her three seasons

● Continued next page



Jasmin Stewart will play in her second season with Port Adelaide.

● From previous page

and has been named in the AFLPA under-22 team in every season. In 2019 and again in 2021, Prespakis won the NAB League Girls best-and-fairest award.

GOLD COAST (1)

Ashanti Bush

Having turned 22 this month, Ashanti Bush began playing football from a young age. She has family bloodlines in the game, and is related to David Wirrpanda (former West Coast) and Stephanie Williams (Geelong). Bush was picked by the Gold Coast at number eight overall in the 2021 draft, from Hawthorn's VFLW program. She debuted in 2022 and won the Goal of the Year in just her second season. Hailing from Beswick, a small community about 80km south-east of Katherine, Bush has played 10 AFLW matches.

GWS GIANTS (2)

Aliesha Newman

A foundation AFLW player (Melbourne), Aliesha Newman had stints at Collingwood and Sydney before finding her way to GWS. Now 28, and originally from the Wyndhamvale Falcons, the versatile Newman has played 58 games across the first three clubs, having kicked 24 goals. She is another Indigenous talent who won the Goal of the Year honour; hers came when she was at Melbourne in 2018 and against Adelaide.

Claire Ransom

The Tasmanian midfielder was drafted to the Suns in the 2022 draft via North Hobart. Claire Ransom debuted in round 1 the following season in a game at Hobart and finished that season with two games under her belt. After being on the Suns' inactive list for 2023, Ransom joined the Giants during the summer looking for a fresh start after admitting she had lost her passion for the game she grew up loving.

HAWTHORN (2)

Kaitlyn Ashmore

A three-club veteran, Kaitlyn Ashmore, now 32, is one of the most senior players on the Hawks' list. Another of the league's foundation players from 2017, Ashmore started her career with a grand final and two seasons with Brisbane before moving across to North Melbourne for the start of the 2019 campaign. This is also her third campaign as a Hawk. Across the journey Ashmore has played 64 AFL games for 24 goals and has represented Victoria at state



AFLW foundation player, premiership player, league best-and-fairest and Brisbane Lions stalwart Ally Anderson will run around again this AFLW season. Pictures: Peter Argent

level in 2017. Ashmore was the Roos' leading goal-kicker in 2020.

Mattea Breed

Mattea Breed was drafted to Hawthorn and the 22-year-old suited up for eight games in 2023 as a true utility, starting the year up forward before stints in defence and in the ruck. Arriving at the Hawks from North Adelaide in the SANFLW, Breed is a Darwin Buffaloes junior. She won back-to-back NTFL Under-18 best-and-fairest awards in 2016-17 and 2017-18 seasons as well as the league's Rising Star honour in 2018-19.

MELBOURNE (0)

NORTH MELBOURNE (1)

Mia King

Defensively one of the hardest working midfielders in the game, Tasmania export Mia King is now 23 and has been a key member of the Roos' on-ball brigade since her introduction to the top level at Arden Street. She will play her milestone 50th AFLW match in round 1 of the 2024 season. This relentless midfielder had her best season yet in 2023 where she averaged 20.3 disposals and 8.9 tackles per game. King finished sixth in the competition for average tackles in 2023, and had 13 clearances in the grand final against the Lions – the most any player has ever recorded during in an AFLW grand final.

PORT ADELAIDE (3)

Gemma Houghton

Gemma Houghton comes from good footy stock, and has personally carved out a significant career in the AFLW. At 179cm (5'10), this key forward had a frustrating season in 2022, blighted by injury. After a big induction of talent from the draft, Port Adelaide will need a strong performance from Houghton in this, her third season at Alberton. Another AFLW foundation player (with Fremantle), Houghton was All-Australian in 2019 and 2020 and was the Dockers' leading goal-kicker in 2019 and 2021. Across her first two seasons at Port, Houghton has featured in 14 games, kicking 20 goals. A career-best season in 2023 saw Houghton boot 16 goals in 10 games, and was recognised by All-Australian squad selection and a runner-up in Port Adelaide's best-and-fairest.

Georgie Jaques

Yet to make her debut, 20-year-old ruck-defender Georgie Jaques joined the Power from SANFLW club Norwood. Playing



Brisbane Lions' Dakota Davidson.



Adelaide Crows' Danielle Ponter.

mainly as a ruck at the state league level, Jaques can also play in the backline. She has spent time recovering and rehabilitating from injury with the aim to break into the side in the 2024 season. Her father Danny Jaques playing 28 games for the Magpies and won a SANFL premiership in 1998.

Jasmin Stewart

The 25-year-old midfielder Jasmin Stewart is a hard tackler who wins her own football. This proud Jaru woman from Western Australia played 22 games for Fremantle before stepping away from football in April 2022 to focus on life outside the game. She returned to WAFLW club Claremont and was awarded the best-on-ground medal in the Tigers' winning grand final with 29 disposals and eight tackles. The skilful left-footer returned to elite sport with fresh drive, evident in her impressive 10 games in the 2023 season.

RICHMOND (1)

MacKenzie Ford

A 19-year-old recruit from Tasmania and having played with the Allies Girls at the under-18 nationals, Mackenzie Ford was one of the most reliable and consistent players throughout the course of the Talent League Girls 2023 season. Ford is an explosive midfielder who loves the defensive elements of the game, but can also move the ball quickly in transition.

ST KILDA (2)

J'Noemi Anderson

From Warumungu Country in the Northern Territory, J'Noemi Anderson was the Saints' first Indigenous player, and the fourth Anderson sibling after Joe, Jed and Jasmine to make it to the highest level. Arriving at St Kilda, Anderson was presented the club's distinguished No. 7 Saints jumper, made famous by legend Nicky Winmar. Anderson has just two full seasons under her belt but there are signs of something special on the horizon, having played 10 games and kicking two goals. A relentless forward-midfielder whose ferocious tackling is already a hallmark of her game, Anderson has a talented skillset.

Natalie Plane

After a 36-game career at Carlton, AFLW foundation player Natalie Plane moved across to the Saints at the start of last season. A versatile small defender and midfielder, she played seven games in 2023. Plane is a reliable player. She has played 43 AFLW games total and with a good run should become a 50-game player this season. Plane also played cricket, firstly for Victorian Country in the Australian Country Cricket Championships, and Melbourne Renegades in the Women's Big Bash League in the 2016-17 season.

SYDNEY SWANS (0)

WEST COAST (0)

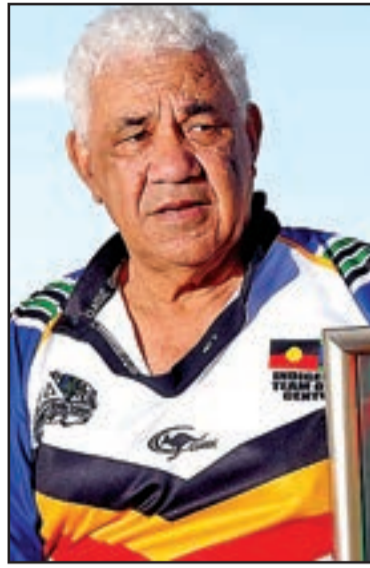
WESTERN BULLDOGS (0)



Steve Renouf.



Johnathan Thurston.



Lionel Morgan.



Greg Inglis.



Katrina Fanning.

Immortalised in the Hall of Fame

By KRIS FLANDERS



FIVE of the best Indigenous players to ever lace up a boot have been inducted into the NRL Hall of Fame – Lionel Morgan, Steve Renouf, Johnathan Thurston, Greg Inglis and Katrina Fanning. The deadly quintet were added to the rugby league's honour-roll at a ceremony in Sydney last week.

In many ways, the late, great **Lionel Morgan** was a trailblazer for Indigenous rugby league players and his HoF inclusion is long overdue. He played three Tests for Australia and played in the 1969 World Cup, providing him the historical honour of the first Indigenous player to pull on the green and gold. Morgan represented Queensland in 12 Interstate Games (1960-63). Many Indigenous players who have come after Morgan, especially those from Queensland often cited him as a major inspiration.

Steve Renouf was a brilliant centre for Brisbane, Australia and Queensland. Like many rugby league fans, perhaps the most

vivid memory of Renouf is in Brisbane Broncos' maiden premiership in 1992 against St. George. Renouf had been having a fairly quiet game in the grand final but that changed when Broncos winger Willie Carne had just beaten the Saints defence out of his in-goal area, while chasing a kick. From there, it took some quick thinking from Broncos pair Kevin Walters and Allan Langer as they shifted the ball quickly out wide to Renouf. Receiving the ball five-metres from his own line, Renouf stepped inside one Dragons defender, put himself through a gap, then used his incredible speed to race 95m to score a try and seal the win for Brisbane. In that play, Renouf was chased hard by another top Indigenous star of the day, Ricky Walford, to no avail; Renouf had done enough to evade Walford to score. His try is replayed around grand final time and is considered one of the best tries in a decider.

One of the greatest ever, **Johnathan Thurston** played 323 NRL games and accumulated 2,222 points through 90 tries, 923 goals and 16 field goals. He was a true match-winner and 'big-time'

player. With JT in your team you knew he could produce something special or come up with the magic play. Thurston was brilliant for Queensland and was part of that historic Maroons side during that 8 series-in-a-row dominance. He brought a smile to your face if you were a Queenslander, and a tear if you were from New South Wales. Many often forget that JT was part of the Canterbury Bulldogs grand final win in 2004 where the young utility came off the bench for the Bulldogs. He famously gave injured captain Steve Price his premiership ring at full-time. But Thurston's crowning glory came in 2015 where he co-captained North Queensland to their first premiership. The game went down to the wire, and the Cowboys scored a try on the final hooter to force the match into golden-point against arch-rivals the Broncos. In extra-time, North Queensland pounced on a mistake from the kick-off which set the Cowboys up for the match-winning field goal – by JT from 20m out. It sent the Cowboys into raptures.

On his day, **Greg Inglis** was unstoppable. Inglis produced many mind-blowing displays for Melbourne, South Sydney, Australia, Queensland and for the Indigenous All-Stars in his decorated career. One of the first big memorable plays came early on in GI's career and it confirmed that this youngster was going to be one of the best the game had seen. It was while playing for Australia against New Zealand at the SCG in the Centenary ANZAC Test in 2008. An attacking kick was put across for Australia and the NZ winger tried to knock it dead; Inglis, however, had other ideas. He attacked the ball and somehow was able to catch it in the air and pass it back over his head to where Mark Gasnier caught it for an unforgettable try for the Kangaroos. GI was only 21 at the time – it was stuff you can't teach. Perhaps the 'other' unforgettable moment Inglis provided was the 'goanna' try celebrations. His most famous one would come when he helped South Sydney break their 41-year premiership drought in 2014. He inspired many young Indigenous kids with his try celebrations; you

can see it at junior football games nowadays.

Katrina Fanning's induction into the Hall of Fame was a worthy accolade given how she paved the way for Indigenous women in league. The Wiradjuri woman played 24 Tests for the Jillaroos between 1995-2004, including the first Test against New Zealand. The front-rower also represented in two World Cups and NSW. The Canberra women's rugby league premiership competition is named the *Katrina Fanning Shield* in her honour. She is the Chair of the Australian Rugby League Indigenous Council, and president of both the Australian Women's Rugby League and Canberra Women's Rugby League.

In order of their Hall of Fame induction, Lionel Morgan was member No. 116, Steve Renouf No. 119, Johnathan Thurston No. 121, Greg Inglis No. 125 and Katrina Fanning No. 128.

These worthy inductees join other great Indigenous footballers who had previously received the honour – immortal Arthur Beetson, Laurie Daley, Cliff Lyons and Gordon Tallis.

Selecting my best 'Mixed 17' from NRL, NRLW stars

WITH a host of brilliant Indigenous footballers in both the NRL and the NRLW, it got me thinking as to what would make up a best 'Mixed 17' side.

Right across the park, we have some major talents – the backs, the forward packs, try-scoring sensations, goal-kicking maestros, inspirational leaders. Honestly, there could be hundreds of combinations and it's not an easy thing to do. But I'll give it a shot.

At fullback would be the dynamic Tamika Upton – she has won three premierships and is a match-winner for Newcastle, Queensland and Australia who can turn a match in an instant, just like she did in the 2023 NRLW grand final.

My two wingers would be Jaime Chapman (Gold Coast) and Josh Addo-Carr (Canterbury) – imagine the points this pair could score? Tries galore and both have the

quickest feet in the game. 'Chappo' and 'The Foxx' can score length-of-field tries and are definite fan favourites.

The two centres would be Hamiso Tabuai-Fidow (Dolphins) and Latrell Mitchell (South Sydney). HTF is an electric player who possesses speed and fantastic foot-work that leaves the best defence in tatters. 'Trell was enormous for NSW in Game II of this year's Origin series and he showed why he is the man for the job: a quick ball-runner, no nonsense in defence, and a top goal-kicker to boot.

The halves is a tough call. I've got Kirra Dibb (North Queensland) and Nicho Hynes (Cronulla). Dibb is the five-eighth and co-captain of the Cowboys, and for good reason.



Kris Flanders

A very handy ball-player, Dibb directs a lot of the attack for and is a handy kicker. With Hynes as Dibb's halves partner you would have a pairing that would expertly lead this side around the park.

My prop forwards are two of the most damaging players in the NRL and NRLW – David Fifita (Gold Coast) and Caitlan Johnston-Green (Newcastle). Both forwards are big ball-runners, know exactly where the tryline is and love mixing it up in defence. Both are also very difficult to contain.

I've got Cronulla's Quincy Dodd at hooker. She is one of the most craftiest in the game and can make metres out of quick dummy-half sprints, possesses a good passing game, can produce a tricky chip-and-chase and gets through plenty of tackles.

My two second-rowers are hardworking as they come – new Parramatta captain Mahalia Murphy and Josh Curran

(Bulldogs). Murphy is experience personified and makes lots of big charges. Packing down alongside her, Curran has already been touted as one of the buys of the season for the Bulldogs. His defence is top notch and is always in the thick of it. Have to love the painted headgear too.

Finishing off the pack is NSW Origin star and utility player, Connor Watson. The Roosters forward can cover many positions across the field both in the backline and the forwards. A valuable player.

It was difficult to pick just four players on the interchange bench. I went with Cowboys co-captain Tallisha Harden, Parramatta's J'Maine Hopgood, Newcastle's Adam Elliott and Brisbane's Keilee Joseph. All four are tackling machines and love nothing more than carting the ball up making those hard yards.

I think this is a good team and

would give plenty of other mixed teams a run for their money.

My Mixed 17

1. Tamika Upton
2. Jaime Chapman
3. Hamiso Tabuai-Fidow
4. Latrell Mitchell
5. Josh Addo-Carr
6. Kirra Dibb
7. Nicho Hynes
8. David Fifita
9. Quincy Dodd
10. Caitlan Johnston-Green
11. Josh Curran
12. Mahalia Murphy
13. Connor Watson
14. Tallisha Harden
15. J'Maine Hopgood
16. Adam Elliott
17. Keilee Joseph

*Kris Flanders is a proud Gumbaynggirr man who has 25 years' experience in Indigenous media with ICAM, Living Black and as sports presenter on NITV.

Tiwis lean into Bowden as coach

By JACKSON CLARK



THE Tiwi Bombers have appointed former AFL player Patrick Bowden as its new senior coach ahead of the 2024-25 Northern Territory Football League season.

The club announced the signing of the ex-Richmond and Western Bulldogs player a fortnight ago.

The Bombers said that Bowden 'brings a wealth of experience and expertise to (their) club'.

Tiwi Bombers Football Club president Lindsay Whiting said he was confident in the club's high-profile signing.

"He brings a new perspective, fresh eyes, and he comes in with a pretty good plan on our way forward," Whiting said.

"The feeling around the club at the moment is very positive.

"He's been around the Indigenous community and he's worked with Indigenous kids, which is great for us."

Whiting said the Tiwi Island Football League's recent move to the dry season gave Bowden a greater opportunity to scout for talent.

"In previous years the coaches never



New Tiwi Bombers Premier League coach Patrick Bowden (left) with club president Lindsay Whiting. Picture: supplied

had that visibility because they'd normally be coaching in Darwin while the TIFL was getting played on the islands (in the same season)," he said.

"So you didn't have that visibility on who is firing (in TIFL games) and who is putting effort on the training track."

Bowden played 75 AFL games for

Richmond and the Western Bulldogs from 2001-2007; he is the brother of Richmond Hall of Fame member Joel Bowden.

The incoming coach is confident he is the man for the notoriously difficult Bombers coaching role.

"I feel my playing, coaching and professional experience, teamed with my personable nature and love for football, makes me a strong fit for the senior coach of the Bombers," Bowden said.

"Everyone in the country loves watching Tiwi at their best and I can't wait to bring us back to that level."

The Bombers have struggled on the field in recent years, recording just one win and a draw over the previous three seasons.

The club had been impacted by the Covid situation, logistical issues and player availability in recent times.

Last season, the Bombers fielded a handful of high-profile ex-AFL players, including former Gold Coast, Fremantle and Melbourne player, Harley Bennell.

Round 1 of the 2024-25 NTFL Premier League season gets underway on Friday, 4 October.

The Tiwis play their first game of the season the following day, against Wanderers.

Two premierships, 91 games, and a grand final debut



TWO-time premiership Tiger Marlion Pickett has played his last game in the AFL, joining an expected long list of departures as Richmond usher in an era of change.

Pickett, 32, played his 91st and final game against former mentor Damien Hardwick's Gold Coast at the MCG on Saturday.

He announced his retirement early last week.

Pickett was famously a mid-season mature-aged draftee from Western Australia who made his debut in the 2019 AFL grand final, which Richmond won. He also featured in the Tigers' 2020 flag.

Then a 27-year-old father of four, who did gaol time as a teenager, Pickett thought his shot at the AFL would never come.

"It's been a good journey, I did not even think I was ever going to get drafted," he said.

"My past and the way I grew up is different to everyone else's (in the AFL) and it was not easy to get drafted.

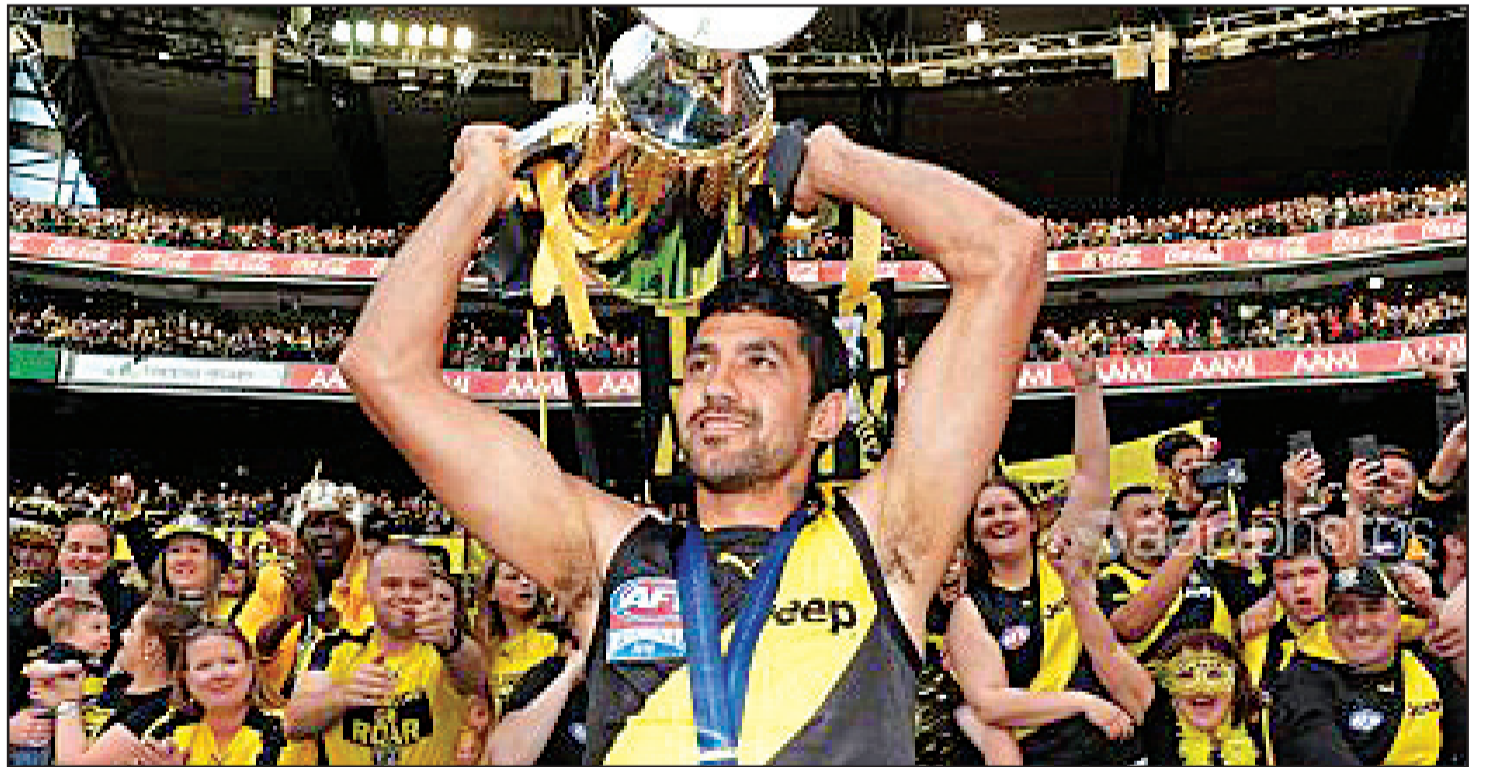
"I got overlooked for six or seven years, and 2019 I was about to quit all my dreams.

"I had some people in my corner, and they told me to stick at it, they told me just to give it another year. The sacrifices that we made to come across, it was all worth it."

Coach Adem Yze paid tribute to Pickett.

"With his story and what he's been able to provide our footy club, he just deserves to be sent off the right way," Yze said.

"For him to be able to walk out with his kids for one last time will be something that



Marlion Pickett had reason to smile after Richmond won the 2019 grand final against the Giants – that game also was his AFL debut. Picture: AAP

we'll be really proud of."

It was an emotional week of farewells at Punt Road. In-demand duo Shai Bolton and Daniel Rioli, among others, could also have played their final game for Richmond.

Bolton has indicated he would be interested in a trade back to Western

Australia, despite being contracted until the end of 2029.

"Those discussions will happen at the end of the year, and there hasn't been a formal request for a trade," Yze said.

"We understand that he's got some family and things that are happening outside of

footy, that there could be that option, but those sort of things won't happen until the end of the year.

"Until anything changes, we expect them (Bolton and Rioli) to be required players."

– AAP

As the new AFLW season begins, us fans need to be engaged more



Shelley Ware

THEY say a change is as good as a holiday and so with new AFLW boss Emma Moore let's see where this ride takes us.

The new season begins next week (Friday, 30 August) where the 18 teams will play 10 games plus finals. There is talk of increasing that to 12 games by 2025, and 14 soon after, but part of that is reliant on the requirements of a new

five-year broadcast deal which stipulates fans turning up to live games, and high ratings on TV.

According to the deal, there must be an average of 6,000 fans at a game, and an average broadcast viewership of 100,000. According to the AFLW annual report last season there were 234,525 fans (total) across the 90 regular-season games, which

makes an average of 2,606 supporters per game. So straight away you can see that more people at games.

There is another measurement we must talk about, and that is the fact that there are 'only' 19 First Nations players across the AFLW for the 2024 season. This is down from 25 last year. That's a big drop.

I have written before about

our numbers decreasing dramatically within the AFL. Now we see it in the AFLW. My hope is that this drop-off is just a blip, but that will remain to be seen.

Time seemingly goes so fast so be sure you put whatever games you either want to attend or watch on TV in your diary. It may be a little thing, but if enough of us do the little things like this, these

hard-working AFLW players will be rewarded – financially, and in football where they may yet play out a full complement of games in a season.

***Shelley Ware is a proud Yankunytjatjara and Wirangu woman from Adelaide. She has worked in the AFL industry for over two decades**



Jye Taylor.

Taylor locks in Top 2 ranking; WBA Featherweight title

AUS JYE Taylor has consolidated the second-ranked position in the Australian super-featherweight (57kg) division after his TKO of Kazeem Soyoye in Sydney recently.

Aboriginal man Taylor won the prescribed 10-round bout when, after a heavy exchange in the ninth, Soyoye collapsed in the ring.

The 31-year-old Nigerian-born boxer, who is a social-worker based in Perth, was left dazed and confused and unable to continue.

The referee had the good sense to stop the fight and award the decision to Taylor.

The win meant Taylor claimed WBA Oceania Featherweight belt.

This was Taylor's fourth consecutive win, less than two years after being almost lost to the discipline.

"I had a break from boxing for about one-and-a-half years," he said.

"I just lost interest."

Luring Taylor back into the ring was a good mate, and a legendary trainer.

"I linked back with one of my mates, Kamil Sayed, and he decided to be my manager," Taylor said.

"And Tony Tolj, who was always ringing me, saying, 'Come back, this is your future, you need this'.

"That always stuck in my mind, so I thought I'd come back and have a crack."

Taylor trains out of the Bondi Boxing Club in Sydney.

He said a training trip to the United States last year was an eye-opener. He said his team is planning another trip, but not to the US.

"We went to LA last year for a training camp," Taylor said.

"I sparred with all the Mexicans and all the blackfullas (African-Americans); it was a mad experience.

"These guys were top-ranked with 20-0 records, the real deal.

"Just to hang with them (in bouts), to match with them, showed we're on the right track.

"Next month, we're going to Cancun for the same thing. We'll be looking for the best gyms for the best fighters for the best scrap!

"I don't think any of those will be had to find there."

As part of the WBA stable, when Taylor defends his title he'll be on call for the Top 15, which means he can have a shot at the world title.

- by Darren Moncrieff

Trewhella seeks out more challengers

By DARREN MONCRIEFF



DHARRINGARRA Trewhella fought Calvin Jensen in Sydney this week but the orthodox welterweight has others in his sights.

Trewhella, who grew up in south-western Sydney, took on Jensen in just his fourth professional bout.

The Trewhella-Jensen battle was on the undercard of the Nikita Tszyu-Koen Mazoudier 10-round main event.

The 22-year-old Trewhella went into the ring with Jensen with a 3-0 record.

"I'd be lying if I said I knew anyone in the welterweight

division," Trewhella said in a moment of candour.

"Well... I watched a couple of rounds of Marco Romero, I got to see some of his fight.

"I know he's in my division, and down the track we might cross paths.

"There's also Zeke Campbell, he has the NSW belt, and he's doing well... but, if you're in the way I wanna get thru ya.

"I'm not worried about these lads; the time will come and it'll be great fights.

"I mean, if they want it they can get it, as of now I want a couple more fights to build my record.

"Once I'm six to eight rounds, I'm confident in getting them out of the ring.

"I will fight anyone."



Dharringarra Trewhella.



Rocky Savage emerged victorious in the heavyweight title bout at Fight Night near Townsville recently. Pictures: Bailey Simmons

Rocky wins Fight Night title at Townsville

By ALF WILSON



FIRST Nations boxers took out the three main divisions at the recent 'Fight Night' event at Melville's Pioneer Farm at Alligator Creek near Townsville.

Torres Strait Islander Rocky Savage emerged victorious to win the heavyweight title when he defeated Terence Rooney.

The heavyweight bout was the main event on the 17-bout card that saw 1500 spectators cram in to the Alligator Creek venue.

To qualify for the final, Savage

defeated Samuel Shearsmith in an earlier eliminator bout.

Savage's extended families live at Waiben and other islands in the Torres Strait, the nearby Northern Peninsula Area, and at Cairns and Townsville.

Savage trains at Townsville Club Flatenem by former pro boxer Gonzo Hooper.

In the final of the lightweight division, Josh Troxell, brother of former champion boxer Cliff Samardin, defeated Curtis Kris.

In a celebrated professional career between 1991 and '95 Cliff Samardin from Mount Isa won 24 bouts with more than half by knockout.

The middleweight final saw Jamie McIntyre defeat Malcolm Greenwood.

Both Troxell who hails from Cloncurry and McIntyre from Cairns train in Townsville at Knuckles Club by Joel Hutchinson.

Boxers from around far north Queensland, including Mackay, Townsville, Cairns, Ingham, Forest Beach, the Atherton Tablelands and Tully, converged on Townsville for the boxing event.

In an exciting Masters (over-age) exhibition fight, Johnny Murison from Tully and bull-rider Joel Herlihy fought out an entertaining bout much to the appreciation of the crowd.



Above: Beau Champion played 107 games in the NRL for South Sydney, Melbourne, Gold Coast and Parramatta. Right: Posing for a post-City2Surf selfie, Beau Champion (centre) with Luke Carroll (left) and Blake Ralph celebrating the end of their run for the KARI Foundation. Pictures: supplied



Champion by name, and nature

By KRIS FLANDERS

AUS FORMER NRL star Beau Champion clicked up plenty of kilometres during his playing days in rugby league but the 14km he recently ran during the famous City 2 Surf in Sydney meant so much more.

This was Champion's third time completing the time honoured 'fun-run' and said the journey, which takes runners through the streets of Sydney and finishes at the world-famous and picturesque Bondi Beach, is something he always enjoys.

"There are some physically tough spots along the run, some spots you're running and some of the hills you can walk or a bit of a jog, you see a lot of people of different age groups and fitness levels that push themselves," he said.

"When it gets tough you just realign

yourself with why you're there and what you're doing it for, and also enjoy it as well.

"It's a fantastic event and a fantastic day. "A lot of people run for their charity of choice and once again I ran on behalf of the KARI Foundation. A lot of our KARI family and supporters were also there that day."

Champion was a talented centre/winger who played 107 games in the NRL for South Sydney, Melbourne, Gold Coast and Parramatta, where he scored 49 tries and kicked five goals.

He represented the Indigenous All-Stars on two occasions (2010, 2011) and two games for NSW City Origin.

He lives in Port Macquarie on the stunning NSW mid-north coast. It is from here where the retired star is giving back to the community.

"My partnership with KARI has allowed me to be involved with the community and try to advocate real change in the

community," he said.

"We have a scholarship program that runs in three mid-north coast schools for Year 12 students that helps them get through that final year; it might be purchasing a laptop or extra support with their studies.

"Another example of being able to assist the community is that at Christmas time we produce hampers for Elders, we pack them up and I go out to the homes and deliver them.

"Financially, it can be tough at that time so we help ease those pressures a bit and bring a smile to their faces and letting them know that people care and show them respect.

"It's a passion of mine, I believe that it's my purpose and why I am here."

Champion's community work takes him inside the walls of the Mid-North Coast Correctional Centre in Kempsey where he

works with inmates and connect with the Indigenous men and youth.

"I was fortunate to be part of a six-week program there four times a year," he said.

"It was about speaking to the lads there, about looking at a different mindset from what they've previously done and you can see how it helps them and how they change during that time.

"(Just) letting them know that there is a space for change and better opportunities out there.

"Once you've built that trust, and they can see that you're their to help and not judge them, they open up through their body language and the way they engage.

"It's about building some tools, knowledge and support networks for when they do eventually leave the facility so they don't fall back into the system or develop those patterns that can lead them back down that previous path."

Tuivasa stung by fifth consecutive UFC defeat

AUS HEAVYWEIGHT Tai Tuivasa sank to his fifth straight defeat after losing to Jairzinho Rozenstruik by split decision at UFC 305 in Perth last weekend.

Tuivasa got pummelled in the second round, but surprisingly one of the judges scored the three-round bout 30-27 to the Australian.

The other two judges scored the bout 30-27 and 29-28 to Rozenstruik, which meant Tuivasa now not tasting victory in the Octagon since February 2022.

In a bid to end the rot, Tuivasa had flown to Dubai to train for his latest fight, hoping the change in scenery would help him escape distractions such as his friends and the pub.

The opening round was a subdued

affair, with neither fighter able to land any rattling blows.

The second round exploded to life with two minutes remaining when Rozenstruik pounced after Tuivasa hurt his leg while kicking.

Rozenstruik landed a series of heavy blows to leave Tuivasa bloodied and fighting for survival, but the Australian managed to swing back a few times to ensure he made it to the bell.

Tuivasa copped some more lusty blows in the third round, but his late flurry of punches in an attempt to score a knockout fell well short.

UFC 305 was headlined by the middleweight title bout between champion Dricus du Plessis and Israel Adesanya.

— AAP



Tai Tuivasa launches into Jairzinho Rozenstruik during their bout at UFC 305 in Perth recently. Picture: Getty Images

QRL plays hard ball with Murris

By ALF WILSON



THE Queensland Rugby League has refused to sanction next month's Women's Indigenous Rugby League All-Stars Carnival in Townsville, despite organisers following correct procedure.

The event, which has a lucrative purse of \$20,000 for the winners (and \$5000 for the runners-up), is organised by Torres

Strait Island man, Elia Ware.

Generally, major community rugby league events such as this are backed and supported (sanctioned) by a relevant state body; in this case, the QRL.

Without sanctioning, a state body will not provide referees, and organisers face a tough task seeking insurance.

The QRL in this instance has said it will not sanction this event.

Ware told *Koori Mail Sport* he couldn't understand why the QRL refused to

sanction the event.

He said it would be a success, regardless.

"Permission to host carnival forms are submitted at the back-end of each year prior to the following year," Renae Kunst, QRL region manager northern community rugby league, said in response to questions put to the QRL.

It is understood that the Cairns and District Referees Association, which is not aligned to the CDRL, which itself is

aligned with QRL, have indicated they would provide referees for the carnival in a private capacity, and will also not wear QRL attire.

It is also understood player insurance has been guaranteed by a renowned company.

Numerous players *Koori Mail Sport* spoke to indicate they are keen to play at the carnival.

The event will be played in Cairns from October 5-6.



Dylan Pietsch is on tour with the Wallabies. Picture: Rugby Australia

Pietsch on tour with the Wallabies



WALLABY Dylan Pietsch is currently preparing to play against Argentina in two Tests this weekend and next; his ongoing selection further validation of his place within the national team.

The tour to Argentina and matches against Los Pumas at La Plata and Santa Fe (1 and 8 September) begins a string of internationals for the Wallabies, and potentially Pietsch, one of the most recent Aboriginal men selected to play for the national rugby union team.

The Wallabies play the All Blacks in Sydney (21 September) and in New Zealand (28 September), after which there will be games against England at Twickenham (10 November), Wales at Cardiff (18 November), Scotland at Murrayfield Stadium (24 November), and Ireland at Lansdowne Road in Dublin (1 December).

The Wallabies are coming off two home losses to the world champion Springboks to open their Rugby Championship campaign. Argentina presents a formidable obstacle on their home turf after splitting their two Tests against the All Blacks in New Zealand.

"It's been a challenging couple of weeks but as a coaching group we are keen to continue trying to help a mostly consistent group go forward," coach Joe Schmidt said.

In Australian rugby, Pietsch is Wallaby No. 978. — *with AAP*

Murphy electrifying the Eels in NRLW

By KRIS FLANDERS



MAHALIA Murphy is helping the Eels to be more 'electrifying' this NRLW season, her second at the Parramatta club.

And this time around, she has the privilege of holding the club captaincy. A 'huge honour', she said.

Parramatta started 2024 NRLW Premiership season in style with a dominant 22-10 victory over Brisbane in Brisbane.

"When Georgie (Eels, coach, Steve Georgallis) asked me about the captaincy, I was shocked and it took a few minutes to sink in," she said.

"There was no hesitation (accepting it), it's definitely a privilege representing western Sydney and a

responsibility that I look forward to."

Murphy brings experience galore to the role given that she's a dual international player representing Australia in both rugby league and rugby union.

"My presence in the team, I feel like I bring lots to the club with the football I've played over the years," she said.

"I've been around the game for a while now, a lot of the young girls look up to me.

"I'm seen as a leader in the team, but it could have gone to a number of other players."

"I know what it takes to be a leader and I think I possess those qualities. I think I've

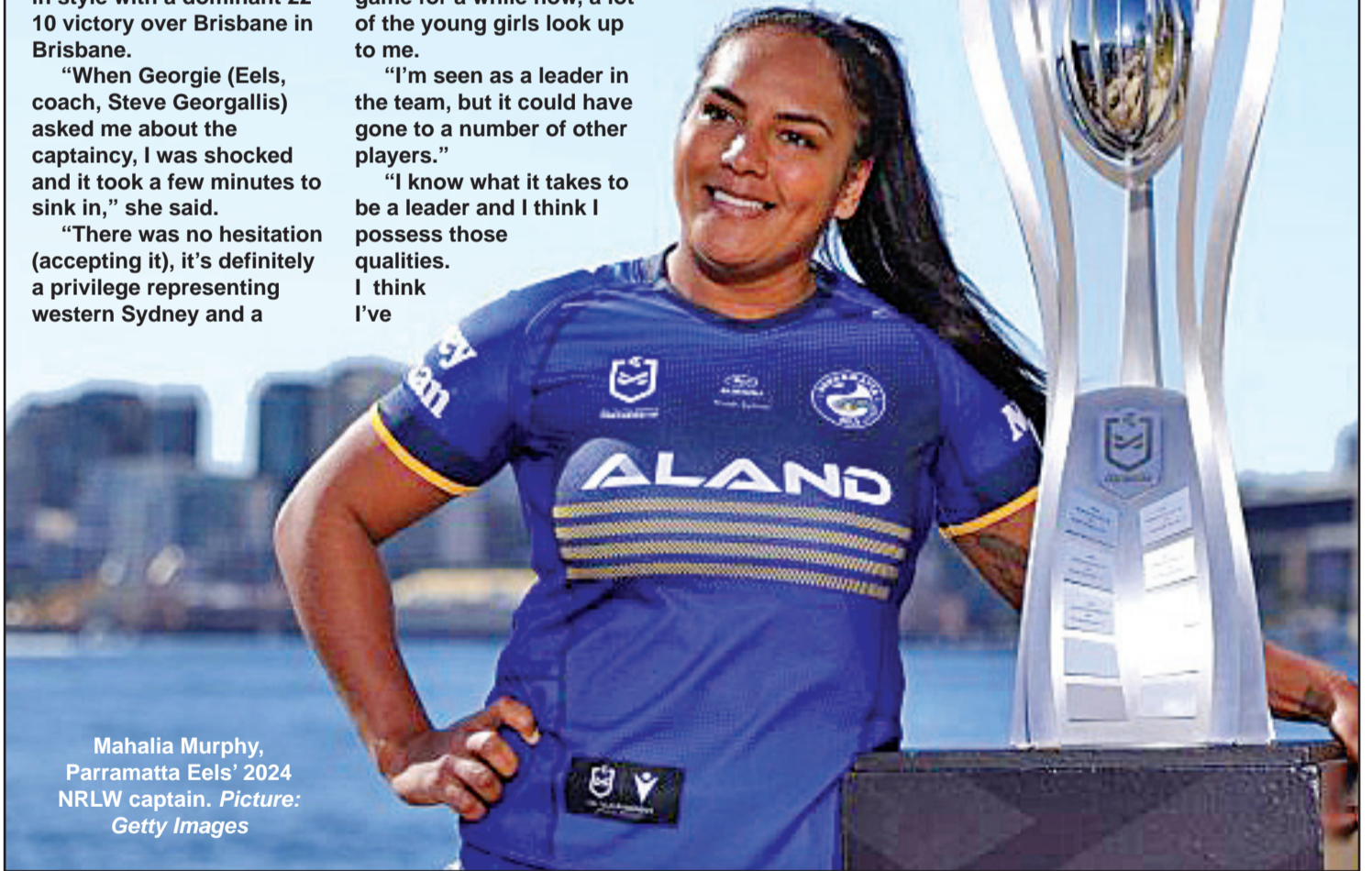
matured a lot through sport, holding myself and others accountable and trying to bring the best out others through what I show."

Murphy comes from a tight-knit family and laughs when she recalls how she had to keep the big news a secret before it was announced.

"I went to mum's house after a training session

and got other family members on the phone to share the news," she said.

"Mum cried, then I cried, and she was just cheering. Dad was so proud too, it means a lot to me, my parents and family."



Mahalia Murphy, Parramatta Eels' 2024 NRLW captain. Picture: Getty Images

Swain a hopeful Opal – basketball pundits



EMERGING talent Shaneice Swain has the tools to become a future Opal after a standout 2024 NBL1 South campaign.

The 20-year-old, who was a 2022 WNBA draftee, will suit up for the Sydney Uni Flames in the 2024-25 WNBL season.

Swain was acknowledged for her exceptional NBL1 South season at the

competition's annual awards night on Friday as the winner of the NBL1 South Women's Youth Player of the Year award.

"(She has) quickly gone from one of basketball's next big things to one of the game's best-kept secrets down to the fact she was mostly unsighted last WNBL season," *Pick And Roll*, a leading basketball publication, said last week.

"The 20-year-old has

since used the NBL1 season to remind everyone why she was a WNBA draftee.

"Offensively, Swain is a fearless shooter with a pure stroke.

"She's often able to blend her physicality and feel for the game's flow to find open space as a shooter, but can slash to the rim just as efficiently.

"This WNBL season should be a fascinating insight into where Swain sits

in the hierarchy of Australian basketball.

"In Sydney, she should have a key role for a Flames outfit hoping to make amends for a season that was rocked by injuries and inconsistency.

"While the Opals' next generation of wings and guards seemingly have no shortage of offensive weapons, few possess the physical gifts that Swain has just started to show."



The Indigenous Marathon Project TI NAIDOC Fun Run and mini-marathon event at Waiben-Thursday Island last week saw a strong turn out. Pictures: IMP



IMP graduate 'TJ' Cora (left), with Chris Alchin, and IMF Director Rob de Castella get together for a post-run photo.



Mates Jason (left) and Dean compare running notes at the IMP event.

Waiben the perfect backdrop



OVER 150 people at Waiben joined the Thursday Island Deadly Runners and Walkers and the Indigenous Marathon Foundation (IMF) to participate in a fun-run to make a difference to health and fitness locally.

The TI NAIDOC Fun Run on 16 and 17 August offered various race distances for all ages and fitness abilities.

Although labelled as a "fun run", the event carried a much deeper significance.

It served to highlight the courageous and lasting impact of the first two Indigenous Marathon Project (IMP) graduates from Thursday Island: Elsie Seriat, and Harold Matthew.

On Friday afternoon, the event began with a 2km and 3km fun run, where the

island's youth took to the course with enthusiasm and determination. The atmosphere was fuelled by the support from the community as the young participants marched their way to the finish line to collect their medal.

This event provided a fun and engaging way for children to embrace the power of physical fitness and healthy lifestyles.

On Saturday morning, the main event took place in which runners tackled a half-marathon, a 10km run, and a 5km run – while taking in the beautiful scenes of Waiben-Thursday Island.

The participants ranged from seasoned runners to first-timers.

They were joined by IMP run-leaders who travelled from the northern parts of Australia to participate in run-coaching and social and

emotional well-being upskilling activities.

Torres Shire Council Mayor and IMP graduate No. 39 Elsie Seriat expressed her joy at the unity of the event, reflecting on her own running journey.

"It's been 10 years since Harold and I lined up to race the New York City Marathon, and so this event is fitting particularly in line with the NAIDOC theme 'Keep the Fire Burning'," Elsie said.

"I'm very overwhelmed to see the amount of people who have come out to participate, and that's what we're about; bringing the community together from all walks of life as in the Reconciliation Week theme, 'Now More Than Ever.'"

IMF Founder and four-time Olympian Robert de Castella said the event reflected on the powerful ripple effect of the Torres

Strait's graduates.

"Every marathon starts with one step, and it is the same with our health," he said.

"It was a privilege to visit Thursday Island and see the massive impact the first two Thursday Island IMP graduates, Elsie and Harold, have had 10 years on.

"In addition to the inspiration they provided by running the New York City Marathon in 2014, now there is a 5km bike path around the island making running and walking safe and accessible for all with regular training sessions each week, and events through the year for all to get active and healthy.

"We talk about ripples, and this is exactly what IMP's impact has been on Thursday Island, with six amazing local IMP graduates, and improved health for all."



'TJ' Cora leads the pack around Waiben.



The IMP runners who took to the streets, and picturesque Esplanade, at Waiben.



Badu's Mulga Tigers RLFC win 2024 Zenadth Kes premiership



MULGA Tigers RLFC from Badu Island in the Torres Strait celebrated long and hard after winning the 2024 Zenadth Kes Rugby League premiership at Waiben on

Saturday. The Tigers defeated a valiant Suburbs team 18-10. It was the club's first premiership in nearly a decade of island football.
● Full report, pics, next edition. *Picture: Darren Moncrieff*



Tai Tuivasa. Picture: Getty Images

Tuivasa faces a tough road back to UFC favour



FAN-favourite Tai Tuivasa has suffered a fifth straight loss in the Octagon after losing his latest bout to Jairzinho Rozenstruik by split decision at UFC 305 in Perth last weekend. Heavyweight Tuivasa, from Sydney, and his counterpart from Suriname, Rozenstruik, fought out the three-round bout in front of a raucous Australian crowd at Perth Arena. The fight was Tuivasa's bid to reclaim his standing within the UFC, having lost his four previous fights. In the UFC, fighters can be demoted after losing consecutive bouts, either to a 'lesser' championship or as competing only in the preliminaries. ● More, page 49

OUR PARIS PARALYMPIANS



AMANDA REID – Cycling.



RUBY STORM – Swimming.



TELAYA BLACKSMITH – Athletics.



SAMANTHA SCHMIDT – Discus.

Medal hopes at the velodrome, in the pool, on track and field

OS AUSTRALIA is sending its equal-highest Indigenous contingent to the 2024 Paris Paralympics with a deadly quartet of athletes who will compete at the Games beginning this week (Thursday, August 29 to-Sunday, September 8). Paralympics Australia last week confirmed the four squad members and the sports they will compete in. "The team includes four athletes who are Indigenous – Samantha Schmidt (athletics), Ruby Storm (swimming), Amanda Reid (cycling) and Telaya Blacksmith (athletics)," a spokesperson for PA said.

"It is the equal highest number of Indigenous athletes to feature on an Australian Paralympic team since Warren Lawton (goalball), Donna Burns (basketball), Karl Feifar (athletics) and Tracy Barrell (swimming) competed at the 1992 Paralympics." The quartet's inclusion comes on the back of rigorous selection processes in their particular classifications. "Classification determines which athletes are eligible to compete and how they are grouped together for sports competition," said PA. "The aim of classification is to group

together athletes whose impairments affect them in similar ways in their sport." Classification panels test athletes in four steps. According to PA, these are:
(1) Medical documents: the athlete provides medical documents to confirm their diagnosis;
(2) Physical assessment: all athletes complete medical tests such as vision tests for athletes with a vision impairment; cognition tests for athletes with an intellectual impairment or measures of strength, movement and coordination for athletes with a physical impairment;
(3) Technical assessment: some athletes

complete key sports drills and skills, for example dives, turns and stroke technique in swimming or passing the ball and pushing their wheelchair in wheelchair rugby;
(4) Observation during competition: some athletes are observed by classifiers while they are competing. The following is the Indigenous athletes' classifications:
Reid: Physical Impairment – Cerebral palsy;
Storm: Intellectual Impairment;
Blacksmith: Intellectual Impairment;
Schmidt: Physical Impairment – Cerebral palsy.