



Koori Mail

The Voice of Indigenous Australia

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The future is theirs



Picture: Jillian Mundy

Junior Rangers and mentors learning, connecting and climbing (trees and mountains) at Preminghana and other important places at their inaugural statewide camp.



A GROUP of Aboriginal youth have finished their summer school holidays with the first statewide

Muylatina Milaythina Junior Ranger camp, on Preminghana returned Aboriginal land. Ten Junior Aboriginal Rangers from

across Lutruwita/Tasmania visited important Aboriginal sites and living places in the North West of Lutruwita, partook in art and writing workshops,

were visited from state government Aboriginal Education, and spent time with the Pakana Rangers.

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laughs off
protest
fine
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sings up
Treaty
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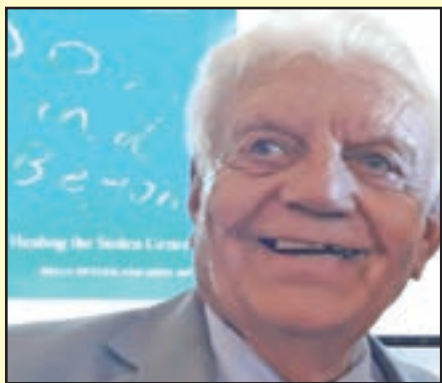
NRL and AFL ready for All Stars games - sport

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Jack leads Marathon project

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Vale Uncle William

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New fashion column with Nathan McGuire

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25 First Nations icons

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MY FAMILY

Corina Stewart (Arabana Mob)



Corina (Corey) Stewart pictured with her dad Roy Wood.

I am Corina (Corey) Stewart, an Indigenous chef, and this is my dad Roy Wood. I am one of his daughters among his 11 children and step children, 29 grandchildren, 20 great grandchildren and 1 great grandchild.

I was born in Geelong Wadawurrung Country, and raised in Cavendish on Gunditjmara Lands.

Family has always been important to us, it meant connection and a sense of belonging.

That person you can turn to and trust during those challenges and hard times we all face in life, a shoulder to lean on and someone to laugh with, just at the madness of it all in the moment. The person who, no matter what, will stand by you!

In recent years while researching the family tree and finding various family documents, my father discovered our connection to the Arabana Mob in South Australia.

With my great grandmother being Topsy

White Smith, who ran a children's hostel in Alice Springs for stolen generation children, she now has a Renal Care Hostel named in her honour, and is named as the only Aboriginal Women in the Pioneer Women's Hall of Fame!

My dad was so excited by the discovery and said that when he was growing up and during his working life on stations as a boundary rider.

He got along better with the blackfellas than the white fellas, and never quite understood why, now he says he understands.

Through the process of this discovery we met a *Koori Mail* reporter who has helped find more information about our connection to the Arabana people.

Through this process we have started to connect with other descendants of Topsy, across the country.

We can't wait to make the journey and discover another family, within our family, hidden for so many years.

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



Some of the children who joined the song and dance workshop at the Bermagui Survival Day later performed in front of the large crowd. See pages 26-27.

Koori Mail

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Time to get Blak & Deadly

By NICK PATON
and KIA MACK



SYDNEY
WorldPride is back for 2025 and will once again feature Blak & Deadly: The First Nations Gala Concert, which will light up the City Recital Hall at Angel Place in Sydney on Thursday, February 27.

Faboriginal Steven Oliver returns as host, joined by ARIA-award-winning hitmaker Emily Wurramara, Bangarra Dance Theatre's Daniel Mateo, the smooth sounds of Sivillion, and performance art icons The Huxleys (Will and Garrett).

The event has been curated by the original creator of Blak & Deadly Ben Graetz (aka Miss Ellaneous) with associate curators Aunty Sue Pinckham and Liza-Mare Syron.

"I'm very excited to be coming back for Blak and Deadly," Mr Graetz told the *Koori Mail*.

"The first year that we did this concert was in 2023, and it was just such an incredible moment to bring all of Mob together," he said.

"It's a time to come together and celebrate the First Nations queer community and our beautiful allies as well."

Mr Graetz said there will be a diverse lineup of First Nations LGBTQI+ Sistagirls and Brotherboys who will be performing alongside some other deadly artists.

"We are absolutely thrilled to announce that Becca Hatch, who is taking the world by storm, will be performing too."

The concert will also feature burlesque artist Kitty Obsidian, the beloved Nana Miss Koori and the Supreme Dream Girls Josie Baker, Felicia Foxx and Jojo Zaho.

Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras CEO Gil Beckwith said Blak & Deadly is the premiere theatre event in the Sydney Mardi Gras official event program.

"We are ecstatic to have been able to secure City Recital Hall for the event's return," Ms Beckwith said.

"We welcome locals and visitors alike to experience this



The Huxleys will perform at this year's Blak & Deadly show.

stellar line-up of First Nations talent, for what will be a very big night."

City Recital Hall CEO Kate Wickett said the City Recital Hall sits atop the Tank Stream, a site of First Nations cultural significance and the original waterway that served and provided abundance to the Gadigal People.

"We are so honoured to host this rainbow explosion of First Nations talent," Ms Wickett said.

"We cannot wait for the Hall to be filled with the sounds of First Nations fabulous!"

Mr Graetz said people who come along to the concert can expect a lot of laughs.

"We want people to come along to the concert and

experience the 'craziness' of Mob."

"We are a beautiful community and it would be really great for us to come together, especially considering some of the challenges in the world at the moment."

First Nations guests can access \$49+bf tickets via Mardi Gras MobTix.



Creative director Ben Graetz.

Funding for remote services

By KEIRA JENKINS



PROGRAMS and services covered under a remote communities agreement go to the heart of what Aboriginal people have been asking for, advocates say.

The \$842.6 million Northern Territory Remote Aboriginal Investment will fund services like policing, women's safety, education and alcohol harm reduction.

Interpreter services will get a boost under the agreement and hearing and oral health services will continue to be funded.

"Australians want to close the gap

between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians. Australians believe in the fair go," Prime Minister Anthony Albanese said.

"The task before us is to build a future in which all Australians have access to the same opportunities."

The agreement, signed by the federal and NT governments and the Aboriginal Peak Organisations Northern Territory, seeks to transition services from government to community control over time.

Indigenous Australians Minister Malarndirri McCarthy said the most effective solutions come from community.

"This investment will ensure remote First Nations communities have access to the

critical services they need, while supporting communities to lead in their economic and social development," she said.

Funding for up to 12 Aboriginal community-controlled children and family centres, and the establishment of local groups in up to eight locations to design and deliver services in community, are also set out in the agreement.

Aboriginal Peak Organisations NT convener John Paterson said the investment is a step in the right direction toward self-determination for Indigenous Territorians.

"Investing in Aboriginal self-determination to close the gap in the Northern Territory will deliver vital services and programs for our

Mob in the bush," he said.

"Programs and supports funded through this investment go to the heart of what Aboriginal Territorians have advocated for decades. Aboriginal people hold the knowledge needed to improve outcomes for our people and communities."

NT Chief Minister Lia Finocchiaro also welcomed the agreement.

"This funding supports essential services in remote communities, including \$205.9 million for our remote policing efforts," she said. "All Territorians have a right to be safe from violence and ensuring our remote communities are effectively policed benefits the entire Territory."

— AAP

Kids take virtual dive into the ocean

By MARION WILLIAMS



NAROOMA's Koori kids were wide-eyed with wonder during a virtual interactive dive that taught them about the beauty and richness of Sea Country and the importance of looking after it.

An underwater drone revealed the tapestry of marine environments in the clear waters of Wagonga Inlet in five day-long workshops in late January.

Cat Leach of Catfish Creative designed the program so that she could facilitate ocean-inspired art with 9- to 19-year-olds, particularly Aboriginal kids.

The diver and ocean-lover collaborated with traditional custodian Wally Stewart, local Aboriginal artists Brock Tutt, Sean Kinchela and Lisa Moreton, drone pilot Dave Rowland and marine scientists from Submerged Entertainment Australia.

The program was funded by Monash University's Fire to Flourish unit. It liked that while some children may have seen the waters from above and fished from them, Dive & Draw meant they could explore below the water's surface for perhaps the first time.

Walbunja man Mr Stewart told the kids about their local environment, the many different species living there, and how important it is to know

about those species and look after the environment around them. "They never get an opportunity to see that and don't understand," he said. "We are trying to get that message to the kids because they are the ones who will be looking after it in the future."

Mr Stewart said Wagonga Inlet is one of the most pristine waterways on the east coast of Australia. There are no farms nearby, only state forests, so there is no chemical runoff.

"We are protective of Wagonga Inlet. It is Walbunja Country," he said. "It is in great shape, but it is very vulnerable if it isn't looked after properly."

He told the children when they visit the inlet, they must take away their rubbish, including fishing lines and hooks.

The children could direct the pilot to move the drone to wherever they wanted to explore.

During the dive they visited meadows of a seagrass that is endangered in many parts of NSW but thrives in the inlet's pure waters. They also visited a mangrove ecosystem. Mr Stewart told them about all the species that grow in mangroves and how important the mangroves are.

He told them how they know snapper season is coming when the wattles bloom.

"But a lot of our seasonal signs are going because of climate change," he said.

For example, they used to be intimidated by huge schools of cuttlefish ahead of the lobster season, but the cuttlefish have disappeared.

"Now the sea urchins are taking over the reef and doing a lot of damage."

Walbunja, Djiringanj and Dhungutti man Mr Tutt told the kids the Dhurga words for different fish and bird species.

"We are flying over land that was once lived on," Mr Tutt said. "The water in our history is only there for a tiny bit of how long we have been living here."

He said in the centre of Batemans Bay old river channels are visible where people would have fished, and that tools made from rock were found at the bottom.

"People need to understand how long Country has been looked after and cared for," Mr Tutt said.

After the dive and lunch, children drew what they had seen.

Mr Stewart hopes that the program will grow, with Marine Parks NSW "seeing the benefits and coming on board to promote and protect our resources".

He said many of the kids had never been in the water.

"We are showing them what lives here and telling them to look after it and have a good relationship with it," Mr Stewart said.

"Healthy Country, healthy people. That is the message we are trying to put out there."



Joe Campbell with his artwork after the virtual dive.
Picture: Catfish Creative

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Coping with change

We just don't talk about menopause nearly enough as a community, we may sit down with women friends of family of a similar age, have a cuppa together and laugh it off as we share symptoms that doctors tell us are our new normal. This just shouldn't be how it is, so finding a doctor that listens to your needs is very important.

You go through peri-menopause, which is the transition to menopause, where you typically get hot flushes, night sweats, weight gain, brain fog, mood swings, all due to a decline in hormone levels. This can last up to 10 years and happens in women on average between the ages of 40 to 58. The average age is 51, which is pretty much when things started happening for me.

Overtime your estrogen levels decline to when your menstrual periods stop, then you are in menopause, which is usually determined by 12 consecutive months after your final menstrual period. Every woman's experience is different but they are so similar, it's not pleasant and the changes affect our every day and for many every sleep is disturbed too.

I feel it's important to openly share my story, as I am usually very quiet about my personal health but here we go.

In my experience of peri-menopause it has not been a joyride in fact if anything a rollercoaster ride. I've spent the majority of my life quite even tempered and consistent in manner. Not so much now. When peri-menopause started, I was all over the place and quite

Shelley Ware

lost as to why I was different, I had a short fuse, was highly irritated, weight gain, hair loss, hideous brain fog. I had extremely heavy periods and a few night sweats here and there.

I went to three different doctors who all told me I couldn't have HRT, I had to live with symptoms and all the while calling for the next patient. No care at all, one even told me to see a woman doctor and to leave. I started taking natural supplements, they helped with weight and moods but it wasn't enough.

With my own research, I did find an incredible doctor, who has dedicated her work to researching menopause and helping women. Within six weeks of first seeing her, I had my bloods checked, had an iron infusion (changed my life), I got my retrospective ADHD adult diagnosis and started trialing meds. I take tablets to control my blood loss during menstrual periods, which has helped with

iron levels.

She also referred me to a gynaecologist because of the pain I described and by the time this goes to print I will have had an operation to remove an ovary and both fallopian tubes, that have been taken over by a cyst, and a Mirena for my endometriosis that is in production overdrive.

I now take vitamin D, creatine, calcium, magnesium, vitamin E, omega 3 and recently added collagen to see how my skin and hair goes. My hair has started to grow back which I am thrilled about.

I will also have had a bone density scan to get a base line, to determine a course of action to care for my bones. Then when all is settled and I'm healed, I will start estrogen cream to help with symptoms.

It's quite a lot but thankfully I didn't ignore it, as my cyst has potential to turn cancerous but I'm thrilled that I finally sat with a doctor that listened. Not to mention I am starting to feel like my old self again.

As women we need to advocate for our health and not stop till someone listens. If you are in rural or remote areas keep advocating, don't stop asking for help, there is so much that can be done to get through this as comfortably as possible.

I hope my story helps you or someone you love, so keep talking to friends and family openly, keep advocating for your health and wellbeing, because you are worth it.

● Shelley Ware is a proud Yankunytjatjara and Wiragu woman from Adelaide.

Uncle Jim laughs off fine for protecting Country

By JILLIAN MUNDY



JIM Everett puralia meenamatta has been convicted of trespass and fined \$500 plus court costs for protecting native forests from logging.

The case stemming from March 2024 was heard without the Palawa Elder being there.

Supporters turned out in force outside the Hobart Magistrates Court, inside, the court gallery was full.

The proceedings were briefly interrupted by Tasmanian Aboriginal community member Ruth Langford (Yorta Yorta and Dja Dja Wurrung) who has been campaigning alongside Everett.

She told the magistrate that Everett was a senior Elder standing up for his own Country and protecting everything that gives life.

The magistrate said he did not know who Everett was and if he had wanted to say anything he should have been in the court, then ejected Langford from the courtroom.

When Langford phoned Everett after the hearing he laughed and said he will not pay the fine.

"I treat it with contempt, it's an aggressive colonial claim over Aboriginal people that has to stop," he said.

"The colonial court has no jurisdiction over Palawa or Palawa Law in Country. Protecting Law in Country is an issue for all First Nations people."

A further charge of trespass from his arrest on his 82nd birthday protecting



Ruth Langford and supporters outside the court before Jim Everett puralia meenamatta's trespass conviction.

another forest was adjourned to April 8, because the prosecutor was unprepared.

Langford had been arrested a week earlier protecting Country and is due to face trespass charges on May 5.

She is one of many answering Everett's call to protect Country, respect Palawa law in Country and demand the government tell the truth.

"Uncle Jim continues to assert that the colonial courts have no jurisdiction over him and that he will do everything in his power to protect the very things that give us life and to assert himself as an Aboriginal man, a Palawa man, on Palawa Country," she said.

"In so-called Australia, there is municipal, state and federal law, but the pre-eminent law is in Country – the natural laws that govern,

guide and protect us all," said Langford.

"We have been upholding law in-Country.

"This is not just about Uncle Jim and myself, it is about everyone."

She said it was a travesty the court chose to convict a senior Aboriginal man protecting his Country and it galvanised the call for radical resistance.

"We are not the criminals here," said Langford.

"When the system is failing the vast majority of us, then we are obligated to act, we are obligated to resist."

The Tasmanian government is regularly condemned for subsidising forestry operations, contributing to climate change and habitat loss of critically endangered flora and fauna and misleading the public.

In the past few months

courts have dropped several trespass charges against anti-forestry campaigners because correct process was not followed by Forestry Tasmania (rebranded to Sustainable Timber Tasmania in 2017).

Last week climate activist Violet Coco had trespass charges dismissed relating to a tree-sit in October 2023 defending tall forests in Tasmania's Styx Valley, however she faces a fine for initially giving a false name to police – 'Tanya Plibersek'.

"I chose initially to give the name of the Australian Environment Minister Tanya Plibersek because she is the one who should be taking action to halt this needless destruction of Tasmania's native forests," said Violet Coco.

Since the tree-sit, the forest she was defending has been destroyed.



Uncle Jim was first arrested in March last year. His defiant stand has garnered support across the country.



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Recognised for service



ACKNOWLEDGING her extensive service to the world of literature, Nimunburr and Yawuru woman Rachel Bin Salleh has been awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) 2025.

Magabala Books, Australia's largest Indigenous publishing house, have published more than 270 of her books, with Ms Bin Salleh's fingerprints lovingly placed on each page over the past 20 years.

Ms Bin Salleh was chosen from more than 70 West Australians and acknowledged for her outstanding community contributions.

A publishing legend and local writing personality, Ms Bin Salleh accepted the award with great gravitas.

Humbled

"I'm so very grateful and humbled to be recognised for the work, not only I have done, but also that Magabala has done, over the last few years," Ms Bin Salleh told the *Koori Mail*.

"It's so important for Mob... to be able to stand in their truth".

Ms Bin Salleh exudes a staunchness that can be refreshing in the book space, but this may not be a quality she necessarily sees in herself.

"I just think that I'm honest and blunt and this is the truth as I see it," she said.

"This is the truth that I have lived through, and this is the truth that I see in other members of my community."

Selfless

Selfless and often diverting praise, just like any worthy community leader, Ms Bin Salleh is softly reminiscent of the earliest titles she worked on, which provides a nourishment to the present creators she happens to be collaborating with.

"I'm the least important cog in the process of storytelling... we're all a part of a continuum, the story will continue on in circles after we've left," Ms Bin Salleh said.

Kindness, respect and care, underpin much of Rachel's reach through her tireless work through Magabala, and there doesn't seem to be an end to that impact in sight.

"I think it's really important that we're able to articulate in safe places, and how our histories have cumulatively impacted us individually."



Nimunburr and Yawuru woman Rachel Bin Salleh has been awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM)



Constitutional lawyer Megan Davis was awarded a Companion of the Order of Australia (AC), the nation's highest civilian honour, for her service to law and Indigenous people. Professor Davis said it was "incredibly moving" to be named in the same company as Mr Yunupingu and one of her idols – native title proponent and previous recipient Lowitja O'Donoghue.



The Yunupingu family, together with the Elders of the Gumatj clan, the Yothu Yindi Foundation and the Gumatj Corporation, welcome the awarding of Australia Day honours to the late Yolngu leader, Dr Galarrwuy Yunupingu AC. Dr Yunupingu AC, who passed away in April 2023, was appointed a Companion of the Order of Australia General Division, with effect from February 16, 2023.



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Nominations close 7 March 2025.





A.B. Original entertaining the crowd of almost 2,500 people.

Singing up Treaty

By PAUL CONNELLY



ALMOST 2,500 Mob and allies came together in Morwell on the traditional lands of the Gunaikurnai people for the fifth instalment of Treaty Day Out concerts across Victoria.

First started in Shepparton in 2022, co-chair of the assembly Ruben Berg, a proud Gunditjmara man, told the *Koori Mail* that the Treaty Day out gatherings have been an effective way for the First Peoples Assembly to engage both Mob and allies across Victoria, as they carve out a path to Treaty.

"I think what is important is that the Aboriginal and broader community understand that Treaty is happening, and it is not something to worry about, it is a really positive thing, and Treaty Day Out events are a really good example of that," Ruben Berg said.

Despite the rain there were smiles and joy as everyone came together to learn and be entertained through music, song, and dance!

Artists on the day included:

Fonzie, Canisha, Uncle Dave Arden. Mpathsoul, Uncle Kutcha Edwards. Emily Wurramara. Troy Cassar-Daley, 3%, A.B. Original and Electric Fields.

● Full story and pictures in the next edition.

Beginning on February 28, the next major event for the First Peoples Assembly will be at the MCG for a two-day statewide gathering to talk more about the process. This will be a Mob-only event.



MC for the day was Auntie Shiralee Hood.



Troy Cassar-Daley with fans.

2025



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CREATIVE VICTORIA

Welcome to Country under threat

By CHRISTIAN MORROW



WELCOME to the New World Order may soon replace Australia's traditional Welcome to Country if the federal coalition, under

Peter Dutton, continues its drive to imitate the actions of Donald Trump in the USA.

Mr Dutton has kicked off a multi-front culture war ahead of the next federal election, even praising Mr Trump as a "Big Thinker", after the US president's shocking proposal to move Palestinians out of the Gaza strip, with the US taking over re-development of the territory devastated by Israeli bombing.

Taking a page out of the Trump playbook, Mr Dutton has appointed Senator Jacinta Nampijinpa Price to a newly-created role as a government efficiency spokeswoman, reflecting the appointment of tech billionaire Elon Musk to head the newly-created Department of Government Efficiency in the US.

One of the first things in Ms Price's sights is spending within the so-called 'Indigenous space' and in particular the money spent by government departments on Welcome to Country ceremonies.

She told the ABC last week she would "look at an audit of the billions of dollars that are spent in the Indigenous space, so that we can understand where that can be



Jacinta Nampijinpa Price.

better spent", with a focus on the funding priorities of federal bodies such as the National Indigenous Australians Agency.

"I don't believe that we should be spending \$450,000 a (government) term on Welcome to Country, when that isn't actually improving the life of a marginalised Indigenous Australian," she said.

Indigenous Australians Minister Malarndirri McCarthy said the decision was disappointing and showed the coalition was focused on culture wars.

"It really is quite disappointing, actually – we know that the opposition leader walked out on the apology, he won't stand in front of the Indigenous flag and now he doesn't want Elders doing welcome to Country," she told ABC Darwin.

"Yet when you look at tourism in this country, the large percentage of tourists come to Australia



Malarndirri McCarthy.

domestically and internationally, especially here in Central Australia, for Indigenous culture. So, what is it? Which is it? Who's the waste? Is it Aboriginal people?

"We have to really ask the question, where is the Indigenous plan for the future with the coalition and with Senator Price?"

In a further sign of the coalition's scant regard for Indigenous Australians, the deputy opposition leader, Susan Ley, made bizarre claims in her Australia Day address that compared the arrival of the First Fleet to Elon Musk's SpaceX landing on Mars.

"All those years ago those ships did not arrive – as some would have you believe – as invaders. They did not come to destroy or to pillage," Ley said.

"In what could be compared to Elon Musk's SpaceX's efforts to build a new colony on Mars, men in



Peter Dutton.

boats arrived on the edge of the known world to embark on that new experiment. A new experiment and a new society."

Aside from the fact that no-one, not even Elon Musk, has so far landed on Mars, Ms Ley's comments delivered at a church service in her home town of Albury, demonstrate the coalition's determination to downplay the negative impact colonisation continues to have on Indigenous Australians.

The attitude of conservative government was also thrown into stark relief at last week's Senate hearing into Australia's youth justice and incarceration system where all of Australia's Children's Commissioners raised concerns.

According to data from the Productivity Commission, Australia is spending more than a billion dollars on imprisoning children,

with 460 Indigenous children and young people behind bars on an average day in the last financial year. Overall, state and territory governments imprison First Nations children at almost 27 times the rate of non-Indigenous children.

As reported by AAP, Queensland Family and Child Commissioner Natalie Lewis said the Commonwealth should be alarmed at what is happening in her state, with children in custody having less protections than adults do after the state's human rights act was overridden multiple times to reform youth justice policy.

In the Northern Territory, the age of criminal responsibility has recently been reduced to 10 years old, the presumption of bail removed and a ban on using spit hoods reversed.

The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Services deputy chair Nerita Waight told the hearing that oversight of states and territories was long overdue.

"With the absence of political will and genuine partnership and the disregard for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander expertise in favour of short-term electoral gains and problematic policy platforms, we continue to face hurdle after hurdle," she said.

Staring down the barrel of a predicted tight federal election, Indigenous Australians can only hope it's their Country that wins out over any New World Order.

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The future is now for rangers

By JILLIAN MUNDY



A GROUP of Aboriginal youth have finished their summer school holidays with the first statewide Muylatina Milaythina Junior Ranger camp, on Preminghana returned Aboriginal land.

Ten Junior Aboriginal Rangers from across Lutruwita/Tasmania visited important Aboriginal sites and living places the North West of Lutruwita, partook in art and writing workshops, were visited from state government Aboriginal Education and spent time with the Pakana Rangers.

The pilot program, funded through National Indigenous Australians Agency, and run by the Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre, is recognised by the Tasmanian Department of Education, so students who attend program activities in the school term are not marked as absent, much like the apprenticeships and traineeships for school-aged learners program.

While Muylatina Milaythina focusses on land management, it is also about connection to Country and community – but most of all supporting young Aboriginal people to be their best.

At present 42 young rangers are enrolled in the program.

“It’s an extra level of support,” explained Muylatina Milaythina program co-ordinator Nindarra Wheatley, a Pakana woman who has worked in Aboriginal Education for fourteen years

“If you look at the data, our kids don’t necessarily do that well in the schooling system we currently have available, so this is an avenue to get kids together on Country,



Junior Rangers and mentors at their inaugural statewide camp.

learn on Country, find pathways that are meaningful for them, and keep them at school supported by community.”

Nindarra was blown away by the passion of those at the camp, especially in learning to identify living places of ancestors and learning about their community’s campaign for land rights.

At times she wondered whether they were listening or not, but the young rangers soon proved her wrong when, with no assistance whatsoever from their mentors, they identified details like hut depressions and all

the other markers of an old Aboriginal village at Nungu/West Point.

She said it moved her and the other mentors to tears.

“That’s what we’re doing this for, so we can hand this knowledge on to the next generation, give these young people that experience, keep them in education knowing that we’re there for them and that our history is strong and not to feel like the education system is beating them down, to teach them that they’re never alone and have always got a community behind them,” she said.

“The world is their oyster, I’m so grateful for all of the hard work that has been done before to be in a position to offer this, our community are moving toward an aspirational space – what do we want to do next, where do we want to see ourselves.”

Nindarra said while the Tasmanian Aboriginal community have often run youth camps and programs, they had been adhoc, unlike the Muylatina Milaythina Junior Ranger program which is targeted and cohesive.

“We’ve set the framework up, it’s going good, I hope the funding continues.”

The statewide camp was the first of five planned for the years. They are scheduled so the young rangers can map the seasons of Lutruwita.

There have already been regional activities, a visit to Rocky Cape and a mutton bird island, and rangers are involved with monitoring feeding areas of mutton birds.

When the *Koori Mail* visited the junior rangers at Preminghana, most of them said camp highlights were spending time on Preminghana, seeing the petroglyphs in person for the first time which they recognise from artworks, and reluctantly but rewardingly climbing the mountain at sunset.

Pakana author and former land manager Adam Thompson, who was also there said he impressed on the young rangers that working on country was building on the work and efforts of those that came before.

“It’s like, another link in that continuous chain of our community.

“It’s a humbling thing to know, we pass our knowledge to each other, and then there will be people coming after as well, we have a responsibility to then pass our knowledge onto somebody else in our community.”

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Leadership for good

Harvest celebrates native grains

By KIERA JENKINS



GATHERING native grains in the northwest of NSW has become an annual festival, a space to yarn, and a chance to bring community together with university researchers.

Grains were harvested from fields in Narrabri, NSW, then turned into seeds, ground down and baked into pikelets and Johnny cakes across the two-day event, hosted by the University of Sydney's Native Grains Program.

"We're really focusing on working out the threshing efficiency for native millet and the Mitchell grass," School of Life and Environmental Sciences Associate Professor Kim Bell-Anderson told AAP.

"That is after harvesting it from the field ... you don't get pure seed, it comes with seed coats and husks and bits of what we like to call 'trash' that need to be cleaned off the seed.

"We've been engineering some specific equipment that's able to do that, to increase the efficiency of that seed collection and that processing to food grade."

Assoc Prof Bell-Anderson said the health benefits of native grains are huge, from the connection to Country and ancestral food that the community can experience in harvesting, through to consumption.

"We've been doing some research showing that one of the grains is a really potent blood glucose lowering grain food," she said.



Native grains technician Dianne Yulawirri Hall speaking about native grains during the annual harvest festival in Narrabri, New South Wales. (AAP)

"We just need a 10 per cent mix with 90 per cent wheat flour and we can lower that post-meal blood glucose response by up to 30 per cent, which is huge.

"It would have a huge potential to reduce incidence of type two diabetes and other chronic disease."

University of Sydney associate dean of Indigenous Strategy and Services at the

Faculty of Science, Jordan Pitt, said one of the most important things during the festival is space for discussion with community.

Dr Pitt said a relationship with the Indigenous community must be the foundation of any research or future scaling of production of native grains.

Historically, he said the community has



Native grains being processed into food.

experienced a disconnect with universities, making the annual harvest an important event.

"Even crossing that threshold and bringing community into the university space and making them feel welcome," he said.

"That gate between the university and community has grown a lot of distrust, but we saw very quickly that evaporate, as people got excited about the potential for these grains in their own communities."

Dr Pitt said there is a lot of interesting future prospects for native grains, health benefits, technology to harvest and process them but this relationship with community must come first.

"I want to see those cultural practices, the Country where the grains are from and the grains themselves in community hands," he said.

"There's a lot of future potential there but we need to have a strong foundation first."

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Jack takes the lead in marathon project



HONOURING his commitment to sport, Gunggandji man Jack Stevens was recently named as the new head coach and program manager at the Indigenous Marathon Project (IMP).

Raised on Larrakia Country in Darwin, Mr Stevens studied at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT) and Monash University on Wurundjeri Country.

He brings a deep passion for marathons, distance running, and

understands the life-changing effect of IMP firsthand.

"I'm honoured to serve as the IMP head coach and give back to a program that's invested so much in me," Mr Stevens said.

"The ripple effect created by graduates within their communities and across the country inspires me," he said.

"I want to help support the next generation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders," he said.

IMP founder and former world marathon champion Robert de

Castella said that Mr Stevens is the perfect fit as new head coach.

He said Mr Stevens would do 'a great job' building on the work of fellow graduates, Adrian Dodson-Shaw and Hope Davison, who preceded Mr Stevens previously as head coach.

The IMP has produced 156 graduates in its 16th year, who have completed a six-month health, wellbeing, and leadership journey.

Graduates include doctors, lawyers, business leaders, academics, local government

councillor, even a mayor, with three graduates finishing all six global major marathons.

Mr Stevens is the third IMP graduate selected to take on this important and challenging role.

"I'm thrilled to coach and support this year's IMP squad, as they work towards running their first marathon," Mr Stevens said.

"A marathon is no easy feat," he said.

"Yet, it's the small, repeated efforts in training that compound over time to create something extraordinary."



Jack Stevens.

Sacred birthing cave protected



A SACRED site in far-western NSW will be preserved and threatened species protected with the NSW Government's purchase of Broughton Vale Station, 75 kilometres east of Broken Hill.

This is one of 12 land acquisitions made in 2024 to expand the network of national parks in NSW by just over 36,000 hectares.

The 31,500-hectare Broughton Vale Station includes the Kukirrkra or Burkes Cave, a sacred Aboriginal birthing cave used for more than 2,000 years, and other significant cultural sites containing artworks and engravings.

The cave and a nearby freshwater spring were also used by Burke and Wills during their 1860 expedition from Melbourne to the Gulf of Carpentaria, and as a Cobb and Co stopover between Broken Hill and Wilcannia.

At least 70 threatened species have been recorded close to Broughton Vale Station including purple-wood, Barrier Range dragon, pink cockatoo, Stimson's python and the creeping Darling pea.

It also includes vegetation types and landscapes not found in any other national park in NSW. More than half the property supports the Threatened Ecological Community Neila (*Acacia loderi*) tall shrubland.

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Palm Island

Evacuation centre critical



The Burdekin Bridge at Macrossan near Charters Towers flooded, closing the Flinders Highway.

By ALF WILSON

QLD PALM Island Mayor Alf Lacey has called on the state and federal governments to fund a cyclone evacuation centre within the Aboriginal shire after torrential rain and strong winds devastated infrastructure and shut down electricity.

Flooding rain fell on North Queensland with Palm Island receiving 800mm over a two-day period.

At 6am on February 2, a landslide caused all power to be temporarily down.

"The landslide occurred at Doctor Point and all residents didn't have electricity for some time," Cr Lacey said.

"Ergon Energy workers could not get over here until the next day because strong winds stopped sea traffic," he said.

Rocks, debris and vegetation covered half of the roads, while residents were advised to stay indoors.

Cr Lacey said the local supermarket and Joyce Palmer Medical Centre had generators which enabled them to stay in operation.

"For years we have called on both governments to build an evacuation centre as we get cyclones here – and that is a danger for people."

The deluge of water also caused Palm Island Aboriginal Council to close Wallaby Point Road.

"There are many camps after it and these people could not get into the shop, except by sea, which was dangerous," Cr Lacey said.

Power was restored around the island between 4pm and 8pm.

Cr Lacey said it has been great collaboration between Ergon and council teams.

"It was a complex job, in difficult circumstances done safely and professionally by all involved."

"Much thanks go to the Ergon staff who flew across this morning and others who made the four-hour barge trip from Townsville with their large vehicles to get the job done," he said.

The *Koori Mail* contacted federal member for Herbert, Phillip Thompson, and state member for Townsville Adam Bailie for a comment about potential funding for a Palm Island Evacuation Centre.

Neither replied.

Meanwhile, huge amounts of rain closed roads and caused damage around the far north.

Residents at Charters Towers, 130km inland from Townsville, and includes many Aboriginal families, were cut off from the coast when the Burdekin River Bridge.

At Ingham, which is 110km north of Townsville, streets and homes were flooded.

Aboriginal woman Stephanie Boyd from Ingham said it was quite frightening.

"There was water everywhere and a saltwater crocodile was seen swimming in the main street," Ms Boyd told the *Koori Mail*.



Gavan Sibley in the creek checks out debris.



The Batemans Bay Local Aboriginal Land Council board. Back left: William Davis and Layton Simon (deputy chair); front left: Rita Davis, Meryl Crole (chair) and Stephanie Morris.

Rangers score funding boost

By MARION WILLIAMS



BATEMANS Bay Local Aboriginal Land Council can do much more work to care for its land and significant sites thanks to a \$3.178

million grant over four years from the federal government's national expansion of the Indigenous Rangers Program.

Of the more than 1,000 new full-time, part-time and casual Indigenous ranger roles that will be created across Australia, up to 770 will be for women.

Roslyn Carriage, CEO of the land council, said the Walbunja Rangers were set up around three years ago by Andrew White with money from the federal and NSW government's Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund.

"There was a whole lot of work after the 2019-20 bushfires, planting thousands and thousands of trees, and fixing erosion," Ms Carriage said.

The Walbunja woman said they would employ eight rangers this year, three of whom are female, including two trainees.

They will also take on student-based trainees who still attend school, while studying for a Certificate II in Traditional Land Management and doing paid ranger work one day a week.

"We already have two female students organised from Batemans Bay High School, as required by the grant, and we hope we can take on two males as well," she said.

"Employing females is a good model so girls can see it and down the track think, yes, I will do that."

Ms Carriage said the RFS and Fire and Rescue have been great supporters of the Walbunja Rangers.

"They have helped make us one of the few organisations able to get insurance to do traditional burns on Crown, council and forestry land and for private landholders because we have been able to prove we have the knowledge and experience."

The Walbunja Rangers get income from funding and through contract work from organisations like the RFS, Local Land Services, Eurobodalla Shire Council, Crown Lands, Transport NSW, private landowners, National Parks and Wildlife Service, marine estate and the Department of Primary Industries and Regional

Development.

Work includes setting up cameras and monitoring to control feral pests, tree planting, weed spraying and traditional burns.

"We do a lot of conservation work, monitoring the animals and plants," Ms Carriage said.

"We are currently working with the Department of Primary Industries on and around the waterways, in particular cleaning up the estuaries on Bhundoo (the Clyde River)."

The rangers have restored traditional fishing traps at Buckenbowra and begun on the traps at Bhundoo.

Education is another important component.

"We explain to the government agencies coming in what we do and why we need this and that," Ms Carriage said. "We demonstrate the burning, so they don't just hear it, but see it."

"We will be able to continue that education, and we will be able to do a lot more conservation work," she said.

The Walbunja Rangers are involved in the NSW government's Saving our Species program to protect the Black Cockatoos and they monitor the Greater and Yellow-bellied Gliders.

"We are also interested to see if there are any platypus in our clean waters, plus we have had quolls on some of our land, but we haven't had any recent sightings to see if they survived. We know there are some dingoes."

Walbunja man Mr White said they also work to protect totemic species including eagles, black ducks, black swans and owls.

The conservation work extends to plants such as the native orchids that are slowly disappearing and managing native invasive species like wattle that are taking over degraded areas.

The grant funding will enable them to train people to protect culturally significant sites, including those with scar trees, during fires.

"We will be able to do a lot more work on our land rather than just the funding bodies asking us to do work on their land," Ms Carriage said. "We will be getting our land back to the way it should be."

Other Local Aboriginal Land Councils that received grants under the federal government's Indigenous Ranger program include Jerrinja, Brungle/Tumut, Bega, Merrimans and Eden.

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Christopher Dallachy with Bokeem Reid.



Jessie Huen and Lesley Huen.



Ethan Taggart had to wear a rubber duck on his head after failing to score.

Howzat for a great outing

By ALF WILSON



HUNDREDS of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cricketers and even more of their supporters from many communities were at Charters Towers for Australia's biggest cricket carnival, the Goldfield Ashes.

It was held at the north Queensland town from January 17 to 19 and 268 teams competed in four men's and a women's division.

This is more than a sporting carnival and is a place where people meet in a friendly atmosphere albeit with some wacky rules in the lower grades.

It has become a wonderful social event where families who haven't seen each other for a long time meet.

About a fifth of those who attended were First Nations people from many different communities.

More than 70 fields were used including at parks, schools, the golf club, the aerodrome reserve and numerous private properties.

The Koori Mail was there and spoke to and snapped pictures of a great selection of them and some came from as far away as northern NSW, Normanton, Hughenden, Mount Isa, Bowen, Atherton and Cape York.

They caught up with family and friends from Charters Towers and Townsville.

Accommodation was booked out and a lot of the First Nations visitors stayed with local families.

NSW Koori Toby Wright of the Yuin nation was on a sideline at Mosman Park with Indian Zish Singh watching their team mates from Silver Chickens.

"My dad is a Koori from northern NSW and this is a great carnival," Toby said.

Unusual rules most teams in lower grades have in place are that any player who drops a catch whilst fielding must wear a women's dress until the next player does.

Another is that any batsman who fails to score has to wear a rubber duck on their head.

I saw Ethan Taggart who played with Filthy Animals XI with one such hat on.

"I went out second ball so I have to wear it until someone else makes a duck," he said.

One of his mates joked that others in the team were not really sympathetic.

"He was boasting last night that he was going to make a century so he had to wear it," the man said.

Connor Snow travelled from Normanton in the Gulf of Carpentaria to play with Far Canals in a game at the Golf Club.

"I get to meet my mates from the coast and this is just so good to be here," he said.

Errol Power and Greg Power from Bowen were sitting in shade under a tree at the Goldfield Sporting Complex field 48 ready to play for West Indigies. The side has been competing for decades and captain Glenn Butler said all of his players were Indigenous.

"We are playing another Indigenous team Black Bream and we are all mates," Glenn said.

I saw numerous supporters of the Garbutt Magpies side at Centenary Park as they prepared to drive to a nearby ground for their match.

Many of the teams have strange names such as Tridanjy Troglodytes, Mad Hatta's, 99 Problems but a Pitch Ain't One, Simpson Desert Alpine Ski Team, Fruit Loops, and others.

The carnival started in 1948 with just six teams.



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NSW Koori man Toby Wright, left, with Zish Singh.



Catching up at Richmond State School oval were Edward Santo, Ivor Kerr-Kennedy and Bo Morre-Reid who played for different teams.



Gudaba Riley and Rex Ross were at Centenary Park at lunch.



Joesiah Briggs from Atherton, left, with Noel Ross.



Simon Leo was at the Goldfield Sporting Complex ready to play with West Indigies.



From left are Toni Feltes, baby Zayne Ross, aged two, and Chelsie Dahler.



Proud Gudjuda man George Reid with his children Hayze, aged two, Jasmine, nine and Ashton, six.

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New television series scores prestigious award

By **ASAD KHAN** and
TANGIORA HINAKI



THE 2025 AACTA Reg Grundy Award has been awarded to *Unspoiled*, a groundbreaking television format that exemplifies bold, original Australian storytelling.

This year's competition saw an unprecedented level of creativity and innovation, making it the strongest year of submissions since the award's inception.

The AACTA Reg Grundy Award, which recognises innovation in television format development, provides a \$50,000 prize to support the further development of *Unspoiled*.

One of the show's creators, Neville Poelina, a Nyikina man from the Kimberley and respected Indigenous leader, emphasised the importance of living in harmony with the land.

Mr Poelina said the show is about telling people how they might be

living the wrong way in Australia.

"You're poisoning yourself with all this stuff," he said.

"The destruction you're creating by clearing all the Country means there's no more medicine. We've got no more medicine. Once Country is cleared, we've got no more food."

"And before you realise it, it'll be too late. You'll realise that this Country has all the medicine you need to heal your body. You don't need to go to a chemist."

Comfort zone

Created by Jamie Durie, Neville Poelina, and Melanie Hogan, *Unspoiled* takes city dwellers out of their comfort zones and immerses them in the vast Australian outback.

Participants trade Wi-Fi for wisdom, skyscrapers for red dirt, and routine for rediscovery.

Guided by Mr Poelina's Indigenous knowledge and bush survival skills, the participants experience a simpler way of life while learning resilience, connection to Country, and practical survival techniques.

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.



Members of the Port Hedland community in Western Australia came together for the announcement of the new program.

Program provides more safe spaces for Pilbara youth

By ASAD KHAN and TANGIORA HINAKI



THE Pilbara Safe Spaces program will soon be established in Hedland and Newman, providing vulnerable young people with a safe space at night.

The initiative is a collaboration between the Cook Government, Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs), the resources sector and community groups.

It will receive up to \$22 million in funding from BHP and Fortescue, alongside a \$7.3 million contribution from the WA Government.

The program aims to support at-risk youth by offering a safe environment and reducing the likelihood of engagement in antisocial behaviour. Additionally, an Indigenous Healing Service will be introduced in Newman, integrating traditional healing practices with trauma recovery support for children.

Leadership

Minister for Regional Development Don Punch highlighted the leadership of First Nations organisations in delivering the initiative.

"Julyardi Aboriginal Corporation and Kanyirninpa Jukurrpa, in partnership with the Newman Women's Shelter, are leading this project with direct input from

local Elders and Aboriginal communities in Hedland and Newman," Mr Punch said.

"I would like to acknowledge the leadership and input from the Pilbara Development Commission on this project, working in partnership with the Department of Communities, Julyardi Aboriginal Corporation, Kanyirninpa Jukurrpa Aboriginal Corporation, and the resources sector to bring this critical place-based service to fruition."

In a significant cultural recognition, Elders present at the announcement decided to name the building where the Safe Spaces program will operate in honour of Martu Elder Daisy Tinker.



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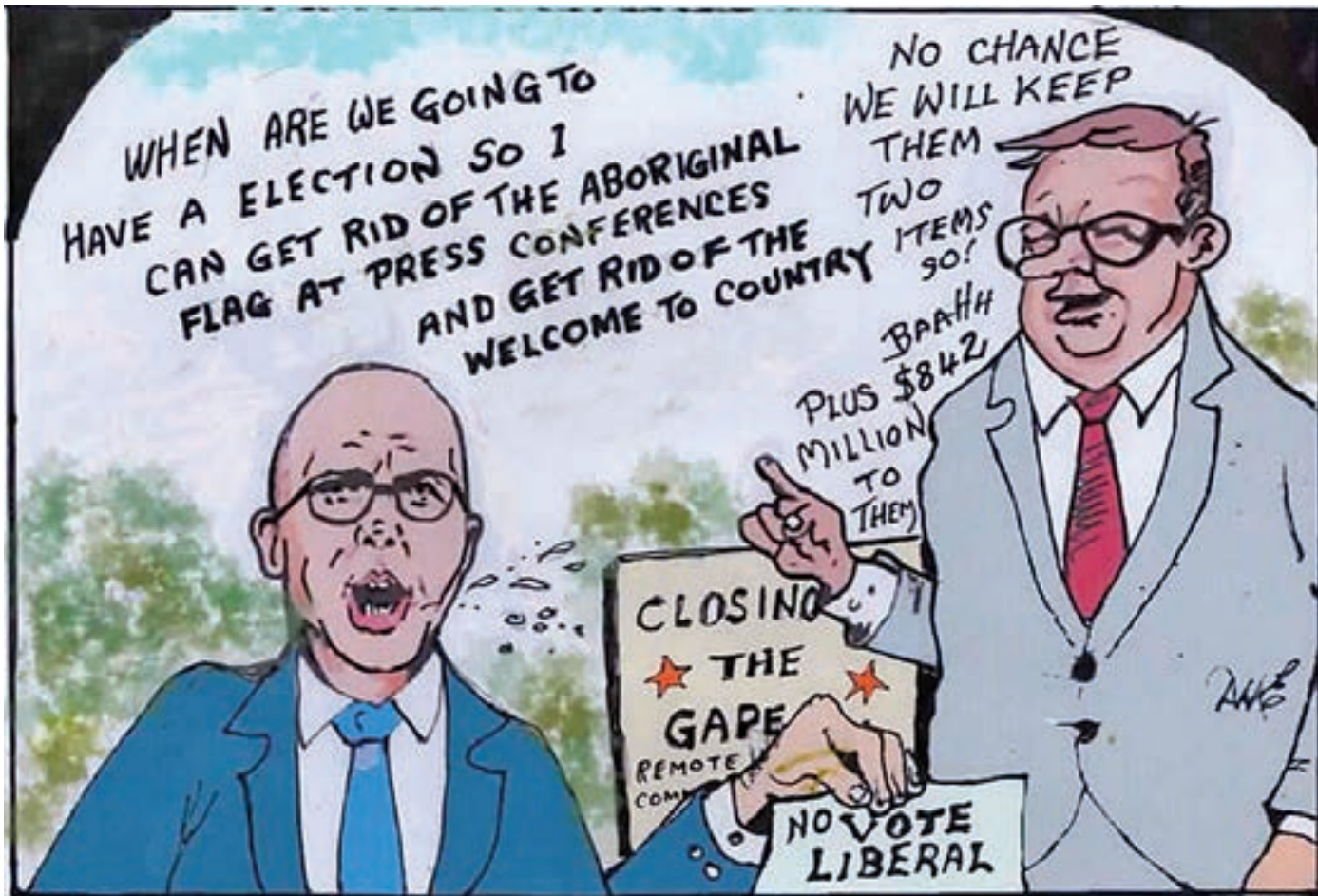
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Danny Eastwood's view



Quote



"We are a beautiful community and it would be really great for us to come together, especially considering some of the challenges in the world at the moment."

– *Blak & Deadly creative director Ben Graetz.*

● See page 3

Unquote

Watch out for mean and tricky

With an upcoming election in the wind, the Coalition has wasted no time in flagging cuts to Indigenous services and Welcome to Country ceremonies.

Opposition leader Peter Dutton – the person who walked out of the Apology to the Stolen Generations, refuses to stand in front of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags, and now wants to scrap cultural diversity roles in the public service – is clearly taking his lead from the Donald Trump playbook of divisive politics.

Which is no surprise given his efforts to scuttle the proposed Voice to Parliament referendum.

But what is sadly lacking from his various announcements are any actual plans of how he would make life better for Indigenous people.

It is apparent Mr Dutton doesn't not listen to actual experts, like Community and Public Sector Union national secretary Melissa Donnelly, who has clearly stated that staff with lived experience – such as people with a disability or Indigenous people æ meant the government could better reflect the community and deliver essential services more effectively.

"Inclusion and diversity may sound like an easy target to Mr Dutton and Mr Trump but for people who access public services, the value of having someone who speaks their language and understands their experience is immeasurable," Ms Donnelly said.



The coalition has already started using the slogan 'are you better off than you were three years ago?', in another nod to the Trumpian-style of politics.

Well actually, if you remember three years ago the country was being led by prime minister Scott Morrison, the bloke who didn't hold a hose, ran off to Hawaii while the country burned, and also appointed himself to half a dozen ministries without actually telling parliament or the Australian people.

Morrison was also, according to French president Emmanuel Macron, a liar when it came to secretly negotiating the AUKUS agreement, which is expected one day, in many, many years time, to deliver nuclear submarines to protect our shores. And now on the point of nuclear power, Mr Dutton has made it clear that he is determined to commission nuclear power stations across the country.

But whose Country is it Mr Dutton? Has anyone in the coalition thought to ask First Nations people whether they would prefer to remain focussed on renewable energy rather than have nuclear power on their lands?

Of course not! That would require respect and in the coalition's world view, that's just not Welcome.

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

A YARN WITH...



Lisa Erlandson

Eastern and Western Arrernte and Kaytetye, NT.

Favourite bush tucker?
Kangaroo Tail.

Favourite other food?
I love a good burrito or lamb roast with veggies.

Favourite drink?
Coffee, coffee... and coffee.

Favourite dessert food?
Galaktoboureko (greek dessert).

Favourite music?
Country, soul and old school RnB.

Favourite sport?
Basketball.

Favourite holiday destination?
Aotearoa (New Zealand).

Favourite movie?
La Bamba.

What do you like in life?
Nature and Animals.

What don't you like in life?
Unkind people and how some people don't take care of the environment.

Which person would you most like to meet?
Denzel Washington.

Which people would you invite for a night around the campfire?
The nanas and pops for sure.

Who or what inspires you?
My father has always been someone who inspires me, watching him overcome so many challenges throughout his life and him becoming a strong Aboriginal leader in our community.

What is your ultimate goal?
To be a better person than I was yesterday.

What would you do to better the situation for Indigenous people?
Keep moving forward with my Mob with the strength and determination we have, continuous learning and stand together as one.

Loren brings a sense of place to her storytelling



Loren Ryan attributes her success to being vocal about who she is, and where she comes from.

By WIMIYA WOODLEY

LOREN Ryan's journey through the music industry has been nothing short of inspiring.

From performing at Suncorp Stadium during the Indigenous round in 2023 to headlining the Queensland Music Trails, Ms Ryan has made an indelible mark on the Australian music scene, all while staying true to her roots and heritage.

Ms Ryan said one of the highlights of her career so far was performing at the Wales versus Australia rugby match at AAMI Park.

"It was a big deal, and I'm so grateful for the chance to be part of that," Ms Ryan said.

"But one of my favourite gigs was definitely headlining a show with Troy Cassar-Daley at Charlotte Plains," she said.

"It was my first time in that part of the country, out in Cunnamulla, and it was such an eye-opening experience."

Ms Ryan credits her openness about her Indigenous identity as a key reason for being invited to these high-profile events.

"I've always been vocal about who I am and where I come from," Ms Ryan explains.

"I think that's what gives me these opportunities," she said.

"I'm proud of my heritage, and I want to see more diversity in the Australian music industry."

A standout moment for Ryan was performing at the Evonne Goolagong First Nations Celebration Day at the Australian Open.

"To be invited to sing at that event was a dream come true," Ms Ryan said.

"It was all so rushed – rushed past the players, escorted by top security – and before I knew it, I was backstage again. It was over so quickly, but it was beautiful."

Ms Ryan said she was especially moved by the lights and audio show before her performance, which set the tone for her appearance.

"Knowing that Evonne was there made me proud," Ms Ryan said.

"She represents so much for our people."

Reflecting on her career, Ms Ryan said she has learned something significant about the importance of place and storytelling.

"Every place has a story to tell, and I think it's important to

"I've always been vocal about who I am and where I come from. I think that's what gives me these opportunities."

capture and share those stories," Ms Ryan said.

"Growing up on Gomeroi Country in Tamworth, I've seen how our land shapes who we are."

Outside of her musical career, Ms Ryan has always been passionate about supporting diversity, not just in the music industry but in all sectors of Australian society.

"We need more diverse voices in every space," Ms Ryan said.

"That's why I feel like I've been given these chances – because I speak up for the importance of diversity."

When asked about the artists who inspire her, Ms Ryan couldn't wait to talk about Beyoncé.

"I've been a fan of hers since Destiny's Child," Ms Ryan said.

"The song 16 Carriages really speaks to her hard work and the sacrifices she made to get where she is," she said.

"It's the same with my own career because hard work doesn't stop, it's continuous."

Ryan was especially excited about Beyoncé's recent move into country music with her song *Cowboy Carter*.

"I couldn't believe it when she went country! It's a big thing, and I think it opens up space for artists like me," Ms Ryan said.

"I've got to be there at every single show, and I would love the chance to sing with her."

On the personal side, Ryan's daughter, Charlie, has been a constant presence in her musical journey.

"Charlie crashes my stage quite often," Ryan said with a laugh.

"She's always got her hand on a microphone or bringing in her little instruments."

"She's got this mini harmonica that she loves to play."

Charlie even performed with her mother at the Toyota Park stage during the 10th Country Music Festival.

"It's incredible to see her so confident on stage. She's an extroverted, beautiful girl who doesn't let anything hold her back when it's time to dance or perform," Ms Ryan said.

"I'm so proud of her."

For Ms Ryan, 2024 was about more than just performances. It was a year of connecting with her roots, celebrating diversity, and witnessing her daughter take her first steps into the world of music.

And for Ms Ryan, her musical journey into 2025 is only just getting started.

Transforming psychology for the next generation



Belle Selkirk

As a Noongar woman and Indigenous clinical psychologist, I have been navigating Western healthcare for almost fifteen years. Like many before me, I am all too familiar with the urgent need for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledges and perspectives in psychology education and practice in Australia. A need that springs from the immense value that our ways of knowing, being and doing brings, as well as the historical silencing of Indigenous knowledge systems in psychology.

In the early 2000s when I completed my undergraduate degree, there was minimal reference to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and cultures in psychology. I remember feeling a sense of confusion about how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledges fit within the psychology I was being taught. For the most part, I learnt there was “one psychology” that is universally applied to all peoples. Culture and diversity were largely absent in the psychology curriculum. Sadly, succeeding in my psychology studies required compliance with these colonial messages. Even after completing my Master of Psychology at the end of 2008, there were further colonial hoops to navigate throughout my registrar program to become a registered clinical psychologist: hoops that weren't inclusive of my cultural identity or the diversity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and cultures. The journey of becoming a clinical psychologist was enacted through a colonial lens. This is a common story for many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples pursuing qualifications in Western systems.

When Bardi woman and leader in Indigenous psychology Professor Pat Dudgeon invited me to join the deadly Australian Indigenous Psychology Education Project (AIPEP) in



Noongar woman Belle Selkirk won the Indigenous Allied Health Australia (IAHA) Excellence in Cultural Responsiveness award in 2024.

2021, I jumped. AIPEP is a groundbreaking initiative striving to decolonise psychology education and practice in Australia. Our work is ambitious and wide reaching. We work with universities across Australia in a national community of practice to decolonise psychology curricula, better support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander psychology students, and increase the cultural responsiveness of future psychologists in Australia. We work closely with psychology regulators and professional associations to increase Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices and representation in the discipline. We develop culturally-informed resources and guidance documents, present webinars to build capacity, and engage in research aimed to decolonise curricula, support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander psychology students, and amplify Indigenous knowledges in psychology.

Psychology is transforming so that it rightfully includes other diverse groups. I see this in the incredible increase of Indigenous psychologists and students studying in the area. Also, in the new knowledges by Indigenous psychologists and mental health professionals. Finally, the ongoing work of AIPEP continues to deepen and expand. Just last month I was so proud to see the launch of the new edition of *Psychology: from Inquiry to Understanding* published by Pearson Australia. It is Australia's

first Indigenous-edited undergraduate psychology textbook. Professor Pat Dudgeon is the executive editor and myself and my colleague, Dr Joanna Alexi, were assistant editors. Importantly, it privileges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, cultures and contexts. Chapter 2 on Indigenous Psychology features foundational knowledges all psychology students, and registered psychologists, will benefit from. We strengthened Indigenous authorship and resources and placed greater emphasis on the diversity of peoples, cultures and contexts in psychology. The Social and Emotional Wellbeing model and principles of cultural safety and responsiveness are featured throughout the text. These are vital elements in decolonising psychology education and practice in Australia.

This year's NAIDOC theme “The Next Generation: strength, vision, and legacy” captures the decolonising movement in psychology. I, like many of my peers, am eternally thankful for the strength, vision and legacy of the Indigenous leaders in psychology who have paved the way for the future generation of Indigenous psychologists. Their collective work and advocacy over many decades have led to a space-and-time where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledges, such as Social and Emotional Wellbeing, are a core part of psychology university

education. Their vision, strength and legacy has enabled the groundbreaking work of AIPEP and publications like the new textbook. Back in the 2000s when I was doing my psychology studies, I never could have imagined I would see this kind of book in my education, let alone have a part in it. I am privileged to be a part of the movement in the discipline of psychology whereby Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledges and lived experiences are celebrated.

Honouring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledges and lived-in experiences in psychology education and practice benefits everyone. Thanks to the Indigenous leaders before me, psychology is transforming. The work of AIPEP, and changes in psychology I am witnessing, fills me with optimism.

I see a future where there is an even more robust Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander psychology workforce, and a discipline that deeply respects our ways. My hope is that the current and future generations of aspiring Indigenous psychologists see their culture and lived experiences reflected in their psychology education and enter into the profession. And I hope that if they do, they will feel supported, and their experiences and knowledges validated and valued.

There is still work to be done of course but I feel that it's within our grasp.

Belle Selkirk is a Noongar woman living on Wadandi boodja. Belle is a clinical psychologist and a research fellow with the Australian Indigenous Psychology Education Project. She has led innovative projects in Indigenous psychology including the Listening More suite of resources, and the Psychology: From Inquiry to Understanding university textbook. She has extensive experience in providing culturally-informed psychotherapy, with a particular focus on Indigenous psychology, social and emotional wellbeing, and cultural safety in psychological practice. Belle was awarded the IAHA Excellence in Cultural Responsiveness award in 2024.

This article is part of a series of Koori Mail columns about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mental health, social and emotional wellbeing and suicide prevention contributed by authors associated with the Centre of Best Practice in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Suicide Prevention (CBPATISIP) at the University of Western Australia, which was established in 2017 to develop and share evidence about effective suicide-prevention approaches for Indigenous people and communities.

Coalition of Peaks welcomes historic investment in NT remote communities

The Coalition of Peaks welcomes the Australian Government's \$842.6 million investment in the NT Remote Aboriginal Investment (NTRAI) agreement, marking a significant milestone in Closing the Gap efforts. This historic commitment – negotiated in partnership with Aboriginal Peak Organisations NT (APO NT) – demonstrates what can be achieved when governments embed the Priority Reforms of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap.

Pat Turner AM, Lead Convenor of the Coalition of Peaks, said this investment recognises the expertise and leadership of Aboriginal organisations and communities in driving lasting change for their communities. Our organisations know what is needed for their communities.

"This is the first time an agreement of this nature has been negotiated directly with Aboriginal people, in alignment with the Closing the Gap Priority Reforms.



Pat Turner.

It is a critical acknowledgment that solutions must be led by our communities if we are to see real and lasting improvements," Ms. Turner said.

Over the next six years, this funding will help address critical needs in remote Aboriginal communities, supporting services such as policing, women's safety, education, and alcohol harm



John Paterson.

reduction. Importantly, it also provides increased support for Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs) so that service delivery transitions from government to community control, in line with the principles of self-determination.

This investment will strengthen Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities by

supporting community-led service delivery and economic development in remote areas.

Over the next six years, it will: Establish and fund local groups in up to eight locations to design and deliver services for community, in community, by community;

Fund up to 12 Aboriginal Community Controlled Children and Family Centres to provide culturally safe, community-led solutions to family safety and child development challenges; and

Create over 570 jobs, including more than 278 positions for First Nations Territorians, supporting long-term employment in Aboriginal-led service delivery.

John Paterson, spokesperson for APO NT, welcomed the longer-term stability this investment brings for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-led solutions.

"Programs and supports funded through this investment go to the heart of what Aboriginal Territorians have advocated for

decades. Aboriginal people hold the knowledge needed to improve outcomes for our people and communities," Mr Paterson said.

The Coalition of Peaks acknowledges the leadership of APO NT in securing this agreement and commends the Australian government's commitment to working in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

This investment lays the foundation for systemic change, creating opportunities for remote Aboriginal communities to access critical services while fostering economic and social development.

The Coalition of Peaks will continue to push and advocate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-led solutions and accountability in the implementation of this agreement, so that Closing the Gap commitments lead to real change for our people.

Price slams PM's pledge saying it won't improve self-determination

The Albanese Labor government has announced \$842.6 million over six years as part of its Northern Territory Remote Aboriginal Investment plan.

Senator Jacinta Nampijinpa Price said the funding was nothing more than a continuation of the longstanding Northern Territory-Commonwealth agreements that date back to the Howard government.

Senator Nampijinpa Price noted the current agreement was set to expire in mid-2025, so the announcement was little more than an attempt by Anthony Albanese to save himself on the eve of an election.

Anthony Albanese's announcement in Alice Springs also followed a visit to the town by the leader of the opposition, Peter Dutton, last week.

Senator Nampijinpa Price said "the prime minister is spooked. Alice Springs is in the electorate of Lingiari which his government holds on a margin of just 0.9%. He knows the coalition is setting an agenda for Indigenous affairs which resonates with everyday Australians, and now he's scrambling to offer a response."

"The Albanese Labor government have had nothing to offer Indigenous affairs since the failed referendum, so they are



Senator Jacinta Nampijinpa Price.

doing the only thing they know how – pouring more money with little consideration of its effectiveness or efficiency."

Senator Nampijinpa Price said the prime minister's decision to spruik internal audit processes was clear evidence that his government has been failing to ensure money is being used effectively.

Senator Nampijinpa Price said Anthony Albanese's approach was lazy and

irresponsible. "It is imperative that our solutions are actually going to improve the lives of marginalised Indigenous Australians rather than just sounding like a lot of money."

"Right now, we must examine the legislative and bureaucratic structures that already exist. That means looking at land rights legislative reform and examining bodies like land councils and statutory authorities."

"Labor has wasted \$350 million in Central Australia without any improvement, so how they think \$842.6 million will suddenly solve any problems is beyond me. The fact is, there are too many bodies and organisations with too little to show for us to be satisfied that throwing more money is going to make any meaningful difference," said Senator Nampijinpa Price.

Senator Nampijinpa Price said the Albanese Labor government was just trying to hold on to its Northern Territory seats ahead of the election. "If that wasn't the case, then they would have agreed to the seven requests made by the Northern Territory government in December 2024 including an audit of federally funded programs and the implementation of

practical measures to improve community safety."

"Unlike the Albanese Labor government, the coalition believes in practical and meaningful solutions. That is why we have committed to in-principle support for all seven requests made the Northern Territory government and will be working tirelessly to ensure government spending is effective and efficient across the board," said Senator Nampijinpa Price.

Senator Nampijinpa Price also took aim at the claims that the announcement would improve self-determination for Indigenous Australians.

"Self-determination doesn't come from \$842.6 million of government welfare and more government funded jobs, it comes from economic independence and learning to stand on one's own two feet."

"Indigenous Australians don't need more reliance on government – that won't change their lives. What we need is a thriving private sector where people in remote communities can utilise their land for economic development without red, green and black tape getting in the way," said Senator Nampijinpa Price.

The Koori Mail welcomes your Letters to the Editor. Preference will be given to submissions of interest to Indigenous Australians. Please include your town and State of residence, and daytime telephone number for checking purposes. Items may be edited and reproduced.



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The fall of the empire

The world is most certainly becoming a more and more uncomfortable place to sit within this western democratic system. I reflect this week on the massive rise of supremacy both on these shores and beyond and then one day ago I listen to a press conference with Benjamin Netanyahu, Israel's Prime Minister and the man responsible for war crimes and the murder of 45,000 Palestinians.

This includes many children and babies in Gaza, and Donald Trump, the re-elected president of the United States, who is a perpetrator of sexual abuse, is transphobic and xenophobic and so much more. I'll just let these two descriptions sink in for a minute here. These two white old men who are both horrible humans, who have caused so much violence and destruction on people while in power, who abuse power, who dominate, who are only worried about the economic system and the trade systems and not about human beings and the planet.

These are the two leaders of the western democratic systems of our so called allies and I fear that we also will go down this path. Why do we elect power-hungry men? Why do we still continue to support this system



Ella Noah Bancroft

and the global system that quite clearly is responsible for large numbers of death and disease on other countries' human beings.

Before I even start with the press conference I am still just in shock of seeing these two men side by side running countries.

Donald, who quite literally makes the hairs on my neck stand up with disgust, divulged in the conference that there is a surprise

plan to turn Gaza into the "Riviera of the Middle East". Um what? Excuse me. Just also let that sink in, after last year, the entire globe witnessed the first televised genocide, we watched on tv screens, phones and read in papers and magazines.

We all know what Israel and the states have been doing to Gaza and we cannot pretend we don't know anymore. All the information is there for us to see. The body counts of babies and the demolition of their homelands. These two countries and men which are supposed to be Australia's allies proposed the permanent displacement of Palestinians from Gaza

The US is to take over the coast line. This is colonisation. You vilify or dehumanise those you want to oppress, power over them, and kill them with weaponry and with an army they cannot outnumber, you destroy their places of belief, you cripple and traumatise a generation of people who survived, and then you displace them from their lands. This is evil. This is nothing other than pure evil. I hope that in some way this level of evil can truly be seen by others and perhaps there's a great turning point in that, perhaps more than ever people are questioning why we

listen to these so-called leaders, who do horrible things and say they are doing it to better their own economic system.

Global mob wars

It's like global mob wars, countries stealing, killing and overthrowing those who are weaker than them. I say weaker only in the fact that they don't have as big an army or weapons but are strong in culture and faith.

And then Trump says that "the US will take over and own the Gaza Strip" and when our own 'leader' Albanese was asked about this comment, he struggled with his response, saying that Australia supports a two-state solution and he wasn't going to comment on the US president's words, what a cop out. This is rubbish, our own leaders have no back bones. Albanese's lack of commentary speaks volumes, just another colonising leader, running a colonial capitalist government and completely devoid of any empathy or emotions whatsoever.

These are the governments that we all sit under, these are the people that represent us and the system we uphold. Every day we go to work and pay our taxes and provide our country with the wealth to go to war, to pay these so-called 'leaders'. I'd rather send

my taxes to Gaza to support the Palestines to return home.

"It's right now a demolition site, this is a demolition site, virtually every building is down, they are living under fallen concrete that is very dangerous and very precarious," Trump said.

It's a demolition site because war crimes were committed. It was demolished because of the Israeli army and the support of the USA. What Trump does not understand with this sentiment is that it doesn't matter about the buildings, Palestinians will always call Gaza their homelands, it's about the land, the connection to the land for thousands of years.

The only terrorists I see are the Israeli, American and Australian governments.

A reminder that terrorism is the threat or use of violence to intimidate or coerce in the pursuit of political or ideological goals.

This is exactly what we are witnessing from the west. Trump and Netanyahu are the terrorists, they are not leaders, they are power-hungry and greedy and like my mum always says it's a slippery slope at the top, so let's hope we can come together as humans, revolt and move away from the very foundations of what these so-called men stand on, and hope they fall, and fall hard.

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Vale Uncle William Brian Butler



ABORIGINAL care for Aboriginal families. That was the life-long commitment of William Brian Butler

(best known as Uncle Brian Butler), who died in Adelaide in December, aged 86. He helped develop Aboriginal child care agencies across Australia. He was the first head of the Secretariat for National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care (SNAICC). He served as ATSIC's Social Justice Commissioner. And that is only the start of it.

Brian was born in 1938 in Bagot Reserve in Darwin, where his Aranda-Luritja mother had been taken when she was removed from her home in Central Australia. Japan's threatened invasion in 1942 forced them back to central Australia, and Brian was later sent to St Francis Boys Home in Adelaide with others such as Charlie Perkins, Gordon Briscoe and John Moriarty.

Even as a child he felt the pain of Aboriginal mothers whose children had been removed under the separation policies of the time. At the age of 14 he left school, put his age up to 16, and joined the merchant navy.

This enabled him to travel to all the main cities of Australia, where he would find Aboriginal children who had been removed.



Uncle William at the launch of his book, *Sorry and Beyond: Healing the Stolen Generations*.

He became adept at ascertaining by their features where the children probably came from, and passed the information on to that region.

In 1968 he got a job in South Australia's Department of Public Health. By this time, Aboriginal people were recognising that the government institutions were incapable of healing the wounds of Aboriginal Australia, and Aboriginal people would have to do it themselves. Following the lead of Victoria and NSW, Brian established the South Australian Aboriginal Child Care Agency. He and his colleagues trained

volunteers in many Aboriginal communities, and created such an effective network that in 1982 the South Australian Government made SAACCA a statutory body with full authority to decide the best care for Aboriginal children in need.

At the same time, he headed the Aboriginal Housing Board of South Australia. And as the CEO of SNAICC, he helped draft and implement the Aboriginal Child Placement Principle, now embedded in the legislation of all Australian states, which ensures that Aboriginal children needing out-of-home care should receive

this through carers connected to the child's family and community.

When the national inquiry into the Separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children from their Families was launched in 1995, Brian worked passionately to ensure the inquiry heard from people in remote regions. He campaigned for the establishment of the Healing Foundation, and sat on its initial Advisory Board.

He was a Co-Chair of the National Sorry Day Committee and the Stolen Generations Alliance. In his book *Sorry and Beyond: Healing the Stolen Generations*, written with former Secretary of the National Sorry Day Committee John Bond, he describes the nation-wide Sorry Day and Journey of Healing campaigns which led to the Federal Parliament's unanimous apology by Prime Minister Kevin Rudd in 2008. He was at the heart of these campaigns. He walked with a quarter of a million Australians across the Sydney Harbour Bridge in 2000, carrying his first great grandson, 10 days old!

In his later years he devoted himself to the care of older people, working through the SA Aged Care Rights and Advocacy Service to ensure elderly Aboriginal people throughout South Australia were supported

and involved in shaping the services they needed.

Brian's greatest anguish was lateral violence among the Aboriginal community and its leaders. He understood the reasons – the frustration which erupts among oppressed peoples, and he knew he had been part of it. But he was determined to overcome it, and launched his campaign for lateral love – which he described as 'the way we care, share, nurture, love and respect each other'. Many joined him, and they could often be seen at community events, manning a display.

He was always advocating for others, full of humour, with a ready smile for those he worked with and supported. And impeccably dressed whether he was going to sit down in the dirt and yarn with communities or heading to Parliament House to fight for their rights.

He leaves behind a large, grieving family. But they know that much creative change has come through their father, grandfather, great grandfather and great-great grandfather – a man who never gave up the struggle to enlist the whole Australian community in healing the wounds inflicted on Aboriginal Australia.

● Picture and obituary used with permission of family.

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- VET in Schools Student of the Year
- School-based Apprentice/Trainee of the Year
- VET Trainer/Teacher of the Year



survival day



Three dancing groups came together to perform at the opening of Survival Day in Bermagui.

A day of sadness and joy

By MARION WILLIAMS



FOR Yuin woman Lehané Mason from Narooma in NSW, Survival Day in Bermagui is a day of sadness and joy and celebration rolled into one. Djiringanj man Rodney Kelly and his wife Belinda have organised the community event for the last ten years.

"The first time back in 2016 there were 50 of us," Mr Kelly told the *Koori Mail*.

"It has grown from there to 500 to 1,000, all different types of people coming to learn about Survival Day."

Not only does the event bring crowds of Aboriginal and non-Indigenous people, but also some famous musical acts.

This year the legendary Koori King of Country Roger Knox and his Euraba Band were the star attractions.

attractions.

Also on the stage were family band Castlereagh Connection, from Coonamble, around 780 kilometres from Bermagui on Djiringanj land.

Another highlight was when Duurunu Miru Dance Group, Bega River Dancers and Gumaraa Dancers performed together as part of the opening ceremony.

Mr Kelly said he receives great support from businesses in Bermagui that donate gifts for the raffle, and other businesses and organisations on the far South Coast who sponsor the event to help make it happen.

Although "some businesses don't want to hire equipment to us or help because it isn't Australia Day, others talk about it during the year," Mr Kelly said.

For Yuin man Harley Ladmore, Survival Day "is about my ancestors and surviving and culture, and I am proud to be still here."



Harley Ladmore and Lehané Mason from Narooma. Picture: Marion Williams

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Shaylah Thomas, Ashweeni Mason, Tamila Manton, Emma Stewart, Harper Morton and Rose Percy getting ready for a song and dance workshop with Marra-Wanggan Cultural Services. Picture: Marion Williams.



Children participating in a dance and song workshop with Marra-Wanggan Cultural Services. Picture: Marion Williams.



Raiya Ardler and Aunty Jeni Luland of the Milumba Trio, Roger Knox, Sharlene Cruickshank of the Milumba Trio, and Cliff Lee.



Alec Harrison from Malua Bay, Kevin Dixon from Bega and Les Trig from Wallaga Lake.



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NAIDOC Local Grants 2025
Applications Now Open

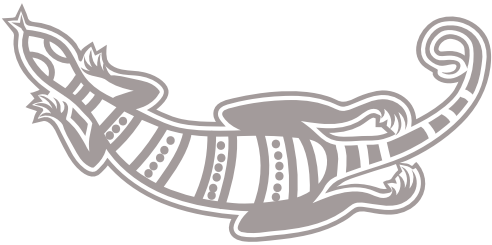
The NAIDOC Local Grants online application for 2025 is now open. NAIDOC Local Grants support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and supporting organisations to deliver local NAIDOC Week activities and events in communities and regions around Australia.

Register and complete an application at GrantConnect:
www.grants.gov.au.

Applications close **Thursday 20 February at 3.00pm AEDT**.

The 2025 NAIDOC Week theme is “The Next Generation: Strength, Vision, Legacy”. Find out more about NAIDOC Week 2025 at:
www.naidoc.org.au.

0364NS_5354



ExxonMobil



Community Consultation -
decommissioning

An ExxonMobil Brand

Esso Australia Resources Pty Ltd (Esso), a wholly owned subsidiary of ExxonMobil Australia Pty Ltd, is committed to operating and decommissioning its Gippsland and Bass Strait facilities safely and effectively. After delivering energy to Australia for over 50 years, many of the Bass Strait oil and gas fields are now reaching the end of their productive life. As planning for decommissioning progresses, Esso is focused on safely shutting-down non-producing facilities and ensuring they stay safe throughout the entire decommissioning process.

Community Information Sessions
If you'd like to know more about plans for **Decommissioning of platforms and pipelines in Bass Strait**, the Esso Consultation Team will be hosting community information sessions at the following locations:

Monday 17 February 2025 - Yanakie
Yanakie Hall
Millar Road, Yanakie

Tuesday 18 February 2025 - Foster
Foster War Memorial Arts Centre
Main Street, Foster

Wednesday 19 February 2025 - Leongatha
Leongatha Memorial Hall
6-8 McCartin St, Leongatha

Monday 24 February 2025 - Lakes Entrance
On the Wharf Café, Bullock Island
Lakes Entrance

Tuesday 25 February 2025 - Yarram
The Yarram Country Club
322-340 Commercial Road, Yarram

Wednesday 26 February 2025 - Sale
The Criterion Hotel
90 Macalister Street, Sale

All the above sessions will run from **5.00pm - 7.00pm** with a **presentation** about Esso's operations with a focus on decommissioning projects.

We encourage you to come along and ask questions or to raise any concerns you may have. Please **register your attendance** by emailing: consultation@exxonmobil.com

If these dates and times don't suit, contact us at consultation@exxonmobil.com or by phone on 03 9261 0000.

The Esso Team will also be available to discuss all current activities, including:

- Bass Strait State Waters Environment Plan
- Bass Strait Operations Environment Plan
- Gippsland Basin Geophysical and Geotechnical Investigations Environment Plan

- Jack-Up-Rig Plug & Abandonment Revision 1 Environment Plan
- Turrum Phase 3 Drilling Environment Plan

Like to be consulted about these activities?

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

Complete the [Esso Consultation Questionnaire \(sli.do\)](https://www.esso.com.au/consultation/questionnaire) in the Esso Consultation Hub to let us know if you'd like to be consulted or have any questions or feedback.

Refer to the NOPSEMA brochure [Consultation on offshore petroleum environment plans brochure.pdf \(nopsema.gov.au\)](https://www.nopsema.gov.au/consultation-on-offshore-petroleum-environment-plans-brochure.pdf) to understand more about consultation on offshore petroleum environment plans assessed under the Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Environment) Regulations 2023.

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

Please connect us with other interested people

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



To find out more information

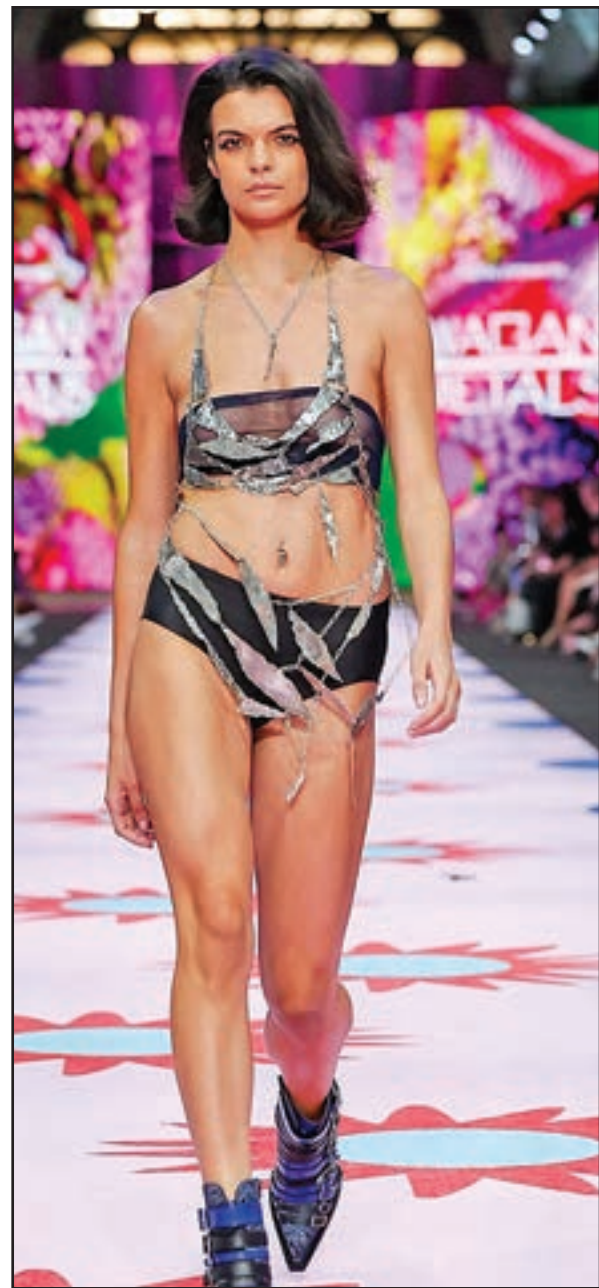
For more information about Esso's activities and other projects, go to the Esso Consultation Hub at: <https://corporate.exxonmobil.com/locations/australia/our-approach>



A model wears swimwear brand, Gali, founded by Kamilaroi man and volunteer lifesaver, David Leslie. Images: Lucas Dawson photography.



A model wears Yapa Mali by Ngiyampaa/Wangaaypuwan Wiradjuri designer Maddy Hodgetts. Launching in 2022, Yapa Mali creates all their designs and artworks on Country.



Dharug woman and jewellery designer Eve, at Wagun Metals, created this one-off piece that sits alongside Mob In Fashion's Future History concept.

Mob on the runway



Fashion in 2025 is changing.

As we become more socially and politically aware of the direction our very own industry in Australia is taking, we must look to our own sector of First Nations fashion.

This is another crucial time in our industry to further lay the foundations of what it means to be innovative and intertwined with our industry at large.

With the change-over of Australian Fashion Week, and the desire to really showcase what the Australian fashion industry looks like to the rest of the world, I want to explore how First Nations designers, creatives and talent help form that vision.

But first, I want to say that I'm thrilled to come on board with the *Koori Mail* to share fashion stories, interviews and news about the First Nations sector of fashion in 2025.

Ambassador

I have been working as a model for the last 10 years, an industry that has taken me to some very exciting places all over the world.

I am an ambassador for David Jones and Toyota and I'm also the first Aboriginal model to win GQ Model of the Year – and feature on the cover of GQ Style magazine.



Nathan McGuire

I have countless campaigns for major brands, covers of magazines, and continue to work in the industry at large.

This is what led me to start Mob In Fashion, and now, write for the *Koori Mail*.

I currently live and work in Naarm/Melbourne with my business, Mob In Fashion.

We are a creative studio supporting First Nations creatives in the fashion industry.

Mob In Fashion

We exist solely to bridge the gap of underrepresentation of First Nations people in the fashion industry.

Starting out as a program with the Melbourne Fashion Festival, we quickly recognised the need to bring further representation to fashion.

Looking at the landscape, we saw an influx of designers, artists, talent and models strut proudly onto the fashion scene, however, in the working industry, my experience was that there wasn't enough Mob behind the scenes or at the board table making decisions.

I wanted to contribute to my community and help bridge that gap of underrepresentation, and so I created the Mob In Fashion program for behind the scenes creatives to apply for roles like photography, videography, hair and makeup, journalism, styling and production, just to name a few.

The program was a major success and fed into the ecosystem of fashion where these creatives were also able to work on the festival and all the runway shows.

Mob In Fashion have just recently

opened a studio space in Brunswick to help facilitate all the great workshops we offer.

The workshops focus on education around fashion and the creative ventures we take on at Mob In Fashion.

This year, Mob In Fashion are returning to the Melbourne Fashion Festival.

Back In Blak

We are curating a premium runway showcase called, 'Back In Blak', featuring 10 First Nations designers from all over the country, including a special guest performance.

Last year, we had the incredible Becca Hatch, who lit up the runway and then went on to have a stellar 2024!

Our annual Mob In Fashion Pathways Program with the festival will see us place 10 behind-the-scenes roles for First Nation creatives, giving them an opportunity to work at a high level industry fashion event.

Being in it's fourth year we are so excited to see what the creatives can do.

As we take on a new year, we will see so many new creations and talent soar.

Let's see what hits the runways.

● Nathan McGuire is a Whadjuk Ballardong Noongar man from Boorloo (Perth). He has been a First Nations model for more than decade and is the founder of Mob In Fashion.

Partnership to bolster heart health



A group of patients take part in the Derbarl Yerrigan Heart Health Program in Western Australia.



THE Heart Foundation and Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service (DYHS) in Western Australia recently formed a partnership aimed at improving the heart health of local First Nations people.

Called the Derbarl Yerrigan Heart Health Program, the new initiative aims to help reduce the disparity between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Perth residents in terms of heart health, focusing on cardiovascular disease prevention, rehabilitation and continuity of care for Aboriginal people accessing

DYHS services.

At the official launch of the program in East Perth last week, attendees were given a full demonstration of the program, hearing from representatives from both Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service and the Heart Foundation.

One of the participants, Kathileen, said the program is of great benefit to the community.

"We originally started heart health in about 2003, and at the time, there were only about six participants in the program."

"We started with people who we knew had experienced a heart attack, but then we realised that prevention is always better than cure."

In Western Australia, heart disease remains a leading cause of illness and death among First Nations people, who experience cardiovascular disease at significantly higher rates than non-Indigenous Australians.

Heart Foundation CEO



Local Aboriginal patient, Kathileen, has been taking part in the Derbarl Yerrigan Heart Health Program.

David Lloyd said the Derbarl Yerrigan Heart Health Program would help address the need for community-led heart-health programs in the state.

Culturally appropriate

"The heart-health situation for Western Australia's First

Nations people highlights the strong need for a self-determined and culturally appropriate cardiovascular rehabilitation program," he said.

"Such a program will support First Nations communities to prevent and manage heart disease in a culturally appropriate, community-led way."

Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service Acting CEO, Dr Daniel Hunt, welcomed the partnership, highlighting its importance in delivering culturally appropriate care.

"The return of the Derbarl Yerrigan Heart Health Program will ensure our community and others receive the support they need to prevent and manage heart disease, delivered in a way that is respectful and empowering."

The Heart Foundation and DYHS will work closely with community members, health professionals and policymakers to ensure the program's success and long-term impact.



Westfield
Local Heroes

KNOW SOMEONE MAKING AN
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NOMINATE THEM FOR A
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NOMINATIONS CLOSE 13 MARCH



Westfield



Many tracks, one road, sustaining community.
Northern Rivers Community Gateway

Before and After School Care with Rainbow region kids

OPEN FOR BOOKINGS
during NSW SCHOOL TERMS
in Alstonville, Blakebrook,
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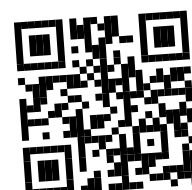
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LOCATIONS, TIMES
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email **rrkassist@nrcg.org.au**
CALL **0429 640 075** (9am-3pm Mon-Fri)



Celebrate risk-takers and innovative artists



Kirk Page

Dear 'Industry': The purpose of this letter is not just to reflect on what has been achieved but to offer a vision for a more inclusive, sustainable and innovative future for all those who make up this extraordinary community. We are many and some of us are still standing, even though we are weary

I hear you. I truly do. The frustration, the exhaustion, the feeling of being let down by an industry that should know better, by peers and allies who, at times, feel as though they're just as uncertain and battle-worn as we are.

I wish I could say things were different, that there's an easy fix, but unfortunately, the struggle for respect and recognition within the acting world can feel like it's never-ending.

First and foremost, I would like to acknowledge the resilience and passion that defines our industry. The Australian arts scene has long been a vibrant space where creativity, diverse voices and cultural stories converge.

In fact that has been our selling point right? Come see the tale of the noble savage or come witness the resilience of a mother whose children have been taken away, watch as she does everything in her 'power' to get 'justice'.

Apparently this industry has consistently pushed

boundaries, enriched global dialogues, and given voice to generations when no one would hear our voices, look how far we've come, LOL.

As we look toward the future, we must also confront the challenges that still persist. There are structural issues within the industry that require

While the prestige of Australian arts is well recognised internationally, we often hear from emerging artists, creatives from regional areas, and those from marginalised communities that the barriers to entry can be insurmountable.

Or maybe it's not what you

environment that celebrates risk taking and innovation, where a new generation of artists can come together to redefine what 'so called' Australia looks like, as it has done in the past we need to get better, things must evolve and keep up or what's the point?

There is so much talent in our schools, our regional areas, and our cultural communities that remains untapped or unsupported. We need to invest in the next generation of performers, directors, writers and designers, nurturing their growth and providing pathways that help them transition from the classroom to the stage and screen, and there must be an even playing field that supports all of us not just the ones who have already had a few runs on the board, favouritism exists and it's sickening.

As an actor, I believe in the power of storytelling. I believe in our collective capacity to challenge societal norms, provoke thought, inspire empathy and offer solace in times of uncertainty. The arts allow us to see the world through another's eyes, to live a thousand lives in the span of a performance, to understand each other and ourselves in deeper ways. That's why it's so important that we create an industry where creativity and artistry are given the resources, respect and recognition they deserve.

'It is important that we create a system where creativity can flourish regardless of an individual's socio-economic background, gender, race or location. Inclusivity must not just be a buzzword, it must be an active, driving force behind every decision we make in this so-called industry.'

collective attention.

Accessibility, fair compensation and long-term sustainability for practitioners at all levels remain ongoing concerns. There are artists in the sector who have given sooo much – been wined and dined and celebrated – who are now struggling to pay their rent or who have passed away penniless and in poverty.

know, it's who you know?

It is important that we create a system where creativity can flourish regardless of an individual's socio-economic background, gender, race or location. Inclusivity must not just be a buzzword, it must be an active, driving force behind every decision we make in this so called industry.

It is crucial that we foster an

Keeping Time

Dialogues on music and archives in honour of Linda Barwick



Edited by Nick Thieberger, Amanda Harris, Sally Treloyn and Myfany Turpin

Noteworthy

Keeping Time: Dialogues on music and archives in Honour of Linda Barwick explores current issues in ethnomusicology and the archiving and repatriation of ethnographic field recordings.

The 19 chapters by 36 authors consider archiving practices as a site of interaction between researchers and cultural heritage communities; cross-disciplinary approaches to understanding song; and the role of musical transcription in non-Western music.

This volume is international in scope with case studies with Indigenous and minority peoples from Papua New Guinea, China, India, the Torres Strait and mainland Aboriginal Australia; the latter being the focus of the majority of chapters.

Topics include the revival of songs from early written sources, creation of new songs based in old genres, the concept of "sing" in other languages, spirits as the origin of song knowledge, and how to manage ethnographic records over time. *Keeping Time* approaches Indigenous practices from a range of disciplines, including linguistics, history and performing arts, as well as Indigenous Studies, cultural revitalisation (including reclamation of Indigenous languages), Indigenous knowledge and application to climate change.

My Dad's Gone Away



My Dad's Gone Away provides a safe space for young readers age 6+ and their families to explore feelings of loss, confusion and hope. Told from a child's perspective, this powerful book highlights the value of connection, reminding children that their parents are still a part of their lives, even when physically absent. Paul Seden's juxtaposition of chalk pastels on a monochrome background add depth, context and emotional connection.

A poignant, uplifting read that encourages open conversations about a difficult topic while celebrating the enduring bonds of family and community. An invaluable resource for children, families, educators and those who work in community services and advocacy.

Shining a light on dance

Janaya Lamb is a proud Wiradjuri woman with deep cultural ties to her heritage. Born on Bundjalung Country in Northern NSW and raised on Gamilaraay Country, Janaya's roots also stretch through her Torres Strait Islander, Butchulla, and Ngajanji ancestry on her grandfather's side.

Growing up in Tamworth on Gamilaraay Country, Janaya's connection to her land and culture has always been at the heart of her artistic journey.

A dancer, artist and storyteller, Janaya Lamb's work celebrates her heritage while pushing the boundaries of contemporary dance.

During her school years, Janaya was a member of the NSW Department of Education Aboriginal Dance Company, where she further honed her craft. In 2018, she moved on to study at the National Aboriginal and Islander Skills Development Association (NAISDA), where she expanded her dance vocabulary to include Indigenous contemporary dance, music and ballet.

Janaya's dedication, focus and artistry led her to join Bangarra Dance Theatre in 2022, where she joined the cast of *Wudjang: Not the Past* in 2022.

Where do you come from and can you describe what it was like growing there?

I was born in Lismore in NSW on Bundjalung Country and then we lived in Casino for a while and then to Tamworth for a few years. We eventually returned again to family and back and fourth between Tamworth and Casino when I was young. I moved away from home to pursue dance at NAISDA in Gosford NSW.

When did you become interested in dance and when did you begin to pursue it?

My first taste of dance was when I was really young and it was a hip-hop class and then I was invited to be a part of the Rekindling youth dance program that Bangarra Dance Theatre programs for youth in the regions across the country. I was in year seven. I may have started to think about dance seriously after one of those classes.

I heard about the Aboriginal dance company through the NSW schools spectacular and I joined the Aboriginal dance group run by Sidney Salter and Sani Townsend as part of the Rekindling youth dance program. I had dear friends that I danced with in my youth and we are still connected through dance and it's through those programs we connected through culture and dance.

When I was growing up there was traditional dance but not much access to it when I was growing up. I used to make up dances for the young ones in the neighbourhood - I loved creating for the young ones. Back home me and some of my friends group enrolled at NAISDA and there's a lot more energy around



Janaya Lamb (photo top right) is featured on the peak of the dancers in this image.

contemporary cultural dance coming back into the community now.

How has the journey been for you and what were some of the challenges?

Moving away from home and being far away from family and dear loved ones was a challenge for me at the beginning. NAISDA dance college offers a diverse range of skills that we as students are exposed to during our training

and this was a shock to the body at first.

What does a day at Bangarra Dance Theatre look like and how do you maintain your energy levels and the physical work load as a professional dancer?

Our day can start at 9am in the morning and we do a warm up or pilates or conditioning and stretching, we have a company class at 9.30am and then we will

have a water break then begin rehearsals for the day. Depending on the schedule we may be raising repertoire or in a creative space where we develop choreography with choreographers.

At the moment we are in rehearsal for *The Light Inside* with choreographers, Deborah Brown and Moss Te Ururangi Patterson. We are doing a return season of these two recent works from last year.



How do you prepare yourself for a performance, do you get nervous and what's your process of getting ready for a show?

For me the times I feel most nervous or anxious is when it's the opening night of a new work or when it's the last show of that particular season. They both have up's and downs. I love travelling and being with community and sometimes we get to hear their thoughts about what the show meant to them - that's a great part of it. Sometimes on the stage, time slows down which is an out of body experience. Being away from home is challenging, I love the process of creating and that work of developing the dance. I do really love the performance - you've done all the work and it's time to put it all out there, you are putting your heart on your sleeve and all the elements come together.

What's next for you ?

The Light Inside will tour regionally in NSW and Victoria and we will go to SA to perform at WOMAD festival. We are currently in rehearsal putting the finishing touches on the work with choreographers. It's been a wild experience learning the Haka with some of Moss' family. If we get to do another intercultural work - I would love to dance with the cultural people more from Aotearoa. It's really exciting and new and it will be different for the regional audiences to see this new intercultural work. People will be surprised to see the company dancing in a different way I think.

Tour dates for *The Light Inside*:

Wollongong Feb 13-15
Newcastle Feb 20-21
WOMAD March 7-8
Bendigo October 3-4
Geelong October 10-11
Wangaratta October 22
Ballarat October 25

A Nighttime Travesty mounts a frontal attack on the paradigm

By CHRISTIAN MORROW



FLYING HIGH out on the cutting edge, pushing boundaries and taking no prisoners, two

Indigenous forces of a theatrical nature will bring *A Nighttime Travesty* to the Malthouse Theatre in Melbourne from Wednesday, February 19, to Saturday 22 as part of Asia TOPA.

With a potent mix of satirical Blak humour, explosive visuals, vaudeville and existential horror, *A Nighttime Travesty* stars co-creators Kamarra Bell-Wykes and Carly Sheppard who together lead the theatre collective, A Daylight Connection.

Set aboard the last plane fleeing Earth, the show follows a wild, unruly crew, including a fierce flight attendant who must battle God himself, for the ultimate prize.

As they navigate the surreal and absurd world inside the aircraft — a metaphor for the fractured, post-colonial psyche — the passengers encounter a series of bizarre, often darkly comedic events, from gruesome decapitations to explosive musical numbers.

Directed by Stephen Nicolazzo with a live band bringing the energy, and extravagant costumes, the show eviscerates the patriarchy, colonial genocide and stolen generations, white supremacy and white guilt, wanton environmental destruction and the sins and inequities of the theatre world itself.

"*A Nighttime Travesty* is a celebration of the creators exceptional talents — both as individuals and collaborators — and is a testament to their ongoing commitment to reshaping the cultural landscape of Australian theatre," Mr Nicolazzo said.

Kamarra Bell-Wykes (Yagera/Butchulla) is a multi-talented force in Australian theatre, recognised for her work as a playwright, director, educator, performer and creative producer.

Her leadership roles with ILBIJERRI Theatre Company and Malthouse Theatre have shaped the cultural landscape, while her writing and directing credits include acclaimed works such as *Because the Night*, *The Score*, *Viral*, and *Shrunken Iris*.

Carly Sheppard, a dynamic Palawa artist from Tasmania, is equally celebrated for pushing boundaries in Australian theatre. As a director, performer, and writer, she amplifies Indigenous voices and explores complex narratives of race, identity, and colonialism. Her productions like *CHASE* and *Whose Gonna Love 'Em?* I am that I AM have received widespread praise, with the latter winning the 2021



The stars and co-creators of *A Nighttime Travesty*, Kamarra Bell-Wykes and Carly Sheppard bringing shock and awe to the theatre.

Patrick White Award.

The **KOORI MAIL** caught up with Kamarra and Carly for a quick yarn about *A Nighttime Travesty*.

KOORI MAIL: This is a very full-on production. You seem to be mounting a full frontal assault on all the issues we face in the world today. Is that how you see the production?

Kamarra Bell-Wykes: We made this work a couple of years ago and it feels like we're now watching the world become more and more reflective of the ideas in our work. *A Nighttime Travesty* is an attack on the current paradigm, holding a mirror to the paradigm. The show seems more relevant now than ever whilst also speaking to issues of colonialism and genocide. It's amazing doing the work again having fast forwarded a couple of years to a world that's even more nuts and making our work even more relevant. I also think our work gives the audience some relief and a touch of vaudeville wartime-type humour. We really do need to be able to laugh at our own demise.

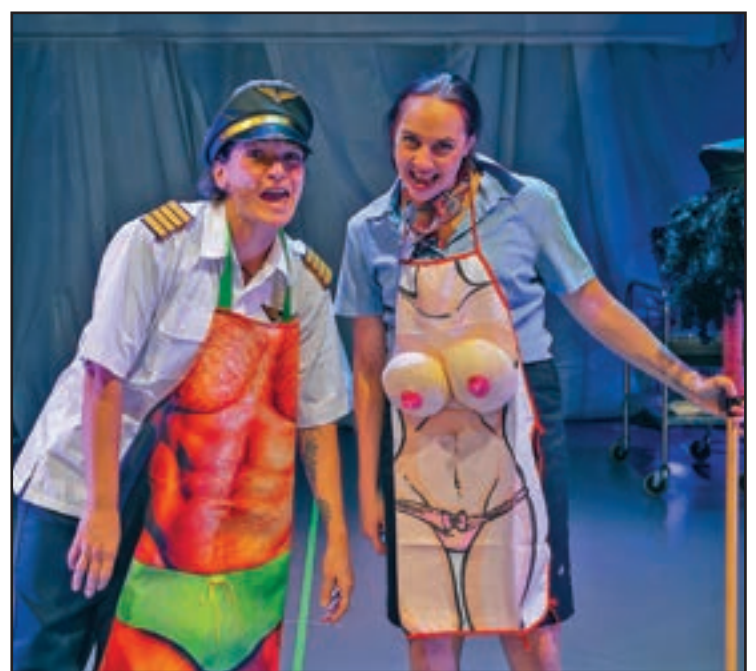
KM: This may be a bit of a stretch- but does *A Nighttime Travesty* have some things in common with pre-WWII German Cabaret- which was famously

disruptive and transgressive during a time of repression?

KBW: Yeah. It sort of feels like that, but in an Australia context. We are interested in using the weird cultural paradigms that exist within the entertainment industry here, such as the *Hey Hey It's Saturday* trope, and use them to hold that mirror up to our society.

Carly Sheppard: We also have live music on stage, which I think really adds something to the work as we attempt to break down the power dynamics and the stuffy conventions of a traditional theatre piece. We want our work to be wild and deeply felt, to subvert the idea you can only get up on stage if you have the same conventional old theatre skill sets. We want to create our own set of rules, also with rigour, commitment and integrity to the work and to the craft, but to be able to open it up in a way that is accessible to people who were previously put off by the idea that performing art or seeing art that had to be done in a colonial or Eurocentric way. We want to mush it all up and reclaim the idea of performance and of art.

KBW: The thing that brought us all together is a desire to fuck things up and not conform to making boring, safe, outdated theatre that reflects a world we



don't live in anymore. The world's changing so quickly and we are complex, we contain multitudes. So our whole thing is to make work that can hold the multitudes we exist in and that we are.

CS: It feels as if we're collectively facing the end of the world. It feels as if societal politics are becoming even more reductive. It feels like the things we should be talking about are bigger than the politics we've constructed. There's actually something bigger facing all of us but if we can't get our shit

together and come together then nothing and no-one is really gonna matter. What we are really interested in is spiritual redemption and what we're gonna say to our ancestors when we get to the other side, which isn't that far away.

KBW: We are also trying to create art that won't hurt people, something we can feel proud of when we're old or when we're dead. I think the message in our work is ultimately, spirit is the only thing that will sustain us.

For more information go to: malthousetheatre.com.au

Breaking down barriers



FIRST Nations-led 'Boss Arts Creative' is a not-for-profit organisation striving to erode entry barriers when it comes to First Nations communities engaging within the arts and culture sector.

Founded by Noongar woman Della Rae Morrison in 2021, Boss Arts provide free training to up and coming First Nations artists, with partnerships from the West Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA).

"The inspiration to start Boss Arts Creative stemmed from a deep desire to create a platform dedicated to supporting, encouraging and guiding First Nations talent," Ms Morrison told the *Koori Mail*.

"The goal was to provide a space where these talented individuals could receive encouragement, guidance and the necessary resources to thrive in their creative pursuits," she said.

"Boss Arts Creative aims to foster a community that celebrates and empowers First Nations artists to share their stories with the world."

As well as delivery within the judicial detention system in Perth, Boss Arts provide opportunities to young Mob in Banksia Hill.

"This introduction to music can open new pathways for personal growth and skill development, offering these young individuals the opportunity to express themselves creatively," Ms Morrison said.

"Engaging with music can be both therapeutic and educational; channeling their emotions into music, they are given a safe space to process their feelings. This practice encourages them to reflect on their experiences and express their emotions in a constructive manner," she said.

"In addition to music, Banksia Hill places a strong emphasis on Aboriginal



Back L to R: Jacob, DJ Macca, Benjamin. Front L to R: Iconyx, Alyssa, Della Rae.

art. Engaging with Aboriginal art allows the youth to connect with their cultural heritage and explore their identity through creative expression.

This year will see the biggest Perth

Festival catalogue to ever grace Noongar Country, including Boss Arts' own rising star, Iconyx, a Kukatja and Pintupi young woman, who will soon hit the stage with her powerful songwriting.

At the historic East Perth Power Station, Iconyx will perform alongside fellow Boss Arts contemporaries Rhythm Tide as they warm up for Emily Wurramara on February 13.

Art goes international



A MAJOR collection of 80 contemporary Indigenous Australian artworks have been donated to the Albertina Art Museum in Vienna.

The donation came from collectors Elisabeth Bahr and Lindsay Frost from Speyer in Rhineland-Palatinate (Germany), and includes works by renowned Indigenous artists including Shirley Purdue, whose work is also in the collection of the Museum of Contemporary Art in Sydney.

Born in 1947 in Gilban, Western Australia, Ms Purdue is a senior Gija artist.

She is based at the Warmun Art Centre in the East Kimberley region of Western Australia.

Ms Purdue began painting in the early 1990s and is well-known for using ochres collected on her own Country.

Her work draws on traditional Gija stories and Ngarranggarni (Dreaming) passed down to her, as well as depicting sites and narratives associated with her ancestral Country.

In a joint statement Ms Bahr and Mr Frost said the Albertina museum would be also making the donated works available to other accredited institutions.

"We hope this will help increase the frequency of exhibitions in other European cities," they said.

"Compared with the holdings of

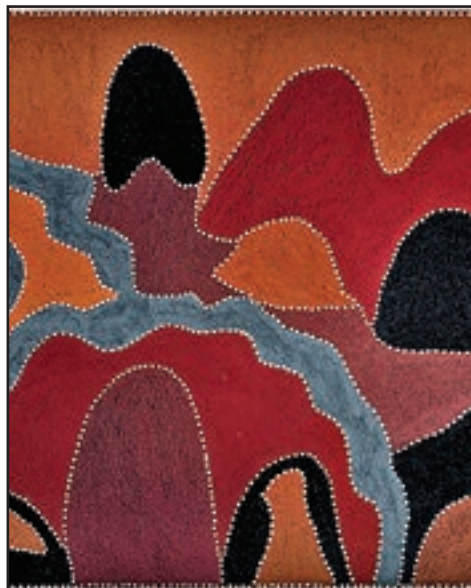


Mabel Downs Country by East Kimberley artist, Shirley Purdue.

Australian art museums, this is a small step."

"However, it is a significant step for any country beyond Australia, the USA, or the UK."

Additional works from their collection will be made available on loan and will also become part of the Albertina's holdings at a later date.



Parwalla near Kiwirrkurra by Elizabeth Nguni Nungurrayi.

Klaus Albrecht Schröder, director general of the Albertina, said the donation was a significant step in the diversification of the museum's collection.

"At the closing of my directorship, I am grateful to receive such a significant contribution to the museum. The new works directly relate to other important works in our collection, recognised as unique

contemporary artworks in an art museum and not as archaeological artefacts in an ethnological museum," he said.

"The tactile quality and vibrant colour schemes of the works reflect the diversity and depth of Indigenous Australian art and provide completely new insights for the public.

"Indigenous Australian art provides unique access to an innovative art movement that has hardly been represented in Europe to date."

"By considering contemporary Indigenous art, we are redefining the canon of art as a whole beyond existing boundaries."

"Looking beyond the Eurocentric and male viewpoint is an invaluable enrichment of our overall understanding of contemporary art."

Ms Bahr and Mr Frost encountered contemporary Indigenous Australian art for themselves more than 35 years ago.

"We drove tens of thousands of kilometres through the outback collecting, researching, promoting public exhibitions, writing and lecturing about it."

"We are convinced that the Albertina is ideally situated to give Viennese and European citizens a deeper insight into this non-European contemporary art."

The couple have also written a book, *Narrated World: Contemporary Indigenous Australian Art* which is available as a free open access document.

Focus on First Nations talent



THE eighteenth edition of the Melbourne Art Fair (MAF) will take place from February 20 – 23 at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre.

The 2025 program is entirely female-led and places First Peoples and traditionally overlooked artists at the forefront inviting visitors to celebrate boundary-pushing contemporary art.

Under the helm of new director, Melissa Loughnan, more than 100 interdisciplinary artists will transform the space with moving-image, installation, large-scale sculpture and activations presented by 70 leading galleries and Indigenous art centres.

"I am thrilled to be leading the 18th iteration of Melbourne Art Fair, an edition that is not only resolutely female-led but also a celebration of First Peoples artistic practice," Ms Loughnan said.

She said Melbourne Art Fair 2025 was proud to celebrate First Peoples artists at an unprecedented scale.

MAF also includes the William Mora Indigenous Art Centre Program which supports the participation of Indigenous-owned art centres.

Funded by the Australian Government through the Indigenous Visual Arts Industry Support (IVAIS) initiative, and supported by Morgans Financial Ltd, the program recognises the vital role art centres play in sustaining First Peoples arts and communities, and in sharing the stories of Indigenous Australians.

In 2025, the Melbourne Art Fair will again welcome MOA Arts (Mua, Mualgal Country/Moa Island), Munupi Arts & Crafts Association, (Pirlangimpi Community/Melville Island), Papunya Tjupi Arts (Papunya), and Wik and Kugu Arts Centre (Aurukun), with their second year of participation focused on consolidating the opportunities initially developed at the 2024 fair.

In 2025 MAF also welcomes the Victorian First Peoples Art and Design Fair Showcase Exhibition, a preview of the

upcoming Victorian First Peoples Art and Design Fair, which will officially launch in 2027.

An Opening Ceremony produced by Jason Tamiru (Yorta Yorta) and Nathan Lovett-Murray (Wamba Wamba, Dhudhuroa, Baraparapa, Dja Dja Wurrung, Yupagalk, Wergaia, Yorta Yorta, and Wiradjeri) will officially mark the start of the VFPADF Showcase Exhibition and will feature a historical narrative, smoking ceremony and cultural dance performances.

New work

The exhibition will feature new and recent work by twenty independent Victorian First Peoples artists and designers including: Moorina Bonini (Yorta Yorta, Wurundjeri, Wiradjeri), Lorraine Brigdale (Yorta Yorta), Janet Bromley (Yorta Yorta), Bradley Brown (Bidwal, Gunditjmarra), Glennys Briggs (Tunguwurung, Yorta Yorta, Wiradjeri), Trina Dalton-Oogjes (Wadawurrung/Wathaurung, Gunditjmarra), Talgium Edwards (Taungurung),

Deanne Gilson (Wadawurrung), Tammy Gilson (Wadawurrung), Gail Harradine (Wotjobaluk, Djubagalk, Jadawadjali), ENOKi (Dja Dja Wurrung, Yorta Yorta), Zeta Thomson (Wurundjeri, Yorta Yorta), Kelly Koumalatsos (Wergaia, Wemba Wemba), Tarryn Love (Gunditjmarra Keeray Woorroong), Ray Thomas (Gunnai), Lisa Waup (Gunditjmarra, Torres Strait), Peter Waples-Crowe (Ngarigo), Kim Wandin (Wurundjeri), Lewis Wandin-Bursill (Wurundjeri), and Glenda Nicholls (Waddi Waddi, Ngarrindjeri, Yorta Yorta).

In addition, sixteen artists and designers are represented by Victorian First Peoples art centres.

Baluk Arts, from Mt Eliza will exhibit Adam Magennis (Bunurong) and Iluka Sax-Williams (Taungurung); Kaiela Arts, from Shepparton will exhibit Jack Anselmi (Yorta Yorta), Ally Knight (Yorta Yorta, Dja Dja Wurrung, Kamilaroi), Norm Stewart (Kwat Kwat, Wurundjeri, Yalaba Yalaba,



Lisa Waup, *Mother Country*, 2023, Photo Christian Capurro.

Moira) along with a Ceramics presentation by Cynthia Hardie, Laurel Robinson, Amy Briggs, Rochelle Patten, Lyn Thorpe, and Melinda Solomon; Perridak Arts, from Ballarat will exhibit Donna Blackall (Yorta Yorta, Taungurung) and Adrian Rigney (Wotjobaluk, Ngarrindjeri); and The Torch, from Naarm will exhibit Alfred Carter (Gunaikurnai), Stacey Edwards (Taungurung, Boon Wurrung), Ash Thomas (Yorta Yorta, Wiradjeri), and Robby Wirramanda (Wergaia, Wotjobaluk).

Co-curators Janina Harding and Dr Jessica Clark said, "The Victorian First Peoples Art and Design Fair Showcase Exhibition will be a first glimpse as we build up to a full-scale presentation.

Tickets: melbourneartfair.com.au/tickets



Gunditjmarra, Torres Strait artist Lisa Waup.

New artists welcomed to Bangarra



Zeak Tass, Edan Porter and Tamara Bouman will join Bangarra as full-time ensemble members for 2025.



THREE talented new dancers will be joining Bangarra Dance Theatre after shining

through amongst the 30 hopefuls who auditioned for the country's leading Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander performing arts company in Sydney last year.

Biripi woman Tamara Bouman, Gomerioi man Edan Porter, and South Sea Islander and Yuwibara man Zeak Tass, will join Bangarra as full-time ensemble members for 2025.

Porter and Tass commenced last month and will join Bangarra for their upcoming regional tour of The Light Inside, which visits Wollongong, Newcastle, and Adelaide in February and March, and Bouman joins Bangarra in March for the national tour of Illume.

Bangarra Dance Theatre's Artistic Director, Frances Rings welcomed the new

recruits saying "Tamara, Edan, and Zeak bring a diverse set of skills and experience to the table, and I can't wait to share their artistry with audiences across the country."

Founded in 1989, Bangarra Dance Theatre is a company of professional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander performers sharing their culture with communities and audiences across Australia and the world.

Drawing on 65,000 years of culture, Bangarra tells the stories of their Elders, create works on Country and return the works we create to the place they were made.

Ms Bouman is a 26-year-old contemporary dance artist and a proud descendant of the Biripi Peoples of the mid-New South Wales Coast.

She has previously performed in The Ring Cycle with Dance North and Opera Australia, joining Bangarra's Horizon season at the Sydney Opera House, and making her international touring debut

with THAW by Legs on the Wall.

Edan Porter, a proud Gomerioi man from North-West NSW, began his dance journey at the age of seven, learning traditional Aboriginal dance from his Elders on Country.

He trained professionally at NAISDA Dance College and been mentored by leading companies and creatives, including Jacob Boehme, Sydney Dance Company, Bangarra Dance Theatre and the Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity in Canada.

Zeak Tass is a proud South Sea Islander and Yuwibara man from Mackay, who began dancing at age 12, and continued his training at the National College of Dance.

He has danced with Disneyland Paris, performing as a soloist at the Moulin Rouge and founded the Contemporary Ballet Youth Company Z in North Queensland.

Mervyn opens his first exhibition



RENOWNED stockman and artist Mervyn Street is in his mid-70s and about to open his first institutional gallery exhibition.

The show titled *Stolen Wages* is part of Boorloo

Contemporary, a new commissioning program for Indigenous artists in Western Australia as part of the Perth Festival.

Street, a Gooniyandi man from the Country around Fitzroy Crossing, has been painting life in the Kimberley for decades.

But he's perhaps best known for leading a class action against the state government to recover wages withheld from Aboriginal people between 1936 and 1972.

A \$180 million payout for thousands of eligible workers and their families was approved in 2024.

Street himself worked on remote stations most of his life but was not paid a wage until he was in his thirties.

Stolen Wages will be held at the Fremantle Art Centre from February, with a series of new commissions that explore the harsh realities of the Kimberley pastoral industry.

Extraordinary talent

"He has this extraordinary talent for the colour and drama of the Kimberley and its cattle stations," Perth Festival artistic director Anna Reece said.

In her inaugural year at the helm of the city's arts showcase, Reece felt it needed a platform for visual artists comparable to other festivals.

"We have the most extraordinary First Nations visual artists across Western Australia," she said.

"But we don't yet have something that really profiles and celebrates them in a way that other states do."

She is keen to point out that Boorloo Contemporary has been guided by a

board of Indigenous curators and artists, and creative producer Yabini Kickett.

One element of the program that will be hard to miss is a series of projections lighting up the disused East Perth Power Station by Noongar artists Allan Yarran, Ilona McGuire and Daniel Hansen.

It's the first ever projection artwork for 27-year-old McGuire, who is working on a collage of drawings and archival images.

Like Reece, the artist has high hopes for the future of Boorloo Contemporary and the power station site.

"It's got the potential to bring people together on a site that's been quite overlooked, and it's a chance for people to re-imagine a place that has an interesting history," she told AAP.

As well as solo exhibitions and commissioned work, in its inaugural year Boorloo Contemporary features a nose-to-tail feast.

Killa: Pindan to Plate is an eight-dish meal that will be prepared by the head chef of the Double Rainbow kitchen in Northbridge.

It's designed to explore the Kimberley diet, with Killa the name for bush cattle shared by families, as well as seafoods, bush honey and fresh offal.

Tables will be decorated with art from the Kimberley's remote Aboriginal art centres, while a cinematic installation will show diners – as they are eating – how the cattle are butchered and prepared for cooking.

At \$230 a head, it's an experience for those with cash to spare, a reality that Reece acknowledges as a provocation by the artists involved.

It's part of a festival the Fremantle-born director hopes will change people's perceptions of the state.

"Hopefully it really offers to everyone this vision of Western Australia as a contemporary, diverse and richly cultured place," she said.

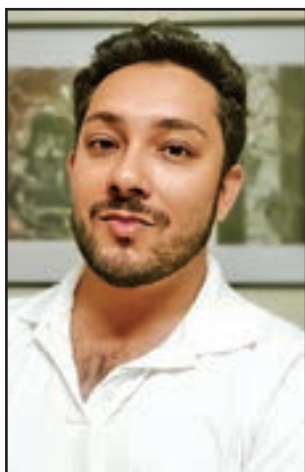
– AAP



A new commissioning program features Indigenous artists including Mervyn Street, who led a class action to recover stolen wages in Western Australia.

Flagship event celebrates artists

The Victorian First Peoples Art and Design Fair (VFPADF) is set to launch its first biennial iteration, from 20-23 February in Naarm (Melbourne). To be held at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, as part of the Melbourne Art Fair, VFPADF is a flagship event for Victoria as it celebrates and showcases Victorian First Peoples visual artists, multi-media artisans and designers. The fair is an initiative of Creative Victoria – the brainchild of the Creative Victoria's First Peoples Directions Circle. 2025's iteration will be a 'showcase exhibition' curated by Janina Harding and Dr Jessica Clark, highlighting what to expect in 2027's eventual, full-blown art fair. VFPADF 2025 showcases thirty-seven artists, representing over twenty language groups from across Victoria. One of the very great artists VFPADF will showcase this year is painter, Ray Thomas.



Jack Wilkie-Jans

Speaking to the *Koori Mail*, Ray remarked on the importance of the fair for him and other artists, saying "VFPADF has been a long time coming and will allow participating artists opportunities into the future, like commissions. It's a fantastic opportunity and I'm very excited! Knowing Janina Harding for years,

she brings a lot of expertise to VFPADF".

A Gunnai man and artist of over forty years, Ray's works on canvas, paper and multi-media are a union of seamless form and application with alluring visions of Victorian wildlife. His pieces are beautiful and serene, evoking a great sense of majesty around his subject matter, while peeling back the veneer of reality to expose 'dreamscapes'. A master at work, Ray always works to the same erudite precision in transposing his visual hallmarks – such as a mysterious ribbon which appears across almost all of his works.

Working to scale also, Ray is well-known across urban and regional areas for his expressive murals. Inspired and initially introduced to landscape oil painting by Lin Onus, Ray's works are unmistakably from a school of great Australian hyper-real surrealists.

Each piece by Ray is a

timeless homage to his peoples' culture, and incorporates many traditional patterns, while depicting the totemic species who also call his Country home (which is currently known as Gippsland). Ray's pieces will be showcased to an audience of thousands, within a marketplace which in 2024 garnered nearly \$15 million in art sales. In saying this, catching the keen eye of collectors and curators isn't new for Ray's talent. Institutions who have acquired his pieces are the National Gallery of Australia, the National Gallery of Victoria and Victoria Museum.

"All my landscapes are mainly influenced by Gunnai Country – the lakes and water scenery especially. With the 'tears' and 'folds' peeling away, that's inspired from Lin Onus' practice. I met Lin when I was about fifteen and I used to visit his place. He was painting in oils then and doing landscapes. He

had a storeroom full of his paintings and seeing that inspired me to become a painter. He taught me to paint first in oils and that sparked the interest in me. I followed his career, but I didn't start painting really until the mid-1980s. I received an arts grant through Australia Council and things developed from there", Ray said.

"I try to convey connections to Country. The 'tears', adding a three-dimensional effect, challenges the viewer to see through the European lens of landscapes, to the embedded Aboriginal culture of land—hence the traditional patterning and designs from my ancestors".

Speaking on the high hopes of VFPADF, Ray told the *Koori Mail* that he hopes more arts development will come from unearthing new audiences for Victorian First Peoples artists, especially emerging ones.

"We need to have continuous workshops

within our communities about our art. Because people are still teaching 'dots' and 'cross-hatching' and young artists from Victoria are doing that. We need workshops around the state, to make up-and-coming artists aware of their own culture and histories and grow from that. By practicing 'dots' and 'cross-hatching' styles, it perpetuates the false narrative that Aboriginal art is the same style of art. It's about reviving and honouring our old people and their ways—once they find it, it will really empower them spiritually".

As part of the Melbourne Art Fair, you can see Ray Thomas in conversation with curator Kimberley Moulton and other recognised artists, on a panel conversation discussing the vital role the two art fairs play for Victorian First Peoples artists: February 23, from 1pm, Melbourne Conventions and Exhibition Centre.

event
listingsNORTHERN
TERRITORY**Parrtjima**

– A festival in Light

when: April 4-13, 2025

where: Alice Springs
Desert Park, Mparntwe, NT

info/bookings:

parrtjimaaustralia.com.au

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/belo
nging**Kulata Tjuta: Tirkilpa**

(exhibition)

when: until Jul 13, 2025

where: Level 1, Gallery
15, National Gallery of
Australia, Parkes, Canberra

info/bookings:

nga.gov.au/whats-on/

**Ever Present: First
Peoples Art of Australia**

(exhibition)

when: until Aug, 2025

where: Level 1, Gallery
1–6, National Gallery of
Australiainfo/bookings: Free with
ticket, for more visitnga.gov.au/exhibitions/e
ver-present/SOUTH
AUSTRALIA**Radical Textiles**

when: until Mar 30, 2025

where: AGSA, North
Terrace, Adelaide

info/bookings:

agsa.sa.gov.au/whats-
on/exhibitions/radical-
textiles/**Sovereign Acts/Love
Praxis**when: Feb 17- Apr 11,
2025where: FUMA Gallery,
Flinders University, Bedford
Park, Adelaide

info/bookings:

flinders.edu.au/museum-of-
art/exhibitions**Big Name, No Blankets**

Adelaide Festival

when: Mar 14-16

where: Her Majesty's
Theatre, Adelaide

info/bookings:

ilbijerri.com.au/event/big-
name-no-blankets/

TASMANIA

luna rrala – strong
women

Barkandji curator off to America



AFTER seventeen years as curator of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art at the Art Gallery of South Australia and artistic director of Tarnanthi, Nici Cumpston OAM will step down to take up the directorship of the Kluge-Ruhe Aboriginal Art Collection at the University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia, USA in May 2025.

A proud Barkandji artist, curator, writer and educator, Cumpston was appointed as the inaugural Curator of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art at AGSA in 2008, and, since then, has contributed to the curation of sixteen major exhibitions and accompanying publications.

Ms Cumpston said she was deeply honoured to be stepping into her new role at the University of Virginia.

"I see this as a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for me to extend the work I have been doing for the past seventeen years at AGSA into an international context.

"I will be forever grateful to all the artists I have worked with who have put their faith in me to support them to deliver their outstanding vision. I am excited to continue the relationships I have built across Australia through Tarnanthi and look forward to showcasing their work to audiences in the US and beyond."

Tarnanthi is AGSA's platform for contemporary Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art, which, in 2025, will celebrate its tenth anniversary when it launches on 17 October.

Acting AGSA Director Emma Fey said that under Ms Cumpston's direction, Tarnanthi had set a benchmark in best practice with its commitment to working with First Nations artists and communities respectfully, ethically and in culturally appropriate ways.

"Nici's contribution to AGSA has been transformative; the growth in scope and scale of AGSA's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art collection under her care has positioned AGSA as a leader internationally."

Chair of AGSA's First Nations Advisory Council, Dr Ali Gumillya Baker acknowledged Nici's commitment to celebrating First Nations art and artists "and making Tarnanthi the extraordinary success it is today, ten years on."

Cumpston will depart for the US in March while continuing as Tarnanthi's Artistic Director for the 2025 festival ahead of a nationwide search. Recently appointed as Tarnanthi Producer, Tyme Childs will produce the upcoming festival, with Cumpston's artistic direction.

A First Nations woman of Bibbulmun, Palyku, Bunuba, Walajarri and English heritage, Childs joins AGSA from SA Film Corporation where she worked with First Nations filmmakers and the broader screen sector to raise profiles and foster opportunities.

Tarnanthi presents exhibitions at AGSA and on tour, an art fair, artist talks, performances, workshops, education programs, and the much-anticipated statewide



Nici Cumpston OAM iOS off to a new post in the US.

Tarnanthi Festival which is held every two years with the support of Principal Partner BHP.

Ms Cumpston is a Barkandji artist, curator, writer and educator, whose family are of Afghan, Irish and English descent. Barkandji people belong to the Barka, which is the name in their language for the Darling River, situated in western New South Wales.

She was awarded an Order of Australia medal for outstanding service to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art in 2020, the South Australian Government's Stephen Gadlabarti Goldsmith Memorial Award in 2019 and the South Australian Premier's NAIDOC Award in 2013.

Prior to her appointment at AGSA, Cumpston studied fine arts, specialising in photography at the University of South Australia. Ms Cumpston also worked as a photographic lecturer at Tauondi Aboriginal Community College, Port Adelaide, as well as at the University of South Australia. She wrote and delivered the inaugural course Indigenous Art, Culture and Design at the South Australian School of Art.

March 2025

where: Enmore
Theatre, Newtown, NSW,
Australiatickets:
https://www.enmoretheatre.
com.au/event/king-stingray-
3/**Is That You, Ruthie?**

Return season of the
play based on Dr Ruth
Hegarty's books, adapted
for the stage by Leah
Purcell.

where: Queensland
Performing Arts Centre
(QPAC)

when: 6-15 March 2025.
info/tickets: qpac.com.au
or phone 136-246

QUEENSLAND

irhythm wRites

(a genre-defying
installation by Bigambul
artist Dr Leah King-Smith)
when: until Mar 9, 2025
where: QUT Art Museum
info/bookings:
artmuseum.qut.edu.au/wha
t-s-on/exhibitions

**Black, bold and
beautiful 2025**
Australia's Leading

Indigenous Fashion Show,
Luncheon and Women's
Event showcasing
Indigenous businesses from
across the state, celebrating
International Women's Day
and promoting Indigenous
communities, culture,
business and creativity.

when: 10 March 2025
where: Brisbane
Convention and Exhibition
Centre.

info/tickets:
https://events.humanitix.co
m/black-bold-and-beautiful-
indigenous-women-s-
luncheon

VICTORIA

Red Flags

(exhibition by
Wadawurrung artist Kait
James, curated by Aaron
Bradbrook)
when: until Feb 23, 2025
where: Warrnambool Art
Gallery, Warrnambool
info/bookings:
thewag.com.au/exhibition/re
d-flags

**12th Koorie Art Show
and 7th Young Mob**
when: until Feb 23, 2025
where: Birrarung
Building, Fed Square

info/bookings:
kht.org.au/whats-
on/exhibitions/the-12th-
koorie-art-show-2024/

The Wet

Circa Cairns

when: Sat, Mar 15, 2025

where: The Round,
Nunawading, Melbourne
info/bookings:
theround.com.au/

**TarraWarra Biennial
2025: We Are Eagles**

curated by Yorta Yorta
woman Kimberley Moulton
when: Mar 29 - Jul 20,
2025

where: TarraWarra
Museum of Art, Healesville,
Wurundjeri Country
info/bookings:
twma.com.au/

Treaty

(an exhibition exploring
the past, present and
future of treaty with
Victoria's First Peoples)
when: until Oct 27, 2025
where: South Rotunda,
The Gateway
info/bookings: free, no
booking required. Details at
slv.vic.gov.au/treaty

WESTERN
AUSTRALIA**Art of Belonging:**

Spinifex People, Native Title
and Beyond
when: until Apr 28, 2025
where: WA Museum,
Boala Bardip, Perth Cultural
Centre
info/bookings:
visit.museum.wa.gov.au/
boolabardip

Big Name, No Blankets

(Ilbijerri on tour)
Perth Festival
when: Feb 27 - Mar 1
where: The Regal
Theatre, Subiaco
info/bookings:
ilbijerri.com.au/event/big-
name-no-blankets/

NATIONAL TOURS**Bangarra Dance**

The Light Inside
when/where: Feb,
Dharawal Country (NSW);
March, Kauria Country
(SA); and Oct, Djaara
Country (VIC)
For information and
bookings, visit:
bangarra.com.au/

Illume

Touring nationally from
June 4
For information and
bookings visit:
bangarra.com.au/production
s/illume/

Barunga Festival

Music line-up
announced:
Gamilaraay musician
Thelma Plum, J-MILLA x
Yung Milla, N.E. Arnhem
Land band East Journey,
emerging rap artist
Jawoyn/Larrakia/TSI
woman Kootsie Don and
Yolngu Songman and East
Journey frontman Rrawun
Maymuru
when: June 7-10
where: Barunga Festival
info/bookings:
barungafestival.com.au/mus
ic/

Employment

EXECUTIVE • PROFESSIONAL • POSITIONS VACANT

Enterprise targets training and workforce development

By ALF WILSON



GULF Regional Services (GRS), a local Indigenous enterprise based in Normanton, employs an average of 67 full-time equivalent staff with nearly 100 individuals on the payroll throughout the year.

The company employs civil construction workers, truck drivers, rollers, loaders, graders, excavator operators, traffic controllers, labourers and diesel fitters.

Owned by Wade Richardson and Kahli Corporal, dedicated members of the Gulf community and descendants of Kukatj and Waanyi tribes, GRS reflects a profound connection to the land, culture, and people of the Gulf.

"Our company proudly services various local shires, including Carpentaria (Normanton and Karumba), Kowanyama, Burketown, Doomadgee, Mornington Island, Georgetown and Croydon," Mr Richardson said.

"We employ an average of 67 full-time equivalent staff, with nearly 100 individuals on the payroll throughout the year, accommodating many on shorter contracts to meet project demands."

Mr Richardson said 88 per cent of the workforce identifies as Indigenous and comes from the local lower Gulf area, underscoring the company's commitment to community engagement and self determination.

"In 2024, GRS made a significant impact on the local economy. Beyond providing substantial wages, the company has supported two local Indigenous entrepreneurs in launching their own businesses, fostering economic growth within their communities," he said.

Looking toward the future, GRS is set to establish an industry-specific training academy.



Sorren Owens (fleet manager), Jessie Owens, Dakota Richardson, Nicole Owens, Michelle Gibson, Waldo Potgieter, Michael McNeilly, Stephen Ah Mat and Shane Busch.

"This initiative aims to enhance training and employment pathways for individuals within the civil-construction industry in the Lower Gulf, leveraging partnerships at local, state and federal levels to maximise its impact."

Mr Richardson said remote communities also benefit from the success of these large companies.

"A quarter of the GRS workforce consists of individuals in the early stages of their professional careers, reflecting a diverse age range within the company."

GRS prioritise targeted training and workforce

development to enhance skills and career progression. Established Indigenous companies, like Bynoe, Morr Morr Pastoral Company, Great and Gulf Labour-Hire and many more have set a precedent of success for Indigenous organisations and businesses in the Gulf region.

"Local Gulf councils such as Carpentaria are fostering authentic partnerships with Indigenous entrepreneurs, paving the way for collaborative growth and truly working towards closing the gap," Mr Richardson said.

In keeping with their priority in employing Indigenous people, one of their trucks has artwork

by a Mount Isa Aboriginal man, Justin Butler.

"Justin's work involves embedding Aboriginal symbols, colours, contrasts, vantage points and abstract designs to tell the stories of his people," Mr Richardson said.

"He is an Aboriginal man from the Kalkadoon people of the Mt Isa region and Bandjin people of Munnamadahnnee (Hinchinbrook Island.) Justin's totem is the emu foot from his Kalkadoon lineage and Yimba (pelican) from his Bandjin lineage," he said.

"Justin also has ties and connection to the Jirrabal, Warragamay and Tagalaka Aboriginal people."

Mr Richardson said future investments from state and federal departments for large projects in the region are crucial for community development and long-term sustainability.

"Locally awarded contracts must have a suite of local benefits embedded, such as local employment and sub-contractor arrangements," he said.

"It's critical for state and federal governments to reassess their procurement policies to ensure proportional-investment opportunities, and thereby engaging local companies effectively as a priority and preferred option," Mr Richardson said.

Your guide to employment

Welcome to the Koori Mail's Indigenous Job Opportunities section. Each edition we publish employment advertisements from around the nation. To be part of this section, simply give our advertising staff a call on (02) 66 222 666, email advertising@koorimail.com or see our website – www.koorimail.com

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Caring for Mob with dementia

By ALF WILSON



DEMENTIA rates in the Torres Strait are amongst the highest in the world.

That's why a team of James Cook University researchers will trial a new way of caring for sufferers in an attempt to bring down the alarming rates.

The Healthy Aging Research Team (HART), which is based at the JCU Nguma-bada Campus in Cairns, includes academics, clinicians and researchers, who will travel to the Torres Strait.

Members include Professor Eddy Strivens (team leader), Associate Professor Sarah Russell, Dr Rhiann Sue See, Dr Gavin Miller, Chenoa Wapau, Betty Sagigi, Rachel Quigley and Melissa Kilburn.

JCU neuropsychologist Associate Professor Sarah Russell will be part of an integral part of the team developing,



Betty Sagigi.

piloting and evaluating a health service-based local model of care for people with mild cognitive impairment (MCI), a significant risk factor for dementia.

"Our previous studies have identified high rates of MCI," Ms Russell said.

"This is a condition where there is evidence of objective cognitive



Professor Edward Strivens.

impairment but minimal functional impact," she said.

"Conversion rates from MCI to dementia are thought to be around 10-15 per cent, per year, which presents an ideal opportunity to target intervention programs for this at-risk group."

Another vital team member, Dr Rhiann Sue See, is a First Nations



Associate Sarah Russell.

geriatrician who will be completing her PhD on this research.

Dr Sue See, who has undertaken some previous risk factor modelling, has suggested that a substantial proportion of dementia and MCI in the region may be attributed to potentially modifiable factors, many of which can be addressed through lifestyle

changes and education.

"We think MCI may currently impact more than one fifth of the Torres Strait population over 45-years-old," Dr Sue See said.

"So, any intervention that can potentially delay or reduce the onset of dementia has significant health, social and financial benefits for individuals, communities and health services,"

"We have been going up to the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area (NPA), and many of us have clinical roles with Queensland Health working with older adults and in a research capacity through HART for over 20 years," Dr Sue See said.

"Last year we visited at least 10 island communities, some more than once and the NPA," she said.

"Over 100 older adults had geriatric assessments completed and we ran yarnning and workshops across communities."

More trips will resume at the end of February this year.



Australian Government



Creative Australia

Executive Officer

As the Executive Officer, you will be the maestro/maestra of all Board and Executive level agendas and manage strategic information flows for the Office of the CEO. Reporting to the CEO, this role is the cornerstone to delivering optimal alignment of key strategic objectives and corporate priorities of Creative Australia.

For more information, please visit our careers page at <https://creative.gov.au/about-us/careers/>

Applications close on 27 February 2025 at 2pm.



Australian Government



Creative Australia

Disability Programs Manager

The Australian government's Arts and Disability Associated Plan (ADAP) is a plan to make life better for people with disability. This Plan is about what we can do to make arts and culture more equitable, accessible and inclusive for d/Deaf and disabled artists, arts workers and audiences. This role is a chance to drive change and deliver arts and disability projects and initiatives that can improve the lives of people with disability. You will support stakeholders to deliver projects and initiatives that reflect our commitment to arts and disability under the ADAP.

For more information, please visit our careers page at <https://creative.gov.au/about-us/careers/>

Applications close on 5 March 2025 at 2pm.



Pangula Mannamurna
Aboriginal Corporation
ICN: 8331
Our Health In Our Hands

General Practitioner

Posted: 24/01/2025
Job Type: Full Time - 37.5 hours per week, negotiable
Location: Mount Gambier, South Australia

Pangula Mannamurna Aboriginal Corporation is a Community Controlled Health Organisation located in Mount Gambier that provides comprehensive primary health care services to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across the Limestone Coast.

Pangula Mannamurna Aboriginal Corporation is committed to the safety of children and young people, working within community to provide services so they feel safe, included and strong in culture.

About the Role
We are looking for a motivated General Practitioner who is dedicated to, and passionate about, providing high quality, culturally sound health care within the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community. As a key member of the Pangula Mannamurna Aboriginal Corporation you will be working closely with the clinic team as well as providing a comprehensive client experience. You will play an integral role in ensuring clinical care is in line with national standards and fostering a culture focused on providing comprehensive client service. This is a full time position, based at the Mount Gambier clinic, with part time applications also considered.

What Is Expected of You
Provision of high quality clinical services to our clients in line with best practice standards.
Demonstrate commitment to the process of continuous quality improvement as an integrated aspect of service development and delivery.
Strong knowledge and ability to optimise referral pathways to specialist and allied health services for clients, both locally, as well as inter and intra state.
Work collaboratively with the Clinical Services Manager and clinic team to anticipate and identify opportunities for expansion to better serve clients and community.
Prevention of illness and chronic disease through screening, immunisation and health education.

About our Clinic
Up to 18 client appointments per day
General appointment time of 20 minutes per client
Allocated administration time during the work day
Opening hours 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday
No on call or weekend work
Dedicated 30 minute lunch break
Professional Development opportunities included within work hours

About You
Essentials
Vocational Registration
Unconditional AHPRA registration
Sound understanding of systems and processes required to sustain a high standard of clinical quality and safety
Committed to the principles and practice of Aboriginal Community Control and to improving the long term health and well-being of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families and communities
Effective communication skills – written, verbal and interpersonal
Ability to problem solve
Excellent time management and organisational skills
Ability to work autonomously
Full Unrestricted Driver's Licence
Current DHS Working with Children Check
Current Nationally Coordinated Criminal History Check

Desirable
Previous experience working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities

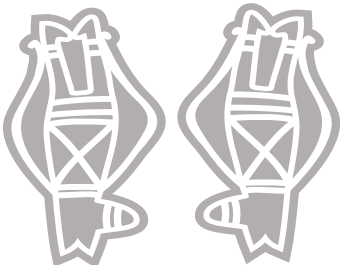
What we offer
Pangula Mannamurna Aboriginal Corporation values the contributions of all staff and is committed to providing an inclusive workplace where everyone feels accepted, included and welcomed.

Benefits
Competitive salary
Salary Sacrifice options
Four weeks of annual leave per year
Additional paid leave for 2 week Christmas closure
Additional 1 day paid Birthday Leave

Where Are We?
Pangula Mannamurna Aboriginal Corporation is located in Mount Gambier, nestled half-way between two major cities: Melbourne and Adelaide. Situated in the south-eastern corner of SA, surrounded by some of South Australia's best coastline with access to safe beaches, excellent recreational fishing, sailing and surf and outstanding National Parks. The region offers a work-life balance like no other, with both a relaxed and affordable lifestyle.

If you are interested in this position and require a Job and Person Specification, please contact:
Narelle Winterfield on (08) 8724 7270
or email clinicmanager@pangula.org.au with a current resume and cover letter

Applications close 3rd March 2025 at 5pm



BUS DRIVER - Identified Position



About the opportunity

CDC NSW has bus driver positions open for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander applicants at bus depots located at Mount Kuring-Gai and Terrey Hills. As part of our Reconciliation Action Plan, CDC NSW is committed to improving employment outcomes for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Why CDC NSW

CDC NSW is the largest private bus operator in NSW. Our reputation is built on a proven record of delivering safe, reliable, and timely connections that help people get where they need to be.

Our people are our greatest asset. We take pride in serving our community, and our culture supports individual needs. We are a down-to-earth business that prioritises authenticity over corporate formalities.

CDC is an Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) employer committed to attracting and developing a diverse workforce that reflects the communities we serve.

It's more than driving, it's about serving others, one interaction at a time and making a big impact on the places we call home.

What we offer

We offer industry leading rates and conditions. Our people say the best thing about the job, is the stable industry, inclusive culture, autonomy and independence when driving and working close to home.

- Hourly rate; \$32.71 per hour (weekday), and potential earning of \$90k per year including overtime and weekend shifts.
- Free OPAL card to be used on any public transport in NSW.
- Driver Licence upgrades
- Comprehensive training and development program.
- Supportive inclusive and culturally safe team.
- Career advancement opportunities.
- Novated lease options for a new car.
- Discount gym membership.
- Discounted health insurance.
- Access to hundreds of savings including your weekly groceries.

About you

If you are a team player, care about your community and prioritise safety then CDC NSW is the place for you. As a Driver you will need a positive attitude, good communication skills and value customer service. Training, uniforms, and other bus driving opportunities such as private charters and special events will be provided to the right candidate.

All you need is a good current driving record

How it works

- Apply online via our careers website: CDC NSW Careers | LiveHire
- We will review your application
- If it suits what we are looking for, our friendly team will call you to ask some questions
- You might be asked to share or obtain more licenses/checks
- Face to face interview with hiring manager
- If successful. We will proceed to checks, including a police check, right to work check and medical assessment (you must be willing to proceed with these)
- Contract offer

For specific job related information: Please contact us at jobs@cdcbus.com.au or 1300 533 709

More about us

CDC NSW parent company is ComfortDelGro Corporation Australia (CDC) who are one of the largest global land transport companies. ComfortDelGro Corporation Australia (CDC) operates in seven countries with over 24,300 employees and serves more than 2 million commuters daily.

Are you interested in joining CDC NSW? Please visit www.livehire.com/join/cdcbus/sig to join our Talent Community

ComfortDelGro Corporation Australia (CDC) acknowledges the Traditional Custodians throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to all First Nations people, their culture and to Elders past and present.



Artwork: Luke Penrith, Connecting to Country and People, 2022 - View our Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan on our website

Community Development Officer – Aboriginal Services



Full time temporary up to 3 years.

To perform this role, it is essential that the person is an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person. It is therefore a genuine occupational requirement under Section 14(d) of the NSW Anti-Discrimination Act 1977.

Salary: \$90,623 to \$101,416 per annum (based on 70 hours per fortnight) plus superannuation and a nine-day fortnight.

Appointed salary in this range will be based on skills, qualifications, and experience.

About us

Hornsby Shire is located on Sydney's upper north shore, approximately 25 kilometres north of the CBD. Known as the 'Bushland Shire,' our local government area is characterised by bushland comprising national park, major waterways, natural reserves, and rural landscape. The rest of the Shire combines urban, rural, and open spaces.

Council for many years has had an Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Consultative Committee with representatives from the Traditional Owners, the Dharug and GuriNgai Peoples and Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Peoples who live, work, study or have a strong commitment to the Hornsby LGA.

About the Role

The primary purpose of this position is to develop and foster effective and strong communication networks between the Hornsby Shire Council, the local Aboriginal community, and the local community services sector.

Responsibilities of this role include;

- Contributing to the development of strategic policies to address the needs of Hornsby Shire's Aboriginal Community.
- Supporting and advocating on community issues
- Collaborating with stakeholders in the development and implementation of meaningful and responsive community development activities.
- Research and prepare grant application for funding projects and community events relevant to the Aboriginal community.
- Facilitating the engagement between Council and Aboriginal stakeholders relating to heritage and environmental matters.
- Support Hornsby Shire Council's Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Consultative Committee.
- Support the facilitating and coordinating of Aboriginal Community activities and events.
- Provide information and education to Hornsby Shire Council and community to raise cultural awareness.

About you

To be successful in this role you will have tertiary qualifications in community development or social science and good research skills or extensive experience in the sector.

You will be a proactive, strategic thinker with well-developed communication and consultation skills.

Benefits of working with us!

We pride ourselves on having a fantastic culture with a genuine appreciation for work-life balance. Visit hornsby.nsw.gov.au/careers and click on "what we offer" to learn about the wonderful benefits available at Hornsby Council.

You will be required to have a current Working with Children Check to work in this position.

For further information and to apply, please visit hornsby.nsw.gov.au/careers

Closing Date: 21 February 2025 at 11.30pm



Executive Assistant

Identified Part-Time Position
\$80,051 Pro Rata (includes leave loading)
Based in The Rocks, Sydney.

Are you passionate about supporting Aboriginal arts and culture in NSW? The Aboriginal Culture, Heritage & Arts Association seeks a part-time (up to 23 hours/week) Executive Assistant to join our team.

ACHAA is the peak body for 21 community-controlled spaces including cultural centres, knowledge centres, language centres, galleries, museums and Keeping Places across NSW. We work collaboratively with these member centres and their communities, artists and stakeholders to support and advocate for the sustainability, growth, awareness and appreciation of NSW Aboriginal arts, cultural practices and heritage.

You will support the CEO and Board, assist with financial administration, records, reports and other documents as well as helping with program delivery including events. With a good understanding of Aboriginal communities and cultures in NSW, you should be an excellent communicator, highly organised, and proficient with Office 365. Experience with cultural organisations, WordPress, and event logistics would be an advantage, along with a NSW Driver's License.

For full job description go to <https://mgns.org.au/sector/jobs/> or for more information: hello@achaa.com.au

Send your application, including a cover letter and resume, to hello@achaa.com.au by 5pm **Monday, 3 March**.

Aboriginality is genuine occupational requirement for this role and as such is an exemption under Section 14(d) of the NSW Anti-Discrimination Act 1977.

First Nations Health and Healing Lead



Western Victoria Primary Health Network

Fixed term: 12 months

Full time: Negotiable/Flexible

Please note: We are open to discussions about temporary secondments from an ACCO, job sharing with an ACCO, part-time arrangements or other approaches that may be suitable and also support your cultural safety.

Work from anywhere in the western Victoria region (Horsham, Warrnambool, Ballarat or Geelong areas)

Special Measure – First Nations People

This is an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander designated position, classified under Section 12 Special Measures of the Equal Opportunity Act (2010). This employment opportunity is only available to First Nations People.

About the Role

Western Victoria Primary Health Network is looking for a First Nations person with connections to community and Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs) in South West Victoria to support our staff to learn and seek knowledge so that they can understand and promote culturally respectful approaches in their work internally and externally.

The role will also work with WVPHN colleagues to build capacity of mainstream primary care agencies to deliver culturally appropriate services to First Nations people, and to foster collaboration between the mainstream primary health care sector and the First Nations health sector.

How to apply

The full position description is available from our website: westvicphn.com.au - about us - wvphn careers

Please email applications to careers@westvicphn.com.au by: **Friday 14 March, 2025.**

Senior Program Officer (Identified)

Child and Family; Region – Southwest; Service Delivery – Child and Family

Department of Child Safety, Seniors and Disability Services

Salary: \$115,758 to \$123,611 per annum

Location: Ipswich

Job Reference: QLD/616944/25

Key Duties:

- Develop / manage projects to achieve delegated authority to community controlled organisations
- Consultation with government agencies and community organisations
- Prepare written materials including: executive correspondence; briefing material; information papers concerning the program and initiatives
- Undertake research and provide advice to staff
- Develop and maintain monitoring and review of the program

Skills and Abilities:

- This position must be filled by an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person.
- A "C" class driver's license and ability to undertake intrastate travel.
- Extensive experience in tertiary child protection practice and a degree or postgraduate studies in related content is highly desirable.
- Extensive knowledge of current policies, practices, trends and philosophies with a particular understanding of impacts for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families.

Enquiries: Susan Goodrich **Phone:** 3432 1351

Candidates apply for your job on:

<https://smartjobs.qld.gov.au> using the reference number above.

Closing Date: Wednesday, 26th February.



Queensland Government



The Northern Rivers Community Legal Centre (NRCLC) is seeking to recruit to the position of:

GENERALIST CIVIL SOLICITOR

Up to 35 hours per week
Fixed Term to 30 June 2025
Lismore

The salary range for SCHADS 5 to SCHADS 6 is \$97,639.97 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 28 February 2025.

What an average day might look like...

- Offering legal advice and assistance to vulnerable clients.
- Attending outreach services to our program partners.
- Working collaboratively with colleagues and other stakeholders (e.g. legal, community, corporate, etc.) to achieve effective client outcomes.
- Representing NRCLC in internal and external meetings, activities and events.

Enquires should be directed to
recruitment@northernriversclc.org.au

Further information available at Ethical Jobs and Seek:

<https://www.seek.com.au/jobs?advertiserid=62890553&jobid=81826486&type=standard>

<https://www.ethicaljobs.com.au/members/nrclc/generalist-civil-solicitor-lismore?keywords=legal&locations=4>



NOW HIRING



GMTOAC Work Location:

248 Condah Estate Rd, Breakaway Creek VIC 3304

• **Executive Manager of Mirring (Programs)**

Full Time 38hrs per week, fixed term – 24 Months
\$140,000 p.a + superannuation

• **Budj Bim World Heritage Executive Officer**

Full Time, 38hrs per week, ongoing
\$95,000 p.a + superannuation
Negotiable subject to qualifications/experience

• **Nyamat Mirring (Sea Country) Ranger**

Full Time, 38hrs per week, ongoing
\$63,000 p.a + superannuation
Negotiable subject to qualifications/experience

• **Treaty Traditional Owner Engagement Officer**

Full Time, 38hrs per week, ongoing
\$90,000 p.a + superannuation
Negotiable subject to qualifications/experience

• **General Manager, Budj Bim Cultural Landscape Tourism**

Full Time, 38hrs per week, fixed term – 12 Months
Ongoing subject to performance & funding
\$120,000 p.a + superannuation
Location: Heywood & Tae Rak (Lake Condah)

• **Front of House / Kitchen Hand**

Casual, Weds-Sun, 8.30am-4.30pm
\$31.23 per hour + superannuation
Location: Tae Rak (Lake Condah)



Position Descriptions: gunditjmirring.com/employment
Cover letter addressing KSC & CV to: hr@gunditjmirring.com
Applications close: **5PM Monday 24th Febuary 2025**



Shape Young Minds in Award-Winning Gowrie NSW Lithgow

Apply now and start your rewarding career in early childhood education with Gowrie NSW! 'Best Workplace' Award 2025!

We're seeking passionate educators to nurture young minds in our beautiful Blue Mountains valley setting.

Enjoy a supportive community, professional growth opportunities, and the chance to make a lasting impact on children's lives. Be part of our play-based learning approach and empower the next generation.

Apply now and start your rewarding career in early childhood education with Gowrie NSW!

gowriensw.com.au/careers



Executive Assistant (EA) and Governance Coordinator



- Naarm/Melbourne location with working from home flexibility
- Permanent Full-time, Part-time considered
- \$86,144 per annum pro rata, plus 15.4% superannuation

The Community Broadcasting Foundation is a proud champion of community media – Australia's largest independent media sector. We distribute funding to strengthen over 450 community media organisations in Australia – connecting people across the country, including more than five million people who tune into their local community-owned and operated radio stations every week.

The Role

In this integral role, you will be responsible for supporting the CEO and Executive Officer with the day-to-day operations of the organisation.

Reporting to the CEO, you will provide EA support to the CEO and ensure the smooth running of all Governance related matters of the organisation. This incorporates Board meeting management and supporting the Finance, Audit and Risk Management (FARM) Committee in their functions.

You will be highly organised, have an eye for detail and exceptional interpersonal and planning skills. You require demonstrated experience in drafting minutes and reports, managing compliance mechanisms, and high-level stakeholder management skills.

To apply or for more information about this role, visit: www.cbf.org.au

Aboriginal Engagement Officer



Location: Sydney

Classification: Temporary (Upto December 2025), Full-time

Salary: Clerk Grade 7/8 (Total Remuneration Package: \$137,121 p.a. Package includes salary \$110,266 - \$122,058, employer's contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading.)

Job reference: 0000AV6J

About the role

The Aboriginal Engagement Officer will work within a small community engagement team within the Commission's Prevention and Engagement team. This role will be responsible for engaging and building relationships within the community, increasing engagement between the Commission and Aboriginal communities, and building organisational capacity to ensure access, equity, and inclusion of Aboriginal people in a culturally appropriate way. The role will also help to undertake engagement with other community groups as needed by the Commission.

About you

You'll have the demonstrated ability to communicate sensitively and effectively with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples with an appropriate level of cultural understanding and understand issues impacting on First Nations peoples. You'll have highly developed communication skills (interpersonal, written and verbal) and the ability to develop collaborative partnerships. You will have experience in community engagement and project management, with high level organisational and time management skills. You will have the flexibility to travel across NSW as required for the role.

Please refer to iworkforNSW website for more details and application information.

Closing date: Thursday, 27 February 2025, 11.55pm

Enquiries: Susan Raice (02) 9321 6901

This is an identified Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander position. The LECC considers that being Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander is a genuine occupational qualification under s 14 of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977 (NSW).



On behalf of the NSW Aboriginal Education Consultative Group Incorporated's Association Management Committee notice is hereby given for the

ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



Commencing 1pm on Thursday 20th March 2025



Novotel Sydney Brighton Beach
Cnr, The Grand Parade & Princess Street
Brighton-le-Sands NSW 2216



Further information please contact the Secretariat
Ph: (02) 9550 5666
Email: info@aecg.nsw.edu.au



DOING THE MOST GOOD





Notice under Section 29 of the *Native Title Act 1993*, Exploration Licence Number EL9645 (Act 1992)

This notice is given in accordance with the requirements of section 29 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Commonwealth).

Description of the nature of the act

Pursuant to the *Native Title (Right to Negotiate (Exclusion) – NSW Land) Determination No. 1 of 1996* (Cth), Exploration Licence EL9645 includes a condition to the effect that the holder must not prospect on any land, or waters covered by the licence in relation to which native title exists without the prior written consent of the Minister administering the *Mining Act 1992* (the 'Native Title Condition').

The Minister administering the *Mining Act 1992* intends to give consent to prospecting on land subject to native title in the licence in accordance with the *Native Title (Right to Negotiate (Inclusion) – NSW Land) Approval No. 1 of 1996* (Cth).

Should consent 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 consent is granted, it will apply to any renewal, re grant or re-making (including partial renewals or partial transfers) or extension of the term of the licence, which may be valid pursuant to section 24MD(1) of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) without a further notification under section 29.

Holder's details

Patrick Gundersen is the holder of Exploration Licence 9645 for Group 3 minerals.

The licence contains a condition that the holder must not prospect on any land or waters on which native title exists without the prior consent of the Minister administering the *Mining Act 1992*. The licence holder has sought the Minister's consent to conduct prospecting activities in the entire licence area.

Description of area that may be affected

The entire area of Exploration Licence 9645 which covers about 17 units and is situated approximately 10 kilometres north northwest of Torrington, in the State of NSW.

Name and postal address of person by whom the act would be done

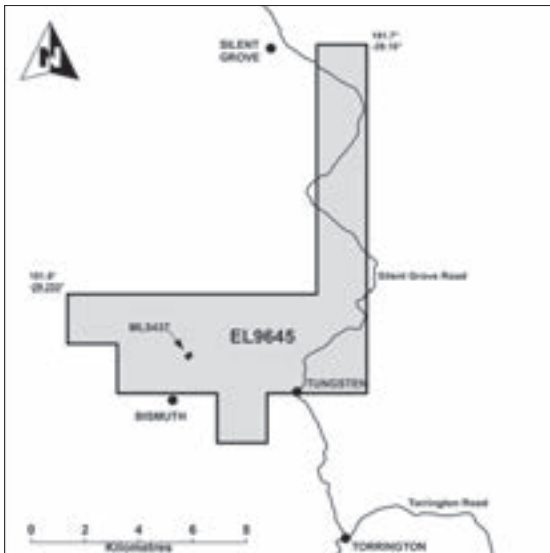
The Minister administering the *Mining Act 1992*, PO Box 344, Hunter Region Mail Centre, NSW 2310.

How further information about the act and description of the area 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 27 February 2025. 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.



Join us to learn more about new water security projects in the Tamworth area

The NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water are inviting community members from across the Tamworth region to attend a webinar or visit our stall at Tamworth Shoppingworld to learn about proposed water security projects in our region.

Business cases are being developed for the Tamworth Intervalley Pipelines and Off-River Storages Project and the Tamworth Advanced Water Treatment Plant.

The sessions are an opportunity for the community to receive information about project planning, ask questions and provide feedback to the project team.

To learn more and have your say:

- Attend an online webinar with questions and answers on Monday 24 February from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm AEDT. Registration on the project website is required.
- Visit our information stall at Tamworth Shoppingworld on Wednesday 26 February and Thursday 27 February from 9 am to 5 pm.
- Complete a feedback survey available on the projects' webpages.

Tamworth Intervalley Pipelines and Off-River Storages Project

This project involves the delivery of a preliminary business case to identify and assess options to improve Tamworth region's water security and support a growing regional economy.

The department's Water Group will consider options like intervalley pipelines, off-river storages and other options identified in previous assessments.

Tamworth Advanced Water Treatment Plant

This project involves the delivery of a full business case to support government funding decisions. The aim of creating a new treatment plant is to help improve water security in the region, provide sustainable environmental outcomes and support a growing regional economy.

The project aims to recycle up to 12 megalitres per day of wastewater from major industrial users, reducing their reliance on town water by up to 25%, with the potential to also receive used process water from other future developments.

The non-potable recycled water will be used by food industry facilities to substitute their existing demand.

For more information

- scan one of the QR codes
- visit water.nsw.gov.au/tamworth-intervalley-pipeline-and-off-river-storage-project
- visit water.nsw.gov.au/tamworth-advanced-water-treatment-plant
- email water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au
- call 1300 081 047.

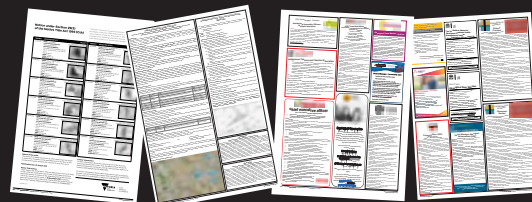
Intervalley
Pipelines
and Off-River
Storages Project



Water
Treatment
Plant



For all your advertising needs



Email: advertising@koorimail.com

Notice of an application for determination of native title in Queensland

Notification day: 26 February 2025

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 26 May 2025**. Further information regarding how to file a Form 5 is available from www.fedcourt.gov.au. After **26 May 2025**, 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: Colin Bowen & Ors on behalf of the Gia and Ngaro Peoples v State Minister for the State of Queensland
Federal Court File No: QUD228/2024
Date filed: 30 April 2024
Registration test status: The Native Title Registrar has **accepted** this application for registration

Description of area: The external boundary of the application area covers about 7,296 sq km of land and sea located in the area surrounding Airlie Beach
Relevant LGAs: Mackay and Whitsunday Regional Councils

For assistance and any further information about this application, including the description of the area, call Sylvia Jagtman on 07 3052 4248 or visit www.nntt.gov.au.



National
Native Title
Tribunal

Registration of Interest Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (Inner West LGA)

Placemaking NSW is undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report for the Bays West Precinct in Annandale, Lilyfield and Rozelle.

The proposed project may result in an application for an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) under s90 of the National Parks & Wildlife Act 1974. The purpose of community consultation with Aboriginal people is to assist the proposed applicant in the preparation of an AHIP application, if required and to assist the Secretary of the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water in their consideration and determination of the application.

We are inviting Aboriginal people who hold knowledge relevant to determining the cultural heritage significance of Aboriginal objects and places in the Bays West precinct to register an interest in consultation.

If you would like to register, please respond by 28 February 2025 to Palimpsest Consultancy, PO Box 807, Marrickville NSW 1475 or fenella@palimpsest.au. Please provide the name of the group/individual, nominated contact person and contact details.

We are required to provide details of all Registered Aboriginal Parties to Heritage NSW and the Local Aboriginal Land Council, unless otherwise advised. Please advise us if you do not wish your details to be released.

Contact:
contactus.whitebaypowerstation@property.nsw.gov.au

Notice of an application to register an area agreement on the Register of Indigenous Land Use Agreements in Queensland

Notification day: 19 February 2025



National Native Title Tribunal



Q12024/014 CQCAA Mines ILUA

Description of the agreement area:

The agreement area consists of multiple parts with a total combined area of about 2,881 sq km, in the vicinity of the towns of Dysart, Middlemount and Moranbah

Relevant LGA: Isaac Regional Council

The agreement contains the following statements:

[Explanatory notes in brackets inserted by the National Native Title Tribunal]

3.5 Consent to and Validity of Future Acts – section 24EB

(a) For the purposes of section 24EB(1)(b) of the Native Title Act and regulation 7(5)(a) of the ILUA Regulations, the Parties consent to all acts covered by this ILUA, to the extent they involve Future Acts in the ILUA Area, without conditions but in accordance with this ILUA.

(b) The Parties acknowledge that on Registration of this ILUA, to the extent Native Title exists in the ILUA Area and is affected by the acts covered by this ILUA, those acts are Valid pursuant to section 24EB(2) of the Native Title Act.

3.6 Agreement to Validation of Prior Acts – section 24EBA

For the purposes of section 24EBA(1)(a)(i) of the Native Title Act and regulation 7(5)(d) of the ILUA Regulations, the Parties agree to the Validation of all Prior Acts (where applicable).

3.7 Statutory rights to negotiate do not apply – section 24EB(1)(c)

The Parties agree the process set out in Subdivision P of Division 3 of Part 2 of the Native Title Act, known as the “right to negotiate” process, does not apply and is not intended to apply to any act covered by this ILUA.

3.8 The non-extinguishment principle applies – sections 24EB(3) and 24EBA(4)

The Parties acknowledge the non-extinguishment principle applies under this ILUA in accordance with sections 24EB(3) and 24EBA(4) of the Native Title Act.

4.1 Consent and agreement

The Parties consent and agree: (a) to the Agreed Acts; (b) that each Prior Act is, was and, where it continues to exist remains, Valid and enforceable in accordance with its terms including against BBAC, the Barada Barna Representatives and the Barada Barna Native Title Holders; and (c) if for any reason a Prior Act is not Valid, it is Validated for the purposes of the Native Title Act.

Agreed Acts means: (a) the Grant of the Project Rights; and (b) the doing of any other act necessary, ancillary, incidental or expedient to give effect to the Grant of the Project Rights (whether before, on or after the Commencement Date), in the ILUA Area, and includes the Prior Acts, but excludes the Grant of, or the doing of an act to give effect to the Grant of, any Project Right in the Designated Area on or after the Commencement Date.

CQCAA Act means the *Central Queensland Coal Associates Agreement Act 1968* (Qld).

CQCA Joint Venturers means BHP Coal Pty Ltd (ACN 010 595 721), QCT Mining Pty Ltd (ACN 010 487 840), Mitsubishi Development Pty Ltd (ACN 009 779 873), QCT Investment Pty Ltd (ACN 010 487 831), BHP Queensland Coal Investments Pty Ltd (ACN 098 876 825), QCT Resources Pty Limited (ACN 010 808 705) and Umal Consolidated Pty Ltd (ACN 000 767 386).

Barada Barna Native Title Holders means the people determined by the Federal Court to hold Native Title in the Barada Barna Determination.

Barada Barna Parties means BBAC and the Barada Barna Representatives.

Government Agency means: (a) the Commonwealth or State government or a government department or Minister;

(b) a governmental, semi-governmental or judicial person including a statutory corporation; or (c) a person (whether autonomous or not) who is charged with the administration of a Law.

Grant means grant, approve, effect, extend, renew, re-grant, replace, substitute, amend and re-make, and **Granted** has a corresponding meaning.

ILUA Area means the area described in item 2 of Schedule 1 and shown in the map in item 1 of Schedule 1, provided that if there is an inconsistency between the description in item 2 and the map in item 1 of Schedule 1, the ILUA Area as defined by the description in item 2 of Schedule 1 prevails.

ILUA Regulations means the *Native Title (Indigenous Land Use Agreement) Regulations 1999* (Cth).

Law means: (a) legislation including regulations, by-laws, orders, awards and proclamations with which a Party is legally required to comply; (b) common law and equity (if applicable); and (c) government or judicial requirements, guidelines, consents, certificates, licences, permits and approvals (including conditions in respect of those consents, certificates, licences, permits and approvals) with which a Party is legally required to comply.

Native Title Act means the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth).

Prior Acts means: (a) each element of BMA's Business; (b) each and every Agreed Act; and (c) the doing of any other act necessary, ancillary, incidental or expedient to give effect to the Grant of the matters referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b), in the ILUA Area which was Granted or done prior to Registration, whether or not continuing to exist or remaining in force, including the Grant of a Project Right that existed at Registration and was acquired by any or all of BMA and the CQCA Joint Venturers after Registration.

Project Rights means any: (a) approval, authorisation, authority, certificate, consent, declaration, dedication, direction, easement, lease, licence, notice, permit, reserve, revocation, right, tenure, title, or similar, issued by a Government Agency, other competent authority or other holder of such interests; (b) a tenement or other right to mine, quarry, extract or explore for minerals or water, including a tenement under the *[Mineral Resources Act 1989 (Qld)]* or the CQCAA Act; and (c) a legal, contractual or equitable interest in or power over or in connection with, land, waters, or tenements, in the ILUA Area, held or to be held by any or all of BMA and the CQCA Joint Venturers, whether before, on or after the Commencement Date, and which are, in whole or in part, for or in connection with BMA's Business, and includes: (d) any amendment to the Central Queensland Coal Associates Agreement or the CQCAA Act; (e) any action or approval that changes the rights and entitlements of any or all of BMA and the CQCA Joint Venturers under the Central Queensland Coal Associates Agreement or the CQCAA Act; and (f) the removal of any Project Right or other rights or entitlements from the operation of the Central Queensland Coal Associates Agreement or the CQCAA Act, including changing the administration of a Project Right from the CQCAA Act to the *[Mineral Resources Act 1989 (Qld)]* or other legislation.

Valid has the meaning given to that term in the Native Title Act, and **Validly** and **Validity** have corresponding meanings.

Validation means, in accordance with section 24EBA of the Native Title Act, validation of any Prior Acts that were not done Validly in accordance with the applicable requirements under the Native Title Act at the time those acts were done, and **Validated** has a corresponding meaning.

Parties to the agreement and their contact addresses:

BM Alliance Coal Operations Pty Ltd on its own behalf and as manager and agent on behalf of the Central Queensland Coal Associates Joint Venturers (BMA) Level 14, 480 Queen Street Brisbane QLD 4000	Collette Brown, Nicholas Brown, Graham Budby, Lindsey Conway, Luarna Dynevor, Melanie Kielly and Nicole Muller (Barada Barna Representatives); Barada Barna Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC (ICN 8343) (BBAC) c/- Dillon Bowers Lawyers 62 Blackwood Street, Townsville QLD 4810	State of Queensland (State) PO Box 3679 Red Hill QLD 4702
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Responses to an application to register an ILUA—where the application has not been certified:

Any person claiming to hold native title in relation to land or waters in the area covered by the agreement may wish, in response to this notice, to make a native title determination application or equivalent application under a law of a state or territory in respect of any part of the area. **The application must be made by 19 May 2025.** If that application is registered on the Register of Native Title Claims, the registered native title claimants must be a party to this agreement before it can be registered.

Details of the terms of the agreement are not available from the National Native Title Tribunal.

For assistance and any further information about this application, including the description of the area, call Huia McGrath on 08 6317 5442 or visit www.nntt.gov.au.



Dharawal Environment and Heritage
Aboriginal Community Consultation and Registration of Interest

Dharawal Environment and Heritage (Dharawal EH) have been engaged by Jacobs Group (Australia) Pty Ltd, on behalf of Sydney Water, to assist in the preparation of an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) and report including Aboriginal community consultation. The ACHA will inform the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for Sydney Water's proposed Orchard Hills Water Filtration Plant Reliability Upgrade Project (the Project).

The Project lies within the boundary of the existing Orchard Hills Water Filtration Plant located at The Chase, Orchard Hills, NSW (Subject Area), within the Penrith Local Government Area (LGA) and the administrative boundaries of the Deerubbin Local Aboriginal Land Council.

The Project aims to enhance the reliability and resilience of drinking water supplied from the Orchard Hills Water Filtration Plant to customers in the Penrith and Blue Mountains LGAs, to ensure drinking water continues to meet the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines and service future regional growth.

In accordance with the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (DECCW, 2010), the Proponent is seeking registrations of interest from Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the Subject Area.

Community consultation with Aboriginal cultural knowledge holders will help establish the cultural significance of the Subject Area and allow participation in the consultation process to inform the ACHA. Consultation will also assist Heritage NSW in their consideration and determination of any subsequent Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit applications (if required).

Any Aboriginal people or organisations with relevant cultural knowledge can register their interest in writing via email to: **Dharawal Environment and Heritage at dharawalfeedback@gmail.com**.

All registrations for the project will be received via email by 5pm on 28 February 2025.

Please be advised that, as per Section 4.1.6 of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (OEH, 2010) the names of Aboriginal persons and groups who register an interest will be forwarded to Heritage NSW and the Deerubbin Local Aboriginal Land Council unless the person or group specifies that they do not want their details released.

For general project information visit the webpage at sydneywatertalk.com.au/orchardhillsupgrade or contact the Sydney Water project team on 0428 375 529.



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EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

The National Parks and Wildlife Service are seeking expressions of interest from Monero/Ngarigo community members to join the Southern Snowy Mountains Aboriginal Community Advisory Committee to provide advice on the management of the southern part of Kosciuszko National Park and nearby conservation reserves.

Expressions of interest close 16 March 2025.

For an EOI information package please email:
npws.southernrangesbranch@environment.nsw.gov.au

NOTICE OF NYANGBAL NATIVE TITLE CLAN MEETING AND INFORMATION SESSION

DATE: Sunday 30th March, 2025

TIME: 9AM -12PM
REGISTRATION FOR MEETING AT 9AM

VENUE: Namabunda Farm112 WHITES LANE
ALSTONEVILLE COMMUNITY SHED

AGENDA:

Welcome / Acknowledgement of Country
Introduction to anthropologist Dr Scott Cain
Discuss progress to date
Questions and consultation

WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

All community members with connection to this claim are encouraged to attend.

Bring a plate, tea and coffee will be provided.

Please note: This is a peaceful meeting of Nyangbal community members. Respect is expected. Any aggressive, threatening behaviour will not be tolerated. Any members demonstrating such behaviour will be asked to leave.

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT THE STEERING COMMITTEE - Email:
secretary@nyangbalnativetitle.com

Heritage Council of NSW

Heritage Act 1977

Notice of intention to consider listing on the State Heritage Register

The Heritage Council of NSW maintains the State Heritage Register which is a list of places of particular importance to the people of NSW, including Aboriginal and other heritage.

The Heritage Council is currently considering whether or not to recommend the listing of the following place on the State Heritage Register in acknowledgment of its heritage significance.

Balls Head Reserve, Waverton

Written submissions on this listing are invited from any interested person by 13 April 2025. Enquiries to Dr Damian Tybussek on 0488 188 527.

The Heritage Council is interested in receiving information in writing, by email, telephone or in person from the Aboriginal community or Aboriginal organisations on the potential Aboriginal significance of this place.

See more details about the nominated place at
environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/heritage/request-a-heritage-listing/nominate-an-item-for-listing-on-the-state-heritage-register/comment-on-nominations

Make your submission at:
haveyoursay.nsw.gov.au/ballshead

or direct your submission to:
Heritage Council of NSW
Locked Bag 5020
Parramatta NSW 2124



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
26/210	METAL HAWK LIMITED	713716	36.72HA	27.7km SE'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 52' S: Long: 121° 42' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
27/666	DYNAMIC METALS LIMITED	719800	16.04HA	50km NE'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 16' S: Long: 121° 48' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
30/511	ROCKTIVITY GOLD PTY LTD	719066	3.68HA	58.5km SW'ly of Menzies	Lat: 29° 58' S: Long: 120° 32' E	MENZIES SHIRE
30/511	ROCKTIVITY GOLD PTY LTD	719067	1.11HA	57.2km SW'ly of Menzies	Lat: 29° 58' S: Long: 120° 33' E	MENZIES SHIRE

Nature of the act: Grant of amalgamation applications which authorises the applicant to explore for minerals.

Notification day: 12 February 2025

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 **12 May 2025**. 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. **12 June 2025**), 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_25033

Notice of an application to register an area agreement on the Register of Indigenous Land Use Agreements in Queensland

Notification day: 19 February 2025



QI2024/017 Mt Fullstop Quarry (Area Agreement)

Description of the agreement area:
The agreement area covers about 0.5 sq km and is located approx. 50 kms southeast of Greenvale, north of Clarke River and adjoining the Gregory Development Road within Lot 4844 on Plan PH1679

Relevant LGA: Charters Towers Regional Council

The agreement contains the following statements:

6.1 Subject to clause 6.2, the Parties consent to the:
(a) grant of the Sales Permit;
(b) any Variation of the Sales Permit;
(c) the issue of any Replacement Sales Permit;
(d) subject to clause 20, the Assignment of the Sales Permit;
(e) any acts done under or in accordance with the Sales Permit; and
(f) any Approval.

6.2 The consents given under clause 6.1 do not otherwise apply to an increase to the Supply Zone or the ILUA Area.

6.3 To the extent that any acts referred to in paragraphs 6.1(a) - 6.1(f) is a Future Act, the Parties acknowledge that the Non-Extinguishment Principle applies.

6.4 Subdivision P of Division 3 of Part 2 of the NTA is not intended to apply to a future act or future acts to which the Parties have consented in this Agreement.

6.5 Subject to clause 6.2, none of the Applicant, the Corporation or the Gugu Badhun People will object to the Sales Permit (including any re-issue, replacement or re-grant of the Sales Permit) or Variation of Sales Permit or do, or omit to do, any act that may prevent or delay the grant of the Sales Permit or any Variation of the Sales Permit.

Application means *Ernest Michael Hoolihan & Ors on behalf of the Gugu Badhun #3 v State of Queensland* QUD777/2019, filed in the Federal Court on 17 December 2019, and as amended from time to time.

Assignment of the Sales Permit means the assignment, transfer or novation of the Sales Permit or any Replacement Sales Permit.

Future Act has the meaning given in the NTA.

Gugu Badhun People means all of those persons who individually and collectively comprise the Native Title Claim Group with respect to the Application, being the persons on whose behalf the Application is made and as described in the Application.

ILUA Area means all of the land within the boundary marked in blue shown on the map in Part A of Schedule 1 and as described in Part B of Schedule 1.

Native Title Claim Group has the meaning given in the NTA.

Non-Extinguishment Principle has the meaning given in the NTA.

NTA means the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*.

Quarry Material has the meaning in the *Forestry Act 1959 (Qld)*.

Parties means the parties to this Agreement.

Replacement Sales Permit means the issue of a new or the replacement of a sales permit or permits by the State under the *Forestry Act 1959 (Qld)* for the getting of Quarry Material over or within the Supply Zone.

Sales Permit means an unrestricted Sales Permit to be issued to Bolwarra by the State of Queensland under the *Forestry Act 1959 (Qld)* for the getting of Quarry Material only, over or within the Supply Zone.

State means State of Queensland acting through the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries or other agency which from time to time has the administrative responsibility for quarry material sales under the *Forestry Act 1959 (Qld)*.

Supply Zone means the area of land identified as Area A in Schedule 1.

Variation of Sales Permit means any variation to the terms and/or conditions of the Sales Permit and/or to any other sales permits issued to Bolwarra by the State under the *Forestry Act 1959 (Qld)* for the getting of Quarry Material over or within the Supply Zone.

Parties to the agreement and their contact addresses:

Bolwarra Enterprises Pty Ltd (ACN 009 853 221) (Bolwarra)	c/- Holding Redlich GPO Box 490 Brisbane QLD 4001
Ernie Hoolihan, Ms Kennedy (deceased) and Hazel Illin as registered native title claimants on behalf of the Gugu Badhun People (Applicant) AND Gugu Badhun Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC ICN 7719 (Corporation)	c/- North Queensland Land Council PO Box 679N Cairns QLD 4870

Responses to an application to register an ILUA—where the application has not been certified:

Any person claiming to hold native title in relation to land or waters in the area covered by the agreement may wish, in response to this notice, to make a native title determination application or equivalent application under a law of a state or territory in respect of any part of the area. **The application must be made by 19 May 2025.** If that application is registered on the Register of Native Title Claims, the registered native title claimants must be a party to this agreement before it can be registered.

Details of the terms of the agreement are not available from the National Native Title Tribunal.

For assistance and any further information about this application, including the description of the area, call Claire Smith on 08 6317 5333 or visit www.nntt.gov.au.

ABORIGINAL REFERENCE GROUP EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

State Records of South Australia and the State Library of South Australia are calling for expressions of interest from individuals to join the Aboriginal Reference Group. Members of the group will be consulted on the agencies' programs and activities in relation to Aboriginal peoples and cultures.

MEMBERSHIP

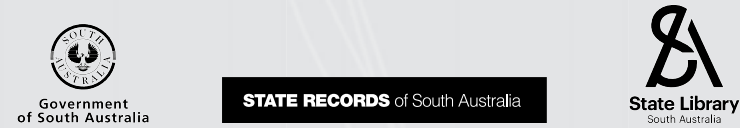
Any Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person can nominate for membership for a term of up to 24 months. Preference will be given to those that have connections with communities across all regions of South Australia. Diverse representation of Aboriginal peoples will be a priority objective.

Members will have knowledge of and experience in issues affecting Aboriginal people in relation to libraries, archives, and/or records management, and the ability to represent the interests of Aboriginal peoples across South Australia.

Forms and further information are available at www.archives.sa.gov.au

or contact **Helen Chadwick**
Phone: (08) 7322 7729
Email: slsars.arg@sa.gov.au

Nominations close Monday 31 March 2025



WIDI ABORIGINAL CORPORATION RNTBC (ICN: 8911) (WAC) – GANGALI NARRA WIDI ABORIGINAL CORPORATION RNTBC ICN: 8363 (GNWAC) NOTICE OF MEETINGS TO CONSULT WITH AND SEEK THE CONSENT OF WIDI PEOPLE – PROPOSAL OF WAC AND GNWAC TO ENTER INTO THE HAIL CREEK MINE INDIGENOUS LAND USE AGREEMENT UNDER THE NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH)

All members of the **WIDI PEOPLE** are invited to attend Consultation and Consent meetings (details set out below) in relation to WAC's proposal to enter into the proposed **Hail Creek Mine ILUA**. The Widi People are described in the Native Title Determinations QUD372/2019 and QUD492 of 2013 as the descendants of the following apical ancestors:

- Jean White, mother of Albert Butterworth
- Mr Clark ("of Sutton Station" and Jimmy ("of Sutton Station") whose known children are Charlie Clark and Dick Clark;
- Jinny ("of Stockton Station"), whose known child (with Mr Watson) is Charlie Watson;
- Siblings Tommy Emmerson/Iffley and Arthur Emmerson;
- Roger ("of Nebo District") whose known child is Emily Rogers;
- Harry Monsell Snr ("of Lake Elphinstone") whose known children are Lilly Sullivan, Flora Doyle and Harry Monsell Jnr;
- Neddy Thorney whose known child is Sarah Mate Mate nee Thorney/Sauney;
- Sophie of Nebo whose known children include Jack Skeen, William Skeen, Norman Skeen, Elsie Skeen and Mary Skeen;
- Dick ("of Nebo") whose known child is Sam Murray;
- Billy ("of Nebo") & Molly ("of Oxford Downs") whose known children are Jessie and Billy Sullivan;
- King ("of Fort Cooper") & Meg ("of Fort Cooper") whose known children are Johnny, Mick, Mitchell, Dalton, Paddy, Emma and Annie;
- Ida ("from Nebo") whose known child is Rene Hess;
- Maggie whose known children are Morman Brown Snr, George "Duke" Barker and Ina Darwin.

HAIL CREEK MINE ILUA - CONSULTATION AND CONSENT MEETINGS DETAILS

In accordance with the requirements of the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth), the Native Title (Prescribed Bodies Corporate) Regulations 1999 (Cth) and the WAC and GNWAC Rule Books, each corporation must consult with and obtain the consent of the Widi People before making a decision to enter into the proposed Hail Creek Mine ILUA.

The following meeting will be held to comply with these requirements:

DATE	TOWN	VENUE	TIME
22 February 2025	Mackay	Ocean International Hotel, 1 Bridge Rd, Mackay QLD 4740	9:30am

REGISTRATION

If you wish to attend a meeting, please register your interest via email at: hailcreekmeeting@hopgoodganim.com.au

Travel assistance up to \$250 per person will be provided for those who have registered. Light refreshments will be provided at the meeting.

WHAT IS THE HAIL CREEK MINE ILUA ABOUT?

Gangali Narra Widi Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC (ICN: 8363; ABN: 62 678 118) (**GNWAC**); Widi Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC (ICN: 8911; ABN: 36 938 219 078) (**WAC**); Barada Barna Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC (ICN: 8343); Hail Creek Coal Pty Ltd (ABN: 59 080 002 008) (**Hail Creek Coal**); and the **Hail Creek Joint Venture** (Hail Creek Coal Holdings Pty Limited (ABN: 71 625 050 722); Marubeni Resources Development Pty Ltd (ABN: 57 009 932 236); and Sumisho Coal Development Queensland Pty Ltd (ABN: 13 082 435 149)) propose to enter into an ILUA pursuant to Subdivision B of Division 3 of Part 2 of the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) within the ILUA Area (plan set out below).

The proposed ILUA is in relation to the existing Hail Creek Mine owned by the Hail Creek Joint Venture and operated by Hail Creek Coal.

The Widi People and the Barada-Barna People are the Common Law Holders of Native Title in relation to different (and in some parts shared) parts of the ILUA Area.

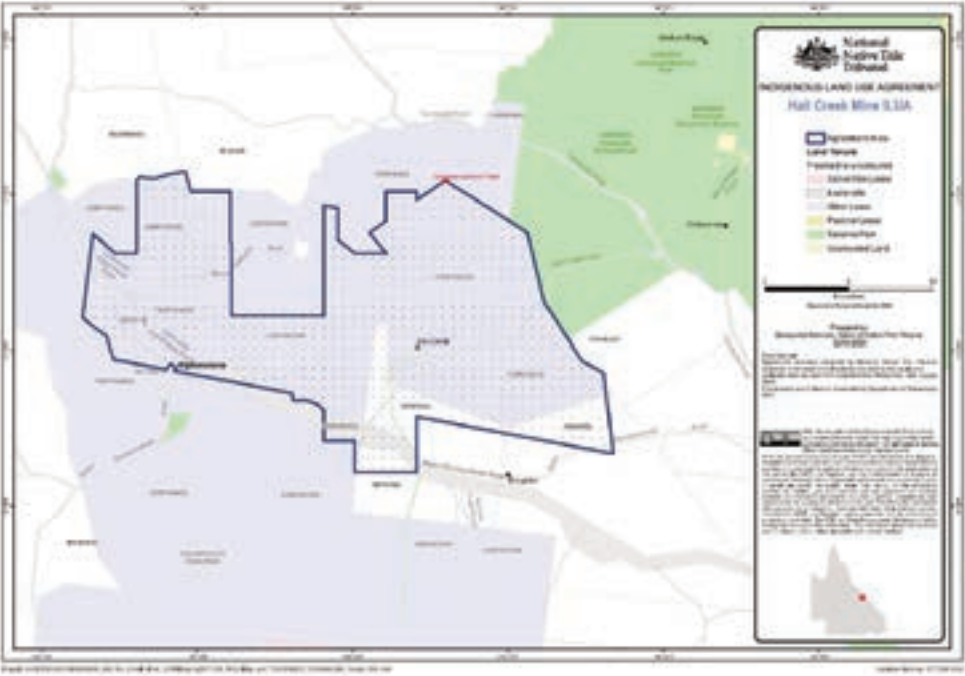
In accordance with the proposed ILUA, BBAC (for on behalf of the Barada Barna People) and GNWAC, and WAC (for and on behalf of the Widi People) will consent and agree to certain 'Agreed Acts' within the ILUA Area, being any 'Future Acts' relating to the Hail Creek Mine that may be done after the commencement of the ILUA, including any expansion or extension of exploration or production activities in the ILUA Area or additional such activities.

In consideration for these consents, Hail Creek Coal and the Hail Creek Coal Joint Venture will provide certain financial and non-financial benefits to BBAC (for on behalf of the Barada Barna People) and GNWAC and WAC (for on behalf of the Widi People).

In addition to Hail Creek Coal seeking to expand its mining operation, the proposed ILUA has been negotiated in the context of resolving the litigation about whether the agreement made in 1998 with Hail Creek Coal (**1998 Hail Creek Coal Agreement**) under which certain financial benefits were to be paid to the Wiri Yuwiburra Community Benefits Trust should continue. It addresses three potential outcomes of the litigation being where that litigation is settled, where the court decides that the 1998 Hail Creek Coal Agreement is to continue or where the court decides that the 1998 Hail Creek Coal Agreement ceases.

HAIL CREEK MINE ILUA AREA

The ILUA Area is located in the vicinity of Hail Creek, in central Queensland, north-east of Elphinstone and north-west of Nebo.



Registration Of Interest

SERPENTINE PIPEHEAD DAM REMEDIAL WORKS

ROI INVITATION NUMBER - 7000014528

CLOSING DATE: 2:30PM WST, Thursday 20 February 2025

The Principal is seeking Registrations of Interest (ROI) from Bidders for their Serpentine Pipehead Dam Remedial Works Upgrade Project.

The ROI Documents will be made available through the Water Corporation website (<https://www.watercorporation.com.au/About-us/Suppliers-and-contractors/Tenders>) at 2:30pm WST on Wednesday, 29 January 2025.

Should you have any enquires about this ROI, please contact Contracts Consultant, Edward Moody at edward.moody@watercorporation.com.au or on telephone number (08) 6330 6773.

If you have any queries relating to the Supplier Portal, in the first instance please immediately contact Water Corporation's Service Desk on telephone (08) 9420 3090.

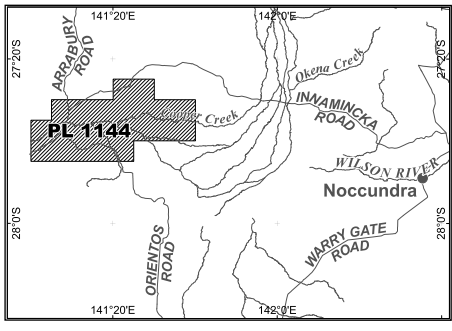


NOTICE OF PROPOSED GRANT OF A PETROLEUM LEASE

NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

The Queensland Minister for Natural Resources and Mines, Minister for Manufacturing, Minister for Regional and Rural Development, 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 Petroleum Lease (PL) 1144 shown below, subject to the provisions of the *Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004* (Qld).

PL 1144 applied for by Icon Energy Limited, ACN 058 454 569, over an area of 550 Sub-blocks (1671 km²), centred approximately 115 km West of Noccundra, in the locality of Bulloo Shire Council.



Nature of Act(s): The grant of a Petroleum Lease under the *Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004* (Qld), authorises the holder explore for, develop and produce commercial quantities of petroleum for a maximum term not exceeding thirty (30) years with the possibility of renewals for terms not exceeding thirty (30) years.

Name and address of person doing acts: It is proposed that the Petroleum Lease be granted subject to the provisions of the *Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004* (Qld) by the Queensland Minister for Natural Resources and Mines, Minister for Manufacturing, Minister for Regional and Rural Development, 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 a Petroleum Lease. Under section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth), persons have until three (3) months after the Notification Day to take certain steps to become native title parties

in relation to this notice. Enquiries in relation to filing a native title determination application may be directed to the Federal Court, Brisbane Registry, Level 6, Harry Gibbs Commonwealth Law Courts Building, 119 North Quay, Brisbane, Queensland, 4000. Telephone: 1300 720 980 or Email: nativetitleQLD@fedcourt.gov.au. Enquiries in relation to the registration of a native title determination application may be directed to the National Native Title Tribunal, Brisbane Registry, Level 5, Harry Gibbs Commonwealth Law Courts Building, 119 North Quay, Brisbane, Queensland, 4000. Telephone: (07) 3052 4040.

Further information: May be obtained from the Department of Natural Resources and Mines, Manufacturing Regional and Rural Development, Level 4, 1 William Street, Brisbane, Queensland, 4000. Telephone: (07) 3199 8119 or Email: petroleumhub@resources.qld.gov.au

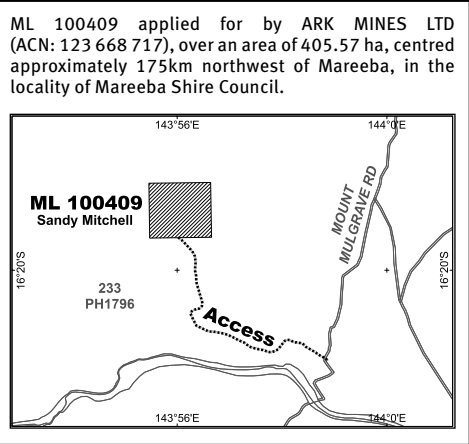
Notification Day: 26 February 2025



NOTICE OF PROPOSED GRANT OF A MINING LEASE

NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

The Queensland Minister for Natural Resources and Mines, Manufacturing and Regional and Rural Development, PO Box 15216, City East, Queensland, 4002, hereby gives notice in accordance with section 29 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) of the proposed grant of Mining Lease (ML) shown below, subject to the provisions of the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld).



Nature of Act(s): The grant of 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 a term not exceeding twenty (20) years, with the possibility of renewals for a term not exceeding twenty (20) years. The grant of the Mining Lease includes the granting of access as shown in the graphics.

Name and address of person doing acts: It is proposed that the Mining Lease be granted subject to the provisions of the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld) by the Queensland Minister for Natural Resources and Mines, Manufacturing and Regional and Rural Development, PO Box 15216, City East, Queensland, 4002.

Native Title Parties: *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 a Mining Lease. Under section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth), persons have until three (3) months after the Notification Day to take certain steps to become native title

parties in relation to this notice. Enquiries in relation to filing a native title determination application may be directed to the Federal Court, Brisbane Registry, Level 6, Harry Gibbs Commonwealth Law Courts Building, 119 North Quay, Brisbane, Queensland, 4000. Telephone: 1300 720 980 or Email: nativetitleQLD@fedcourt.gov.au. Enquiries in relation to the registration of a native title determination application may be directed to the National Native Title Tribunal, Brisbane Registry, Level 5, Harry Gibbs Commonwealth Law Courts Building, 119 North Quay, Brisbane, Queensland, 4000. Telephone: (07) 30524040.

Further Information: May be obtained from the Department of Natural Resources and Mines, Manufacturing and Regional and Rural Development, 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: 26 February 2025



NOTICE OF PROPOSED GRANT OF EXPLORATION PERMITS GEOTHERMAL ENERGY

NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

The Queensland Minister for Natural Resources and Mines, Manufacturing and Regional and Rural Development, PO Box 15216, City East, Queensland, 4002, hereby gives notice in accordance with section 29 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) of the proposed grant of Exploration Permits for Geothermal Energy (EPG) under the *Geothermal Energy Act 2010* (Qld).

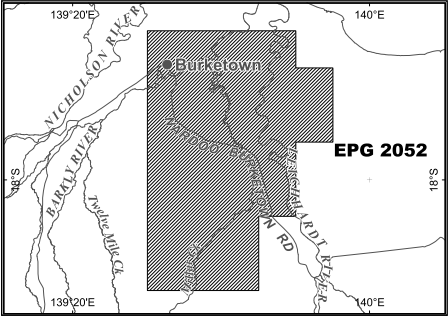
Nature of Act(s): The renewal and grant of an Exploration Permit under the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld), authorises the holder to explore for minerals specified for a term not exceeding three (3) years for EPM25786 and five (5) years for EPM26760 and to seek renewals for a term not exceeding five (5) years. It is proposed to renew and grant Exploration Permits subject to the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Qld) and also subject to the Native Title Protection Conditions Version 5, June 2018.

Nature of Act(s): The grant of Exploration Permits for Geothermal Energy under the *Geothermal Energy Act 2010* (Qld) authorises the holder to explore geothermal energy under the *Geothermal Energy Act 2010* (Qld) for a term not exceeding five (5) years with the possibility of renewal for a term not exceeding five (5) years.

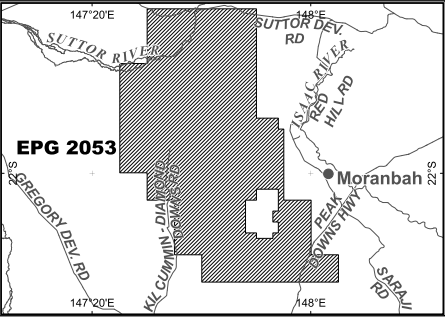
Name and Address of person doing Act(s): It is proposed that the Exploration Permits for Geothermal Energy be granted subject to the provisions of the *Geothermal Energy Act 2010* (Qld) by the Queensland Minister for Natural Resources and Mines, Manufacturing and Regional and Rural Development, PO Box 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 an EPG. Under section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth), persons have until three (3) months after the Notification Day to take certain steps to become native title parties in relation to this notice. Enquiries in relation to filing a native title determination application may be directed to the Federal Court, Brisbane Registry, Level 6, Harry Gibbs Commonwealth Law Courts Building, 119 North Quay, Brisbane, Queensland, 4000. Telephone: 1300 720 980 or Email: nativetitleQLD@fedcourt.gov.au. Enquiries in relation to the registration of a native title determination application may be directed to the National Native Title Tribunal, Brisbane Registry, Level 5, Harry Gibbs Commonwealth Law Courts Building, 119 North Quay, Brisbane, Queensland, 4000. Telephone: (07) 30524040.

EPG 2052 applied for by TERRA CALOR ENERGY PTY LIMITED (ACN: 677 598 677), over an area of 700 sub-blocks (2280 km²), spanning across Burketown, in the Burke Shire Council and Carpentaria Shire Council.



EPG 2053 applied for by TERRA CALOR ENERGY PTY LIMITED (ACN: 677 598 677), over an area of 1203 sub-blocks (3823km²), west of Moranbah in the locality of Isaac Regional Council and Whitsunday Regional Council.



Further information: May be obtained from the Department of Natural Resources and Mines, Manufacturing and Regional and Rural Development, Petroleum Assessment Hub, Level 4, 1 William Street, Brisbane, Queensland, 4000. Telephone: (07) 3199 8118 or Email: petroleumhub@resources.qld.gov.au.

Notification Day: 26 February 2025



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	16/659	FMG RESOURCES PTY LTD	3BL	28.5km SW'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 39' S: Long: 121° 9' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	16/661	FMG RESOURCES PTY LTD	3BL	47.7km SW'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 42' S: Long: 120° 44' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	16/662	FMG RESOURCES PTY LTD	2BL	44.9km SW'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 39' S: Long: 120° 44' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	28/3495	CHALWELL PROSPECTING PTY LTD	54BL	76km E'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 38' S: Long: 122° 15' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	29/1270	METAL HAWK LIMITED	22BL	71.8km W'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 39' S: Long: 120° 38' E	LEONORA SHIRE, MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	29/1278	METAL HAWK LIMITED	24BL	67.1km W'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 40' S: Long: 120° 41' E	LEONORA SHIRE, MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	29/1283	GOLD ALPHA INVESTMENTS PTY LTD	70BL	72km W'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 53' S: Long: 120° 35' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	39/2523	GTT METALS GROUP PTY LTD	4BL	24.4km W'ly of Laverton	Lat: 28° 39' S: Long: 122° 9' E	LAVERTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	47/5264	DE GREY MINING LTD	2BL	19.2km E'ly of Whim Creek	Lat: 20° 48' S: Long: 118° 1' E	KARRATHA CITY, PORT HEDLAND TOWN
Exploration Licence	59/2931	ADAVALE MINERALS PTY LTD	18BL	22.7km NW'ly of Yalgoo	Lat: 28° 15' S: Long: 116° 28' E	YALGOO SHIRE
Exploration Licence	59/2942	KALAMAZOO RESOURCES LIMITED	26BL	62.5km NW'ly of Yalgoo	Lat: 27° 55' S: Long: 116° 14' E	YALGOO SHIRE
Exploration Licence	77/3130	GOLDEN HORSE MINERALS (AUST) PTY LTD	3BL	9.2km SW'ly of Southern Cross	Lat: 31° 18' S: Long: 119° 17' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Exploration Licence	77/3172	FMG RESOURCES PTY LTD	1BL	41km S'ly of Marvel Loch	Lat: 31° 48' S: Long: 119° 39' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	24/5819	NORTON GOLD FIELDS PTY LTD	104.58HA	9.4km SE'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 26' S: Long: 121° 6' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	24/5820	FLEMING, Leo Glenn	112.54HA	4.2km SW'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 23' S: Long: 121° 1' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	24/5821	MURTAGH, Jason Lee	90.89HA	12.4km S'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 28' S: Long: 121° 5' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE, KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	26/4811	SPENCER, Scott Andrew SMART, Benjamin Wayne	201.64HA	29.2km NE'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 31° 3' S: Long: 121° 55' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	27/2603	TEASDALE, Mark Ashley	153.05HA	41.3km E'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 21' S: Long: 121° 44' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY

Nature of the act: Grant of prospecting licences which authorises the applicant to prospect for minerals for a term of 4 years from date of grant. Grant of exploration licences, which authorises the applicant to explore for minerals for a term of 5 years from the date of grant.

Notification day: 12 February 2025

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 **12 May 2025**. 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. **12 June 2025**), 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

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HAS YOUR FEDERAL ELECTORAL DIVISION CHANGED?

There has been a redistribution of federal electoral divisions in New South Wales. A redistribution ensures there are a similar number of voters in each electoral division for a given state or territory.

Because of this, you may be voting in a different electoral division at the next federal election.

In New South Wales, the boundaries of 42 federal electoral divisions have been altered and the former Division of North Sydney has been abolished. Voters who previously lived in the Division of North Sydney have been allocated to the surrounding Divisions of Bennelong, Bradfield and Warringah.

The Division of Cook will be jointly named to honour the Rt. Hon. Sir Joseph Cook GCMG PC (1860–1947) and Captain James Cook FRS (1728–79).

A list of the areas which have moved to a different federal electoral division is provided in the table below.

Where can I find out more?

Further information can be found at aec.gov.au/NSW-redistribution

Maps and descriptions of all federal electoral divisions are available at aec.gov.au/profiles

Do I need to do anything?

You do not need to take any action if your federal electoral division has changed as the result of this redistribution. The AEC has:

- transferred your enrolment to your new federal electoral division, and
- written to households whose federal electoral division has changed and those letters should arrive in the coming weeks.

How do I find out if my federal electoral division has changed?

You can check your enrolment online at aec.gov.au/check

For privacy reasons, your electoral enrolment will only be confirmed if the details you enter are an exact match to your details on the electoral roll.

You can also check which federal electoral division your suburb or locality is located in at aec.gov.au/electorate

Alternatively, you can contact the AEC on 13 23 26 or find your local AEC office details at aec.gov.au/contact

Which areas have moved to a different federal electoral division?

From	To
Division of Banks	• the Division of Barton – the locality of Allawah, and part of the localities of Blakehurst, Carlton, Hurstville and South Hurstville
Division of Barton	• the Division of Grayndler – the locality of Tempe, and part of the localities of Canterbury, Dulwich Hill, Hurlstone Park and Marrickville • the Division of Kingsford Smith – the localities of Brighton-Le-Sands and Kyeemagh, and part of the locality of Rockdale
Division of Bennelong	• the Division of Berowra – the locality of North Epping and part of the locality of Epping • the Division of Parramatta – part of the localities of Beecroft, Carlingford, Dundas, Eastwood, Epping, Ermington and Melrose Park
Division of Berowra	• the Division of Mitchell – part of the localities of Glenhaven and West Pennant Hills • the Division of Parramatta – part of the locality of Carlingford
Division of Blaxland	• the Division of Banks – part of the localities of Bankstown, Milperra, Padstow and Revesby • the Division of Reid – part of the locality of Auburn • the Division of Watson – the localities of Bankstown Aerodrome, Condell Park, Georges Hall and Lansdowne, and part of the localities of Bankstown, Bass Hill, Milperra, Revesby, Sefton and Yagoona
Division of Bradfield	• the Division of Berowra – the locality of Waitara, and part of the localities of Asquith, Hornsby, Mount Colah, Normanhurst and Wahroonga
Division of Calare	• no changes have been made to this electoral division which result in the transfer of voters to another electoral division
Division of Chifley	• the Division of McMahon – the localities of Arndell Park and Bungarabee, and part of the localities of Blacktown, Doonside and Rooty Hill
Division of Cook	• the Division of Banks – the localities of Carss Park and Kyle Bay, and part of the localities of Blakehurst and Connells Point • the Division of Barton – the localities of Beverley Park and Kogarah Bay, and part of the localities of Kogarah and Ramsgate • the Division of Kingsford Smith – the locality of Monterey and part of the locality of Ramsgate Beach ! The Division of Cook will be jointly named to honour the Rt. Hon. Sir Joseph Cook GCMG PC (1860–1947) and Captain James Cook FRS (1728–79)
Division of Cowper	• the Division of Page – the locality of Korora and part of the locality of Sapphire Beach.
Division of Cunningham	• no changes have been made to this electoral division which result in the transfer of voters to another electoral division
Division of Dobell	• the Division of Robertson – part of the localities of Central Mangrove and Kulnura
Division of Eden-Monaro	• the Division of Riverina – Snowy Valleys Council and Yass Valley Council
Division of Farrer	• no changes have been made to this electoral division which result in the transfer of voters to another electoral division
Division of Fowler	• no changes have been made to this electoral division which result in the transfer of voters to another electoral division
Division of Gilmore	• the Division of Eden-Monaro – the localities of Turlinjah and Tuross Head
Division of Grayndler	• the Division of Sydney – the localities of Balmain, Balmain East, Birchgrove and Rozelle, and part of the locality of Lilyfield
Division of Greenway	• the Division of McMahon – part of the localities of Blacktown, Prospect, Seven Hills and Toongabbie • the Division of Parramatta – the locality of Girraween, and part of the localities of Pendle Hill, Seven Hills and Toongabbie

aec.gov.au/NSW-redistribution ☎ 13 23 26

From	To
Division of Hughes	the Division of Cook – the localities of Grays Point, Kareela, Kirrawee and Oyster Bay, and part of the localities of Como, Gymea, Jannali and Sutherland
Division of Hume	- the Division of Eden-Monaro – Goulburn Mulwaree Council - the Division of Riverina – Upper Lachlan Council, the localities of Boorowa, Frogmore, Godfreys Creek, Hovells Creek, Mount Collins, Reids Flat, Rugby, Rye Park and Taylors Flat, and part of the locality of Wyangala - the Division of Whitlam – the localities of Balmoral, Belanglo, Bullio, Bundanoon, Canyonleigh, Colo Vale, Goodmans Ford, High Range, Hill Top, Joadja, Mandemar, Medway, Meryla, Paddys River, Penrose, Wattle Ridge, Wingello and Yerrinbool, and part of the localities of Alpine, Bargo, Berrima, Buxton, Exeter, Sutton Forest, Tallong, Werai, Wombeyan Caves and Woodlands
Division of Hunter	- the Division of Newcastle – part of the localities of Elernmore Vale and Wallsend - the Division of New England – Muswellbrook Shire Council - the Division of Paterson – part of the locality of Seahampton - the Division of Shortland – the locality of Argenton, and part of the localities of Cardiff and Glendale
Division of Kingsford Smith	the Division of Wentworth – part of the localities of Clovelly, Coogee and Randwick
Division of Lindsay	the Division of Macquarie – the localities of Emu Heights, Emu Plains and Leonay
Division of Lyne	no changes have been made to this electoral division which result in the transfer of voters to another electoral division
Division of Macarthur	- the Division of Hughes – part of the locality of Ingleburn - the Division of Hume – the localities of Catherine Field and Oran Park, and part of the localities of Bringelly, Harrington Park, Leppington and Rossmore
Division of Mackellar	no changes have been made to this electoral division which result in the transfer of voters to another electoral division
Division of Macquarie	no changes have been made to this electoral division which result in the transfer of voters to another electoral division
Division of McMahon	- the Division of Blaxland – the localities of Guildford West, Merrylands West, Old Guildford, Woodpark and Yennora, and part of the localities of Greystanes, Guildford, Merrylands and South Wentworthville - the Division of Fowler – part of the localities of Bossley Park and Wetherill Park - the Division of Parramatta – part of the localities of Greystanes and South Wentworthville
Division of Mitchell	the Division of Greenway – the localities of Box Hill, Gables and Nelson, and part of the localities of Maraylya and Rouse Hill
Division of Newcastle	no changes have been made to this electoral division which result in the transfer of voters to another electoral division
Division of New England	no changes have been made to this electoral division which result in the transfer of voters to another electoral division
Division of North Sydney (this electoral division has been abolished)	- the Division of Bennelong – The Council of the Municipality of Hunters Hill and Lane Cove Municipal Council, and part of the localities of Chatswood, Chatswood West and Lane Cove North - the Division of Bradfield – the localities of Artarmon, Castlecrag, Middle Cove, Naremburn, North Willoughby, Northbridge, Willoughby and Willoughby East, and part of the localities of Cammeray, Chatswood and St Leonards - the Division of Warringah – the localities of Crows Nest, Kirribilli, Lavender Bay, McMahon's Point, Milsons Point, North Sydney, Waverton and Wollstonecraft, and part of the localities of Cammeray, Cremorne and Neutral Bay ! The former Division of North Sydney has been abolished.
Division of Page	no changes have been made to this electoral division which result in the transfer of voters to another electoral division
Division of Parkes	the Division of New England – the localities of Balfours Peak, Blue Nobby, Boonal, Crooble, Ginerioi, North Star, Warialda, Warialda Rail and Yallaro, and part of the localities of Bingara, Biniguy, Boggabilla, Coolatai, Croppa Creek, Delunga, Graman, Gravesend, Myall Creek, Pallamallawa and Tullooona
Division of Parramatta	the Division of Blaxland – the locality of Holroyd, and part of the localities of Clyde, Granville, Guildford, Merrylands, South Granville and South Wentworthville
Division of Paterson	the Division of Hunter – the localities of Abermain, Kurri Kurri, Neath, Pelaw Main, Stanford Merthyr and Weston, and part of the localities of Buchanan, Heddon Greta, Loxford, Richmond Vale, Sawyers Gully and Stockrington
Division of Reid	no changes have been made to this electoral division which result in the transfer of voters to another electoral division
Division of Richmond	no changes have been made to this electoral division which result in the transfer of voters to another electoral division
Division of Riverina	the Division of Parkes – Bland Shire Council, Forbes Shire Council and Parkes Shire Council
Division of Robertson	no changes have been made to this electoral division which result in the transfer of voters to another electoral division
Division of Shortland	no changes have been made to this electoral division which result in the transfer of voters to another electoral division
Division of Sydney	- the Division of Grayndler – part of the locality of St Peters - the Division of Wentworth – the localities of Potts Point and Woolloomooloo, and part of the localities of Darlinghurst and Sydney
Division of Warringah	the Division of Mackellar – the localities of Killarney Heights and North Curl Curl, and part of the localities of Dee Why, Forestville and Frenchs Forest
Division of Watson	- the Division of Banks – part of the localities of Bankstown, Beverly Hills, Narwee, Padstow, Punchbowl, Riverwood and Roselands - the Division of Barton – part of the localities of Belmore, Beverly Hills, Kingsgrove and Roselands - the Division of Blaxland – the locality of Rookwood, and part of the localities of Lidcombe and Strathfield - the Division of Grayndler – the localities of Ashbury, Burwood Heights, Croydon Park and Enfield, and part of the localities of Ashfield, Canterbury, Croydon, Hurlstone Park and Summer Hill
Division of Wentworth	no changes have been made to this electoral division which result in the transfer of voters to another electoral division
Division of Werriwa	- the Division of Hughes – the localities of Long Point, Macquarie Fields and Macquarie Links, and part of the localities of Bardia, Casula, Glenfield and Ingleburn - the Division of Hume – the locality of Bradfield, and part of the localities of Badgerys Creek and Bringelly - the Division of Macarthur – part of the localities of Bardia, Denham Court, Edmondson Park and Leppington
Division of Whitlam	the Division of Cunningham – the localities of Berkeley, Cringila, Lake Heights, Primbee, Unanderra and Windang, and part of the localities of Kembla Grange, Lake Heights and Unanderra

aec.gov.au/NSW-redistribution ☎ 13 23 26



HAS YOUR FEDERAL ELECTORAL DIVISION CHANGED?

There has been a redistribution of federal electoral boundaries in Victoria. A redistribution ensures there are a similar number of voters in each electoral division for a given state or territory.

Because of this, you may be voting in a different electoral division at the next federal election.

In Victoria, the boundaries of 34 federal electoral divisions have been altered and the former Division of Higgins has been abolished. Voters who previously lived in the Division of Higgins have been allocated to the surrounding Divisions of Chisholm, Hotham, Kooyong, Macnamara and Melbourne.

A list of the areas which have moved to a different federal electoral division is provided in the table below.

Where can I find out more?

Further information can be found at aec.gov.au/VIC-redistribution

Maps and descriptions of all federal electoral divisions are available at aec.gov.au/profiles

Do I need to do anything?

You do not need to take any action if your federal electoral division has changed as the result of this redistribution. The AEC has:

- transferred your enrolment to your new federal electoral division, and
- written to households whose federal electoral division has changed and those letters should arrive in the coming weeks.

How do I find out if my federal electoral division has changed?

You can check your enrolment online at aec.gov.au/check

For privacy reasons, your electoral enrolment will only be confirmed if the details you enter are an exact match to your details on the electoral roll.

You can also check which federal electoral division your suburb or locality is located in at aec.gov.au/electorate

Alternatively, you can contact the AEC on 13 23 26 or find your local AEC office details at aec.gov.au/contact

Which areas have moved to a different federal electoral division?

From	To
Division of Aston	• no changes have been made to this electoral division which result in the transfer of voters to another electoral division
Division of Ballarat	• the Division of Corio – the localities of Maude and Sutherlands Creek
Division of Bendigo	• no changes have been made to this electoral division which result in the transfer of voters to another electoral division
Division of Bruce	• the Division of Isaacs – part of the localities of Dandenong and Noble Park
Division of Calwell	• the Division of McEwen – the locality of Kalkallo • the Division of Scullin – part of the localities of Campbellfield, Craigieburn, Fawkner and Somerton
Division of Casey	• no changes have been made to this electoral division which result in the transfer of voters to another electoral division
Division of Chisholm	• the Division of Deakin – part of the locality of Burwood East • the Division of Hotham – the locality of Notting Hill, and part of the localities of Clayton, Chadstone, Glen Waverley, Mount Waverley, Mulgrave, Oakleigh and Wheelers Hill • the Division of Menzies – part of the localities of Blackburn, Blackburn South, Box Hill and Box Hill South
Division of Cooper	• no changes have been made to this electoral division which result in the transfer of voters to another electoral division
Division of Corangamite	• the Division of Corio – the localities of Bannockburn, Gheringhap, Murgheboluc, Russells Bridge and Stonehaven, and part of the locality of Batesford • the Division of Wannon – the localities of Barrabool, Buckley, Gherang, Gnarwarre, Hesse, Inverleigh, Modewarre, Moriac, Mount Moriac, Paraparap and Wurdiboluc, and part of the localities of Freshwater Creek and Wingeel
Division of Corio	• no changes have been made to this electoral division which result in the transfer of voters to another electoral division
Division of Deakin	• the Division of Aston – the locality of Kilsyth South, and part of the localities of Bayswater North, Heathmont and Ringwood
Division of Dunkley	• the Division of Flinders – part of the locality of Mount Eliza
Division of Flinders	• no changes have been made to this electoral division which result in the transfer of voters to another electoral division
Division of Fraser	• no changes have been made to this electoral division which result in the transfer of voters to another electoral division
Division of Gellibrand	• the Division of Fraser – the locality of Spotswood, and part of the localities of Brooklyn, Newport and Yarraville

aec.gov.au/VIC-redistribution ☎ 13 23 26

From	To
Division of Gippsland	no changes have been made to this electoral division which result in the transfer of voters to another electoral division
Division of Goldstein	no changes have been made to this electoral division which result in the transfer of voters to another electoral division
Division of Gorton	the Division of Hawke – the locality of Keilor North and part of the locality of Keilor
Division of Hawke	no changes have been made to this electoral division which result in the transfer of voters to another electoral division
Division of Higgins (this electoral division has been abolished)	- the Division of Chisholm – part of the localities of Ashburton, Camberwell, Glen Iris, Hawthorn East and Malvern East - the Division of Hotham – the localities of Carnegie and Murrumbeena, and part of the locality of Ormond - the Division of Kooyong – the localities of Armadale, Kooyong, Malvern and Toorak, and part of the localities of Glen Iris, Malvern East and Prahran - the Division of Macnamara – part of the locality of Windsor - the Division of Melbourne – part of the localities of Prahran and South Yarra ! The former Division of Higgins has been abolished.
Division of Holt	the Division of Bruce – part of the locality of Cranbourne North
Division of Hotham	- the Division of Goldstein – part of the localities of Bentleigh and Bentleigh East - the Division of Isaacs – the locality of Springvale South, and part of the localities of Clarinda, Clayton South, Dingley Village, Keysborough and Noble Park
Division of Indi	no changes have been made to this electoral division which result in the transfer of voters to another electoral division
Division of Isaacs	- the Division of Dunkley – the localities of Bonbeach, Carrum and Patterson Lakes, and part of the localities of Chelsea and Chelsea Heights - the Division of Goldstein – part of the localities of Cheltenham, Highett and Moorabbin
Division of Jagajaga	no changes have been made to this electoral division which result in the transfer of voters to another electoral division
Division of Kooyong	- the Division of Chisholm – part of the localities of Ashburton, Camberwell, Glen Iris and Surrey Hills - the Division of Menzies – the localities of Mont Albert and Mont Albert North, and part of the localities of Balwyn, Balwyn North and Surrey Hills
Division of Lalor	- the Division of Corio – the locality of Cocoroc, and part of the localities of Little River, Mambourin and Werribee - the Division of Gellibrand – the locality of Williams Landing, and part of the localities of Point Cook and Truganina - the Division of Hawke – the locality of Quandong, and part of the localities of Eynesbury, Manor Lakes and Wyndham Vale
Division of La Trobe	the Division of Bruce – part of the localities of Beaconsfield, Berwick and Harkaway
Division of McEwen	- the Division of Casey – the localities of Bend of Islands, Christmas Hills and Smiths Gully, and part of the localities of Kangaroo Ground, Kinglake, Panton Hill, St Andrews and Watsons Creek - the Division of Nicholls – the localities of Forbes, Kilmore, Kilmore East, Moranding and Willowmavin - the Division of Scullin – part of the locality of Wollert
Division of Macnamara	the Division of Melbourne – part of the localities of Melbourne and South Yarra
Division of Mallee	no changes have been made to this electoral division which result in the transfer of voters to another electoral division
Division of Maribyrnong	- the Division of Hawke – part of the localities of Keilor, Keilor Park, Melbourne Airport and Tullamarine - the Division of Melbourne – part of the localities of Flemington and Travancore - the Division of Wills – part of the localities of Moonee Ponds and Strathmore
Division of Melbourne	- the Division of Cooper – the locality of Clifton Hill - the Division of Maribyrnong – part of the locality of Parkville - the Division of Wills – the localities of Carlton North and Princes Hill, and part of the localities of Brunswick East and Fitzroy North
Division of Menzies	- the Division of Casey – part of the locality of Wonga Park - the Division of Deakin – part of the localities of Blackburn, Blackburn North, Donvale, Mitcham, Nunawading, Park Orchards, Ringwood North and Warrandyte South - the Division of Jagajaga – part of the locality of North Warrandyte
Division of Monash	no changes have been made to this electoral division which result in the transfer of voters to another electoral division
Division of Nicholls	the Division of Bendigo – the localities of Bonn, Diggora, Fairy Dell, Nulla Vale, Pyalong, Rochester and Tennyson and Tooborac, and part of the locality of Milloo
Division of Scullin	- the Division of Jagajaga – part of the locality of Bundoora - the Division of McEwen – part of the locality of Mernda
Division of Wannon	no changes have been made to this electoral division which result in the transfer of voters to another electoral division
Division of Wills	the Division of Maribyrnong – part of the localities of Brunswick West, Glenroy, Oak Park, Pascoe Vale and Pascoe Vale South

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25 First Nations icons in '25

Daniel Christian

More than two-decade correspondent with the *Koori Mail*, PETER ARGENT looks back on the sporting careers of Indigenous stars across the wide world of sport across the 2025 calendar year.

The new age of cricket, the Twenty20 game, started in earnest at the start of the 2010s, having its humble beginnings during the 2003 northern summer in England.

Twenty20 (abbreviated T20) is a shortened format of cricket.

At the professional level, it was introduced by the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) in 2003 for the inter-county competition.

In a Twenty20 game, the two team's bat for a single innings each, which is restricted to a maximum of twenty overs.

Within a decade there were national competitions in every major cricket playing nation and number of other countries including Canada and USA, around the world.

Wiradjuri man Daniel Christian, a natural and gifted all-rounder, was perfectly suited to this action-packed form of the code.

Already a first-class cricketer and on the brink of Test selection being 12th man for two Tests in the 2011-12 summer, Daniel Christian was built for this fast-paced style of cricket.

Dan Christian is a hard-hitting batter able to clear the pickets, a crafty bowler with excellent changes of pace and a brilliant outfielder, who took a number of superb, athletic catches.

From the New South Wales rural town of Narrandera, Christian was a part of the elite AIS cricket program in his youth.

He was selected by Rod Marsh to come across and start his first-class career in South Australia after not getting opportunities in his home state.

He's previously played one-day cricket for New South Wales in 2006 and 2007 but was not offered a contract for the next season in 2008-09.

Christian captained an Indigenous Australian team the tour of England in 2009 and he also captained another Australia's Aboriginal XI on the 2018 tour of England to commemorate 150 years since the first Indigenous Australian team toured the United Kingdom.



By the February 2010 had made his Twenty20 international debut for Australia against the West Indies he was also playing in the T20 format for Hampshire in England County system being a part of the victorious '10 campaign, then gaining a sizable contract in the Indian Premier League with the Deccan Chargers.

With his unique bowling action, Christian collected the brilliant figures of five for 31 including a hat-trick in a 50-over ODI for his country against Sri Lanka at the MCG in March 2012.

He also played with the Gloucestershire Gladiators in '13 and moved across the Middlesex Panthers for the '14 T20 Blast. His performances included a breath-taking innings against Kent of 129 which included 10 sixes.

Moved across to a fourth English county in 2015, Christian enjoyed T20 Blast success in February 2017 with Nottinghamshire. He played for his third Indian Premier League team the Rising Pune Supergiants and then went to the Delhi Daredevils.

Christian also played in the Mzansi Super League in South Africa with the Jozi stars and had a season with the Karachi Kings in the Pakistan Super League before the COVID-19 outbreak.

Along with playing with South Australia in a Twenty20 victory before the Big Bash League

started, Christian has played for no less than five BBL franchises including the Hobart Hurricanes, winning a title in the second edition with the Brisbane Heat, playing a key role in the Melbourne Renegades victory, where he was the lynchpin in the final and playing for the Sydney Strikers.

In BBL14 he was originally working as an assistant coach for the Sydney Thunder then came out of retirement, at the age of 41, in early January this year.

Christian, with his ability to impact with the bat, ball and in the field, is the archetypal player of this new generation of the game.

Success has followed him across his career, Christian now has played for 17 different franchises in tournaments all over the world, making 11 finals and winning a staggering seven titles.

It is often forgotten his strong first-class career, where Christian played for the SA Redbacks and Victoria across 83 games for 10 seasons from 2008 to 2018, making five centuries and having top score of 131 not out along with taking 163 wickets, with a best of 5/24.

He played in a trio of successive Sheffield Shield victories for Victoria from 2014-15 to 2016-17.

Christian earned the nickname "Siri" from his peers for his encyclopedia knowledge of the game as well.

Dan Christian plays a shot in the Sheffield Shield competition for South Australia, and below, playing short-form cricket for Australia.



Excitement is building for All Stars clash

PRESTON Campbell was the mastermind behind the All Stars concept.

The first match was held in 2010 and ever since, the match has signalled the return of top-flight rugby league for the season and been a main stage for our Mob to celebrate and cheer for their rugby league heroes.

Campbell was part of that inaugural match, in which the Indigenous All Stars were victorious 16-10 against the NRL All Stars. Fifteen years later and the great Preston must love sitting back to witness what he helped build with the All Stars.

The high regard and respect for what Campbell has done for the game, during his career and away from the game, was one of the reasons his name is now on the medal given out to the man-of-the-match in the All Stars game.

Some of the biggest names in the game have been awarded the Preston Campbell Medal.

Johnathan Thurston has won the Medal twice. Other winners of the prestigious award have been Josh Dugan, Nathan Merritt, Ben Barba, George Rose, James Graham, Tyrone Roberts, Brandon Smith, James Fisher-Harris, Joseph Tapine, Nicho Hynes and Braydon Trindall in 2024.

The enormity and growth of the All Stars since Preston started the clash in 2010 has probably even



Kris Flanders

exceeded the great man's vision for what the game would become. From being played on the Gold Coast, the game has now gone to Brisbane, Newcastle, Melbourne, Townsville, Parramatta and the game also went international with the All Stars being played in Rotorua, New Zealand in 2023.

The All Stars now has the women's clash and also a touch footy match as part of the action. Preston would love watching all three matches on game day and how the game has expanded to include our deadly sisters and those with lightening speed in touch footy.

The crowds have always backed the All Stars.

From the 26 thousand plus that

were in attendance for the first match in 2010, to the record crowd of 41,021 at Brisbane in 2013. Since the concept changed to Indigenous versus Maori, the biggest crowd has been 26,755 at Parramatta in 2022. Preston would love the fact that the game is now about cultural pride and exchanges between our Mob and the Maori.

The players spend the week leading up to the clash meeting and greeting the public. They spend time in the local community being seen and rubbing shoulders with fans, old and young, inspiring them. Preston was the people's champion when he played 267 NRL matches with Gold Coast, Cronulla (where he won the 2001 Dally Medal) and Penrith (where he won the 2003 NRL Premiership). The fans adored him as he played that special brand of football but also played above his weight and height to dominate. Hey Presto...was magic on the football field.

Preston loved dealing with the fans and they lined up to get a photo and an autograph or a simple shake of the hand. No one was more important than the next person and he treated everyone as equals. So Preston would love the community engagement done today and that the All Stars spend so much time with the fans in the lead up week.

He's always been about the

youth and giving back to them.

From successfully creating the All Stars, Campbell was then able to create the Preston Campbell foundation in 2015. Given his stature on and off the field, the Foundation supports his vision of developing programs and opportunities which inspire and mentor participants to achieve their aspirations. It connects Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island youth with their culture, sense of place and well-being. Preston shares his journey with individuals, families and communities through a variety of learning forums which he hopes to encourage all ages.

That lead up week is also about the Indigenous All Stars players getting together, gathering in a safe place and learning more about themselves, their teammates and their culture. I think Preston would love seeing how that's grown over the years since 2010 and how important this part of the All Stars camp is to players and officials.

Preston, himself, is a proud Aboriginal man from Tingha in north-western NSW and sharing his culture was always a priority for him on and off the field. The star player has often played the didgeridoo at previous All Stars games in pre-game entertainment and cultural displays. Preston would be very proud to know that All Stars camps are all about

culture, sharing stories, listening to others and developing that pride.

In 2012, the trophy that's given out to the winning team is named in honour of the late, great Arthur Beetson. It's a mark of respect for what 'Big Artie' did for the game and his people. Preston was instrumental in getting that happening as well. He knew the importance of Artie to rugby league and the Indigenous community. The trophy is a prestigious one in which the players can't wait to get their hands on and lift up high in victory.

Like myself, there will be thousands attending the matches Parramatta and even more will watch the games live in their homes and be wearing the colours with pride and cheering on the Indigenous All Stars to victory. We will be watching the Indigenous All Stars dances performed by the players, paying respect by watching the haka, embrace the atmosphere as thousands of fellow brothers and sisters come together with smiles on their faces and shake hands and hug with other Mob, that's what it's all about.

● **Kris Flanders is a Gumbaynggir man with 25 years experience working in Indigenous media. He is a passionate writer and sportslover.**

Fresh faces in the line-up



Jayden Campbell of the Titans is part of the new-look All Stars team. He is pictured making a break to score a try during the round 27 NRL match between Penrith Panthers and Gold Coast Titans at BlueBet Stadium on September 7, 2024, in Penrith. Photo by Matt Blyth/Getty Images

By KRIS FLANDERS



THE stars will align once again when the Indigenous men's and women's teams tackle the Maori in the annual All Stars clash. Parramatta, in western Sydney, will hold the match again after previously hosting the games in 2022.

The squads have been named and with the absence of big names like Latrell Mitchell, Josh Addo-Carr, Nicho Hynes and Braydon Trindall it's a very new look men's squad.

There's plenty of young talent including Preston Campbell's son, Jayden, along with Tallis Duncan, Dylan Lucas, Tyrone Munro and the Puru brothers in Hohepa and Niwhai.

The Men's All Stars also have some older experienced heads and leadership through the likes of Jack Wighton, Connor Watson, Brian Kelly, Brent Naden and Josh Curran.

The Women's Indigenous All Stars have selected a highly talented squad with some of the biggest names in the game selected. Current Dally M champion, Olivia Kernick is there along with Jaime Chapman, Kirra Dibb, Quincy Dodd, Tallisha Harden and Mahalia Murphy.

There are some very fresh faces who are involved in the All Stars for the first time including Evah McEwen, Lailani Montgomery and Ella Koster.

Last year's All Stars game saw the Indigenous Men win 22-14 while the Indigenous Women made it a 'deadly double' on the night, defeating the Maori Women, 26-4. Since 2019, two of the proudest and oldest cultures in the world have come together for memorable cultural exchanges and some brilliant rugby league action.

The Indigenous Men's have been victorious in 2019, 2023 and 2024 with the Maori taking honours in 2020 and 2022 with one drawn match in 2021. It's been equally tight in the competition between the Indigenous and Maori Women with both sides winning 3

games each since 2019.

There will be action galore for fans in attendance at Parramatta, besides the men's and women's games there will also be a curtain raiser with the NRL Touch Football game between the Indigenous and the Maori.

The NRL is giving supporters even more of an incentive to get along to the game this year.

When the football goes into the crowd during the men's and women's games, if the fan is lucky enough to catch the ball they get to take that ball home with them.

A priceless bit of rugby league history and that ball will certainly be used in backyard games or proudly displayed at home.

When the men's and women's Indigenous teams run out they will be wearing a striking design created by Koa-Kuku Yalanji artist, Elaine Chambers-Hegarty.

She's previously designed Indigenous Round jerseys for Brisbane and Cronulla, but this is the first time that she's had the privilege of designing the Indigenous All Stars kit.

The 2025 uniform is predominantly blue and green, representing the land and sea. The orange and yellow colours reflect the sun with it's sunrise and sunset.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island artefacts and musical instruments are also present which represents Indigenous ceremonies and are a nod to the All Stars week leading up to the games.

Animals are also present on the kit with an emu, turtle and a snake visible.

The jersey also features multiple gathering circles, highlighting the journey of First Nations People through history and the journey made by people to gather at Dharug land for the All Stars.

The cultural displays will be continued on game day with the pre-game cultural dances and hakas performed by the teams. There will also be cultural dancers and musical performances throughout the day and night at the Stadium.

Pace and class to be on show in All Stars game

By PETER ARGENT



BACK as a fixture on the AFL calendar for the first time in a decade, the Aboriginal All-Stars side, which will face off against Fremantle in Perth on Saturday, February 15, is full of top-quality talent.

A playing group with exceptional speed, a dynamic skillset and the ability to excite.

Both the current First Nations AFL captain Jy Simpkin and playing against his home club if he can overcome injury, Alex Sexton, have been named in the squad. You'd expect both will be vying for leadership roles.

"As a kid you grow up watching these games – watching guys like Cyril Rioli, Buddy Franklin, Adam Goodes play in these games – and it's something that you always want to do," Simpkin said in an interview last week.

"Last time I think I played with a group of brothers was probably in Under-16s for the Flying Boomerangs (program) nearly 10 years ago.

"It's super special and I'm very proud to be playing this game. "Hopefully going forward with the AFL it can become more of a continuous thing, not once every so often."

Port Adelaide has the best representation in the squad with a quartet of talent: Jase Burgoyne – the nephew of 2015 All-Stars captain and longest serving AFL player Shaun – Jeremy Finlayson, Willie Rioli and Jason Horne-Francis.

Amongst the squad are 10 premiership players, the 2024 Brisbane pair of Charlie Cameron and Callum Ah Chee, new Fremantle recruit from Richmond, Shai Bolton, Norm Smith Medallist in 2023 Bobby Hill, the Melbourne duo of defender Stephen May and the mercurial Kozzie Pickett, Tiwi Islander Willie Rioli, Liam Ryan, tri-club and triple premiership player Brad Hill, along with



Izak Rankin after kicking a goal.



Zac Williams of Carlton.

Geelong goal kicking talent Tyson Stengle.

This cohort for Indigenous football talents includes seven top-20 national draft picks, another seven All-Australians and three AFL mark-of-the-year winners.

The All-Stars will bring a dynamic brand of the code to this clash with an expected premiership contender in 2025, the Fremantle Dockers.

Northern Territory product from the famous St Mary's Green Machine, who played 100 plus games for St Kilda, Xavier Clarke, has been appointed as the Indigenous All Stars coach.

Hawthorn premiership player Chance Bateman, Sturt SANFL premiership footballer Jarrod Lienert (ex-AFL with St Kilda and Port Adelaide), former Fremantle star Roger Hayden and Power assistant coach Jason Williams will be his assistants.



Tyson Stengle celebrates after a finals win.



Karl Amon of the Hawks.

Indigenous All-Stars Squad

Player – Heritage

Callum Ah Chee – Noongar, Palyku and Nyikina, Yawuru
Karl Amon - Noonuccal
Shai Bolton - Minang and Wilman
Jase Burgoyne – Kokatha, Larraki, Warai
Charlie Cameron – Waanyi and Lardil
Jeremy Finlayson - Yorta Yorta
Jade Gresham - Yorta Yorta
Bobby Hill – Whadjuk, Ballardong, Noongar
Brad Hill – Wilmen, Noongar
Jason Horne-Francis - Wardaman
Lawson Humphries - Nyul
Nyul, Oomiday, Worrora
Jarman Impey - Yorta Yorta

Joel Jeffrey – Kukatj, Wulwulam
Ash Johnson – Jaru, Kija
Liam Jones – Kija (Injured)
Tim Kelly – Noongar, Wongi, Yamatji
Coen Livingstone – Balardong, Noongar
Ben Long – Anmatjerre
Steven May - Larrakia
Jesse Motlop - Larrakia
Alex Pearce - Palawa
Kysaiah Pickett – Yamatji, Noongar
Willie Rioli – Tiwi
Maurice Rioli jnr - Tiwi
Liam Ryan – Yamatji
Izak Rankine - Kokatha and Ngarrindjeri
Tyson Stengle – Wirangu
Jy Simpkin - Yorta Yorta
Michael Walters – Whadjuk, Wilmen and Ngarrindjeri
Nasiah Wanganeen-Milera – Kokatha, Narangga
Zac Williams – Wiradjuri
Coach – Xavier Clarke

Preparing for life after football

Recently we have had two tragic deaths in the AFL world. Firstly we heard the news that Brisbane's Troy Selwood was found in his home passed away at the age of 40. The following day 43-year-old former West Coast



Shelley Ware

premiership player Adam Hunter was also found dead in a home south of Perth. Both deaths are not being treated as suspicious by police.

The many newspaper articles printed of Troy's passing ended with a phone number for Lifeline and with Adam, drugs were reported to have played a role. Both deaths are tragic. These were two young men, supposed to be at the prime of their lives, and now they are gone too soon.

Carlton Football great and friend of Troy Selwood, Brendan Fevola, has made a heartfelt plea to the AFL, to actively help players prepare for life after football. I share the same sentiment with Fev, I have written about it, pleaded with clubs personally and spoken to AFL admin about it over the years.

Although things are better with the AFLPA actively working at helping players with life after football, there is clearly more to do. These two young men passing proves the AFL world needs to do more. The constant scheduling and structure around the everyday of an AFL player, doesn't teach them how to live in the real world. The bubble is a problem, I know players who don't even know how to pay their own bills when they leave, as their manager has always done it.

Fev has shared how he sometimes felt as a player. He had to be strong and tough in front of everyone and then would leave football training and cry all the way home. He had no-one to share what was going on emotionally. Although we have seen changes at many clubs recently there is still a degree of hiding mental-health issues, so as not to be a burden or face ridicule. This has to stop, too many young people are suffering due to this culture in all levels of football and society.

There has been a call for a mental-health round by the AFL and to be honest I think it is needed. Too many people, especially men, don't talk about their feelings. If everyday people see their AFL heroes talking more about their feelings and making their mental health and wellbeing a priority I believe this will have a ripple affect into the community for everyday people and could make a real difference. Lives could be saved. People need to know these feeling will pass with help and they are not there forever.

Please, if you need someone to talk to contact Lifeline on 13 11 14 or in an emergency, call 000.

History of Indigenous AFL teams competing

By PETER ARGENT



FROM the 1970s, Australian First Nations teams have come together to represent their people.

In 1973, an Australian Indigenous national team toured and played against the Papua New Guinea team, playing in Lae and Port Moresby.

With Sir Douglas Nicholls accompanied the side, they lost both games, the first by four points and a second by 31 points.

A return match in Australia was scheduled for an Aboriginal Australian Rules carnival of 1974, hosted by the Australian Capital Territory where the PNG side narrowly defeated the Indigenous Australian side at Ainslie Oval by seven points.

Ray Rigney captained his country in

each of these three matches.

Nine years later in 1983, South Australian Michael Wanganeen coached an All-Stars side against Richmond at Sarah Oval in Mildura.

AFL Hall of Famer from South Fremantle Stephen Michael was captain, with the Indigenous team having a huge victory, getting home in a goal kicking feast by 138 points, kicking 37 goals.

There was a couple of fixtures in February and September of 1985, before an All-Stars team played Collingwood in 1994.

Biannual

For 12 years from the 2003, a biannual game started against AFL teams.

The first was against Carlton in Darwin, with Andrew McLeod as skipper, Michael "Magic" McLean as coach and the mercurial Adam Goodes as the Polly Farmer Medallist as best on ground.

After the win over the Blues, they defeated the Western Bulldogs in 2005, before losing to Essendon in 2007.

In 2009 this side defeated the Crows, with Matt Campbell – another local Northern Territorian – as Polly Farmer Medallist and another Top-Ender, McLeod captaining the side for a third time. Inclement weather ruined the scheduled 2011 match against Richmond, and they played again two years later at Traeger Park, Alice Springs, having a 50-point triumph, with Michael O'Loughlin as coach, Nathan Lovett-Murray as captain, with Harley Bennell as Polly Farmer Medallist.

The previous time the All-Stars played was in 2015 at Leederville Oval in Perth.

They went down to the West Coast Eagles by eight points, with captain Shaun Burgoyne winning the Polly Farmer Medal honour and the team coached by Andy Lovell.

Nathan helps kids to make deadly choices

By KRIS FLANDERS



MAKING deadly choices and combining it with tennis is a straight-sets win every day of the week.

Nathan Appo, has been working with the Deadly Choices health program for 13 years as a Partnership Manager. Together with the Evonne Goolagong-Cawley Foundation they've been able to build a partnership that is delivering plenty of aces.

Recently, the Deadly Choices crew was able to take nearly 50 participants to Melbourne to meet and greet with Evonne as well as take in the impressive tennis centre.

"Everyone was blown away by her presence and her aura and her spending time with them. Having chats with her about her tennis life and journey. Evonne also takes an interest in the participants' stories too and they're health goals. She's incredibly humble too and always wanting to inspire the next generation, just a lovely and warm person who people just connect with," Appo said.

"Those who came along had to go and have a health check done to go into the draw for the Melbourne trip with flights and accommodation. You know, we had young kids who discovered and heard Evonne's story for the first time and also Elders who watched Evonne and saw her career unfold, it was special for all of them."

Appo describes his recent visit to Melbourne for the Australian Open and continuing his friendship with tennis royalty, the great Evonne Goolagong-Cawley, as coming full circle.

Back in the year 2000, Appo was one of five inaugural kids invited along to take part in the first Evonne Goolagong-Cawley Foundation program.

"When Evonne created that first group that went down to



The Deadly Choices crew at the Australian Open.

Melbourne, there was only 5 of us, she gave us such a great opportunity. Now you've got hundreds of kids that have experienced that now and playing tennis," Appo recalled.

"I feel very lucky to have known Evonne for over 20 years, playing tennis myself, I know the strength and power that having a good role model can be. Evonne was one for me and she's been that for so many others too."

Goolagong-Cawley is a multiple Grand Slam winner and made the Australian Open her own with four title wins in the 1970s.

This year was the 50th anniversary of her 1975 Australian Open win, in which she defeated Martina Navratilova. January 15th during the competition is usually First Nations Day at the Melbourne Tennis Centre but this year was renamed Evonne Goolagong-Cawley Day.

Appo says Evonne is still an inspiration to young and old and the Deadly Choices crew had a ball meeting the great one.

"To celebrate and



A very young Nathan Appo with Evonne Goolagong-Cawley in the very first program back in 2000.

commemorate Evonne's career on her special day at the Australian Open was something they will all take home with them and remember. We also had singers, dancers and artists present on the day, our culture was there for everyone to see and celebrate. To talk about the things she achieved and what she overcame to get where she did on and off the tennis court,"

"Evonne is like a lot of these kids, they come from the Country

and some have done it tough, but at this Australian Open tournament, Evonne was the bush kid who dominated. Hopefully, that transcends and inspires and shows what can become and from this we might get the next Evonne or Ash Barty soon," Appo said.

Appo's work with the Deadly Choices program for over a decade now has enabled him to see how sport can be used as a wonderful vehicle to get across



Nathan Appo with Evonne Goolagong-Cawley on Rod Laver Arena.

important health messages to our Mob.

"Our aim has always been to help our community members to make better choices and inspire young kids to chase their dreams in whatever it is. Sport is a great way to encourage and empower our Mob to live healthier. Over the last few years we have seen an increase in people getting health checks done, the message is getting out there and working and we want to continue that," Appo said.

Williams out for rest of ALW season



MATILDAS great Lydia Williams' professional career is in doubt after

Melbourne Victory confirmed the veteran goalkeeper will likely miss the remainder of the A-League Women season through injury.

Williams, who officially retired from the Matildas last June, hasn't played in Victory's current campaign after suffering a wrist injury, and recently had successful surgery.

Victory had been unwilling to draw a line through Williams but on Thursday coach Jeff Hopkins conceded her season was likely over.

Williams, whose most recent club game was last season's elimination-final loss

to Central Coast, is out of contract at season's end.

The 36-year-old is yet to make a decision on her playing future and will be given time and space to consider it.

"Probably looks like Lyds won't play again this season," Hopkins said last week.

"She's had an operation and although it's gone really well, probably I don't think that will allow her to play this season."

Hopkins was unwilling to speculate on Williams' future beyond the season.

"I've not really gone any further into it than that," he said. "Obviously it's disappointing for her that the injury is gonna take that long."

"I don't know ... I don't want to speak for Lyds as well. I think that one's better left for further down the line

and for Lyds to answer as well."

Williams had a stirring international send-off with the Matildas in a friendly against China last June.

The 36-year-old has 104 Matildas caps, attended five World Cups, six AFC women's Asian Cups - including the 2010 title triumph - and two Olympic Games.

Her decorated club career has featured stints at Melbourne City, Canberra United and clubs across the United States, England and Europe, including Arsenal and Paris Saint-Germain.

In Williams' absence, Courtney Newbon has been starting goalkeeper, with Geo Candy, who just received a maiden New Zealand call-up, serving as back-up.

-AAP



Injured Melbourne Victory goalkeeper and Matildas great Lydia Williams will miss the rest of the A-League Women season, casting doubt over her playing future.

Jariel and Samara sign on to Cairns

By ALF WILSON



RISING young star Jariel Martin-Savage and experienced forward Samara Luta are the latest signings by the Cairns-based Northern Pride for their debut year in the BMD Statewide ladies rugby league premiership.

Both proud First Nations women. Samara is of Moa (St Pauls) and Mer descent whilst Jariel has Rennell Island (Mauar) bloodlines on her father's side of the family and also Aboriginal heritage.

Speaking to the *Koori Mail*, Samara said she was delighted to have signed with the Pride along with her cousin Jariel.

"I will be moving to Cairns permanently and look forward to the season," Samara said.

The 28-year-old Samara oozes experience and in 2019/20 was a member of the Cowboys Women's Academy.

Samara was a key player for the Goldstars in 2020 and 21 including when they won a statewide ladies premiership.

In 2024 Samara was in the Centrals side which won the Townsville and District ladies grand final.

She also has an elite players contract with the Cowboys NRLW side for the 2025 season.

"That means if a Cowboys NRLW forward is injured I would get a call up," she said.

A hard running and tackling forward Samara has a lot of experience in winning ladies Allblacks carnival teams.

That included being a team mate of her role model and former NRLW Dally M Medal winner Jenni-Sue Hoepper.

They lined up beside each other for a memorial side in honour of the late TS rugby league identity at the 2022 Bindal Sharks Allblacks carnival.

"Jenni-Sue is my role model and I am so glad she has signed with the Pride as well," Samara said.

Aged 20, versatile Jariel can play halfback or lock with skill and is a great signing for the Pride.

Jariel has genuine speed and won major awards at women's sections of recent Cairns and Townsville Allblacks carnivals.

At the Bindal Sharks event in early October, Jariel won the player of the final award when she was a member of the champion team Unity which beat Burdekin in the final.

Before that Jariel won the best back award at the Cairns Women's Indigenous carnival when she lined up for Original Doobs which lost the final to Coastal Neurs.

In September Jariel was a teammate of Samara for the Centrals Tigers Townsville and District ladies competition grand final.



Samara Luta, left, and her cousin Jariel Martin-Savage.

AFL hoping to sign up more Indigenous players



All Stars coach Xavier Clarke and the AFL hierarchy are confident the league will soon experience an uptick

in the number of Indigenous players, reversing a worrying trend partly blamed on the COVID-19 pandemic.

Clarke, an assistant at North Melbourne, has been named as coach of the Indigenous All Stars side for the February 15 showdown with Fremantle at Optus Stadium.

The number of Indigenous players featuring in the AFL has experienced a worrying fall in recent years, going from an all-time high of 86 in 2020 down to just 63 ahead of the 2025 campaign.

It represents the lowest number since 2006, when only 58 Indigenous players were on AFL lists.

Only one Indigenous player was selected in last year's national draft – Cody Anderson at pick No.64 by Hawthorn.

Two other Indigenous players were later added as Category B rookies.

Clarke says it's been disappointing to see the numbers drop, but he's optimistic about

what lies ahead.

"I think the pandemic had a lot to do with disconnection – whether it's community football, participation – I think there's been a slower uptake on the back of that," Clarke says.

"But from what I can see and hear, local clubs, junior clubs, and state league programs are now fully back up and running, as well as the talent programs.

"Hopefully that starts to pick up more and we start seeing not only more Indigenous players, but also more participation and more talent coming through."

Indigenous and Torres Strait Islander players often face far greater life challenges, putting them at a huge disadvantage to realising their AFL dreams.

But Clarke dismissed the notion AFL clubs are turning away from players who come from disadvantaged backgrounds or communities.

"I've seen it first hand, clubs are crying out to draft more players and talent," Clarke says.

"Clubs now are really well resourced in terms of drafting Indigenous players, or drafting interstate players, and being able to have the support around those players and get them settled in and play at the professional level.

"It's better than I've ever seen it.

"Clubs are now – with their Academy programs and Next Generation programs – actively out there trying to seek more talent."

Gold Coast speedster Joel Jeffrey, who was born in Darwin and snared by the Suns in 2020 as part of their Academy Zone, said the drop in Indigenous numbers hadn't gone unnoticed.

"We did speak about it, us Indigenous boys, it is a bit concerning," Jeffrey says.

"We want to see more drafted."

Jeffrey said leaving home was the hardest part for most Indigenous players – an aspect clubs are working hard on to make the transition as smooth as possible.

It's hoped the recent tweak to the Next Generation Academy rules, which gives teams priority access to players in their zone, will give clubs greater incentive to invest in Indigenous players in their area.

In recent years, clubs only had priority access to those players if they weren't chosen in the top 40 picks of the national draft.

Now, clubs can match a bid on one of their NGA players at any point in the draft, even if a rival

opts to select that player with the No.1 pick.

"We believe removing restrictions on access to AFL NGA talent will incentivise our clubs to invest and develop in their Indigenous and multicultural talent programs," AFL executive general manager of football Laura Kane says.

"We have seen over the past 25 years that when list rules have been amended to provide greater access, we have seen increases in Indigenous playing numbers on lists."

The AFL is also working with their stakeholders to invest more in Indigenous talent pathways.

More than 25,000 tickets have already been sold for next week's Indigenous clash, meaning the game will break the previous record of 17,500 that attended the All Stars' 73-point demolition of Carlton in Darwin in 2003.

The last time the match was held was in 2015, when a sellout crowd of 10,000 fans watched West Coast triumph by eight points at Perth's Leederville Oval.

With Optus Stadium boasting a capacity of 60,000, the AFL has invested big this time around, and Perth football fans are expected to rock up in their droves.

Callum Ah Chee, who kicked

four goals in Brisbane's 60-point grand final win over Sydney last year, hopes the match will inspire a new generation of Indigenous players.

"Hopefully we'll put on a good show, and the big thing behind it is it'll be good for young Indigenous kids to see their role models playing in a game together, to show that they can do that as well," Ah Chee says.

"It's good to see Indigenous faces in high places."

Clarke echoed those sentiments.

"I'd be surprised that if we have another conversation (about low Indigenous numbers) in five years' time," he says.

"I'd like to think that we'll see that number go up."

Getting more Indigenous coaches involved is also on the AFL's agenda.

There have only been two Indigenous senior coaches in VFL history - Graham "Polly" Farmer (Geelong, 1973-75) and Barry Cable (North Melbourne, 1981-84).

There is yet to be an Indigenous senior coach in the AFL era, but it's hoped Clarke – or one of his cohorts – will be able to break that mould.

– AAP

Rugby league to return to Palm Island

By ALF WILSON



A DOMESTIC rugby league competition will return to Palm Island in the 2025 season after a long absence.

This month the Palm Island Rugby League (PIRL) held a meeting to elect a committee to organise and run the competition.

Palm Island Aboriginal Shire councillor Telstan Sibley was elected PIRL president, former champion player Fred Bulsey the vice president, Andy Kyle-Sailor as treasurer and Keri Nallajar as secretary.

"Clubs which want to participate have been asked to nominate and provide a list of players and officials and then we can get the comp organised. Everybody is looking forward to it," Fred said.

The last time a Palm Island comp was held was a decade ago. Rugby league on Palm has a big following and traditional clubs which look set to be involved are Skipjacks, Butler Bay Bulls, Jets and Mount Bentley Raiders.

Since there has been no comp on Palm Island, talented players from there have mostly travelled to the mainland to

line up with clubs in the Townsville and District Rugby League competition.

Palm Island Barracudas sides have competed strongly in carnivals such as Townsville's Bindal Sharks event last October, the recent Cairns Survival Day Reconciliation carnival, and even the Murri Carnival in southern Queensland.

The island hosted a successful Christmas Cup carnival in December which attracted local sides and others from as far away as Yarrabah, Woorabinda and Cherbourg.

That attracted a massive crowd and in the past when a domestic comp had been held on Palm most of the population supported a team.

As testimony to the popularity of rugby league there, hundreds of residents regularly travelled to Townsville to barrack for teams in the 2024 junior competition.

The Palm Island under-15 side reached the grand final of the TDJRL comp in September and an estimated 80% of the massive crowd were from the island.

The rejuvenated domestic comp will have the support of the QRL Northern Division and games will be held at the Palm Barracudas Oval which has been upgraded.



Passionate Palm Island supporters who travelled to Townsville to support the Barracudas under-15 side in the grand final.



Men's Open winners: LJ Crete United.



Women's Open winners: Byellee Possums.



Under-15 winner: Bluff United.



Under-17 winners: Gladstone Ringers.

Quality football despite the heat

By KRIS FLANDERS



FEELING the heat but playing through it. That's what the players who competed at the recent Warba

Wangarunya Rugby League Carnival in Rockhampton, Queensland, had to deal with. However, the oppressive heat didn't hinder the action and the football produced was brilliant.

Carnival coordinator and Darumbal Community Engagement Officer, Jamie Simpson, said despite 35-degrees-plus days, players, officials and fans enjoyed the 4 day competition.

"It was a very hot carnival, but it went really good, we had the most local teams we've ever had in the men's competition. The players

never whinged about the heat, plus we had big crowds come in every day to watch, it goes to show that Central Queensland and Rockhampton is such a grassroots rugby league spot. No matter what time of the year, people are going to come and watch good football," Simpson said.

teams all up competed in Open Men's and Women's divisions as well as Under 15s and Under 17s junior boys.

This year marked the 8th anniversary of this popular tournament and Simpson says the distance clocked up from some visiting teams plus the warm conditions says a lot about how clubs view this competition and why they want to play in it.

"We had Brisbane teams, LJ Crete United, they actually took the Carnival out. That's about a seven-

hour journey here to play. They were wonderful, even off the field, we had a huge storm on the Friday night that wiped out a lot of other teams, marquee tents. LJ Crete came in the next morning and bought about six marquee tents to help out," Simpson said.

"This year we had the most numbers ever in our juniors too and I think that shows what the competition means to them, they want to take part and they want to represent their clubs and areas and they're aspiring to play in the seniors division in years to come."

Warba Wangarunya in the local Darumbal language translates to 'One community, one people, one game'.

Simpson believes that equates to this rugby league tournament perfectly and was on show the entire carnival.

"I think what separates the Warba carnivals from other footy tournaments is the football is just as good but I feel that the community aspect really has a close knit and friendly vibe. It's by the community, for the community. They play it hard on the field but once the game is finished they come together as family and hug and get photos," Simpson said.

"Off the field we also encourage all competing teams to have a cultural gift exchange with the other teams. The Elders come together and all the teams share gifts, it builds those connections and we give thanks to our Elders. It's about building that community spirit and it's a nice touch to our carnival."

Late January isn't normally the time when big rugby league carnivals take place but the action had it all. Big hits, chip kicks, length

of the field tries and barnstorming runs.

Simpson says that the talent over the duration of the competition was something special and a pleasure to watch.

"Tough football, where the sides are at each other the whole game, but played in the right spirits too. Very physical football but also some very highly skilful ball movements as well as some awesome tries. But I'm glad I'm not playing because there's some big units getting around now," Simpson laughed.

Overall winners from the 4 day carnival were LJ Crete United in the Open Men's, the Byellee Possums in the Open Women's, Bluff United in the Under 15s (Boys) and Gladstone Ringers in the Under 17s (Boys).

All Stars celebrate culture

By PETER ARGENT

WA

ONE of the most dynamic and powerful midfield-deep forward options in the AFL is former number one draft selection from 2021, Jason Horne-Francis.

He was collected by North Melbourne with the prized number one pick – and traded back to the Power after just one season.

Horne-Francis is now linked with Des Headland (1998) and Jamarra Ugle-Hagan (2020) as the only three number one draft selections with First Nations heritage.

Now having played 65 AFL games and being runner up the club best and fairest at Port Adelaide in 2024, he is on the precipice of becoming a bona-fide superstar of the AFL code.

He is part of the line-up of the Aboriginal All-Stars side, which will



Jason Horne-Francis.

face off against Fremantle in Perth on Saturday, February 15. "I'm very excited to be involved," Horne-Francis confirmed.

"I think it's a good opportunity for us Indigenous players to represent our culture – go out there and have some fun and light it up out there."

"Everyone's pretty excited; it should be a good game to watch

"We get a lot of recognition with the indigenous rounds and now to have the All Stars game.

"We appreciate it; we love going out there and representing our cultures.

"It is special how we play and I'm looking to get out there with the boys, even my old team-mate, Jy (Simpkin).

"I'm still learning so much about my own culture and I'm privileged to have (stepfather) Fabian (Francis) in my corner to teach me about that."

An outstanding junior, who starred for the South Australian Under 16s as a bottom ager, Horne Francis played SANFL League football as a 17-year-old with South Adelaide.

He kicked three goals in a league preliminary final in 2021.

As an adult Horne-Francis learned that he had Wardaman heritage in the Northern Territory through his biological father.

By KRIS FLANDERS

NSW

THE stars will align once again when the Indigenous men's and women's teams tackle the Maori in the annual All Stars clash.

Parramatta, in western Sydney, will hold the match again after previously hosting the games in 2022.

The squads have been named and with the absence of big names like Latrell Mitchell, Josh Addo-Carr, Nicho Hynes and Braydon Trindall it's a very new look men's squad.

There's plenty of young talent including Preston Campbell's son, Jayden, along with Tallis Duncan, Dylan Lucas, Tyrone Munro and the Puru brothers in Hohepa and Niwha.



Jayden Campbell.



Ashleigh Gardner proved handy with the ball and bat in the recent Test series. Pictures: Peter Argent.



Ash shows all-round skills

By PETER ARGENT

AUS

RETURNING from injury after missing the T20 section of the 2025 Ashes women's cricket campaign, Ashleigh Gardner played her role in the emphatic win in the historic MCG Pink Ball Test that ran over three days from Thursday, January 30 to Saturday, February 1.

Gardner had already shown her value to the team with a century in the ODI in Hobart

along with four ODI wickets, including a haul of three for 19 at North Sydney.

In the Test match, Gardner played a key role with both leather and willow in hand.

Complementing leg-spinner Alana King, Gardiner has bragging rights as the pre-eminent off-spinner in world cricket.

She took five wickets in the game, bowling from the members stand end of the "G", one for 30 in the first innings and four for 39 in the second dig and now has upwards of 200 wickets for

Australia across all three formats of the game.

Batting at number six she made a classy 44, although twice helped by England's poor fielding. At the batting crease she faced 81 deliveries across 100 minutes, dispatching six crisp boundaries.

Australia won the Test by a handsome innings and 122-run margin giving the hosts a series whitewash in the 2025 Ashes.

A proud Muruwari woman who earlier in the series became the first Aboriginal female to score an international century, Gardner

explained in a previous interview that she feels like a role model for her people.

"To be able to play for my country is something that I can always be really proud of and following the footsteps of those that came before me," Gardner continued.

"I'm playing for my people, my family, my community ... to be able to represent them well on the biggest stage is something that I take with immense pride.

"Having my tribe name tattooed on my forearm ... whenever I look down at (it)

when I'm tapping my bat, it's just that one of those moments that you can look back on.

"Having the Aboriginal flag tattooed on my front arm as well, is just one of those reminders that there's more to cricket than cricket, and you're not only representing yourself, but so many other people."

At the Cricket Australia awards night that was held on the Monday following the Test, February 3, Ashleigh Gardner named Women's ODI Player of the Year, adding to her Belinda Clark Medals in 2022 and 2024.