



Koori Mail

The Voice of Indigenous Australia

THE NATIONAL INDIGENOUS NEWSPAPER – 100% ABORIGINAL-OWNED 100% SELF-FUNDING

EDITION 851

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 2025

PUBLISHED SINCE 1991

Phone: (02) 66 222 666

www.koorimail.com

Recommended price \$2.99 (GST-inclusive)



Family and supporters of Cassius Turvey at the District Court Of Western Australia in Perth, Western Australia. Picture: Aaron Bunch. BELOW: A photo of Cassius.

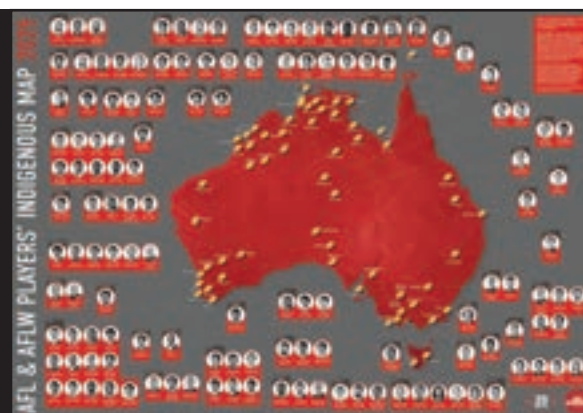
LIFE FOR HIS LIFE



Three Western Australian men will be sentenced to 'life' in prison next week for the killing of teenager Cassius Turvey. But how long is a life sentence? Page 5.

AFL & AFLW players' Indigenous map 2025

Pages 32-33



INSIDE



Dancers keeping culture alive

PAGE 7



Nathan prepares for Dark Mofo

PAGE 10



NAIDOC poster winner named

PAGE 14



Ready for the catwalk

PAGE 38

MY FAMILY Samuel Nugent (Palm Island, Qld)



Being from Palm Island, family is so important to me and I have many close relatives living there. I am a relative to members of the Bulsey, Sibley, Noble, Fraser and Johnson families.

Proudly I am a Bwgcolman man and there are also hundreds of my Nugent Mob here. On Palm I enjoy catching up with family and friends for barbecues, gatherings on the esplanade by the sea or just having a yarn near the supermarket in the CBD.

Also we do go fishing as the waters around Palm are abundant with marine life.

Just the other day I enjoyed a big feed of turtle which my people love and we share at feasts.

It is a beautiful island which I am honoured to call home and I have the best of two places as there are many relatives living in Townsville across the sea.

Often along with others, I catch a ferry over to there and it is a 90-minute cruise and during it there are lots of people to yarn to. When in Townsville I visit and can stay

with different relatives or extended family who live in various suburbs.

Your photographer saw me near the Townsville city centre with my brother Raymond Noble, an auntie Gyillian Fraser and an uncle Anthony Thompson.

We all love rugby league and follow the Palm Island Barracudas at AllBlacks carnivals.

Anthony was a top quality player and Gyillian used to line up with the ladies team, the Palm Barracudettes.

There is nothing better than watching a carnival here on Palm called the Christmas Cup. The last one in December was wonderful and lots of people come over from the mainland and I got to see them.

After the games we enjoyed each other's company and I also like following the Palm junior teams which compete in Townsville. Life is great on Palm with the beautiful views and the people and to me the residents here are all like one big family.

– As told to Alf Wilson

Raymond Noble, Samuel Nugent (me), Gyillian Fraser and Anthony Thompson.

SHARE YOUR FAMILY WITH OUR READERS

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

Koori Mail

HIRE OUR NEW EVENTS SPACE

Located on Widjabul Wia-bal land, our multidisciplinary space is an ideal location for your next meeting or gathering.

Our Events Space accommodates up to 100 seated guests and 200 standing guests.

- Fully-fitted kitchen
- Furniture and Equipment (includes set up of chairs and tables, including black tablecloths)
- Data Projector



11 Molesworth St, Lismore, NSW
koorimail.com/events

Koori Mail

Postal Address
PO Box 117, Lismore, NSW, 2480

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

STAFF

Cultural Lead: Rhoda Roberts AO – rhoda@koorimail.com

Editor: Todd Jigarra Condie – editor@koorimail.com

Newspaper Advertising: advertising@koorimail.com

Job Web Advertising: webads@koorimail.com

Accounts: accounts@koorimail.com

Subscriptions: subs@koorimail.com

Advertising Format

Page Size: 38cm deep x 26cm wide
7 columns per page - we do not accept 1 or 6 column adverts
Single column size 35mm • 2.5mm space between columns

Advertising Deadlines

Bookings 5pm on the Wednesday prior to publication.
Material 5pm Thursday prior to publication.

Koori Mail on The Web: www.koorimail.com

Complete details of editorial and jobs advertised in the *Koori Mail* can be accessed through the State Library of NSW's INFOKOORI service.

INFOKOORI site address

<http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/infokoori>
The *Koori Mail* is published by Budsoar Pty Ltd and printed by SpotPress, 26 Lillian Fowler Place, Marrickville NSW 2204.
The Aboriginal flag is reproduced in the *Koori Mail* by permission of its author, Harold Thomas.

The *Koori Mail* is owned equally by Nungera Co-operative (Maclean), Bundjalung Tribal Society (Lismore), Kurrachee Co-operative (Coraki), Buyinbin Co-operative (Casino) and Bunjum Co-operative (Cabbage Tree Island), all on the NSW north coast.

Items published in *Koori Mail* may be reproduced by Budsoar Pty Ltd on our website – www.koorimail.com

KOORI MAIL – 100% ABORIGINAL-OWNED 100% ABORIGINAL-CONTROLLED



This statue of Captain Cook in St Kilda was defaced with red paint in January 2022. (Picture ABC)



The Captain Cook memorial that the City of Yarra has decided not to reinstate because of repeated vandalism.

Captain Cooked

Memorial to be removed after repeated vandalism attacks



A CONTENTIOUS Captain Cook memorial that has been the target of repeated vandalism is set to be scrapped. The City of Yarra has

voted unanimously to remove the memorial which stands at the entrance to Edinburgh Gardens in Melbourne's inner north.

The granite monument was toppled and graffitied over the Australia Day long weekend and is currently in council storage.

A council report found that it would prove costly, around \$15,000, to repair and reinstate the statue after it was toppled and spray painted with the words "cook the colony" last year.

More than \$100,000 has already been spent over the past 25 years to maintain the memorial.

Mayor Stephen Jolly said removing it would eliminate the yearly maintenance costs.

"It's a waste of ratepayers' money," Mr Jolly told ABC Melbourne.

The memorial has been vandalised several times since 2018. In 2020, the memorial's plaque featuring Cook's face was spray-painted over, with the words "shame" and "remove this" scrawled beneath.



The statue in St Kilda was chopped off at the ankles this year.

A similar statue of Captain Cook was hacked off at the ankles in St Kilda, and another statue of Queen Victoria near the city's Botanic Gardens was splattered with red paint last year on the eve of Australia Day.

Mr Jolly denied council was giving in to the vandals.

"I don't think it's a good idea to destroy statues of people from the past ... But we simply can't afford it," he said.

"If we wanted to keep it there

permanently, we would probably have to have security guards there (and more) lighting. I just don't think the locals want that."

Premier Jacinta Allan described the ongoing vandalism of monuments as "deeply disrespectful" and called for community division to end.

The bronze plaques, which belong to the memorial, are expected to be given to the Captain Cook Society, which celebrates the British explorer.

— AAP

Fight to protect island homes

By KEIRA JENKINS



TISHIKO King remembers looking out into the ocean as a child, sitting with her grandfather on the steps of their home on Thursday Island in the Torres Strait.

"He used to share that if you look after the ocean, the ocean will return you home," the Kulkalaig woman said.

As a child, Ms King didn't quite understand what her grandfather's words meant, but now the 36-year-old marine biologist and self-proclaimed "ocean person" is acutely aware of her responsibility to protect the sea, islands and her community.

"I feel saltwater pumping through my veins – it's the essence of who I am and all the things I do," she said.

"I'm led by my spirit and at the heart of that is my love and deep connection to my island home and the saltwater."

Ms King has already seen the physical and cultural impacts climate change is having on the communities of the Torres Strait.

Rising sea levels have eroded shorelines, flooding islands and



Tishiko King's love of the ocean is at the heart of a documentary following her fight to protect her Country in the Torres Strait islands.

threatening homes while impacting burial sites and important ecosystems.

"I remember seeing sea grasses in this bay area (on Masig Island) and as we've seen

our oceans warm, that sea grass has disintegrated and our dugong populations have relocated," she said.

"The dugong is one of my ocean totems."

While walking on Masig Island with Traditional Owner Yessie Mosby, Ms King recalls picking up bones of ancestors whose burial places had been impacted by rising tides.

"Ice sheets are falling at a rate that is impacting these rising seas," she said.

"Our burial grounds are traditionally at the centre of our island."

A new documentary, *Sea Country – Malu Lag*, follows Ms King's journey from Australia to the United Nations Climate Change council in Dubai, fighting for the ocean and island home she loves.

Ms King worked with clothing brand Patagonia on the film, which also explores the leadership of community members like Mr Mosby as they grapple with the challenges of climate change.

"This is not something where it's in the future, we're seeing this now," Ms King said.

"Torres Strait Islander communities are at the front lines of this climate crisis and are experiencing climate injustices and facing this disproportionate impact, despite contributing the least to global emissions."

Ms King said it was a film for all ocean-lovers and Australians that drew attention to the impacts of climate change in our own backyard.

● *Sea Country* will be released online on Thursday.

– AAP

Koori Mail

ABN: 19 053 994 915

SUBSCRIPTION FORM 2025

Have the **Koori Mail** – Australia's National Indigenous Newspaper – delivered to your home or office for the following and **SAVE!!!**

3 Months (6 editions) - \$40 (includes - \$3.64 gst) - OR

6 Months (12 editions) - \$60 (includes - \$5.45 gst) - OR

1 Year (25 editions) - \$100 (includes - \$9.09 gst) - OR

2 Years (50 editions) - \$175 (includes - \$15.91 gst)

Renewal: ☐ New Subscription: ☐ Invoice Me: ☐

Enclosed is \$..... for ☐ 3 months ☐ 6 months ☐ 1 Year ☐ 2 Years

Direct Deposit: ☐ Cheque enclosed: ☐

Please charge my Credit Card: ☐ MASTER CARD ☐ VISA ☐

(PLEASE TICK APPLICABLE CARD)

Card Expiry Date: / / CVC

Name of Card Holder:

DISCOUNT BULK SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Phone: Fax:

Signature: Contact Name:

Email: Contact Phone No:

Mail your completed form to:

Subscription Officer
Koori Mail Newspaper
PO Box 117 Lismore NSW 2480
PH: 02 66 222 666 (ext 3) Email: subs@koorimail.com

Customer ID Number:

Please photocopy this form for your tax records.
This will be a TAX INVOICE FOR GST when payment is made.

Emma-Lee says 'I'm going to be an artist'

By COLE BAXTER



KONGABULA artist Emma-Lee Maher is one of three rising Indigenous women artists profiled in the April edition of *Vogue Australia* Magazine, one of Australia's most prestigious publications.

The three artists were selected from the 85 Aboriginal artists from across Western Australia featured in the Revealed exhibition currently running until June 15 at Boorloo – The Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts.

The Revealed exhibition is proudly delivered under the custodianship of the Aboriginal Art Centre Hub Western Australia (AACHWA) – the peak advocacy and resource body for Aboriginal art centres in the state.

Her inclusion in Revealed comes after Emma-Lee won the First Nations prize at the Kalgoorlie Art Awards in 2023 which followed her selection as a finalist in the Melville Art Awards along with several other group exhibitions.

Emma-Lee's artistic journey began long before her inclusion in Vogue. At primary school she was declared 'the best horse-drawer in her entire school.'

"At my Year 7 graduation, I stood up and told everyone I was going to be an artist," she said. "And now, at 27 years of age I'm still telling people I'm going to be an artist."

It's this determined and respectful "going to be" attitude that has seen Emma-Lee not only win accolades and praise but also begin to gain financial success, having sold one of her works from the Revealed exhibition.

"A lot of my work draws from personal memories and family stories, whether they're true, half true or somewhere in between," she said.

Her explorative practice matches the artistic themes she covers with genuine investigation



Artist Emma-Lee Maher.

into her own story, connections and how she interprets the world around her.

Her black and white work *Sweating, shaking on Dingo Rock*, is also included in the *Vogue* profile.

The picture tells the story of her being sent into the bush at night by a group of older kids.

"They warned me to remain still on a big rock or a dingo would pop out of the shadows to cop a feed," she said.

With 2023 marking her entry onto the art scene, and 2024 a big follow up, be prepared to see further work from Emma-Lee taking up space on small, medium and big stages.

Men face life sentences for the killing of Cassius



TWO men convicted of murdering an Indigenous teen who was chased into bushland and bashed with a metal pole face life sentences, with the boys mother saying the pair can rot behind bars.

Cassius Turvey, a Noongar Yamatji boy, died in hospital 10 days after he was "deliberately struck to the head" in Perth's eastern suburbs on October 13, 2022, causing nationwide outrage.

Jack Steven James Brearley, 24, and Brodie Lee Palmer, 29, were convicted of murdering the 15-year-old following a three-month trial in the Supreme Court of Western Australia.

Mitchell Colin Forth, 27, was convicted of manslaughter and Aleesha Louise Gilmore, 23, was acquitted by the jury on Thursday.

Outside the court after the jury delivered its unanimous verdict, Cassius' mother Mechelle Turvey said her son identified Brearley and Palmer the night he was attacked.

"My son died for absolutely nothing," she said, with family and supporters chanting "justice for Cassius".

"His life was taken. He was hunted down for days ... 15 years of age, my son has finally got justice. May he live forever."

Ms Turvey said it was a "sore point" for her that police did not take a statement from Cassius before he died because of his head injury.

Numb with relief

Asked about the verdicts, Ms Turvey said she was "numb with relief" after they were read.

"Justice to me will never be served because I don't have my son, and he's not coming back ... they can just rot as far as I'm concerned," she said.

Prosecutor Ben Stanwix told the jury Brearley delivered the fatal blows while "hunting for kids" because somebody had smashed



Murder victim Cassius Turvey's mother Mechelle Turvey speaks to media with her family and supporters at the District Court Of Western Australia in Perth, Western Australia, on Thursday, May 8, 2025.

his car windows.

It was alleged Forth and Palmer aided him, and along with Gilmore, they had a common purpose on the day.

Brearley denied he struck Cassius with a pole, saying he only punched him after the teen knifed him and that Palmer did the deed.

Palmer in turn denied Brearley's account as the two men attempted to blame each other for the murder during the trial.

Cassius was struck at least

twice, causing bleeding in his brain. His death shocked the community and the attack was described by Prime Minister

Senior Sergeant Steve Cleal said Cassius was a boy who went to school and didn't make it home.

"Cassius was completely innocent ... this was not his fault," he said.

WA Premier Roger Cook said he hoped the guilty verdicts provided justice and closure for Cassius' family.

"This is a dreadful, horrible experience, a very violent

experience, and Cassius has left us," he said.

"We're deeply saddened and disturbed by the accounts of that crime."

The men will be sentenced on June 26 and face mandatory life sentences under WA law.

Under WA law, a person found guilty of murder must be sentenced to life imprisonment unless: A life sentence would clearly be unjust in the circumstances, and the person is unlikely to be a threat to the safety of the community when released (in which case the person must be imprisoned for 20 years).

— AAP

'Justice to me will never be served because I don't have my son, and he's not coming back ... they can just rot as far as I'm concerned.'

Anthony Albanese and others as racially motivated, although Mr Stanwix said this wasn't the case. Lead investigator, Detective



Film raises the issue of kelp-killing sea urchins

By MARION WILLIAMS



INDIGENOUS people on the NSW South Coast have been excluded from looking after Sea Country for years.

That could change if governments are convinced to act on a Senate inquiry recommendation to stop the destruction of kelp forests by longspined sea urchins.

While these urchins are native to NSW, warming waters and a strengthening Eastern Australian Current have allowed their larvae to disperse further south, establishing populations well beyond their historical range.

As a result, these voracious feeders and breeders have decimated the kelp forests along 2,000 kilometres of coastline or a quarter of the 8,000-kilometre Great Southern Reef that spans the southern half of Australia.

The good news is the climate change-induced crisis is solvable. The federal Senate inquiry in November 2023 recommended that \$55 million be invested immediately into a five-year national taskforce to fix the problem, with First Nations, research and industry representation.

The bad news is the government will not provide funding unless more people are talking about and understand the sea urchin issue.

That led the Great Southern Reef Foundation (GSRF) to make a 35-minute documentary about the situation. The documentary *White Rock* is now touring nationally.

It was filmed at locations including Tasmania, Victoria and Narooma's Barunguba. It features interviews with Walbunja Traditional Owner Wally Stewart, abalone and sea urchin divers, chefs and



Stefan Andrews, co-founder of Great Southern Reef Foundation and filmmaker, Walbunja Traditional Owner Wally Stewart, Dr Jane Elek, and marine scientist Dr Cayne Layton, speaking at the panel discussion after the filming of *White Rock* in Narooma on May 3. Picture: Great Southern Reef Foundation

investors.

Solutions examined include establishing a well-funded national taskforce with investment in long-term research, coordinated monitoring, and support for a sustainable urchin harvest industry to process and sell roe to established markets overseas while developing a domestic market.

The roe makes up less than 10% of the urchin but the waste contains calcium and boron that can be converted into fertiliser and sold to farmers. A

commercial urchin industry has economic, cultural and environmental benefits.

White Rock screened at Narooma on May 3, followed by a panel discussion.

Mr Stewart was asked how he felt about the destruction of kelp forests that has led to lifeless urchin barrens.

He said Yin people are saltwater people who have lived on the coast for generations, his father was a fisherman, and the ocean was his family's backyard. The reef and its inhabitants are part of their Dreamtime stories,

and 95% of their food came from the ocean and estuaries.

"We have watched our Country and water that sustained us be destroyed," Mr Stewart said. "It is part of who we are. If they destroy this, our culture is gone forever."

For the last 40 years South Coast Aboriginal fishers have been battling NSW Department of Primary Industries (Fisheries) and the commercial abalone industry to preserve cultural fishing.

Aboriginal fishers have been charged with fishing offences that led to hefty fines, sometimes jail.

Developing a sea-urchin industry could create jobs for young Aboriginal people.

Mr Stewart's company Joonga Land and Water Aboriginal Corporation is creating jobs including as scientific divers for the SMART drumline contract in the Eurobodalla. It involves tagging and collecting data on sharks.

"If you give these young men a job you can change their lives."

During the panel discussion, marine scientist Dr Cayne Layton said they only have a scientific baseline of 50 years, so they need to speak to people with knowledge beyond that.

Mr Stewart urged government, scientists and the industry to work with his people on the urchin problem given they have their own knowledge.

With screenings of *White Rock* continuing around Australia, the campaign hopes to build public pressure for a national solution. As Mr Stewart said, "we know we can fix this, but we need to work together".

The *White Rock* impact campaign includes community and school screenings.

Anyone interested in hosting a community screening or registering interest for school resources should contact info@greatsouthernreef.com

Boorloo ready for NAIDOC

A NATIONAL forum to listen and learn from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices that are shaping the future will be held in Boorloo (Perth) on Friday, July 4.

The forum reflects the 2025 NAIDOC theme *The Next*

Generation: Strength, Vision and Legacy which, according to organisers, calls on not just Indigenous communities but Australians of all walks of life "to recognise the incredible achievements of our Elders over the years and their legacy as we celebrate and support the emerging leaders on their journey".

The event hosts a big lineup of speakers, headlined by Professor Jackie Huggins AM, Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities (FAHA).

Other speakers set to share their insights and experiences include Dr Jim Morrison, Professor Braden Hill, Dr Donna Odegaard AM, Alison Scott, Bernice Hookey, Marissa Verma, Nicole Brown, Sharon Ninnette, Jarnda Councillor-Barnes, Dion Devow, Courtney Harris, Erol Williams, Tahleah Pascov, Bronson Richards and Rachel Towart OAM.

Forum organiser and MC, Christine Ross, said it "will provide a significant platform for reflection, discussion and celebration, amplifying the strength, vision and enduring legacy of the next generation of Indigenous leaders and communities".

"Attendees will engage with a dynamic program designed to inspire and foster dialogue around this crucial theme," she said.

A Welcome to Country will be delivered by Jayden Boundary.

Following the main forum at the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre, attendees will be invited to the exclusive ALIWAH networking event with entertainment by Natasha Eldridge.

Tickets for the forum are on sale through Humanitix.



Jackie Huggins

Dare to be more



MLC SCHOOL

NEW 140-Year Anniversary Bursary for Year 11 Now Open

Full remission of tuition fees for girls entering Year 11 in 2026.

WANGAL COUNTRY
ROWLEY STREET, BURWOOD NSW

Apply now
mlcsyd.nsw.edu.au



Applications close Friday 6 June 2025

CRICOS 02328D

Dancers keep culture thriving

By MARION WILLIAMS



RESPECTED activist, singer, songwriter, performer and writer Bobby McLeod would be

smiling at the legacy he has left in the Doonooch Dancers.

Before he passed in 2009, he performed with them at the opening ceremony of the Sydney 2000 Olympics. It was a far cry from the dance group's humble beginnings just nine years earlier.

Bobby went through very tough times from an early age and with sons of his own, he had a vision in the early 1980s to get young Aboriginal men back to their culture and keep culture thriving.

Wandandian man Andrew McLeod, Bobby's eldest son and manager of the Doonooch Dancers, said Bobby wanted young Aboriginal men to have some sense of belonging, something that had been lost along the way through colonisation.

"Dad wanted us to get back into culture and know about our traditional lores and ways," Andrew said.

It started with four dancers: Bobby, sons Andrew and Larry, and their cousin Cecil McLeod.

"Now there are hundreds who know our songs and dances because we have gone into schools," Andrew said.

In the early days they worked closely with renowned artistic director Rhoda Roberts, and celebrated didgeridoo player William Barton joined them for a while back then.

They have travelled to Canada, US, Scotland, India, South Korea, Vietnam, Noumea and New Zealand promoting traditional Aboriginal culture through dance and song.

In 2008 they welcomed Pope Benedict XVI onto the podium when he visited Sydney.

"We were one metre close to him," Andrew said. "I was watching him, and he was really interested in the lore paint we were wearing."



Some of the members of the Doonooch Dancers who performed at the Narooma Oyster Festival on May 3. Picture: Marion Williams.



An early photo of the Doonooch Dancers and Elders. (Supplied)

Andrew said their strict adherence and deep understanding of lore, as taught by Bobby and other Elders, sets the Doonooch Dancers apart from many other dancing groups.

He said everyone who had been part of the dancers had gained self-belief and self-

determination and were empowered to embrace their culture. Belonging to the dance group gave them the confidence to do what they wanted to do down the track.

"Culture played a large part in who those fellas are today, such as their creativity," Andrew said.

"It has helped a lot of the young Aboriginal men to learn about culture, grow, and understand the role we have in our culture as men."

He and his brother Graham said the dancing group had a huge impact on their lives.

Andrew said that by taking them around the world to perform, Bobby educated them on who they were as people and what they were about.

"People say you are this and you are that and dad said you are more than that," Andrew said.

Today they are passing that message on, particularly to young Aboriginal men in their home town, Nowra, giving them guidance through dance and fishing.

They are working with 17 young men who the police have labelled "nuisances".

"We had one young man for a

month, and he has changed," Andrew said.

"If you give anyone the chance to show there is a better side to them, they will take it," Andrew said. "They just have to have the opportunity, so we are making sure they understand their culture and their values and respect their Elders."

In turn, he thanked his father, sister Natalie and brothers Larry, Bobby, Daniel and Malcolm for their support over the years.

Graham thinks Bobby would be pleased with the Doonooch Dancers today.

"This is exactly what Andrew is doing, keeping it real and culture is keeping strong," Graham said. "It is making sure everyone is being looked after, our culture, our land, and our whole community. It isn't just our young Indigenous people."

TAFE NSW



"I wanted to help bridge the gap between community and law enforcement."

The IPROWD program aims to engage Aboriginal people in training that prepares them for career opportunities in the NSW Police Force, the Australian Federal Police (AFP) or other Justice agencies. IPROWD offers a safe, supportive learning environment, so you can make a positive change to your life and community's future – just like Cass.

In partnership with:



tafensw.edu.au/iprowd

1110 90003
CRICOS 00586
HEP PRV120-49



Cass
IPROWD Graduate | Wonnarua Nation



St Joseph's Catholic College, Katherine, celebrating the delivery of one million books. Photo credit: Lisa Pilbeam

One million free books delivered to kids in remote communities



A NATIONAL charity working with remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across Australia has just announced a remarkable milestone.

The Indigenous Literacy Foundation (ILF) has just announced one million books have now been delivered to remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities through the ILF's Book Supply program.

As the ILF's longest-running initiative, Book Supply has provided free and culturally relevant books to over 495 remote Communities across Australia. These books allow young readers to see themselves reflected in stories.

The ILF celebrated this incredible milestone in Katherine, Northern Territory – a region with a rich history of involvement in the program.

"Since I started with the ILF in 2016, Katherine has always been the central hub of the region. Communities all around

it would have to get their packs sent to the local post office and then filtered out to their communities," Cindy Manfong, ILF's former Book Supply Coordinator and current Publishing Projects Editor from Katherine Community says.

"I have seen first-hand how kids and adults in communities react to seeing these packs and it's always a lot of smiles and pride – especially seeing new books fresh out of the boxes. It makes me so proud knowing that this program has been incredibly successful."

This program would not be possible without support from Australia Post. The team at Australia Post has delivered books to remote communities since the beginning of their partnership in 2020.

"Australia Post proudly supports the Indigenous Literacy Foundation by using its vast network to deliver the Book Supply program to 495 communities around Australia," says Nicky Tracey, Australia Post General Manager Community and Stakeholder Engagement.

"Congratulations to the ILF on this magnificent milestone of delivering one million culturally relevant books to remote First Nations communities."

The ILF is extremely grateful to their generous donors, communities, partners, board members, ambassadors, and volunteers. All those who have participated in the ILF since its inception have played a role in Book Supply and the one million books now in remote communities.

● Shelley's view, page 24

SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL

Seeds

Yurlu | Country

Marlon Williams Ngā Ao E Rua – Two Worlds

4-15 JUNE 2025

Emily: I Am Kam

SEE THE BIGGER PICTURE

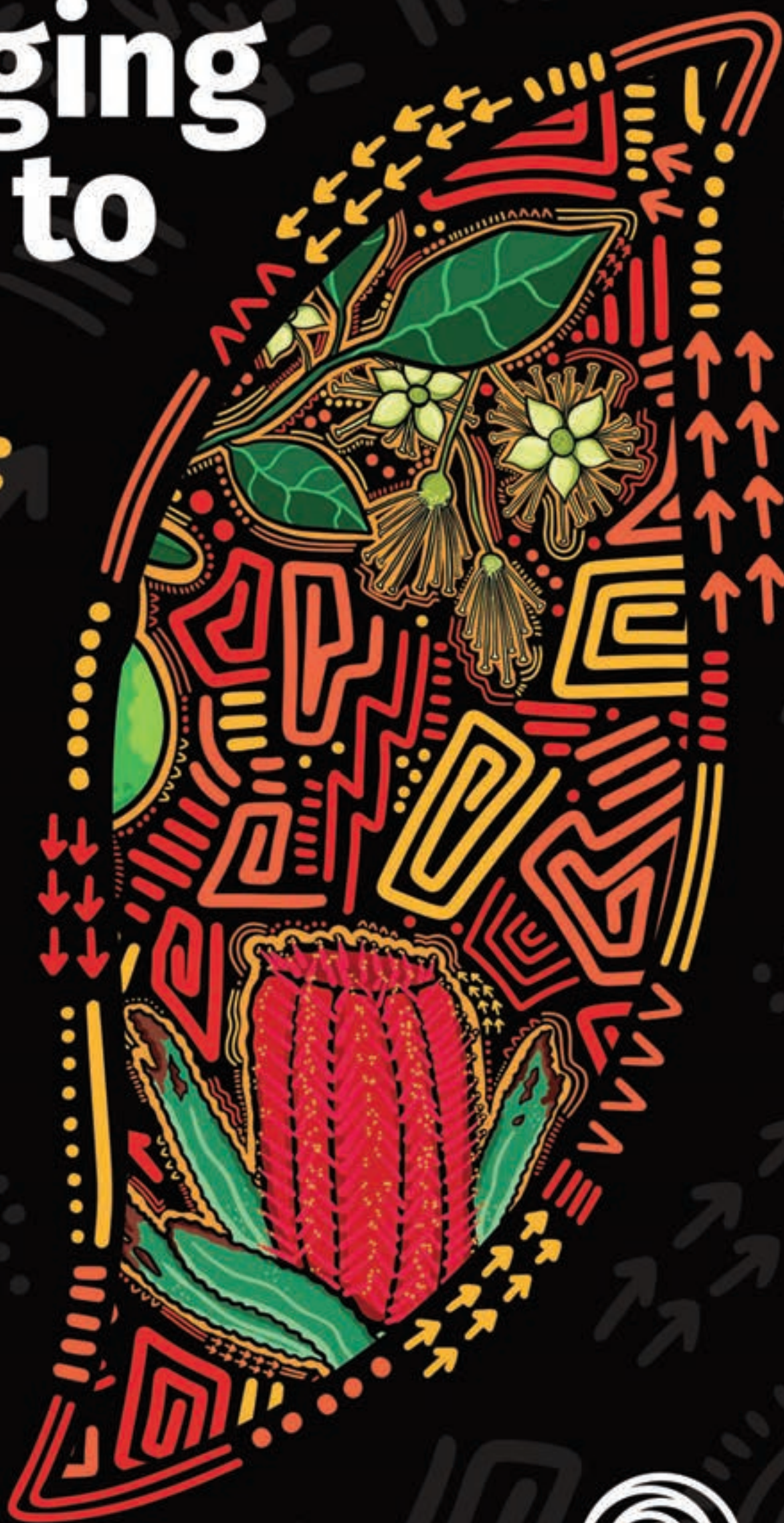
SEE OVER 200+ FILMS INCLUDING FILMS NOMINATED FOR THE SFF FIRST NATIONS AWARD

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 2025

Bridging Now to *Next*

27 MAY –
3 JUNE

#NRW2025



RECONCILIATION.ORG.AU



RECONCILIATION
AUSTRALIA

Confronting installation to challenge Dark Mofo crowd

By JILLIAN MUNDY



We threw them down the rocks where they had thrown the sheep.

This is the title of Trawlwoolway artist Nathan Maynard's installation which opens on the first day of this year's Dark Mofo midwinter arts, entertainment and food festival in Nipaluna/Hobart.

These are also the words of Chamberlain, a convict sheep farmer recalling what he and three co-workers did to around 30 Aboriginal people they shot on 10 February 1828. It was to become known as the Cape Grim massacre. The rocks refer to a 60-metre-high cliff in north east Lutruwita/Tasmania.

Chamberlain's recollection was recorded by early colonial 'Protector of Aborigines' George Augustus Robinson, who noted in his journal that it was told with 'perfect indifference'.

The 'Protector', who was also involved in the theft and trade of Aboriginal remains, saw fit to tell Chamberlain and the other men off, warning them he would tell authorities if they did it again.

"It's just one example in this country of where white people valued sheep more than black human life," Maynard told the *Koori Mail* last week.

Theft of remains

Maynard's installation intends to draw attention to the extent of the theft of First Nations human remains globally and the ongoing effects.

"We're getting remains back, but there's still thousand of remains out there, it is still a problem," he said.

"It's because they don't value us as human beings, they can't do, because you wouldn't treat another human being's remains in the fashion that these fellows have treated our remains."

Maynard believes those who choose ignorance would shift their attitude if provoked to imagine their grandmother's grave being robbed and her remains sent to a Black institution on the other side of the world, against her wishes, to satisfy Black curiosity.

We threw them down the rocks where they had thrown the sheep is promoted as an ambitious work, using flesh to lay bare the legacy of cultural theft and erasure at staggering scale in a mass installation, which speaks to the sadistic power white institutions flex when they deny First Nations people the humanity of putting ancestors' remains to rest in the physical and the spiritual.

Maynard is careful with details of the installation, he doesn't want any spoilers.

"It's not what it looks like, it's



Trawlwoolway artist Nathan Maynard. Picture Jillian Mundy.

what it feels like to experience this in its whole entirety.

"The catch cry at the moment is Truth Telling, and to help people see the truth, I think they need to feel the truth.

"I want them to go wow, what if this was human remains."

What he will say is the installation includes sound, lighting and the remains of hundreds of animals in a basement in the Hobart CBD – but nothing on the scale of the remains of First Nations people stolen, collected and traded across the globe.

He adds that the remains come from abattoirs and are preserved in the same way Palawa preserve mutton birds, that nothing was killed for the purpose for the installation – other parts of the animals have already sent to shops for human consumption.

"It's more than sheep's heads in bottles, physically and metaphorically.

"It relates to the way white people have constantly treated black human remains, over and over and over again.

"We have been cut up, dug up and sent to white institutions all around the world, to sit in basements, to collect dust, till white fellas see fit to come in when they want to, to do their studies.

"In basements all around the world, there's human remains in these bigger institutions and private collections."

While Blackfellas will be curious to see the work and are of course welcome, they are not the intended audience.

"Our own people know this story," says Maynard. "As an artist, sometimes you write a story for your own Mob, and sometimes you write stories to educate people, this is definitely



A part of the exhibition, *We threw them down the rocks where they had thrown the sheep*. Picture Jesse Hunniford.

a piece to educate others."

He hopes visitors will leave the installation with a better understanding of how First Nations people feel with their ancestors' remains collecting dust in institutions around the world.

Maynard rarely struggles to find words, but when asked how it makes him feel, he pauses.

"It's gutting, it makes me absolutely saddened.

Overwhelmingly sad

"I feel angry, and I feel sad, but I think it's overwhelmingly sad for these poor old fellas, because I know that their spirits would be missing home.

"I think it's a massive influence on our community today, we've had this inferiority complex.

"I remember reading when I was a young fella about our old fellas on Cape Barren (Island Aboriginal Reserve) and the superintendent at the time said 'these Cape Barren Islanders have got a massive inferiority complex' and I think we still have got this massive inferiority complex."

While the massacres of Palawa stopped by the 1900s, grave robbing and trading of

remains continued.

It was 1939 when white Australian scientist Norman Tindale visited Cape Barren Island, measuring people's heads and taking hair samples, in name of the discredited and racist theory of eugenics – which in its simplest form aimed to classify people as inferior and support assimilation policies.

"Growing up in Launceston I was reminded every day who I was, I was reminded that I was a Maynard, and I was a coon, and I was an Abo, and I was a boong, and I wasn't as smart as everyone else, I wasn't as capable as everyone else and I didn't have as many opportunities as everyone else, every day I was reminded of that, and of course you grow up feeling inferior to everyone else around you."

Given Maynard's track record as film maker, installation artist and award-winning playwright whose work receives rave reviews for his examinations of race, community, power and identity, there is little doubt *We threw them down the rocks where they had thrown the sheep* will be powerful.

Unlike provocative works programmed for past Dark Mofo

festivals, it is anticipated with no vocal criticism.

The festival, which started in 2013, pushes art to boundaries rarely seen in so-called Australia. At times it has been accused of leaning into the 'glorification of the gore and violence of colonisation', promoting non-Aboriginal artists in fetishising First Nations people and stories, being tone deaf and 'taking the mickey out of Tasmanian Aboriginal people'.

Blaklash

Over the years there has been blaklash from Palawa. In 2014 a Swiss artist had his mock DNA collection stand purporting to test for Aboriginal descent and mock community centre where he tried to deceive Palawa artists into being part of a live installation, pulled right after it was installed.

Then in 2021 came Union Flag, where a Spanish artist called for Indigenous people to donate blood so he could soak the British flag with it. This one didn't even make it to installation; it was pulled from the program within days of its announcement.

While Palawa artists perform at some of the festival's music events and open the festival, they sometimes tread cautiously in other program areas.

Maynard is confident Dark Mofo has learnt over the years, listened to the Aboriginal community and tried to make amends.

"I think their intention to work with our community was genuine.

"First Nations people should be the authors of First Nation stories, we want our allies to back us up, the responsibility should be given to us to talk about blackfella issues when we want to talk about blackfella issues," he said.

It is the first full programmed Dark Mofo under the leadership of new artistic director Chris Twite.

"This current team is a different team than the last, and I do consider them allies."

Thinking of his upcoming installation, Maynard hopes it can make some kind of difference.

"In a way the Frontier Wars have not stopped while our old people's remains have not been brought home."

He is excited to see how the work is received.

We threw them down the rocks where they had thrown the sheep opens on Thursday 5 June, and can be visited Thursday to Sunday evenings of the festival.

Dark Mofo, a project of the Museum of Old and New Art (Mona), runs from Thursday 5 June to Sunday 15 June plus has nude solstice swim on Saturday 21 June.

Iconic cultural institution in Naarm celebrates 40 years

By ALI MC



THIS year brings in the 40th anniversary of the Koorie Heritage Trust, one of Naarm's (Melbourne's) most significant First Nations cultural institutions.

Founded in 1985 by Uncle Jim Berg (along with human rights activists Ron Castan and Ron Merkel) the initial aim of the Koorie Heritage Trust was to ensure that South-East Australia's Aboriginal cultural heritage was held 'in trust' for future generations.

"It was really visionary at the time when the trust was actually set up," CEO Tom Mosby told the *Koori Mail*.

"It was very much about stopping the sale and taking out of Victoria the Aboriginal cultural heritage, including skeletal remains. It was about ensuring all of that was actually kept in Victoria to be held in trust for Victorian Aboriginal communities. Which is why we still call ourselves the Koorie Heritage Trust."

Evolution

Mosby also stated the role of the trust had evolved since its initial establishment, and while still housing cultural items of significance, also celebrates and showcases contemporary First Nations art and design as well.

"We're very much about promoting, supporting and celebrating Victorian and South-East Australian Aboriginal people and communities, but also the broader First Peoples' diaspora

that now have moved to Victoria," Mr Mosby said.

Since its 'visionary' beginnings, the Koorie Heritage Trust has grown into a gallery space and also provides vital services for the Victorian Aboriginal community, including the Koorie Family History Service, which researches family trees for people who may have been impacted by the Stolen Generations.

The KHT, as it is known, also runs daily walking tours and offers First Nations art initiatives such as Blak Design.

Relocation

Since relocating to the heart of Naarm/Melbourne's Federation Square more than a decade ago, the Koorie Heritage Trust has seen an increase in local, overseas and interstate visitors every year.

"Our key stakeholders are the Victorian Aboriginal communities and people, but it's also a place of learning and education for non-Indigenous visitors, including people in Melbourne, but also the tourists that come here," Mosby told the *Koori Mail*. "It's really about educating and showcasing the fact that you actually have this continuing culture down here in southeast Australia."

Mosby explained that one of the advantages of the Koorie Heritage Trust being in such a prominent location is to dispel the perception that Victoria's Aboriginal communities were small, inactive or non-existent.

"A lot of those big tourism campaigns in the 1980s and 1990s, when it was about talking about Aboriginal Australia, it was all about the Northern Territory,

Queensland and Western Australia. So when people come here, they tend to think there's no Aboriginal people down here," he said.

"So for us, it is about educating the broader community that we actually do have a very strong community here in Victoria, and the fact that we're actually leaders as well in things like Treaty. We also have the First People's Assembly here in Victoria and the Yoorrook Justice Commission. We're leading the rest of the country."

As part of the 40th anniversary celebrations, the Koorie Heritage Trust will be featuring a retrospective of Gunditjmara artist Auntie Connie Hart, who was well-known for her weaving.

"We have a great collection of Victorian Aboriginal art and cultural heritage, and in that collection, we have quite a lot of woven pieces by Auntie Connie," Mosby told the *Koori Mail*.

"It's timely that we celebrate this artist who isn't that well known, but it's also timely to do it as part of our 40th anniversary as well. And we're very excited about that."

Mosby said that the Koorie Heritage Trust's longevity and ongoing development over 40 years was worth recognising and celebrating.

"What we're really celebrating is an Aboriginal owned and managed organisation and we've been successful for 40 years, and I think that's a big thing for us," he said. "The fact that we're still here 40 years later is great testament to not only the organisation, but the need for an organisation like this."



One of the tour guides with two guests around the canoe table at the Koorie Heritage Trust (KHT). (Photo credit: Nicole Cleary)



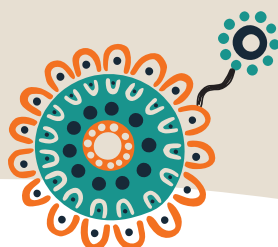
Rob Hyatt, Manger Cultural Experiences, taking visitors on an Aboriginal guided walking tour (Photos: Visit Victoria)



Visitors examine a part of the collection.

Youpla Support Program

Free financial counselling in Cairns and Yarrabah



Were you affected by the ACBF or Youpla going broke?

As part of the Australian Government's Youpla Support Program, eligible former Youpla members can access free financial counselling from Mob Strong Debt Help.

Mob Strong will be visiting Cairns and Yarrabah in June to provide financial counselling to former Youpla members.

You can find out more on the Mob Strong Facebook page.



Australian Government

Youpla Support Program

0672NS_5597

TALK TO YOUR GP OR PHARMACIST
NBMPHN.COM.AU/HEALTHHERO



Wentworth Healthcare
Blue Mountains | Hawkesbury | Lithgow | Penrith

Wentworth Healthcare Limited (ABN 66 155 904 975) as Nepean Blue Mountains PHN

www.nbmpn.com.au/healthhero 810_0525

TV THAT PUTS FIRST NATIONS VOICES FIRST



WE *GO* THERE

Hip-hop and hope

By GUY McLEAN



TOP End rap sensation J-Milla has endeared himself to school children and families in the western desert, creating songs and mixing beats, while also providing positive messaging around the importance of attending school.

J-Milla was the lead attraction at a recent school engagement program at Papunya, west of Alice Springs, delivered by Ngurratjuta Wankawilurratja/Alturla Rinya Aboriginal Corporation (NWWAR).

The two-day pre-Easter funfest followed a successful three days of back-to-school engagement to start the school year.

"Coming out here, sharing my stories with music and connecting with the kids on music theory and therapy and how I record music, the smiles on their faces is why I do what I do," J-Milla said.

"We also spoke about why education is so important and how I've kind of used education to take myself to where I am now and how education can carry you through different areas of life.

"I spoke about how I've used my education to drive my passion, which is music, and also just highlighted the importance of being there for one another, and supporting each other in community."

J-Milla teamed up with Central Australian musical production guru Andy Sorrenson, combining freestyle lyrics and deadly beats with the backing of a

talented student ensemble.

"We had a drum kit, some electric guitars, bass guitar, a keyboard, electronic beat machines and microphones going through a little PA system and it was great to see the response of groups of kids, and adults too, working as teams and getting the opportunity to play in a safe performance space like that," Andy said.

"Kids, mums and dads were able to come in to sing and to play instruments and I was not surprised at the talent so many of the Papunya kids have with instrument playing. Many of the younger kids loved having a sing. Even some teenage girls came in and enjoyed each other's singing. And, Papunya has such an amazing culture of music. It was music from Papunya that reached all the way into to my big city bedroom when I was a young man hearing Warumpi Band."

Boxing

The team from Arrernte Community Boxing Academy were also a hit, leading high-intensity sessions on sparring pads and skipping ropes.

Academy founder and coach Jason Lord said physical activities also provided an opportunity to talk with kids and families about why education was important.

"We had a great time at Papunya School and were pleased to be able to deliver a range of activities from boxing to some general fitness activities. Boxing is always the hit especially when the gloves come out," Jason said.

"But it's also about having conversations and connecting with kids and it was great to

see so many people there. It felt like the whole community came along."

NWWAR staff also assisted, preparing and serving up to 200 healthy meals for students, families and school staff each evening.

Papunya School principal Christine Munro said the programs had helped boost school attendance and promoted engagement with local families.

"The engagement programs delivered by Ngurratjuta was a huge success," Ms Munro said.

"The programs supported strong attendance for the start of the school year and, again, around the Easter holiday break. There's students who had become disengaged towards the end of 2024 who are now back attending.

"The combination of boxing and musical activities provided choice for students and parents. There was a positive vibe around the school on each of the three evenings and it was exciting to see so many students and their families engaging, not just in activities, but also in conversations with school staff."

NWWAR CEO Greg Drew said the engagement program was an idea which came from the corporation's Aboriginal directors, who were always talking to community about ways to improve school attendance and education outcomes.

"It allowed teachers and staff to connect with families in a less formal environment and just helped to get people thinking and talking about education and how important it is," he said.



Pictures: Guy McLean

J-Milla is proving popular with children in remote communities.



J-Milla, Matthew McDonald (drums), Stevie Riley (guitar), Erickson Brown (keyboard).



Tahnalee Ward, Anastasia McDonald, J-Milla, Mikaya McDonald, Keshia Daniels.

NEXT STOP: J-Milla will be performing at the Barunga Festival in the Northern Territory on 7 June with a newly released song. From there he is taking his family for a tour through the West Kimberley region where he will be doing a series of workshops and concerts.

NAIDOC poster winner and lifetime achiever announced



THE National NAIDOC Committee has announced the winner of the 2025 NAIDOC Week Poster Competition —

Ancestral Lines by Jeremy Morgan Worrall — and to honour AFL icon and lifelong advocate Michael Long as the recipient of the 2025 NAIDOC Lifetime Achievement Award.

These two powerful announcements reflect this year's NAIDOC theme: "Next Generation: Strength, Vision, Legacy."

The theme is a call to uplift, invest in, and listen to the emerging generations of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples — and to honour the legacies that paved the way.

Poster winner: Jeremy Morgan Worrall — *Ancestral Lines*

The 2025 NAIDOC poster is a stunning digital artwork titled *Ancestral Lines*, created by Jeremy Morgan Worrall, a proud Ngarbal/Gomerioi man from Emmaville and Deepwater in northern New South Wales.

His family lines include the Wrights, Connors, and Marlows. Jeremy's work honours the knowledge, care and cultural strength passed down through generations — from ancestors Lucy, Enoch and Nonie Wright to his nanna Audrie and his mother Vanessa.

The artwork is set beneath the swirling clouds and moonlit skies of Tenterfield, where the next generation gathers around the fire — to listen, to learn, and to lead.

"When I look back at my Mob, it helps me see towards the future," Jeremy said. "This piece tells the story of our knowledge — of lore, care, hunting, weaving, and love — being passed on through time. My hope is that it speaks to young people and shows them that they come from



Jeremy Morgan Worrall has won the NAIDOC poster competition. The poster is displayed on the next page.

strength. They come from a legacy of survival and brilliance. And that gives us all vision for what comes next." Jeremy's poster will be available across the country in Kmart and Target stores from the 15 June 2025 and is available for download and order at naidoc.org.au.

Lifetime Achievement Award: Michael Long

This year's NAIDOC Lifetime Achievement Award goes to Michael Long, a proud Anmatyerre man, football icon, and lifelong advocate for truth, justice, and self-determination. Michael Long's leadership has lit the path for generations. From the AFL field to the front steps of Parliament House, his actions have inspired a



Michael Long has won the lifetime achievement award.

nation. In 2004, he undertook "The Long Walk" — a 650-kilometre journey from Melbourne to Canberra — to demand better outcomes for First Nations people.

He's never stopped walking since. "Michael Long is one of our country's most respected leaders," said NAIDOC Co-chair Dr Lynette Riley. "His influence has gone far

beyond football. He opened doors, challenged systems, and always walked with purpose and heart. His work has empowered generations of First Nations youth to see themselves as leaders and changemakers. This honour recognises not just what Michael has done, but what he continues to inspire in others." NAIDOC Co-chair Steven Satour added: "This year we honour both legacy and future. Jeremy's work reminds us that culture lives through generations, and Michael has spent his life building those very pathways. He's fought to ensure the next generation has more than just hope — they have power, space, and recognition. Michael Long is a living bridge between where we've come from and where we're going."



We're here to help with your fines

Call the First Nations hotline on 1800 002 345

We're a dedicated team of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander support officers ready to help you with:

- reviewing your fine
- setting up a payment plan
- lifting a driver licence suspension
- doing activities instead of paying.

Talk to us about your options and get back on track.



Call 1800 002 345 or visit nsw.gov.au and search 'First Nations fine support' for more info





THE NEXT GENERATION: STRENGTH, VISION & LEGACY

6-13 JULY 2025

Ancestral Lines by Jeremy Morgan Worrall

This artwork is a visual representation of the generational lines that carry through my mob. When I think of the next generation, I think towards my ancestors—Lucy Wright, Enoch Wright, Nonie Wright—through to my Nanna Audrie and my Mother Vanessa. Looking back gives me the strength and vision to look forward. Each figure in the painting is tied to family lines, like songlines, reflecting what they knew and what they passed on. The first represents lore, hunting, and tracking. The second reflects care, weaving, and love. The third shows the two combined, while the final two carry unfinished elements—symbols of knowledge and care in motion. Above them sits the essence of Country—swirling skies and a giant moon over Emmaville. It is by the fire, under these cool skies, where the next generation finds their strength, vision, and legacy.



Aboriginal Flag designed by Mr Harold Thomas. Torres Strait Islander Flag reproduced by kind permission of the Torres Strait Island Regional Council, designed by the late Mr Bernard Namok

#NAIDOC2025

#BLAKLOUDPROUD

@naidocweek

@naidocweek

facebook.com/NAIDOC



Informing the agenda

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner Katie Kiss. Picture Jillian Mundy.

National tour has given commissioner Katie Kiss plenty to think about

By JILLIAN MUNDY



ABORIGINAL and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner Katie Kiss's seven-month national consultation tour to inform her priorities during her five-year term comes to a close on Badu Island next week.

The Kaanju and Birri/Widi woman was appointed as commissioner in April 2024. The role was created in 1992 in response to the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody and the National Inquiry into Racist Violence.

Called the 'Informing the Project' tour it has taken in city, regional and remote communities in every state and territory and the engagements have been with anywhere from 3 to 70 people. There has also been surveys, submissions, online consultations and visits to organisations, schools and prisons in areas she has visited.

The *Koori Mail* was at the Nipaluna/Hobart consultation which could be likened to a crash course in the United Nations (UN) history, legal frameworks and effectiveness, particularly the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), the Australian Human Rights Commission and the roles of its commissioners. The local Aboriginal community also discussed Kiss's focus areas or goals in her work and their own priorities that may be relevant to her role.

Participants learnt about the commissioner's role in monitoring, promoting and reporting on the human rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, as well as how policy and legislation is examined and reported on in relation to these rights.

"We do all this in the background, but hopefully it has a flow-on effect for our people that are struggling on a day-to-day basis, the grassroots people in our communities, not those sitting in the halls of Parliament where I am trying to affect change.

"Hopefully we put in place structural

arrangements that stop [grass roots people] from being discriminated against, that stop the exposure to the extent of racism that people are currently being exposed to so that they can actually have time and space to work out what they need to do in their lives to have better outcomes for themselves," Kiss explained.

Amongst the bureaucracy systems, consultations and reports, Kiss says it can be easy to lose sight of achievements this kind of high level advocacy work has achieved to improve the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people – like dismantling the Aboriginal protection acts, having the right to vote, being counted in the census and the Close the Gap national agreement.

She believes the advocacy has no end.

"We need people like me within the system trying to create change, but we also need our activists and advocates outside the system to put pressure on the system to help facilitate that change as well," said Kiss.

"We still have so far to go to achieve rights, recognition, better outcomes for our people, we know what the statistics look like.

"We're going to have to constantly be vigilant to make sure that the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are constantly brought to the fore, and that we're being vigilant about their protection and their promotion, because the minute we take our eye off the ball, we start to trip back again."

While Kiss said every Informing the Agenda engagement was unique, she consistently heard about increased racism, especially since the referendum outcome, and youth justice being a concern.

She said many communities are also concerned about identity fraud and associated issues like non – Indigenous people or people that have only realised their Aboriginality in recent times accessing Indigenous specific services and programs or putting their hand up for identified positions.

This was a big part of the

conversation in Nipaluna. Kiss pointed out article 33 in UNDRIP, which talks about the ability to identify people who are part of our communities in accordance with our customs and laws and our traditional processes.

She said the declaration is a powerful tool.

"It's a global standard that the Australian Government has adopted, it gives us a tool to advocate for our rights. The rights are inherent, unquestionable, and we have a right to access and exercise them without question."

Kiss believes identity issues need to be discussed as a national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander collective, and in local communities.

"We need to identify responses because it's becoming an increasing source of stress for people in our communities."

Kiss is passionate about 'rebuilding the village'.

"I'm mindful that impacts of colonisation have really divided our families, our communities, our people," she said.

"We need to come back together, we need to reinstate cultural authority and senior eldership, but we also need to rejoin our young people and give them access back to our Elders and be able to facilitate that.

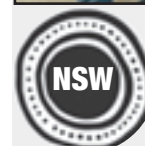
"I think part of the challenge we've got with this consistent issue of youth justice that we're seeing across the country is that our children have become disconnected from who we are, our cultural values, our ways of knowing, being and doing, our pride and strength in who we are as a people and rebuilding the village is where we need to be at."

The Informing the Agenda Project will be reported on in the Social Justice Report due out later this year.

Commission Kiss will be in Cooktown on 26 May, Waiden/Thursday Island on 28 May and Badu Island on 29 May with the project.

More information is available on the project and its goals, and can be found on the Australian Human Rights Commission website.

Massacre-order poster on coloniser statue in court test



PASTING a piece of paper onto a controversial former governor's statue is not protected by freedom of political communication, a judge has ruled.

Activist Stephen Langford stuck a piece of A4 paper with former NSW governor Lachlan Macquarie's 1816 order to imprison and kill First Australians onto a statue of the man himself, located in Hyde Park.

The message stuck on the statue quoted from the order and read "all Aborigines from Sydney onwards are to be made prisoners of war and if they resist they are to be shot and their bodies to be hung from trees in the most conspicuous places near where they fall so as to strike fear into the hearts of surviving natives".

Langford had been found guilty in the Downing Centre Local Court on seven charges of affixing a placard or paper on premises without consent, before appealing that verdict.

But Judge Christine Mendes dismissed that appeal in the District Court on Thursday, declaring an implied constitutional right of freedom of political communication did not mean the law could be ignored.

Archival records show Macquarie's military actions included the slaughter of Aboriginal people including women and children, with little regard for human life or the rules of combat.

Yet the statue describes him as a "perfect gentleman".

Langford said the court decision was "unsatisfactory" and he remained "enraged" by the statue.

"There remains rubbish information on the statue, it's just lauding him," he told AAP.

"I'm not saying he was the worst in the world ... but on a statue you have the truth, not bloody bollocks."

Judge Mendes found free political communication did not deny lawmakers the right to sanction trespassers in order to protect public property.

But she accepted his rights had been burdened by the law and acknowledged his stance as "commendable".

"For many citizens, Mr Langford's interest in raising public awareness about the legacy of Australia's colonial history and the absence of First Nations perspectives of history in the public domain is highly commendable," Judge Mendes said.

Wiradjuri woman Yvonne Weldon, the first Aboriginal councillor in the City of Sydney's 180-year history, said she stood with Langford and commended his advocacy.

"There is not a single publicly-funded statue commemorating a First Nations person in the City of Sydney ... meanwhile there are more than two dozen statues around the city centre commemorating colonial figures," she said.

"This imbalance is unacceptable and it reflects the erasure of First Nations history, culture and perspectives more broadly."

In 2023, Cr Weldon pushed for a review of inscriptions on 25 statues to address offensive descriptions of colonial figures' deeds.

But Langford said no council action had followed. "Nothing has happened, that's my main beef," he said.

"It's meant to be democratic what we have at town hall ... I'm asking them to put the truth on the statues."

Lilli Barto, who was one of a group of supporters with Langford in court, said the outcome showed the priorities of the "colonial legal system".

"The state would rather expend months' worth of police resources and court resources prosecuting a man over a glue stick and a bit of paper ... than to just change the plaque on the statue and actually acknowledge the violence," she told AAP.

Judge Mendes dismissed Langford's charges without conviction.

Victorians invited to join the Walk for Truth

By PAUL CONNELLY



THE Yoorrook Justice Commission invites you to be part of the Walk for Truth from Portland to Parliament. This marks the beginning of the 370km Walk for Truth at the site where

Victoria was first colonised 190 years ago.

Everyone is invited to join Yoorrook Deputy Chair and Commissioner, Travis Lovett, a proud Kerrupmara/Gunditjmara man, this Sunday the 25th of May, as he begins his walk from Portland, where colonisation first took place, to Parliament, to deliver his mob's message stick, and other message sticks he collects along the way.

In a statement Professor Eleanor Bourke AM a Wergaia/Wamba Wamba Elder and Chair of Yoorrook Justice Commission, said, "We invite all Victorians to join the Walk for Truth, whether it be by walking out on Country, following online or sharing social media posts.

"We can't change what happened in the past, but we can understand it better and come together to help create a better future for everyone. I hope you will join us.

"Truth telling has never been more important than it is right now. When we understand the past, and how it connects with the present, we can create a better shared future together."

The Walk for Truth is a culmination of 4 years of work of the commission, and is a lead up to the tabling of the report to the Victorian Government on the 30th of June, something that Travis Lovett, is very proud of.

"The Walk for Truth is about bringing all Victorians together to share truths, to listen and to learn. It will be truth telling in action and all Victorians are invited to take part.

"Over the last four years Yoorrook has heard powerful truths from people right across the state who gave evidence about the past and ongoing impacts of colonisation, as well as the strength, resistance and achievements of First Peoples.

"These truths form the basis of Yoorrook's final reports, documenting the past and providing a roadmap to transform the future.

"The walk will be a powerful way to build our collective understanding of these truths and our history in Victoria, while walking together towards a better future for all Victorians."

"This powerful journey aims to bring everyone together to walk toward truth, celebrate the strength and resistance of Aboriginal people, and be proud to have

the oldest living culture in the world as ours." said Travis, I have personally spent over 600 hours driving across Victoria to hear testimony in many forms, written, and through yarning, and actual Testimony, as well as wading through hundreds of submissions, and I feel this is a way that I can personally honor those who have given testimony to the commission."

"I want to stress that this is not just an event for mob, but for allies as well, especially those who have maybe sat on the fence over these issues, and they did not get involved because they either didn't understand, or that they did not know how, or even if they could, the simple answer, we want you as part of this journey."

Travis's Cousin Keicha Day, a Proud Yorta Yorta Woman, who made submissions to the Commission on Statues and Monuments, is excited about the work the commission has done, and especially how her cousin has held himself during this commission, and has spent a considerable amount of time promoting the event throughout the community on social media.

"The commission is important because it encompasses all that we have been saying for so long, and has been achieved by Truth Telling. I see this as the only way forward, Truth Forgiveness, Reconciliation and Moving Forward together," said Keicha, "I am very proud of my cousin, and this walk will be very satisfying and also be a way of him healing from the evidence he has had to sit through, he is forever a changed man from this experience, but all for the better."

Travis will begin his walk on Sunday 25 May on Gunditjmara Country at Portland, where the first day will culminate in a walk from the foreshore to the Convincing Ground, the sight of one of the deadliest massacres committed against the local indigenous mobs. The Walk will finish at Parliament House on Wednesday 18 June. After leaving Portland, there are planned and scheduled events along the journey, including, Port Fairy, Tae Rak at Lake Condah, Warrnambool, Framlingham, Colac, Geelong, Footscray and Parliament House, where Travis will address the those gathered on the work of the commission and the way forward.

Please note that Public Walk Section locations, start and finish times are subject to change. Yoorrook will send updates of any changes to people who have signed up via EventBrite for Public Walk Sections.

Please visit the Yoorrook Commissions Web Page for further information, and to book your spot for the Public Walks and Gatherings.

<https://yoorrookjusdev.wpengine.com/events/walkfortruth/>



Yoorrook Deputy Chair and Commissioner, Travis Lovett, a proud Kerrupmara/Gunditjmara man, begins the walk on May 25.



Keicha Day, a Proud Yorta Yorta Woman, who made submissions to the Commission on Statues and Monuments.



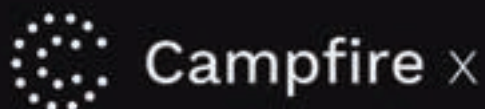
Professor Eleanor Bourke AM a Wergaia/Wamba Wamba Elder and Chair of Yoorrook Justice Commission.

Stream free on



The Knowledge Keepers

Sharing the past to prepare for the future



The Knowledge Keepers

NRMA Insurance, proud supporters of First Nations story telling.

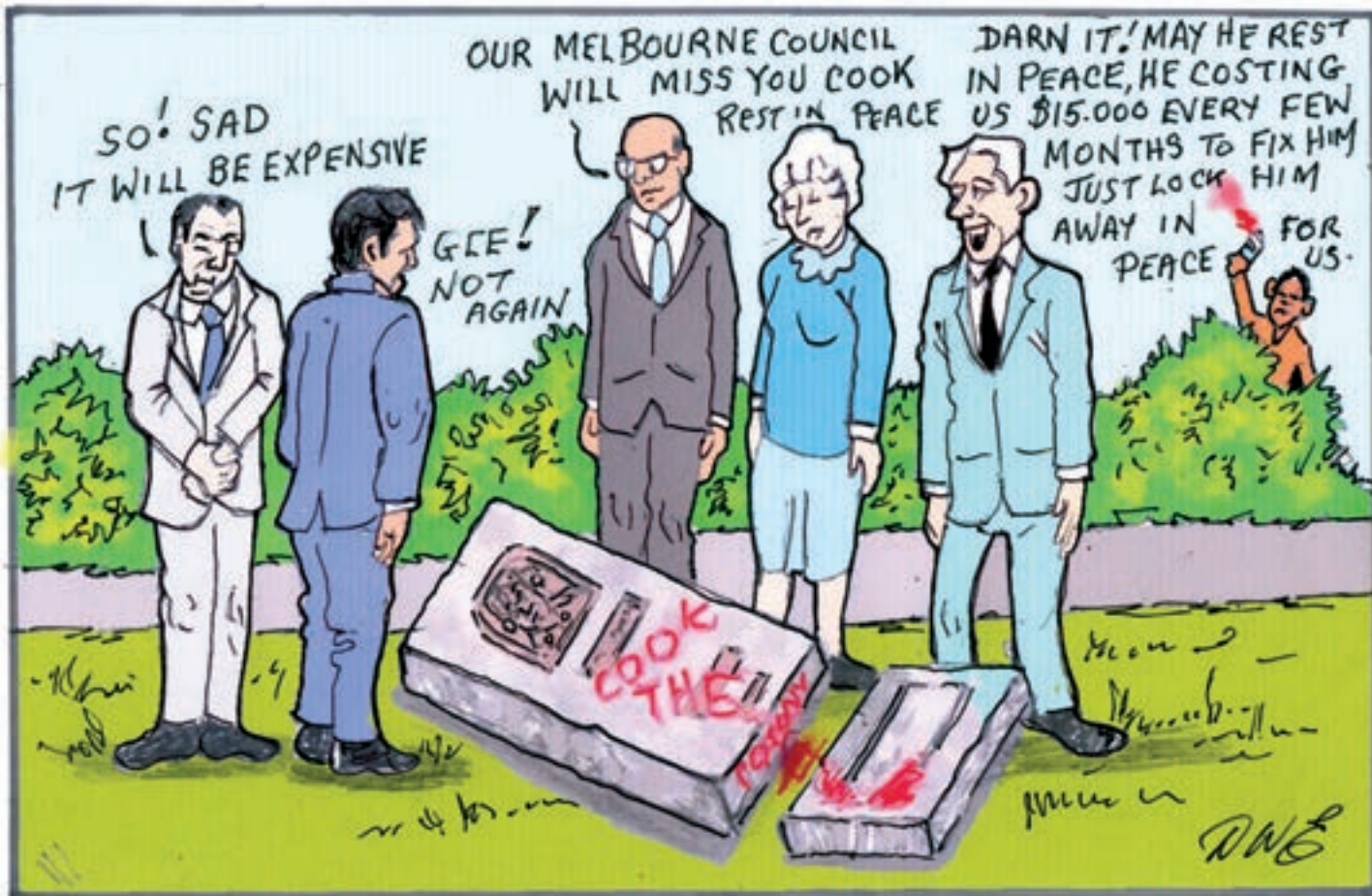
When a group of children gather round a campfire to hear yarns from First Nation practitioners about our rapidly changing climate, they are taken on a journey of discovery.

From across the country, we meet the storytellers of Fire, Flood and Heat and learn that the only way to heal country is as a country.

“Knowledge is only powerful when it's shared.”

Den Barber
Cultural Fire Practitioner
(As shared by Uncle Paul Gordon)

Danny Eastwood's view



A YARN WITH...



Ajay Harrington Widjabul/Wiabul and Torres Strait Islander Bundjalung

Favourite bush tucker?

Pipis (Pipi clams or small clams).

Favourite other food?

Haha it's so not a blakfulla food, it's cookies.

Favourite drink?

Pineapple juice would have to be my favourite drink 'cause I'm a bit of a health nut.

Favourite music?

Sade's music she's a jazz singer and house music.

Favourite sport?

There's no other, it's netball.

Favourite holiday destination?

Baryulgil (Washpool) that's where I'm from and the natural springs there.

What are you watching on TV?

Anime. I will sit there and watch anime for hours, *Bleach* specifically.

What do you like in life?

I love being surrounded by my Mob, and being connected to my land.

What don't you like in life?

Any disrespect, especially to Elders or those with a disability.

Which Black or Indigenous person or people would you like to meet the most?
Yothu Yindi.

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

I feel like it would be my ancestors. Just to know who they were and how they came to be.

Who or what inspires you?

My grandmother, my grandfather and my parents. But more specifically my grandmother, she's the Elder in our Nation, Irene Roberts-Harrington.

What is your ultimate goal?

To make sure Indigenous and Blak women are heard.

What would you do to better the situation for your Mob?

Making sure Indigenous and Blak women are heard and more importantly that they're understood.

Quote



"As an artist, sometimes you write a story for your own Mob, and sometimes you write stories to educate people, this is definitely a piece to educate others."

– Trawlwoolway artist **Nathan Maynard**

● See page 10

Unquote

What now for First Nations?

After every federal election, the first thing First Nations people ask themselves is 'what next for us?'

This election campaign focused on affordable housing, cost of living crisis, affordable childcare, and varying approaches to carbon reduction from both sides of politics.

Apart from the obligatory use of Indigenous issues such as the Welcome to Country furore and the issue of whether the leader of the country stands in front of one flag representing one 200-year-old view of Australian history or three flags representing a more nuanced view across 40,000 years, the election was largely Blak issue-free.

A recent poll asking what issues were important for Australian voters in the lead up to the election reflects what a lot of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples feel on a daily basis – we didn't make the Top 5, in fact, Indigenous issues didn't even make the list!

With such a strong mandate from the Australian electorate, the newly-elected Labor government will focus on their election promises, as they should.

However, there will be political opportunities in the next four years to further pressure the government on Closing the Gap targets, protection of First Nations cultural heritage and being creative around the term 'Treaty'.

It seems that there is still a perception that a 'treaty process' at the national level, if it ever happens, will result in encroaching on private property ('backyards'), and forcing a collective guilt on non-Indigenous



Australians.

Since a treaty was promised at the Barunga Festival by then Prime Minister Bob Hawke, the terminology has been watered down from 'treaty' to 'compact' to any other term other than 'treaty'.

As treaty processes progress in the states, it is hoped that that will spur on the federal government to have a genuine and meaningful dialogue with First Nations.

The day after a national treaty has been announced for this country will only result in one thing – the national character will be enhanced and Australia's reputation for having sound principles of social and economic justice for its First Nations people will be boosted.

Female representation

While for much of Australia's electoral history, the decision making and the power sat with committees of white men, this election saw a shift in women's political representation.

Women will likely hold 114 of 226 seats in the Australian Parliament – which is the first time in Australian history.

As First Nations women have always held our families and communities together, it is hoped that more women at the tables of power will inject some common sense into national politics.

– editor Todd Condie

KOORI MAIL 100% ABORIGINAL-OWNED

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

Boigu Island's first lawyer

My name is Isaiah Banu, a proud Koedal (Crocodile) man from Boigu Island, and in December last year, I was admitted to the legal profession, enabling me to practise law in any Australian jurisdiction.

It was a monumental moment that I will remember for the rest of my life when the President of the Court of Appeal in Queensland, the Honourable Debra Mullins AO, gave her speech at the end of the admission ceremony. Her Honour urged us to give thought to what it means to be a professional throughout our careers in law.

For me being a professional means more than just adhering to a set of rules or standards. It's about embodying a set of core values in every aspect of my life, including in my career. It involves having a deep respect for the people I will interact with, whether they are clients, colleagues or opponents. It's about recognising that our field of work is ever evolving and that there is always room to grow. It's also about balancing confidence with humility – being confident in my skills and knowledge while also remaining open to feedback and being willing to acknowledge my limitations and working on them to improve.

I commenced my law degree in 2015 and graduated in 2020. In this time, I had the opportunity to participate in a mock trial in the Federal Court in Brisbane in front of some of Australia's top judicial minds.

I was mentored by barristers Joshua Creamer and Dr Heron Loban, both of whom attended the mock trial. I also attended the World Indigenous Law Conference in Canada in 2018 and had the opportunity to lecture alongside Dr Loban.

My educational journey has had its ups and downs and I am proud that hard work and dedication has paid off.

I am also the First Boigu Island man to be admitted to the Supreme Court of Queensland as a qualified Australian lawyer. This has been a long-term personal and professional goal, and hopefully it will set a precedent for my family and community for generations to come.

Anything is achievable if you want it bad enough; you just have to have a little faith in yourself and don't stop believing and never give up; your dreams are possible.

I see my journey into law as both a personal achievement and a demonstration to my community that Indigenous people can succeed in all areas across society.

Much of my success can be traced back to my late father Masepah Banu, an Anglican priest for more than 30 years in both the Torres Strait and mainland Australia, and to my mother Maryper Levi Banu from Moa Island who was always a strong influence in his life.

My mum and my dad instilled a strong sense of culture and community in me, and they taught me about the importance

of education from a young age, sending me to Townsville Grammar School where I continued with my education and worked hard to obtain a pathway to university.

From a young age, I was drawn to the idea of dissecting complex problems and finding solutions within structured frameworks.

Law provides a platform where analytical thinking and debate can directly impact real-world outcomes.

This career allows me to channel my passion for problem-solving and empathy into something profoundly meaningful. It's about engaging with diverse perspectives, advocating for justice and fairness and constantly evolving both as a professional and as a person.

I remember being a young child sitting with the Elders of Boigu Island talking to them about life. It was the Elders who planted the seed, that anything is possible. I listened to their life experiences, and I listened to their advice, and I listened to their stories, which have always stayed with me throughout my life. I am thankful to my parents and to my community Elders as they have all played a part in moulding the man I am today.

I am very grateful to my immediate family, I want to say a special thank you to my children and to their families and I want to send a special thank you to my extended family and my community and to all my friends.

I could not have done this without your support, and I thank you for your love and patience and your understanding.

I would also like to thank my colleague Tom Keely SC, who is a barrister from the Victorian Bar in Melbourne, who moved my admission.

I have a lot of respect for Mr Keely because he represents everything I aspire to become which is a practising lawyer.

Mr Keely has consistently supported and mentored me from day one, offering guidance and constant encouragement every step of the way. From our very first interaction in my interview for the Indigenous clerkship in Melbourne, Mr Keely has been a constant source of inspiration, showing me what it truly means to be a dedicated and compassionate lawyer.

I value his friendship and his guidance as he has not only deepened my legal knowledge but also reinforced my commitment to the values and principles that matter most in this profession. He has taught me to strive for excellence and to service my clients with passion and integrity.

To those who have helped me at Queensland University of Technology, Griffith University and Deakin University, thank you for your guidance and for your supportive learning environments.

I also acknowledge and appreciate the Law Society of Queensland and the Board of



Isaiah Banu with Tom Keely SC, the barrister who moved for Isaiah's admission as a lawyer.

Examiners for helping me to navigate the admission's process and the justices of the Supreme Court for approving my application for admission. I understand the privilege of being an officer of the court and look forward to making a valuable contribution to the legal profession.

My journey has been a lonely one at times, and sometimes the road was quite rugged. It was sometimes difficult for others to understand but perseverance prevailed. The years of studying have seen me through a lot of highs and an equal number of lows. But I don't regret any one of them because without them I wouldn't be where I am today, and I wouldn't be the person I am today, mentally, spiritually, emotionally or physically."

For other Indigenous peoples

interested in studying law or pursuing a career in the justice system, I encourage you to take up opportunities outside the box. Find places within the community and places that may not always be traditional places for lawyers but where Indigenous people can make a difference from the inside out. It is important for more Indigenous people to join the legal profession, as it is crucial for our people to have representatives in the profession who understand issues from a community perspective and who can be game changers that make a difference inside and outside of their communities.

I would love to see more Indigenous graduates make a move into other areas, for example, as legal advisors to government organisations or large companies whose

businesses affect our community and our society.

There are important roles in these organisations, and it can mean that Indigenous people have a seat at the table and a voice that can be heard.

I believe having more Indigenous lawyers in these roles will offer companies and organisations a different perspective, which is sometimes needed. It will also promote diversity in decision-making and may change how some people think.

I hope my achievement will inspire and encourage other Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and South Sea Islander people to achieve their goals and I wish them great success on their journeys. Keep your eye on your goals and never give up, and you can achieve your dreams.

Land squeeze threatens islanders



THE Walande community is running out of space to grow food and build homes.

Sea-level rise threatens the viability of low-lying land for growing swamp taro crops and a collapsing seawall could push the Indigenous Solomon Islands community further inland.

The land squeeze and food insecurity have some members of the community considering relocation – another move after life on their former island home was made untenable by climate-change-fuelled extreme weather.

Sea-level rise, intensifying storms and higher king tides forced islanders to flee to the mainland more than a decade ago.

Today, all that's visible of the tiny island above water are a few wooden posts sticking out.

Walande community secretary Fred Dauburi said the 50-hectare plot on the mainland was not enough for 800 people.

"The population of this community is increasing rapidly but a piece of land will not expand," he told Human Rights Watch in a recent report.

The community made the move with little financial support from the national government or international donors.

Human Rights Watch climate displacement researcher Erica Bower said it was not unusual for Pacific Island communities to be forced to move more than once when they instigated the relocation themselves.

It was less common when



Sea-level rise is threatening the viability of low-lying land for a Solomon Islands community.

governments or NGOs were actively involved in the move to a more-resilient location, underscoring the need for more assistance.

"This story highlights the consequences of inadequate support for climate-exposed communities," Ms Bower said.

The Solomon Islands government is one of just six with guidelines for planned

relocation "A beautiful document" largely collecting dust on the shelf. It's not being implemented," she said.

For the international community, funding was key, with Solomon Islanders receiving an average of \$A31 a year in foreign aid for climate adaptation.

Keeping the money flowing is another challenge.

The Walande people were able to secure a small sum to rebuild their failing sea wall but the funds ran out before it was finished.

Ms Bower said tensions over land were a huge problem throughout the Pacific, often stemming from arrangements made decades ago.

"The government should play a role in mediating those

conflicts and in attempting to support communities to find solutions," she said.

Ms Bower said the move from the island had taken a toll, with one resident paddling her canoe back to the island every night.

"The way she described it was 'as salt water people, we live by the ocean, we need to live on an island'."

– AAP

Haka protest in parliament to land Maori Party MPs severe bans



THE New Zealand MPs who protested constitutional reforms with haka on the floor of parliament will

receive suspensions believed to be the most severe ever issued in the institution's 170-year history.

Last November, 22-year-old Hana-Rawhiti Maipi-Clarke, became a global viral sensation with her animated dismissal of the Treaty Principles Bill, ripping it up and performing the war dance with her Maori Party co-leaders.

The Treaty Principles Bill was a reform championed by the right-wing ACT Party to redefine the Treaty of Waitangi in law, stripping rights given to Maori at New Zealand's foundation.

The Maori Party's cultural protest inside parliament was sent to the privileges committee, which has since resolved to suspend Ms Maipi-Clarke for a week, and Rawiri Waititi and Debbie Ngarewa-Packer, for three weeks each.

Judith Collins, the New Zealand



Hana-Rawhiti Maipi-Clarke, right, and her colleagues from Te Pāti Māori talk to reporters following a protest inside Parliament in Wellington, New Zealand, on Thursday, 14 November, 2024. (AP Photo)

attorney-general and committee chair, said it was the toughest punishment it had ever handed out and "the worst incident that we have ever seen".

"Make no mistake. This was a very serious incident, the likes of which I have never seen before in my 23 years in the debating chamber," she said.

The haka, which has gained worldwide admiration as the

preceding act to All Blacks rugby Tests, is not banned in parliament but requires permission from the speaker to perform, and must not disrupt proceedings.

Ms Collins said the MPs deliberately intimidated the ACT MPs who championed the reforms, as they prepared to vote.

"This was a very sad day for parliament," she said.

The Maori Party have

condemned the bans as "grossly unjust, unfair, and unwarranted" and, in a dissenting position within the report, as "reinforcing institutional racism".

"The finding that our actions constituted 'intimidation' sets a dangerous precedent for Aotearoa. It frames Maori protest, haka, and the assertion of (Maori sovereignty) rangatiratanga as inherently threatening," it wrote.

The left-wing Indigenous rights party said the decision meant it was inappropriate for the government to utilise haka, as often occurs, on international delegations.

Ms Collins said she was not offering a view on the appropriateness of tikanga, or Maori customs, in parliament.

"It is not (about) the haka, it is not about tikanga, it is not about the Treaty of Waitangi. It is about following the rules of parliament that we are all obliged to follow and that we all pledge to follow," she said.

The punishments were expected to be rubber-stamped by the parliament this week and voted

through by the three government parties – National, ACT and NZ First. The three Maori Party MPs have been unrepentant, declining several opportunities to appear before the committee.

During their bans, which will include the May 22 budget, their votes will not be counted in parliament and they will not receive their salary.

A fourth MP who joined in the haka, Labour defence spokesman Peeni Henare, was not censured or recommended for further sanction as he apologised.

While the Treaty Principles Bill generated unprecedented protests across New Zealand, including tens of thousands marching on parliament, it did not become law.

The National Party, led by Prime Minister Chris Luxon, agreed only to introduce the law – but not pass it – as part of a coalition agreement with the ACT Party that allowed it to form government.

After months of public consultation and the mighty nationwide backlash, National and NZ First, abandoned their support.

– AAP

The Northern Land Council congratulates Albanese government on historic election victory

The NLC congratulates Anthony Albanese and the Australian Labor Party on their return to federal government, and looks forward to working with the Albanese government on progressing the National Agreements on Closing the Gap and listening to First Nations voices. The NLC welcomes Prime Minister Anthony Albanese's pledge to creating a stronger nation in fairness, equality and respect, and bring a positive difference to the

future of all Australians. The NLC is committed to working with the Albanese government to building a future where Aboriginal people in our region have access to the same basic needs and opportunities no matter where they live. The NLC acknowledges the efforts of the Albanese Labor government over the last three years to support urgent remote housing needs, deliver jobs on country, and improve standards of living across the most remote areas

of the Northern Territory. However the NLC calls on the returned Government to get to work. More must be done to ensure Aboriginal Territorians have their housing, health and education needs met – making sure they can live and thrive on Country for generations to come.

The NLC also congratulates and looks forward to meeting with federal members of government Senator Malarndirri McCarthy, Marion Scrymgour and Luke

Gosling to address critical issues facing Aboriginal people across the NLC region.

We extend our congratulations to Mr Anthony Albanese and his team on their election result over the weekend, and thank the Albanese government for the commitment and work they have put in to support the empowerment of Aboriginal people in NT in the last three years."

However, there are still too many areas that need attention and

we must see immediate action during this new term. Now is the time to do better.

Aboriginal people have the solutions. We call on the Albanese government to listen to the voices of Traditional Owners and start taking real action on the problems we face out bush every day."

That is the only way we can earn trust and build a future for Aboriginal Australians.

NLC Chair Matthew Ryan

Bold reforms needed for First Nations people with disability

This election marks a new chapter. Our communities are anticipating great change with this government, and our expectations are clear – self-determination is the key to progress.

The First Peoples Disability Network congratulates the Australian Labor Party on its victory in the 2025 federal election, and welcomes the opportunity to work in partnership to ensure First Nations people with disability are at the forefront of national reform efforts.

As the peak national organisation representing and led by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with disability, FPDN is urging the incoming government to prioritise culturally responsive and community-led solutions across key areas including the NDIS, the Disability Sector Strengthening Plan, Australia's Disability Strategy, and service systems.

Too often, First Nations people with disability are left behind in national policy and reform processes. This election result offers a critical opportunity to reset that approach, for the Albanese government to make bold change, and put our people – and our voices – at the centre of that change.

FPDN stands ready to work in partnership with the Albanese government and key ministers to address long-standing and systemic inequities. These are changes which require long-term commitments: improving access to disability



First Peoples Disability Network chief executive Damian Griffis.

services, housing, health care, education, employment, and justice for First Nations people with disability in both urban and remote communities.

We stand ready to collaborate with this new government. We have already laid the groundwork. Our calls for change, guided by the lived experience and leadership of our people, offer clear pathways for success. What we need now is commitment and action.

Key priorities for action include:

- The establishment of a First Nations Disability Forum as recommended by the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability, and real action on all other recommendations

- Investing in culturally

responsive foundational supports and NDIS reform

- Addressing the overrepresentation of First Nations people with disability in child protection and justice systems

- Jobs for Mob with disability and building the remote workforce.

FPDN looks forward to early engagement with the Minister for Social Services and the NDIS, as well as the Minister for Indigenous Australians to progress these priorities.

The election may be over, but the work of delivering justice and inclusion for First Nations people with disability must begin in earnest today.

We are ready to lead and make change happen in partnership with the government.

FPDN CEO Damian Griffis

Central Land Council pledges to work with government on Closing the Gap

The Central Land Council has pledged to work closely with the Albanese government in its second term to progress the commitments in the National Agreement on Closing the Gap.

The CLC welcomes Prime Minister Anthony Albanese's commitment in his election night speech to supporting the empowerment of First Nations people "because we will be a stronger nation when we close the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians".

I congratulate Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and look forward to meeting him and the Minister for Indigenous Australians to ensure everything that can be done is being done with respect to the sky-high cost of living, lack of real jobs and overcrowded and dilapidated houses.

Residents urgently need relief from high grocery, fuel, electricity, and transport costs, along with a substantial increase in the remote area allowance, which has not been adjusted in 25 years.

Through its membership in the Coalition of Peaks and Aboriginal Peak Organisations NT, the CLC will continue to support resetting the National Agreement on Closing the Gap to address the productivity and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander led reviews.

The CLC also welcomes the treasurer's commitment to finalising a First Nations Economic Empowerment Partnership with the Coalition of Peaks, which needs to focus strongly on building blocks such as employment.

At the same time, the CLC wants to see a significant shift in the policies and programs surrounding remote employment services, focusing on job creation, strengthening community control and ensuring greater accountability and reporting.

Introducing 3,000 jobs through the Remote Jobs and Economic Development program is an important part of the reform effort and a welcome first step. Clearly, more jobs are needed to support approximately 40,000 people who will not get a job through the current RJED program.

The CLC looks forward to working constructively with Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and Minister Malarndirri McCarthy to progress Indigenous policy priorities.

Together, we hope to strengthen outcomes for our communities, support self-determination, and ensure Aboriginal voices continue to shape the decisions that affect our lives.

CLC chair Warren Williams

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.



Mail

The Editor, PO Box 117, Lismore, 2480



Phone

You can reach us on 02 66 222 666



E-mail

The address is: editor@koorimail.com

KEEPING YOUR SAY SHORT AND SWEET

A BIG thanks to all of our readers for sending letters, poems and other feedback; we love hearing from you.

You can help us by keeping your letters to 400 words or less and poems generally no more than 25 medium-length lines. This will increase your chances of being published.

Even if sent via email, all letters and poems must be accompanied by the author's full name, home town/city and state/territory, and a contact number so we can verify content. After that, we're happy to withhold names and addresses upon request. We will publish 'Looking For' letters as long as they do not breach

the privacy of individuals mentioned.

And we're happy to consider photos alongside letters – as long as they're of a high enough resolution and standard, and as long as copyright requirements are met. We accept no responsibility for returning original photos, so please send copies instead. – EDITOR

A serious system change needed to save the planet

The older I get and the more that I understand the unequal systems that forced themselves onto our lands and corrupted our humanhood, the more I learn, the more I wonder why the revolution has not already come and been. Have we lost our hearts? Our relationality as beings who were brought here to protect and care for one another and our more than human kin. I wonder how we could ever believe as species that an economic system built on hierarchy, greed, colonialism, white supremacy, status male-centred societies would somehow lead us to advance as a species?

I recently went to see the beautiful Brooke Boney speak in Bangalow for her new book *"All of It"*. She was having a discussion with the talented and wonderful Mr Daniel Browning.

Brooke Boney is a journalist and tv presenter and left her work here in Australia to pursue studying a Masters of Public Policy at the University of Oxford. Brooke was explaining how public policy works in this country and that policy is always made for the majority and therefore no matter what, the minority would always lose and that's why Indigenous communities continue to suffer. While the wealth of this country is being poured into the most densely populated areas, those in more remote areas suffer because of this. Those who are vulnerable will continue to be abused by the majority and by the government.



Ella Noah Bancroft

This way of designing a society is inherently non-Indigenous for in Indigenous communities, cultures and societies, the most vulnerable are cared for, everyone is considered, even the animals and plant world. How have we gone so far from our original purpose as humans here on earth? We have moved towards a society that is not shaped by our custodianship or creativity but rather our consumption.

We went from creators to consumers? Look, don't get me wrong, consumption is important, of course I need to eat, drink water, and take my basic needs, such as clothing and a shelter to rest but really how many times a day are we consuming and how often are we creating? I am

embarking on a 2025 of creativity, deepening my custodianship and creating new models of care.

Inequality is built into our current system. So no matter how much we change policy or change political parties, it won't really change much. Labor recently just won the election, which I must say is a sigh of relief, given that Peter Dutton is the Australian version of Trump and so what an exhalation in some ways that our country is more aware than the population in America but let's not pretend this is progress. Labor is just the lesser of two evils in a system that abuses our country and other countries in order for us to be privileged? Under the smoke and mirrors of consumption and greed I have such a deep desire to see our world return to something more simple. Imagine if our economy was not driven by money but rather driven by our ability to care for the world and each other. The more you cared, the higher your status would become.

This would set examples for our young people as to what the values and belief systems of our society are. Imagine if the hungry bellies were filled by the communities of people who made local gardens. Those who cared for the elder and the young were regarded as the most important?

So to return to policy making, if policy is made for the majority then no matter what we do as Indigenous Australians our voices will be made silent, as we are 3%

of the population and the majority of that percentage is made up of children.

The time for serious system change is so needed, I will reinstate that I believe the economic system is what is killing us and the world around us. We make policies that are embedded in this value system, in the deep value of money and not in the deep inherent nature of relationality and care.

It often feels like I am beating my head against a wall, but then I stop and notice the people around me that are significantly making change in their own way, in their own communities, the local heroes and I am deeply touched and hope is restored in my heart. Hope being the only thing that is carrying me into the future right now, a deeper knowing that we cannot continue on this trajectory and a deeper knowing that now more than ever others are also questioning the ways of capitalism.

This current government is a genocide supporter. Not only is it a part of a commonwealth that attempted to take over the world through genocide, Christianity and war but currently we are being faced with the fact that the government we elected is supportive of thousands and thousands of innocent people being killed, children being murdered, an entire population and culture of people being massacred in front of our eyes on screen and it continues, it's not

yesterday's news, even though it may not appear on your feed as frequently as it did last year, we are still in the process of being ruled by a government whose value system believes this to be okay. Again is this a majority vs minority situation? Is this an out of sight out of mind situation, similar to how they put our people on the outskirts of towns and cities while the colony built its wealth off the health of the land our old people cared for for so long?

I am sure if you read this article fortnightly, you might think I am a broken record but my hope is that with these pieces of writing I may be able to open a different perspective to what you may have been indoctrinated to believe, a thread if you will that you can follow and to make your own mind up through your own conversations and research, even if one person reads this and then converses with a friend about the corruption of living in a colonial capitalist system, even if there is just one moment in your day where you stop and think, should I consume this product wrapped in plastic or should I go for a walk and come back to it and see if I truly truly need this right now?

Are we lonely, looking for connection and so instead of connecting we consume?

You have choice, the choice is simple, will you consume or will you create or care instead?

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

Delivering a million books to remote kids is a remarkable achievement

What an achievement the Indigenous Literacy Foundation (ILF) have delivered. One million books into remote and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities around this country. I am a very proud ILF Ambassador at the moment. This is a momentous achievement.

For those of you who don't know, the ILF is a national charity working with remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across Australia. They are community-led, responding to requests from remote communities for culturally-relevant books, including early learning board books, resources, and programs to support communities to create and publish their stories in languages of their choice.

I have also seen



Shelley Ware

firsthand, as an ILF ambassador of nearly a decade, what these books through the Book Supply program do for the children in community. These beautiful children take a bag full of books home and get to share them with their family. They now have the ability to share the joy of reading books with their families and can grab a book to read for themselves

at any time in their own home.

ILF are not supported by government funding and rely on donations from organisation, philanthropic donations and personal donations to keep going and getting these books out to children in communities.

As the ILF's longest-running initiative, Book Supply has provided free and culturally relevant books to more than 495 remote communities across Australia. These books allow young readers to see themselves reflected in stories.

Former ILF programs director Tina Raye, instrumental behind Book Supply's growth, reflects on the milestone: "We never came across a kid who wasn't excited to choose their own book to take home. It's so inspiring to see how access to books

can really encourage reading and the kids could find something they really wanted to read."

Access to books isn't as simple as going down to the book store and picking your favourite author's book to read at home in a remote community. Australia Post since 2020 have funded the delivery of ILF's Book Supply books to communities and have made it easier to deliver books in greater volumes.

The books have been carefully selected by a group of people each year, who consider every book that is to be added to the Book Supply list, making sure 50% are written by First Nations authors and always with the children at the forefront of their minds.

The ILF celebrated this incredible milestone in Katherine, Northern Territory—a region with a

rich history of involvement in the program.

The celebration acknowledges not only the number of books delivered, but also the relationships, stories, and communities that have shaped the program since the beginning.

Ben Bowen, ILF CEO, says: "Not long ago, the conversation was about the lack of books in remote communities. Today we are proud to announce the one millionth culturally-relevant book landing in the hands of community. The scale of this achievement means access to libraries of books, homes with shelves of books, generations of readers sharing the experience of reading and storytelling."

I'm so proud to be an ambassador and I think even if I wasn't an ambassador and I heard

about the millionth book being sent out to communities, I would have congratulated them anyway. It's a huge achievement which has been in the making since 2004 as the Riverbend Readers' Challenge, created by ILF founder Suzy Wilson AM to raise funds for literacy opportunities in remote Australia. It has since grown into a national initiative.

Look at ILF now 21 years later and we have a million books that have been delivered out to children, who can see themselves reflected in these books that are now in their homes, schools and local community organisations. Books at their fingertips. Keep up the great work ILF!

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



**“Finally I met
someone who
listened instead of
mucking around.”**

– Beverley, 50
Commonwealth Home Support
Programme recipient

Artwork by: Dr Mick Adams

Are you Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander over the age of 50?

**Your aged care support service
Free and confidential
Have a yarn with us 1800 700 600**

Do you need help to:

- improve your aged care services
- understand fees and costs
- stay connected to community and Country?
- have a say in your care?

If your answer is yes to any of these questions,
have a yarn with us on **1800 700 600**.

How do we work with you?

We help you speak up for better aged care:

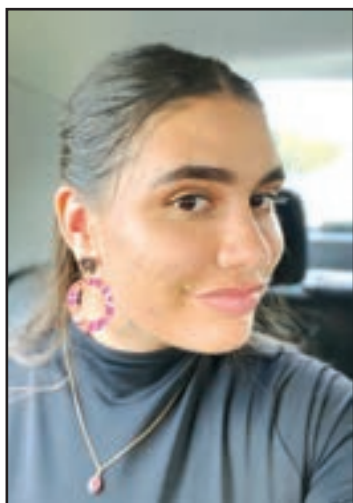
- we will listen and be guided by you
- we won't do or say anything without your permission.

No issue is too big or small.



To find out more visit
opan.org.au/koori
or scan the QR code

Pioneering culturally-safe parenting programs



BEK MORRISON

We have launched a research project at The Kids Research Institute Australia to address the lack of culturally safe and trauma-informed parenting programs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families.

Between 1910 and 1970, it is estimated that 1 in 3 Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children were forcibly removed from their families, and this resulted in generations of intergenerational trauma.

Currently, there are no parenting programs that deliver culturally derived and trauma-informed support to Indigenous parents and children in Australia. Instead, there are programs that are built from traditional Western practices that do not include the knowledge of intergenerational trauma or its impacts on our Mob.

"We have always had great parenting practices in our families, but there has been a lot of disruption through the forced removal of children and the fragmentation of our families. So, we want to put culture first and ensure that our kids grow up with the right stories about themselves and their Mob. They are our future," says Professor Helen Milroy, one of the investigators on the grant and Co-Director of Embrace at The Kids.

Indigenous families also have unique family structures and dynamics which a Western program may not have capacity to cater for.

Through engagement with community so far, the feedback has been supportive of our project and has shown a great need for a program such as this, which is created in collaboration with community members and families.

With this Australian Research Centre-funded project, we plan to develop and implement a culturally safe, responsive and trauma-informed parenting program designed with and for the community. This will be achieved using traditional storytelling with strength-based

narratives aiming to address difficulties and interrupt the transmission of intergenerational trauma.

A key to our program is it will be co-designed with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families and will focus on what support they need, while including and prioritising family connections, kinship, connection to Country, and culture. Led by Professor Helen Milroy AM and Professor Geneva Ohan, the project team is made up of Senior Research Officer Dr Nita Alexander as the project lead, myself (Aboriginal Project Officer Rebeka Morrison), and Research Assistant Aysa Bahar Arjmand.

"The parenting program will be co-designed with advisory groups comprising of Elders, professionals and service providers, as well as Indigenous parents and carers. A pilot of the program will then be implemented with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families of young children between the ages of 2-6 years. This will then be evaluated as to the impact, cultural safety and potential for roll-out to other communities beyond Boorloo (Perth)," Dr Nita Alexander said.

We officially unveiled the program at an event on Wednesday 26 March, which featured yarning circles hearing from community members and professionals on what is needed in the community. These yarning circles were recorded by Noongar artist Ronda Clarke in a cultural visual map.

Looking ahead, we are busy setting up advisory groups to provide expertise in co-designing the parenting program which assists parents and caregivers of young children to enhance their wellbeing and relationships. We expect this project to be completed by mid-2027.

Bek is a proud Bibbulman and Yued Nyooongar woman, working with The Kids as an Aboriginal Project Officer. She has a range of experience working in research, community engagement, and data management. She is currently studying a Bachelor of Arts majoring in Anthropology and Sociology and Indigenous Knowledges at the University of Western Australia. Bek is passionate about preserving and incorporating global Indigenous cultures in to mainstream society as well as contributing to an equitable and sustainable future for all people and cultures.

● This article is part of a series by authors from the Centre of Best Practice in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Suicide Prevention at the University of Western Australia.



The Kids' Parenting Program project artwork, *Building Stronger Foundations*, by Jacinta Anderson.



Bek Morrison presenting at the project launch event.



A water ceremony to commence the proceedings at the project launch event.

Serious concern at high diabetes rate among Indigenous people



EARLY intervention is key to tackling disproportionate rates of diabetes among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, health organisations say.

Almost one in six Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults have diabetes, according to data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics released on Wednesday.

The numbers are a serious concern but no surprise for Jason Agostino, senior medical adviser at the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation.

"One in six adults with diabetes, and that being higher in remote areas is shocking," he said.

"They're some of the highest rates of diabetes in the world and three times higher than non-Indigenous Australians."

The data found one in five people who had diabetes indicated through blood or urine test results did not report that they had been diagnosed with the condition.

This means a portion of the population is missing out on early intervention, Dr Agostino said.

Early detection is important, he said, with a number of Aboriginal community-controlled health clinics offering screening for diabetes from the age of 10.

"The earlier we can pick it up, the better we can do for that person, for them to live a long and healthy life," Dr Agostino said.



More can be done for patients the sooner diabetes is diagnosed, medical adviser Jason Agostino says.

The Institute of Urban Indigenous Health chief executive Wayne AhBoo said the data reinforces the importance of preventative health checks.

"What that means is that we're picking up any early signs of chronic disease, which we can then help and address for our Mob, or we can confirm if somebody does have a chronic disease and then provide the necessary treatment," he said.

The institute has been running their Deadly Choices program in southeast Queensland for 15 years, which focuses on healthy lifestyle choices and encourages people to get their annual health check and other health initiatives.

Mr AhBoo said a recent expansion of the initiative into NSW, Victoria, Tasmania and the ACT is already having a positive impact for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

"In the short period of time since July last year to January we've seen a 21 per cent increase in health checks," he said.

Alongside early intervention measures, Dr Agostino said there must be an effort to address social determinants of health.

"Diabetes is influenced by whether you have access to clean drinking water, if you've got access to healthy and affordable food, if you've got space you can do healthy activities like exercise," he said.

"There's a lot to be done on the prevention side but unfortunately the way our health system is funded, much more is spent in hospitals than it is in primary care."

Action taken by NACCHO

More than 500 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers will receive diabetes prevention training as part of a new partnership between the Bupa Foundation and The National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO).

The project will see the development of a specialist diabetes prevention training pathway that includes developing culturally safe training and assessment resources, delivery of face-to-face training sessions and integration into existing local Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations.

Diabetes is three times more prevalent among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, contributing significantly to kidney disease, heart disease, dementia, and other

health issues.

NACCHO CEO Pat Turner said NACCHO is committed to driving meaningful, community-led healthcare solutions.

"This partnership with the Bupa Foundation allows us to address diabetes prevention directly within our communities by training over 500 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers."

"Culturally informed, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-led training is essential to reversing the impact of diabetes and improving health outcomes. By working with Bupa, we're building a pathway to strengthen our healthcare workforce and bring us closer to closing the health gap in our communities," Pat added.

The new partnership forms an important part of Bupa's ambition to work with First Nations-led healthcare organisations and other institutions to help support better health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as outlined in its Reconciliation Action Plan.

Bupa APAC Chief Sustainability and Corporate Affairs Officer, Roger Sharp said this partnership is designed to deliver lasting community impact rather than short-term solutions and is desperately needed in the battle against diabetes.

"We want to create an Australia where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people enjoy health equity and equality."

With AAP



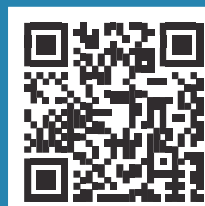
Koorie Kids Shine

More hours, more learning, more play

From 2026, Koorie kids get more hours of free kinder. This means more learning through play to help children explore, solve problems, communicate and create, while making friends.

Find out how your child can gain early access of up to 25 hours of Four-Year-Old Kinder from 2026.

Learn more at
vic.gov.au/koorie-kids-shine



Department
of Education

Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne



Navigating your genomic health



BEING diagnosed with a genetic disease can be challenging for many people and their families, but it is hoped new resources will help them feel more empowered and less alone.

After working with First Nations communities over a decade, National Centre of Indigenous Genomics deputy director Azure Hermes said she had heard many stories from people navigating genomic health services.

"Patients and families were saying 'I'm finding it difficult to understand what a genetic counsellor is, I don't know what their job is', or 'I don't know the questions I should ask'," the Gimuy Walubara Yidinji woman told AAP.

"They'd say 'I only get 30 minutes and sometimes I'm not allowed to take a support person' or 'English is a third or fourth language and there's no interpreter'."

Associate Professor Hermes has seen an increase in



National Centre of Indigenous Genomics deputy director Azure Hermes.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, including her own relatives, accessing these services but says there's a need for bite-sized, culturally safe information for families.

"I have relatives with rare disease and carers of children with rare disease and seeing how they've had to struggle through the system has been challenging for me to watch," she said.

"They've been very fortunate that they can rely on me to provide information, but I understand that not all families have access to someone like myself and the work that I do."

"I really wanted to contribute

and help as many Indigenous families as we could."

The centre, alongside community organisations and with support from Australian Genomics, developed a series of animations, live videos and fact sheets exploring rare disease, DNA, genomics research and what to expect during appointments at a genetic health service.

The resources are being translated into Yolngu Matha, Anindilyakwa, Torres Strait Island creole, Warlpiri and Pitjantjatjara languages.

Prof Hermes said although the resources had been developed for First Nations communities, they could also be useful for clinicians and the wider community.

She hopes the resources help people to feel that they aren't alone after a diagnosis.

"After being diagnosed or a loved one being diagnosed with a rare disease you can feel alone and you can feel disempowered, but there are so many people there to help you," Prof Hermes said.

— AAP

Reducing the stigma of FASD



NEW guidelines will help to reduce stigma and improve access to diagnosis and services for a lifelong disability in Australia, researchers say.

Arising from prenatal exposure to alcohol, fetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD) can cause difficulties with attention, learning and memory, communication and behavioural and emotional regulation.

The condition was typically diagnosed in specialists clinics, often based in metropolitan areas and families faced long waits for an assessment, University of Queensland Child Health Research Centre senior fellow and clinical psychologist Natasha Reid said.

But after years of work, researchers, led by Dr Reid, have developed the first guidelines in the space to be approved by the National Health and Medical Research Council.

Dr Reid said she hoped the guidelines would mean more practitioners across the country felt comfortable to be involved in assessing the condition.

"These guidelines are of a really high standard," she said.

"We hope what that means is that they're more trustworthy for clinicians and we'll have more clinicians who are wanting to take these guidelines

into clinical practice.

"What that means for people with FASD is there's more access to services because that's still a challenge for a lot of people."

Researchers reviewed more than 300 research papers and consulted health professionals, cultural experts, families and carers of people with the disorder over a four-year period.

"The really challenging thing in this space is that internationally there's no agreed set of diagnostic criteria for FASD," Dr Reid said.

"So what we've tried to do here is really have evidence-based diagnostic criteria as part of these guidelines."

Dr Reid said better access to assessment processes would reduce stigma and improve lives.

"The primary use of these guidelines are for health professionals but we also hope the guidelines can provide information to people about what is involved in an assessment, and help raise more awareness," she said.

"A big thing we want to do is reduce stigma around FASD, making it so it doesn't matter where you go to access services, it can just be considered a part of routine assessments that are provided in those settings."

More than 40 organisations were involved in the development of guidelines.

— AAP

STAY HEALTHY AND STRONG.

Screening for bowel cancer is simple, private and free.

Your free kit is available every two years from age 45 to 74.

90% of bowel cancers can be successfully treated, if found early.



Screen for yourself, your family and your community.

For more information have a yarn with your health professional, call 1800 627 701 or visit indigenusbowelsscreen.com.au



Healing art: medical scans get a cultural makeover

By KEIRA JENKINS



HAVING to travel hundreds of kilometres for medical care is a common occurrence in many of Australia's regional and remote regions.

But in the WA gold-mining town of Kalgoorlie, an Indigenous co-owned medical imaging business is on a mission to bring world-class scans to the community in a culturally safe way.

That's where local Wongai and Mirning artist Carol Thompson comes in, armed with her painting supplies and a desire to alleviate some of the anxiety around having a medical procedure that her community might have.

The result is a newly-installed CT scanner adorned with her work, which features the local bush banana vines and her interpretation of cells, symbolising healing, growth and culture.

Hand-painting the artwork onto the huge piece of medical equipment was no easy feat, but Thompson hopes the artwork contributes to a sense of safety and ease at the clinic.

"It could be a daunting thing – getting the scans done – if (the artwork) can help them make them feel more relaxed,



Spartan First Imaging co-directors Des Headland (left) and Peter Tually (right) with local artist Carol Thompson in front of a CT scanner featuring Ms Thompson's artwork in Kalgoorlie, Western Australia. (AAP)

then my job is done," she said.

A sense of cultural safety is important to the co-directors of Spartan First Imaging, Des Headland and Peter Tually, whose story of being in business together started with a conversation at an AFL match.

After speaking about his business and ambition to work more closely with

the local Indigenous community, Mr Tually, a nuclear medicine practitioner, was introduced to Mr Headland, a former AFL player and chief executive of Spartan First.

"Before I could say let me think about it, we'd set up what we believe is the world's first private Indigenous medical-imaging business," Mr Tually said.

Mr Headland said he liked to dream big about the impact it could have.

"It feels like just yesterday we sat down with Pete and created the business, it's been over 12 months in the works and we're finally here," he said.

"Good things come when you wait and we've definitely waited for this to get this state-of-the-art CT scanner in town."

The scanner will provide services not previously possible in the region, like imaging of coronary arteries, which means locals won't have to make the 600-kilometre trip to Perth and will help reduce time to diagnosis.

The machine also runs on a battery with sustainability in mind, but one of its most important features for the co-directors remains Thompson's artwork.

"For many of our patients, especially those from Indigenous backgrounds, clinical environments can feel cold and unfamiliar and have historically been associated with illness rather than healing," Mr Headland said.

"We have incorporated contemporary Aboriginal artwork painted directly onto the scanner – we've created a space that feels safe, welcoming and grounded in culture."

– AAP



Looking for early childhood education and care in your area?

Find the right childcare based on fees, vacancies, quality ratings and inclusions.

Get started at



StartingBlocks.gov.au

Brought to you by the Australian Children's Education & Care Quality Authority (ACECQA)

The team that cares



George Gabey, Amanda Majid, Sandra Mayor, Kaidai Pau, Ivy Trevallion, Pearl Akee, Shanna Mosby, Tash Lamey and Edward Mosby. (Supplied)



A TORRES Strait Islander-owned and led mental health service in Queensland is celebrating its tenth anniversary of operation.

Wakai Waian Healing is celebrating 10 years of providing culturally safe, trauma-informed care across Queensland's regional, remote, and island communities.

Founded by Masig man Ed Mosby in 2014, Wakai Waian Healing began with just one man, one laptop, and a belief that First Nation stories and First Nation

ways of healing must be led by First Nation people.

Today, Wakai Waian Healing has grown into a organisation with over 40 staff, operating on both the mainland and in the Torres Strait.

A major milestone came with the establishment of the Torres Strait Island office on Thursday Island – a true homecoming.

The Thursday Island team now plays a central role in delivering services across Zenadth Kes (Torres Strait Islands) ensuring Islander voices, leadership, and cultural knowledge are at the heart of

healing.

Key achievements include:

- Building Queensland's first Indigenous-led FIFO psychology service to remote communities.

- Launching a First Nations workforce development program, with psychology trainees progressing through their degrees.

- Achieving ISO9001 Quality Management Systems Certification and National Standards for Mental Health Services Certification.

- Securing NDIS Provider Registration enabling culturally

safe disability and psychosocial supports.

- Expanding operations to Rockhampton, Cairns, Nambour, Thursday Island, and remote service sites.

"Even back then, Ed was talking about building a strong First Nations workforce," says Julyess Jarvis, Wakai Waian's longest-serving staff member and now Practice Service Manager. "Today, seeing young Mob coming through the system, it's living proof of what's possible."

At the heart of Wakai Waian Healing is family. Ed Mosby and his wife Julie Mosby, the

organisation's Finance Officer, have nurtured every team member like kin – believing in people, lifting them up, and embedding cultural ways of working into everyday practice.

The entry into the NDIS space has been a significant step forward, particularly for Torres Strait families, ensuring support services are delivered by Mob, for Mob.

"This next chapter is about succession, sustainability, and spirit," says Ed. "Our role now is to walk together - stronger, wiser, and always connected to where we come from."



It only takes a minute to compare savings



Check fuel costs and emissions from the palm of your hand at vesr.gov.au



Ten years strong: the story of Ed Mosby and Wakai Waian Healing

It began with just one man, a laptop, and a deep belief that things could be done differently. In a small office in Rockhampton, Wakai Waian Healing was born – a vision rooted in cultural integrity, clinical excellence, and community strength. Ten years later, that vision has grown into a thriving organisation with over 40 staff working across regional and remote Queensland, changing lives through culturally safe, trauma-informed mental health care.

At the centre of this journey is Ed Mosby, a proud Masig man, born on Waiben (Thursday Island), with direct family ties to Masig and the Masigilgal people. His path to psychology was anything but linear – a journey forged in the military, grounded in marriage and family, and driven by a profound sense of purpose.

Ed's formal journey into psychology began with his Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from CQUniversity in December 2007. He gained provisional registration with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) in March 2008 and secured full generalist registration in April 2011. These early years laid the professional foundation for the dream he would later bring to life.

In July 2014, Ed registered Wakai Waian Healing as a sole trader with ASIC. It was more than a business move; it was the first formal step towards creating a culturally grounded, community-driven mental health service. In 2015, Uncle Gill Thomsen, a respected Elder and mentor, joined as the first counsellor, bringing cultural authority and guidance to the growing vision.

Ed's leadership soon drew national recognition.

Recognition

In August 2015, he was appointed to the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) Advisory Panel on reducing violence against women and children. By February 2016, he had been appointed to the Queensland Premier's Domestic and Family Violence Taskforce Implementation Council and named Chair of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Group. His national voice on trauma, healing, and First Nations mental health continued to strengthen.

Locally, Wakai Waian Healing expanded. In September 2015, the organisation moved into its first formal lease property, Tobruk House. By December that year, Ed was conducting FIFO (fly-in, fly-out) clinics to Palm Island, delivering critical mental health support to remote communities.

Some defining moments shaped Ed's calling. During a late-night training exercise in Shoalwater Bay, a seasoned platoon sergeant shared stories of comrades who survived combat only to lose their lives to suicide. That conversation planted a seed – a sense of



Ed Mosby, founder of Wakai Waian Healing.

responsibility for the unseen wounds carried by so many.

Another moment came years later, in a Rockhampton pub, where Ed offered a plate of chips and a glass of water to a vulnerable woman. Years later, their paths crossed again in a mental health service, and her smile of recognition reminded him that healing often begins with the smallest acts of dignity.

Julyess Jarvis, the organisation's longest-serving staff member, reflects: "Even way back then, Ed was talking about building a strong First Nations workforce. He believed in it before many others were even having those conversations."

Julyess's own journey mirrors the growth of the organisation. From a mental health trainee to an integral part of the management team, he was born and raised in Central Queensland – a testament to Ed's unwavering commitment to Indigenous workforce development.

He laughs recalling their first work trip to Cooktown. "I thought I'd beat Ed to it by waking up at 4am – but he was already there, dressed, coffee in hand, halfway through emails. His drive and energy are on another level."

By August 2017, Ed's reputation culminated in his appointment as an Independent Director for the Australian National Research Organisation for Women's Safety (ANROWS). In May 2018, Wakai Waian Healing transitioned into a registered company, strengthening its capacity for broader impact.

Growth

The growth continued: FIFO clinics into Western Queensland (Charleville) began in 2018, and by 2019, Wakai Waian Healing had established its first office on Thursday Island and opened a Cairns office. A flagship workforce development program launched, graduating its first cohort by December 2020.

Accreditation milestones followed: ISO9001 Quality Management Systems Certification in July 2021, Ed's registration as a Board Approved Supervisor in September 2021, National Standards for Mental Health Services Certification in November 2021, and NDIS registration achieved in May 2022.

Wakai Waian Healing continued expanding,

establishing a Nambour office in May 2023 and preparing to move into larger Fitzroy Street premises in Rockhampton in July 2024.

Beyond the operational milestones, the organisation's heart is its people – and at the centre, Ed and his wife, Julie. Julie, Wakai Waian's Finance Officer, has been a steady partner through every sacrifice and triumph. They met in the late 1990s when Ed was an apprentice electrician. Their bond, rooted in friendship, grew into marriage and a shared mission.

"He's very patient, incredibly thoughtful," Julie reflects. "At home, just like at work, he's about building a team. Whether it's with our boys, Ben and Luke, or his staff, he's always mentoring, always guiding."

The sacrifices have been real: long hours, missed family trips, milestones celebrated without him. "We've missed a lot of normal family stuff," Julie says. "But Ed truly believes in what he's doing. He's given everything he has to it."

Ed's early leadership was grounded in authenticity.

He wasn't interested in

bureaucracy – he was interested in people. Former supervisor Troy Holland saw it firsthand. "He had purpose, and he wasn't afraid to speak honestly about the system's failings. He was in a vulnerable position where I could influence his pathway to becoming a psychologist. But he didn't let that stop him speaking the truth. That immediately told me he was a person of great integrity. He held himself to high standards, and he expected the same from others – but never more than he held for himself."

Consistency

Troy believes that one of the things that sets Ed apart is the way he leads with consistency. "He's the same person in every space – with his team, with his family, with community. That kind of clarity makes him a steady leader. A leader you can trust."

He also credits Ed's wife, Julie, who is the Finance Officer, for being a central part of the organisation's success. "They're a team. You can't tell the story of Wakai Waian without recognising her strength and the sacrifices their family has made. And the boys have become part of the journey too. I've seen Ed and Julie supporting the boys at all their school and sporting events. But then I've seen the boys taking the journeys home and to other communities with Ed and Julie. As a family, they do it for each other, and for their extended family, and for communities that need them."

Now, as Wakai Waian Healing enters its second decade, the naigai wind of Masig calls Ed home. There is a growing understanding that balance must be reclaimed – that Ed, too, needs time for his own healing journey.

"If I said tomorrow, 'Let's move to Masig,' he'd start packing his bag," Julie says with a smile. "That's where his spirit feels most at home."

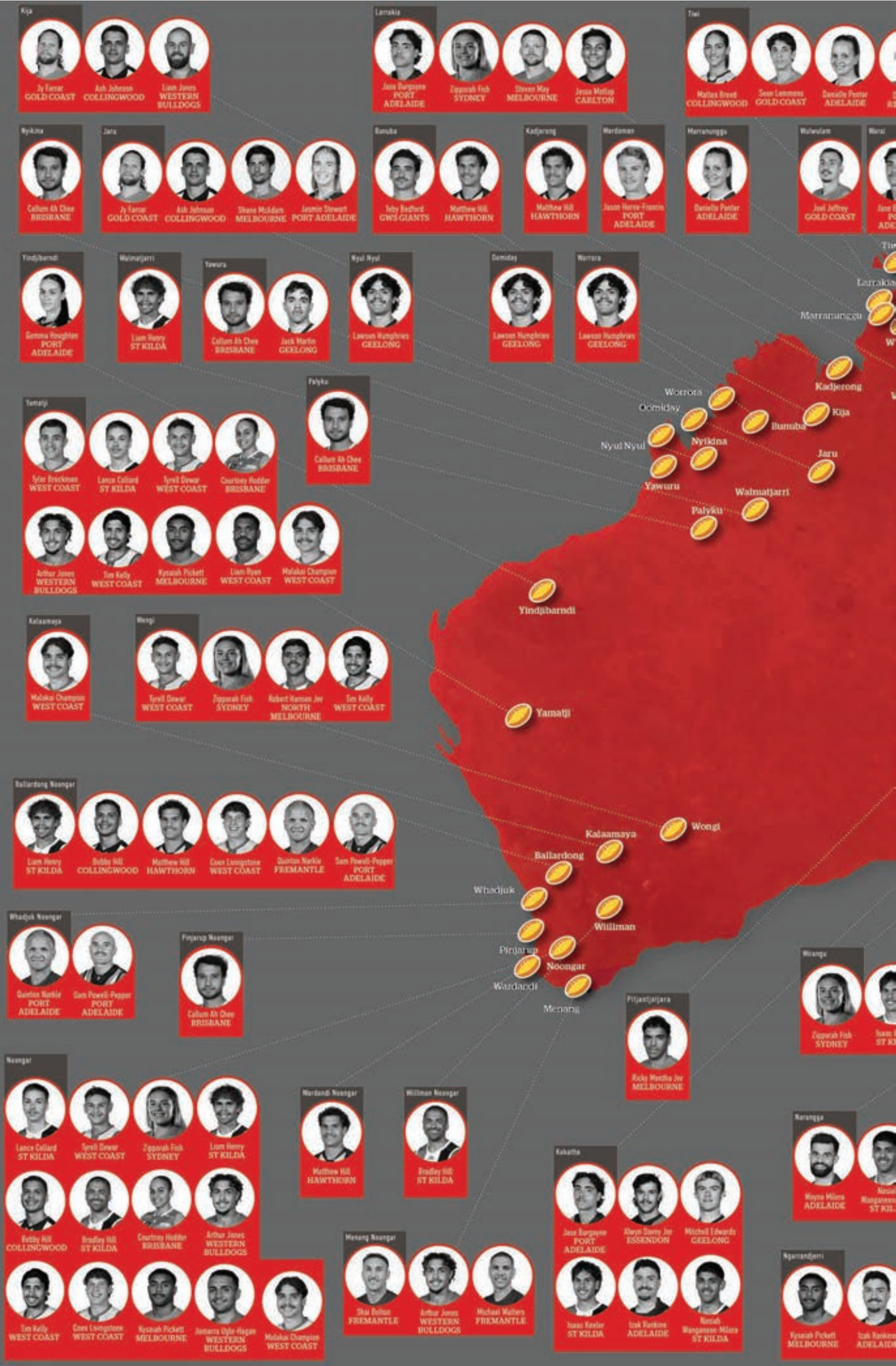
The future of Wakai Waian Healing is strong. With a solid Senior Management Team in place, the focus will be on sustainability, deepened cultural governance, and strengthening the heart of the organisation for the generations to come.

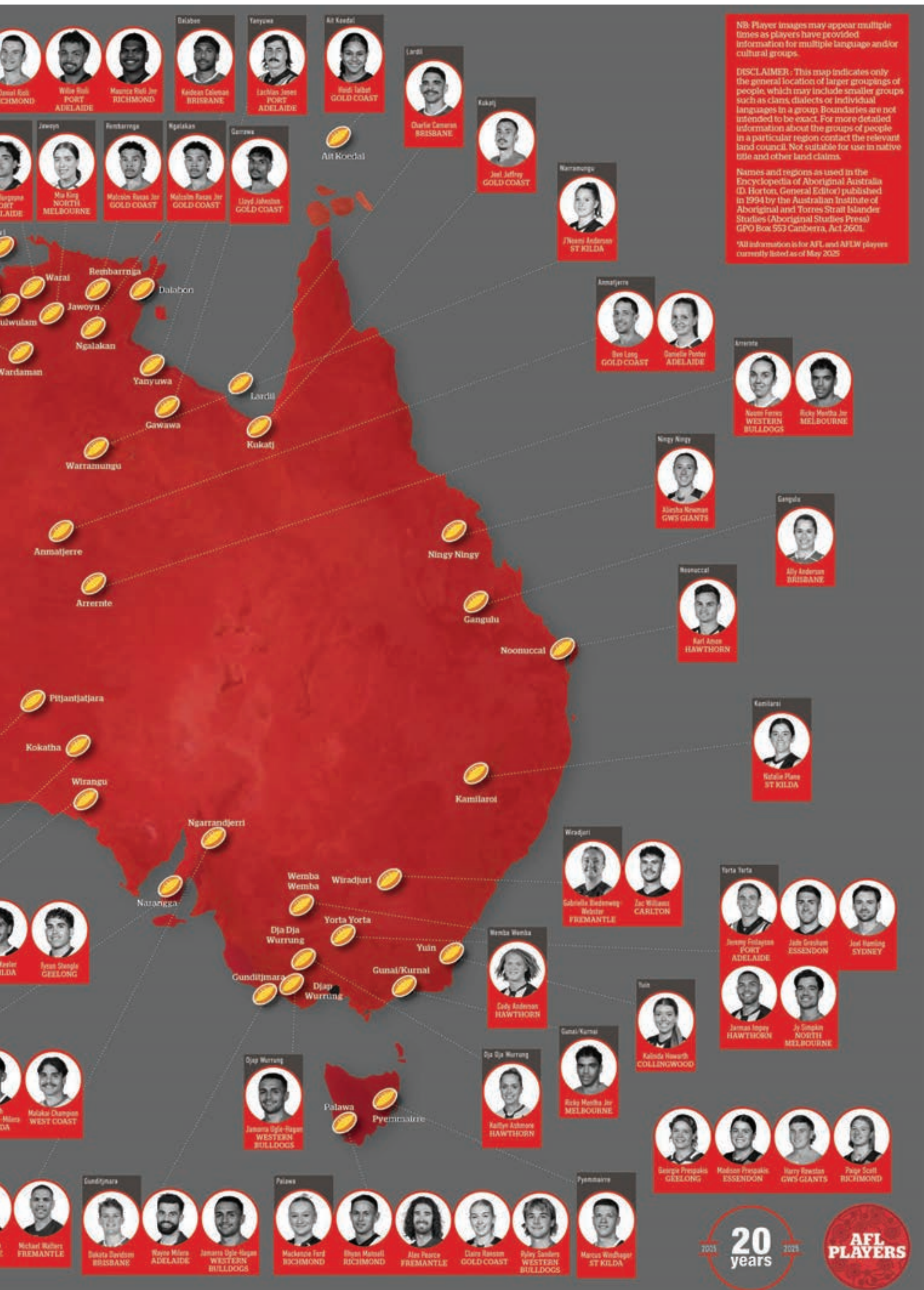
Wakai Waian – meaning "straightening yarn" – speaks to the process of untangling stories, healing wounds, and walking forward together. It reflects not only the journey of the people Wakai Waian supports but Ed's own story: from soldier to healer, from founder to quiet Elder-in-the-making.

Maybe, after a decade of carrying the dreams of others, it is time for Ed to heed the call of Country, to throw a line into saltwater, to sit beneath the stars with family, and to nurture the spirit that has nurtured so many others.

Afterall, it all began with one man's story – and the unwavering love and belief of those who walked beside him. Now, it belongs to many.

AFL & AFLW PLAYERS' INDIGENOUS MAP 2025





Decolonising health to provide better care for patients



A decolonised, holistic approach to health, led by First Nations people will mean a "safer journey" for Indigenous people accessing care, researchers say.



THE way forward in health is respecting Aboriginal ways of knowing, being and doing through a holistic and decolonised approach to care, researchers say.

University of Adelaide senior researcher Kim O'Donnell said there's currently an emphasis on a biomedical approach to health care, which treats individual parts rather than a person as a whole.

Dr O'Donnell said decolonising health care means a more holistic approach, led by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ways of knowing, being and doing.

"Decolonised healthcare looks like what Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations were established for in the first place in the early 70s," the Malyangapa and Barkindji woman said.



Research team with members across the University of Adelaide and Flinders University and representatives from service partners: (l-r) Edward Tilton, Shane D'Angelo, Anna Ziersch, Tamara Mackean, Matt Fisher, Toby Freeman, Fran Baum, Caitlin McGuire, Caitlin Garbin, Faye Worner, Juanita Sherwood, and Cleone Wellington.

"That is to provide a suite of healthcare in the one place that's led by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

"That makes the journey

much better and much safer for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and comes from the place of health being delivered in a holistic way."

University of Adelaide and Flinders University researchers worked with five Aboriginal primary health care services across Australia on the seven-year project, funded by the National Health and Medicine Research Council.

The resulting report presents key findings from the project about the effect and limitations of dominant health models for Indigenous people, and makes recommendations to decolonise care.

Dr O'Donnell said the dominant system was not developed and structured to include Indigenous people, and continuous poor health outcomes have led to First Nations people losing trust in this system.

"There's still the assumptions that people have, that deficit view of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, that we've all got chronic diseases, we can't

manage our lives," she said.

The report said decolonising practice can only be founded on a strong Aboriginal workforce, recommending support for recruitment, retention and professional development of Aboriginal primary health care practitioners.

Also among the recommendations are ensuring funding models for Aboriginal primary health care are flexible enough to respond to community needs, respecting Aboriginal ways of knowing, being and doing in policy, and promoting strengths-based approaches to care.

"It's important to ensure primary health care is delivered in decolonising ways, delivered in a way that gives voice to our own organisations and these ways of working are protected and supported by policymakers," Dr O'Donnell said.

— AAP

Research aims to reduce the risks that are causing childhood injuries



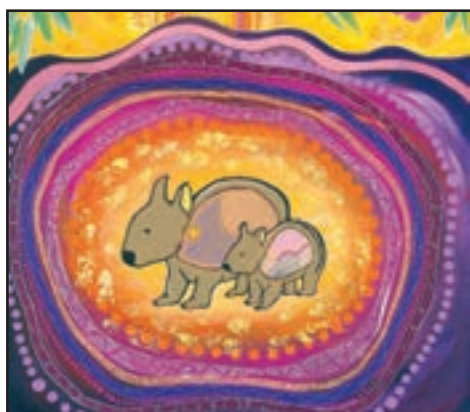
ABORIGINAL-led research to reduce injuries and improve supports for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children (aged 0-16 years) is the

focus of a \$5 million NHMRC Clinical Trials and Cohort Studies Grant awarded to Flinders University.

Injuries are the leading cause of death and the third leading cause of disease for children in Australia, with Indigenous children disproportionately impacted, facing higher rates, poorer health outcomes, and increased levels of disability.

"Over the past decade, the situation has worsened, injury rates are on the rise for Indigenous children with higher rates of mortality at a younger age," says grant recipient Associate Professor Courtney Ryder, from FHMRI Trauma and Injury.

"In order to address the growing injury impacts facing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, we need to understand what makes injuries more likely to occur, how these injuries impact



Wruwalun Mi:wi Hoping/Believing Inner Spirit/Soul. Artist: Talia Scriven.

children and their families, and how they can be prevented.

"We want to transform prevention, trauma and rehabilitation initiatives for injuries, and promote long lasting health and wellbeing outcomes, with and for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, families and their communities."

The Transforming Health and

Wellbeing Outcomes from Injury for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children – The HEAL Cohort Study was awarded \$4,998,544.50 to address critical knowledge gaps in current injury data, particularly risk and protective factors, as well as social and cultural determinants.

"If we can fill in these knowledge gaps, including how family, community, culture, and social conditions impact Indigenous children's health and recovery after injury, we can create better ways to prevent injuries and improve supports on offer," she says.

The HEAL Cohort study – the first of its kind – will generate novel epidemiological insights into the depth and breadth of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander child injury.

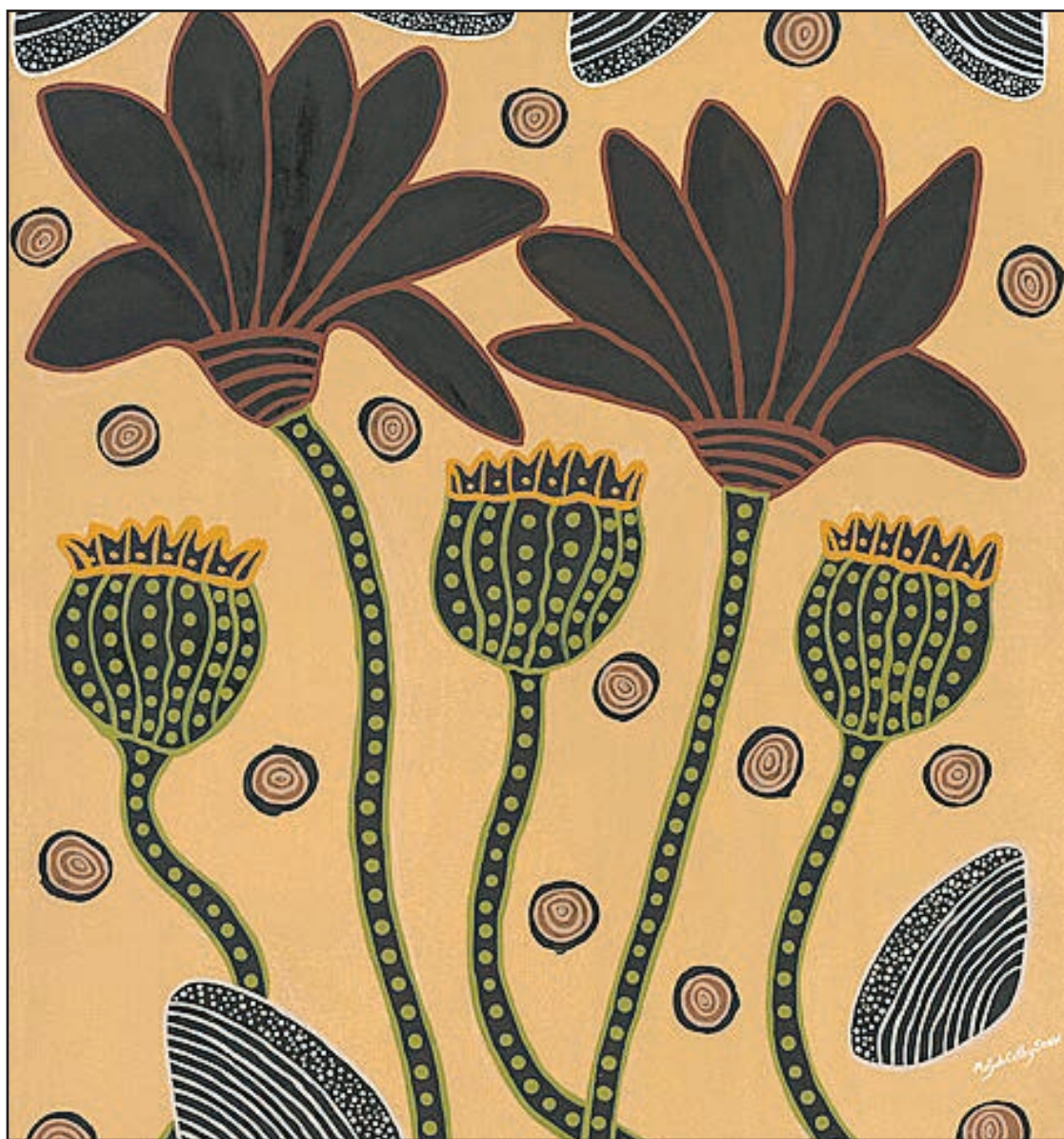
The project will create a comprehensive dataset of around 180,000 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, leveraging two of Australia's richest data sources: South Australia's Better Evidence Better Outcomes Linked Data (BEBOLD) and the New South Wales Child E-Cohort.

"By using these novel platforms, we will be able to paint a clearer picture of injury incidence, the circumstances surrounding injuries, and responses from health, social, and education systems," says Associate Professor Ryder.

"Importantly, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander collaboration is at the core of HEAL, with it being the first study to implement Indigenous Data Frameworks, ensuring Indigenous Data Governance and Sovereignty take centre stage.

"In partnership with industry stakeholders, communities, and consumers, this initiative will empower Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices and perspectives throughout the research process, which has been depicted by Talia in our artwork *Wruwalun Mi:wi (Hoping/Believing Inner Spirit/Soul)*," she says.

The data generated through the HEAL study will guide policymakers in identifying evidence-based solutions to reduce injury rates and improve outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and their families.



Waterlilies, Freshwater Mussels and Seedlillies, 2021 by Maljah Cathy Snow.

Inspired to paint



Jack Wilkie-Jans

Maljah Cathy Snow – a Gkuthaarn woman from Normanton, Gulf of Carpentaria – is one of Queensland's most prolific and refined visual artists. A master painter, she is an expert of fine, rich texture and alluring and purposeful composition; Maljah is a self-taught artist. Her name means 'lightning' in her grandmother's language, brimming with sacred Dreaming story. And, she is one of my favourite artists working today.

I first met Maljah through the Cairns Indigenous Art Fair (CIAF) in 2022. She was an exciting new addition to the annual art fair exhibitors. The fact she hails from where much of my Waanji family live, certainly stood out to me. Then I became familiar with her work, and can now say I'm a proud owner of one of her sublime paintings. But, I was late to the party (regrettably) as it was in 2021 when Maljah held her first solo exhibition at the Cairns Art Gallery, titled *Barlawink, My Mother's Country*.

"I started painting later in life when at an art workshop, held in 2006, by an artist and good friend, Margaret Henry. It was Margaret who inspired me to try my hand at painting. Since that time, I haven't stopped! I thank Margaret and Bonnie Elford, who assisted in readying my work for my first exhibition and giving me the confidence I needed", tells Maljah.

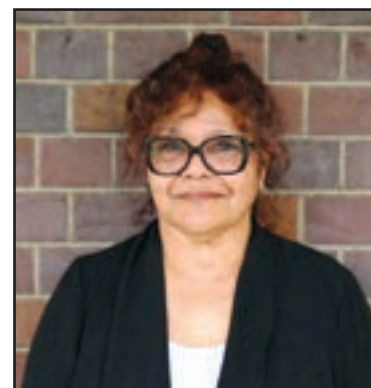
"The only training I undertook myself was at home, painting from

the sketches I had from the stories told to me by my mother".

Steeped in story and knowledge, Maljah's works depict the vibrant ecology of her homelands and where she grew up. Her works are an anthology of the animals and plants she and her people use and are surrounded by in everyday life. Her pieces reflect the true beauty of the bush – and she uses signature colours of mainly deep and earthy reds, with a fine black outline to each figurative element. Her line work depicts shimmering and patterned shells. Her figurative pieces apply a uniform or almost-symmetry to animals (particularly birds and fish) and plants. As visual elements in her works, these are often shown together, thus highlighting their intrinsic and symbiotic relationship in the natural world. Maljah shows audiences the patterns of the Earth and the rhythm of Country.

"I like to paint plants, animals, birds, and things that live in and around waterholes on my mother's traditional Country or anywhere in the Gulf", tells Maljah.

However, painting isn't the only artform Maljah is working in. From 2024-2025, in a



Maljah Cathy Snow

partnership between Double R Arts

Foundation and Cairns Art Gallery, Maljah is one of four current recipients of support to expand one's practice or produce a body of work. As the pattern work in Maljah's paintings is pronounced, her skill at laying out compositions lends itself well to the realm of textiles.

Since 2024, she's been working with textile expert, Dr Bobbie Rueben, on developing the technical skills needed to transfer her art and their colours onto textiles.

"My dream was always to see my artwork on textiles. And now, that dream has come true. In the future I would to see my art on clothing", tells Maljah.

Keep in touch with Maljah Cathy Snow, and purchase her works, via her stockist Ancient Journeys: www.ancientjourneys.com.au



Territories Stolen Generations Redress Scheme

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

Find out more at territoriesredress.gov.au or call 1800 566 111



territoriesredress.gov.au



Australian Government
National Indigenous Australians Agency



Nominate a Reconciliation Champion

We're proud to introduce an award category which recognises outstanding achievements in advancing reconciliation within Monash.

2025
SIR JOHN MONASH
AWARDS

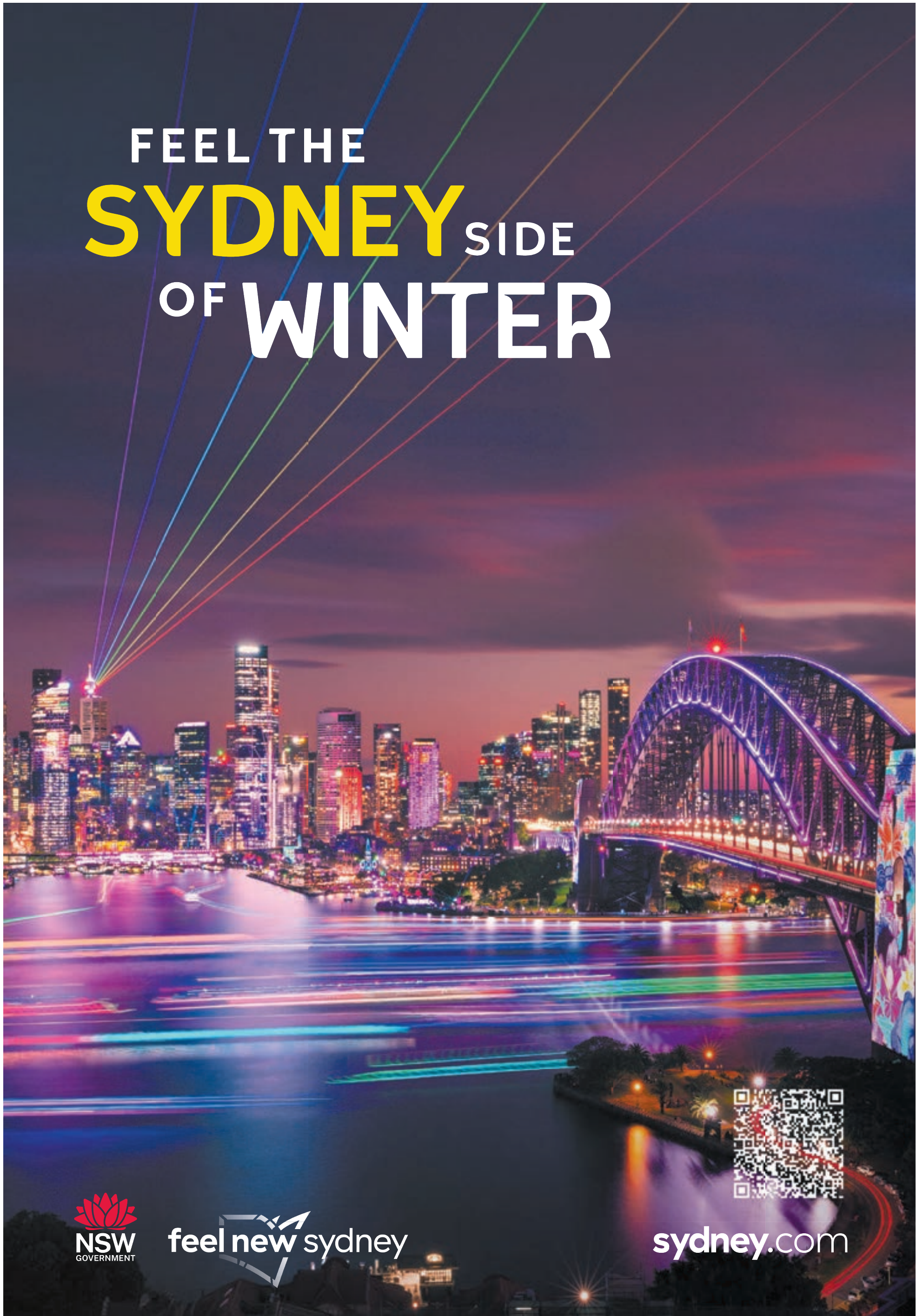
Nominations close
Sunday
13 July 2025



www.monash.vic.gov.au/reconciliation-champion



FEEL THE **SYDNEY** SIDE OF WINTER



feel new  sydney

sydney.com

New SBS doco series delivers a dose of hope

BY CHRISTIAN MORROW



OUR Medicine, the powerful new documentary series from NITV that shines a light on First Nations professionals working on the overstretched frontline of the Australian health system hits the ground running.

At the opening of episode one viewers meet Ngadjonji emergency doctor Tatum Bond at Cairns and Hinterland Hospital and Health Service as she tends to an Indigenous man with a vicious machete wound to his upper arm.

Dr Bond admits she thrives on the excitement of not knowing what or who is going to come through the doors of the emergency department at any given moment.

As she supervises treatment of the wound she highlights the importance of understanding not only the nature of the devastating injury but the complex cultural factors that can lead to such a wounding.

The patient has arrived by chopper from a community hundreds of kilometres to the north and we learn through Dr Bond of the hostilities that can simmer when families bearing unresolved grievances are forced to live in close proximity.

"Not all communities are meant to be together and problems can be made worse by the trauma of being part of the Stolen Generations, she said.

"It is important to understand this as a medical practitioner and to be aware of those realities."

The six-part documentary will air on National Indigenous Television (NITV) and SBS On Demand from May 29 and is narrated by screen icon Leah Purcell AM.

The behind-the-scenes doco tells stories that highlight the disparities between health outcomes for Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians but also celebrates Indigenous health practitioners making their mark

within the health system and amongst their communities.

Most importantly it tells these stories through the eyes of those First Nations practitioners.

Once Dr Bond has outlined a course of treatment for the machete attack victim, focus shifts from the modern hospital Cairns out to the Kimberley region of Western Australia where a very different kind of healing is taking place using ochre and song lines.

Rather than using the latest drugs, a group of traditional healers set up in a humble tent are using knowledge and methods passed down over millennia.

The therapy is part of the Jalngangurru Cultural Healing Trial started in 2019 as a response to the needs of the local community.

With one in three First Nations people choosing not to access health care when they need, due to cultural reasons, the importance of the trial cannot be underestimated.

Aunty Annie Milton, Jalngangurru Cultural Advisor, Senior Nyikina Cultural Custodian says the aim of the ancient healing technique is for "strong blood to be pumped out to heal the old body, with the ochre protecting the body."

A note of hope also resonates when we meet Jaru Jawoyn woman Sasha Greenhoff, one of a new generation learning the ancient healing techniques, which she sees as a form of inter-generational wealth to be passed on down to younger Indigenous Australians.

"We talk about the intergenerational trauma being a huge thing in our lives but we should also talk about this form of intergenerational wealth", Ms Greenhoff says.

"The knowledge, that language and those stories and techniques (that I am learning) are something that I will hand down to the younger generation who will (go on) to heal people physically and spiritually."

Life expectancy for First Nations peoples in Australia is approximately eight years lower than that of non-Indigenous



Jalngangurru Healers treating a patient traditionally in the Kimberley Region of Western Australia.



Emergency doctor Tatum Bond out front of Cairns Hospital.

Australians, largely due to a higher incidence of chronic, respiratory, heart and kidney diseases, as well as diabetes.

The message that comes through loud and clear throughout *Our Medicine* is the importance of culture and the nurturing of respectful relationships between patients, medical staff and paramedics as the key to building better health amongst First Nations Australians.

Produced by Karla Hart Enterprises and Periscope Pictures, the series is directed by

Broome-based Kimberley Benjamin (*Warm Props*) and co-directed by Karla Hart (*Yokayi Footy, Family Rules*).

Speaking jointly, the pair said it was a privilege to see first hand the positive impact First Nations people were having on health across Country.

"These professionals are doing life-changing work in their fields of expertise, using their knowledge of culture, language and kinship to create better outcomes, safer spaces and to encourage our people not to fear the health

system, which is saving lives by closing the catastrophic gaps in health and improving life outcomes for First Nations peoples", they said.

"We are well aware of the health disparities that exist with our Mob, however, *Our Medicine* doesn't focus on those statistics but instead speaks contextually from a strength-based lens, through the work of our medical participants.

"We hope *Our Medicine* inspires more Mob to become health professionals, promotes more engagement in bush and spiritual healing and a greater acknowledgment of the heroes working in these spaces."

Head of Indigenous Commissioning and Production, Dena Curtis, said NITV was incredibly proud to support the documentary series.

"This important series celebrates and showcases the incredible skills of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander frontline health practitioners across the country and highlights Blak excellence in the emergency professions."

***Our Medicine* premieres Thursday 29 May at 7.30pm on NITV and SBS, with weekly double episodes.**



Our Medicine producer Karla Hart.



Our Medicine Director Kimberley Benjamin.



Paramedics Andrew Garrett and George Fennemore.

Ready for the catwalk



Models taking part in a previous *Black, Bold and Beautiful* event.

Be informed, inspired and empowered at Indigenous fashion business event



BLACK, Bold and Beautiful 2025 is back on the agenda after getting blown out by Cyclone Alfred in March.

Australia's leading Indigenous fashion show, luncheon and women's event is set to take place on June 9, 2025 at Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre.

The deadly lineup remains the same, with this year's event being hosted by award-winning journalist Karina Hogan, featuring keynote speaker Kiana Charlton along with guest speakers Juanita Page, Linda Jackson, Bianca Hunt, Bronwyn Bancroft and Briana Enoch with live music from Suga Cane Mamas.

Indigenous designers hitting the catwalk in 2025 include Jarawee, Mum-Red, Maara Collections, Elverina Johnson, Reppin' Nation, and Red Ridge.

Since BBB began in 2009, the event has engaged with more than 5,000 people as participants, volunteers, supporters and attendees

First launched in 2009, the event has been driven by founder Aunty Sandra King OAM each year featuring guest speakers, fashion parades, food and a unique showcase of Indigenous businesses from across the state, celebrating International Women's Day and promoting Indigenous communities, culture, business and creativity.

Sandra King was among the country's first prominent Indigenous fashion models in the 1970s, who went on to establish a



Event founder Sandra King.

modelling agency in the early 1990s then founded Sandra King Management.

Black Bold and Beautiful influence extends beyond the boardroom, with an expo that showcases Indigenous women in their business ventures, embracing the vibrant world of Indigenous fashion, showcasing the innovative designs and traditional craft skills that enrich our cultural landscape.

Ticket sales have been re-opened for new purchases, closing at midnight on Tuesday 3, June. All tickets previously sold are valid for the new date. For refunds please contact admin@sandrakingmanagement.com.au

Info and bookings: <https://events.humanitix.com/black-bold-and-beautiful-indigenous-women-s-luncheon>



Model Bianca Hunt is one of the guest speakers.

COOTA GIRLS ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

SORRY DAY COMMUNITY GATHERING

SUNDAY 25TH MAY 2025 | 10:00AM - 2:00PM

GADIGAL LAND | TARPEIAN LAWN SYDNEY

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT | ALL WELCOME

LIVE MUSIC | CULTURAL WORKSHOPS | RETAIL STALLS | JARJUMS ZONE



BUUJA BUUJA BUTTERFLY DANCERS | EMMA DONOVAN | FRED LEONE
LOREN RYAN | STIFF GINS | BUDDY KNOX BLUES BAND

IMMERSE YOURSELF IN A POWERFUL DAY OF TRUTH-TELLING, CULTURE, AND CONNECTION AS WE COME TOGETHER TO HONOUR STOLEN GENERATIONS SURVIVORS, THEIR FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES.

Crooked TP honours Dreamtime round



TO celebrate the AFL's Dreamtime at the G clash between Essendon and Richmond NAARM-based rapper and dancer Crooked TP has dropped his own *Dreamtime at the G* tribute track in time for this Friday's iconic showdown.

Nodding towards the annual AFL tradition, the anthemic track aims to uplift past and present Indigenous football players while educating listeners about the First Nations history and culture associated with the game.

Produced at Marshall Street Studios with engineer BRZLMBEATZ, the track features Crooked TP's regular collaborators Jdro, ZDT, Borringal and Brent Watkins (Culture Evolves).

"I wanted to capture the feeling of everyone coming together for Dreamtime at the G, to celebrate Aboriginal identity while also taking a stance to say that we need to 'culture-ise' more spaces and improve our First Nations human rights," Crooked TP



Crooked TP's tribute track *Dreamtime at the G* has been released.

(Phil Egan) said.

Marking a major celebration of Indigenous culture and players, Dreamtime at the G sees Essendon and Richmond go head-to-head during the Sir Doug Nicholls Round at the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG).

"I wanted to do something that has never been done before," Crooked TP said, "We needed a dreamtime anthem to celebrate this special event, its past and

current Aboriginal players and the contribution they have made to the game."

Crooked TP is a proud Mutthi Mutthi, Yorta Yorta, Tongan man. Born in Robinvale and now based in Naarm. His music strongly reflects values of cultural connection, community, loyalty, love and breaking negative generational cycles.

"Culture evolves" Crooked TP said. "Putting ochre on yourself around other Mob is probably one of the best healing feelings ever. I feel strong and powerful. We are connecting ourselves to our ancestors from all over and the fact we still practise culture today, so our culture continues to thrive, is what culture is about – passing knowledge and wisdom to our next generation and in turn changing the mindset of the future generations to come."

Not just a rapper, Crooked TP is also an accomplished dancer with more than 15 years of experience travelling the world to perform while managing his own Brothers In Arms dance crew. The track is currently available across all streaming platforms.



Crooked TP is a proud Mutthi Mutthi, Yorta Yorta, Tongan man. Picture by Benny Clark

Want a career working with our mob, for our mob?

The Department of Communities and Justice is looking for dedicated caseworkers and casework managers to join our team.

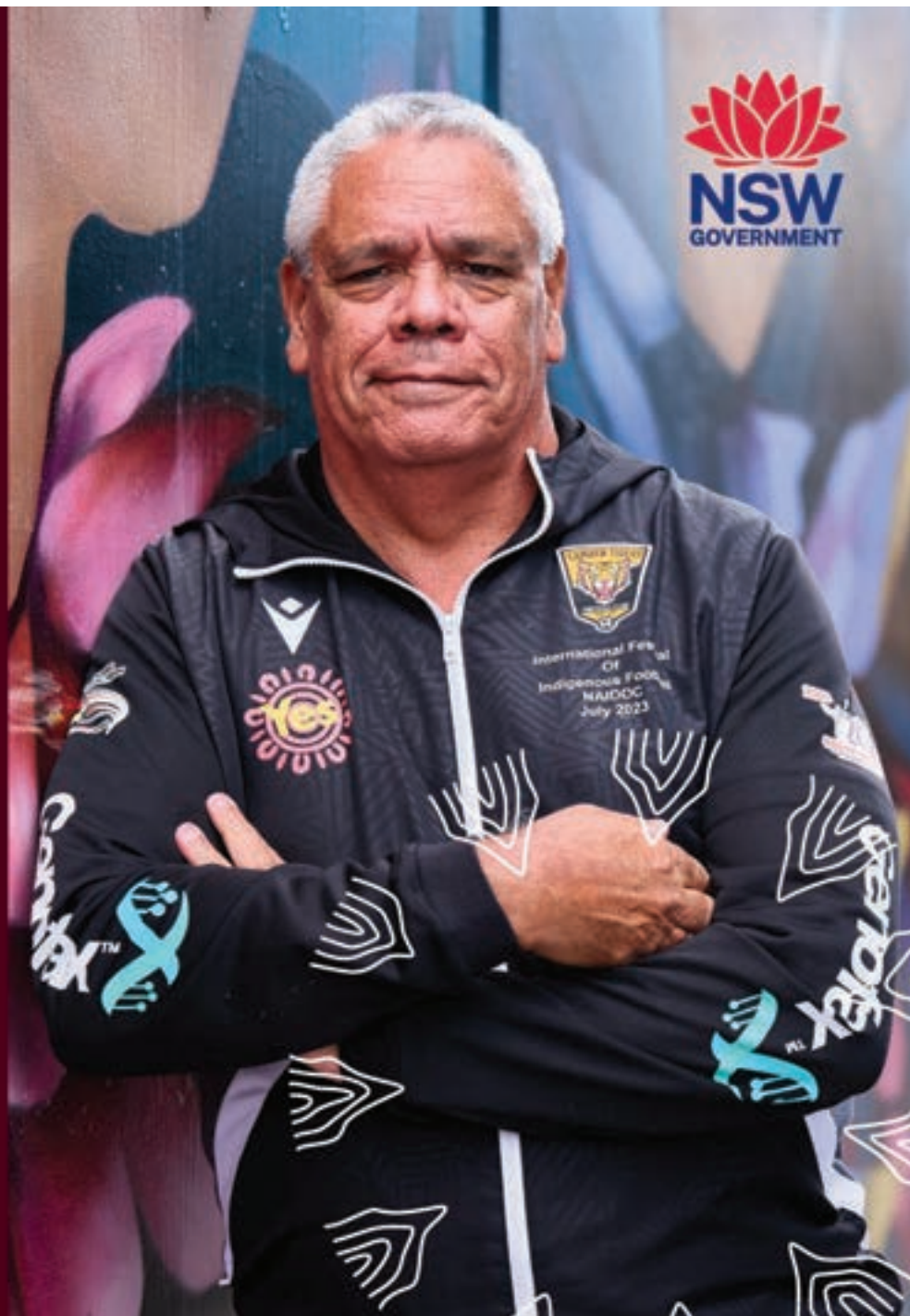
Why join us?

- **Rewarding work:** Contribute to meaningful change by supporting children and families.
- **Career growth:** Access to professional development and career advancement opportunities.
- **Supportive environment:** Work in a collaborative and inclusive workplace that values diversity.
- **Work-life balance:** Enjoy flexible working arrangements to support your personal and professional life.
- **Community impact:** Make a tangible difference in the lives of those who need it most.



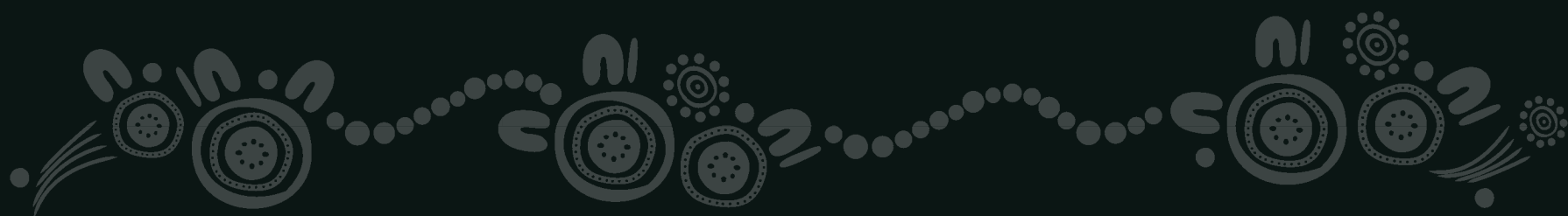
Apply today!

To find out more visit careersatdcj.com/caseworkers or scan the QR code.



Beat
cigarette
cravings,
*one at
a time.*

Watching footy.



Search. Call. Quit.

iCanQuit.com.au  Quitline 13 7848



Home is where the art is



THE Koorie Heritage Trust (KHT) is preparing to unveil two solo exhibitions by respected artists, Barkindji and

Ngiyampaa Elder, Uncle Colin (Col) Clark, and Yorta Yorta and Baraparapa artist Dr Jenny Murray-Jones.

The exhibitions on connection, family and culture opens on Saturday, May 31, at the KHT gallery in the Birrarung Building at Fed Square in Melbourne.

Connections to Home, the first solo exhibition of carvings and paintings by revered Barkindji and Ngiyampaa Elder, Uncle Colin (Col) Clark, will be presented alongside *Coming Home* by Yorta Yorta and Baraparapa artist Dr Jenny Murray-Jones, with both artists exploring connection, family and culture.

Connections to Home, will showcase fifty of Uncle Col's crafted artworks, including spears, shields, clubs, tapping sticks, digging sticks, boomerangs, didgeridoos, painted emu eggs, bowls, and paintings created over the past 20 years.

The exhibition demonstrates Uncle Col's deep knowledge of wood and carving as a cultural practice that connects him to Country and home, but also to his ancestors and the ongoing legacy expressed through his Marra or hands in Barkindji as he has been



The Power of the Warrior: The Shield & Nulla Nulla, 2023 by Uncle Colin (Marra) Clark



Untitled, 2025 by Uncle Col (Marra) Clark

nicknamed.

The exhibition explores six overarching themes, developed by Uncle Col and his collaborators: *Reading Country*; *The River is the life source*; *A growing family*; *Connecting to Ancestors*; *The wood tells me*; and *Healing and medicine*.

Murray-Jones' *Coming Home* is a compelling solo exhibition that will include up to 25 of her paintings from KHT's *Collections of*

Victorian First Peoples Art and Cultural Belongings together with some of her recent works.

Murray-Jones' work offers a poignant exploration of family reconnection, delving into themes of Country, kinship, and the enduring impact of colonisation and institutional life.

The exhibition offers a unique opportunity to engage with Murray-Jones' powerful depictions of the Stolen Generations and intimate family moments, bringing to life her personal narrative and cultural research in a deeply moving and thought-provoking way.

Through her emotive use of colour and texture, Murray-Jones captures the beauty and complexity of her family's journey telling stories of resilience, loss, and the healing power of reconnecting with family and Country.

Each piece offers the viewer a glimpse of the artist's personal history showing moments of joy and pain intertwined, reflecting the strength of her cultural identity and the deep connections that bind her to ancestors and Country.

Both exhibitions are part of KHT's National Reconciliation Week and NAIDOC Week 2025 program and coincides with National Reconciliation Week 2025 (27 May-3 June).

The shows run until Sun Aug 10, 2025. Go to www.kht.org.au



This is where they wanted us to be by Dr Jenny Murray-Jones.



Coming Home by Dr Jenny Murray-Jones.

Big dreams for you and your community?

Make a big impact with a **Snow Scholarship**

Do you, or someone you know, dream of going to university yet face barriers to get there? Snow Scholarships are awarded to **16 aspiring uni students** annually. Valued at up to **\$30,000 each year** and covering *accommodation, living expenses and cultural support*, a Snow Scholarship is the start of a bright future.

Applications now open.

Apply before 12 October



To learn more, scan the code or search "Snow Scholarships" online.



Snow Scholarships



UNIVERSITY OF
CANBERRA

Snow
Foundation



Nunga Screen to light up cinemas during NAIDOC



A FEAST of First Nations films will play across metropolitan and regional centres in South Australia

during Reconciliation Week 2025 and later in NAIDOC week when Country Arts SA's Nunga Screen lights up big screen cinemas and remote communities across the state.

This year's Nunga Screen will include everything from the animated kids series *Eddie's Lil' Homies*, adapted from books by AFL great Eddie Betts through to a sneak peek at the documentary *Kumarangk: The Hindmarsh Island Bridge* and the creation story *Wild Dog Dreaming*.

A proud Aboriginal man with connections to the Gubrun People of the Kalgoorlie Goldfields (Western Australia) and Wirangu/Kokatha People of the Far-West Coast of South Australia, Eddie Betts, is a former champion Aussie Rules player and author of books for pre-schoolers with stories about kindness, inclusivity and culture.

The Netflix adaption of *Eddie's Lil' Homies* opens the program thanks to a partnership between Arts SA and the Australian Children's Television Foundation.

Kumarangk: The Hindmarsh Island Bridge is a proof-of-concept short that elevates the voice of the Ngarrindjeri women who fought for over a decade to protect a sacred site in South Australia.

The film's director is Josh Trevorrow, a proud Ngarrindjeri who, aside from being the programmer of Nunga Screen, was named Screen Australia, Centralised and Documentary Australia Foundation Fellow for his documentary project, *Kondoli*.

The program also includes *Wild Dog Dreaming*, a creation story from the lands of the Narungga Peoples, Yorke Peninsula, South Australia about a cheeky boy cursed to walk the earth as a gadli (dingo).

The film was created by Jacob Boehme, a critically acclaimed theatre maker and choreographer, from the Narungga and Kurna Nations well known for creating work for stage, screen, large-scale public events and festivals.

Nunga Screen programmer and Country Arts SA's First Nations Arts & Culture Manager, Josh Trevorrow, said the program continues to unite communities, schools and organisations through the power of film.

"2025 marks the fourteenth year of centering the voices of First Nations filmmakers from across the country, sharing the diversity of cultures, language and stories through the medium of film," he said.

"We're also excited to present *Barani*, a visually stunning cinematic animation spotlighting the health and abundance of Country pre-settlement and *Second Chance*, a heartwarming



A scene from *Eddie's Lil' Homies*.



A scene from *Kumarangk: The Hindmarsh Island Bridge*.



A scene from *Barani*.

romance from talented South Australian filmmaker Thibul Nettle, an independent filmmaker specialising in commercial stories that cut through in the mainstream market".

Free screening locations include:

Chaffey Theatre, Renmark, Erawirung Country, Wednesday 28 May

Middleback Arts Centre, Whyalla, Barngala Country, Wednesday 28 May

Northern Festival Centre, Port Pirie, Nukunu Country, Thursday 29 May

Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre, Mount Gambier, Boandik Country, Thursday 29 May

Additional screenings will be held across the state including at Victor Harbor, Port Lincoln, Hawker, and Port Lincoln and at metro locations.

For full program details visit www.countryarts.org.au/events/nunga-screen-2025.



A scene from *Wild Dog Dreaming*.



Sharing knowledge, *building futures*

Taleah Stanley, Wiradjuri Woman
Marketing Assistant
School of Rural Health (Dubbo/Orange), Faculty of Medicine and Health

Explore Indigenous careers at Sydney
sydney.edu.au/indigenous-careers



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY

Leadership for good

25/3247 CRICOS 00026A TEQSA PRV12057

Selve record at Abbey Road Studios



AWARD-winning 6-piece Selve, led by Jabirr Jabirr man Loki Liddle, have released their first full-length album and single recorded by an Aboriginal artist at the iconic Abbey Road Studios in London, the musical home of The Beatles.

The first single *Breaking Into Heaven* was released last week. A cinematic film clip is to follow soon with the album set to drop on September 12.

The band will also celebrate the new album with an exclusive live preview performance on August 1 with the Queensland Symphony Orchestra at HOTA's Amphitheatre Stage as part of Bleach Festival 2025.

The single *Breaking into Heaven* was penned over the course of a 3-stage Arts Queensland and Creative Australia-funded residency between Broome, France and London beginning on Liddle's own Jabirr Jabirr Country and ending in Abbey Road's infamous studio three – birthplace of Pink Floyd's album *Dark Side Of The Moon*.

"By taking the embers of songs sparked on my Country and recording them at Abbey Road – this amazing ideal and root of rock and roll mythology – a reclamation, re-imaging and

subversion of that ideal, through an inspired First Nations lens has taken place," Loki said.

He describes the song as a powerful testament to First Nation's stories, music and culture breaking into spaces that have traditionally been reserved for the select few.

"The song was inspired by Nina Simone's words – 'The people who built their heaven on your land, are telling you that yours is in the sky'," he said.

"*Breaking Into Heaven* is about breaking in and subverting the centres of power that have been used to author our fates en masse, stealing the pen back from the thief and scrawling a First Nations story and future across the heavens above."

High Theatre

The track is described as a high-theatre showcase of raucous post-punk, subversive psych-rock, tender indie-pop, winking at new-wave and beyond, tied together with rebellion and compassion – punctuating and refracting the listener's consciousness like a glass brick through a window.

The accompanying video for the track is co-directed by Liddle and long-time collaborator Josh Tate who has also worked with Kate Miller-Heidke, Jaguar Jonze, Sycco and Mia Wray.

Inspired by films such as *Asteroid City* and *2001: A Space*

Odyssey the video also features First Nations dance company Karul Projects and highly regarded First Nations artist Uncle Richard Bell.

Loki said the video depicts, "Blakfullas breaking into heaven via a propeller plane," and was filmed by drone in one continuous take at the Scenic Rim Aerodrome in Kooralbyn.

The upcoming album was produced by the band's Scott French with film and TV composer Simon Benesch, and recorded with Abbey Road Studios engineer Thomas Briggs (Little Simz, Sam Fender, Kojey Radical). The band even used the same piano heard on The Beatles song *A Day in the Life* together with more than \$400,000 worth of microphones, a Fender Rhodes, Prophet synth and an original Mellotron.

Loki said the band drew on the spirit of albums such as Tyler the Creator's *Chromokopia*, Fontaines D.C.'s *Romance* and Childish Gambino's *Bando Stone + The New World* and the live performances of Massive Attack and LCD Soundsystem.

Breaking Into Heaven continues Selve's conceptual exploration of characters and themes found across their past releases and is also inspired by Liddle's forthcoming poetry work *Damn Good Television* (due 2026).



Selve on the steps of the legendary Abbey Road Studios in London. Selve are: Jabirr Jabirr man Loki Liddle (lead vocals/guitar), Anaiwan man Reece Bowden (lead guitar), Creation Saffigna (vocals), Michael Baldi (drums), Scott French (bass guitar) and Liam Kirk (keyboards).

BlueMACKEREL

Community Benefits Program – Have your say

The proposed Blue Mackerel Offshore Wind Project is located off the coast of Brataualung and Tatungalung Country in Gippsland, approximately 10km from shore near Seaspray and Woodside Beach.

The project is undergoing feasibility assessments. If constructed, it could generate 1GW of renewable energy by 2032 – enough to power over half a million Victorian homes.

The Blue Mackerel would include a benefits program – designed with the community, for the community. To create a program that delivers lasting and meaningful value, we need your input.

Contact us at info@bluemackerel.com.au or call +61 3 9021 0602.

How to get involved

- Complete a short online survey
- Host a conversation using our Conversation Toolkit, or
- Invite us to speak with your community

Visit www.bluemackerel.com.au to take the survey or download the Toolkit!



Feedback is open until 31 July, 2025

FIRST NATIONS BURSARY OPPORTUNITY



BRISBANE BOYS' COLLEGE

Available from 2026
Year 9 upwards

Supporting boys of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander backgrounds whose families are in financial need to access a Brisbane Boys' College education and boarding.

This First Nations Bursary was established to provide an opportunity for deserving students of Indigenous background who have the potential to maximise the benefits of a BBC education and who will make a meaningful contribution to the life of the College.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The Bursary is for applicants not yet enrolled at the College, whose family has a demonstrated and authentic need for financial assistance. All recipients are expected to display academic progress commensurate with their ability and to take full and constructive part in all facets of College life.

The Bursary is for applicants of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander background who demonstrate:

- A desire to achieve to their individual academic potential, as evidenced by academic reports demonstrating a conscientious and engaged approach to studies
- A willingness and desire to participate in all facets of College life, including academic, sporting, cultural and service activities
- Applicants require a C passing grade or higher in all subjects
- Active participation and achievement in a variety of co-curricular activities
- Applicants require exemplary school attendance and behaviour
- Good character and a willingness to uphold the Christian values of the College
- Must have a permanent home address in a regional or remote area at least 100km outside of the Brisbane CBD

For more information, please contact BBC's Head of Admissions, Mrs Katrina Bracken
katrina.bracken@bbc.qld.edu.au
+61 7 3309 3545 | M +61 (0) 421 371 801

Yalmakany Marawili continues family tradition of making art



FOLLOWING her debut show *Gonj-Wapitja* – the hand that holds the digging stick in Warrane (Sydney) earlier this year, distinguished North East Arnhem Land artist Yalmakany Marawili has won representation with Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery in Sydney, one of Australia's most distinguished galleries.

Her work *Murrjtjmun, nhumurray, wärkarr, butjirijaniŋ* is also included as a finalist in this year's prestigious Sulman Prize at the Art Gallery of NSW.

Born into a distinguished lineage of cultural leaders and artists, Ms Marawili is the daughter of celebrated senior artist Mrs M Wirrpanda and legendary Madarrpa leader Wakuthi Marawili and sister to celebrated artist Djambawa Marawili AM.

Since settling in Yirrkala in 2022, Yalmakany has dedicated herself to painting full-time at Buku-Larrngay Mulka Art Centre, drawing upon an intimate and inherited knowledge of Yolŋu law, land, and cosmology.

Her practice maps the intricate

interdependencies between saltwater estates and bush resources, articulating Yolŋu knowledge systems with both precision and expressive power.

Yalmakany's work was included in the 2023 Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards (NATSIAA) and has been exhibited by the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (MAGNT).

Yalmakany's debut solo exhibition with Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery, *Gonj-Wapitja* – the hand that holds the digging stick paid homage to Yolŋu women as providers, healers, and educators.

Building on the legacy of her late mother, Yalmakany's paintings trace the seasonal cycles of plant life and the enduring relationship between Yolŋu women and the land, honouring the critical role of women as custodians of cultural and environmental wisdom.

A spokesperson for the gallery said they were honoured to welcome Yalmakany to the gallery's program and looked forward to supporting her practice as she continued to deepen and extend this vital artistic and cultural legacy.



North East Arnhem Land artist Yalmakany Marawili.

CHANGE THE WORLD WITH US

UniSA's research is shaped by Aboriginal Peoples and knowledges that create real-world outcomes and opportunities for mob.

Join an unstoppable community founded in Aboriginal cultures, histories and knowledges.

Choose a research project in your specialist area, including STEM, health, education, social work, Aboriginal knowledges, creative industries and more.

unisa.edu.au/researchdegrees

We respectfully acknowledge the Kaurna, Boandik and Barngarla First Nations Peoples and their Elders past and present, who are the First Nations' Traditional Owners of the lands that are now home to the University of South Australia's campuses in Adelaide, Mount Gambier and Whyalla.

The Artwork by Ngarrindjeri artist Jordan Lovegrove features three meeting places. These represent a place where people come together to meet, share stories, learn and collaborate.



University of
South Australia

Patrons to guide NAISDA



A PEAK dance and creative arts education and training organisation in Sydney has just

announced new patrons to help guide the organisation's future.

The NAISDA Foundation is proud to announce the appointment of two distinguished new co-patrons, Rhoda Roberts AO and David Gonski AC.

Chaired by Douglas Nicol, the foundation works closely with NAISDA to support excellence and innovation in First Nations dance and performing arts education for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

The announcement comes at a pivotal phase of growth for NAISDA as it prepares to celebrate its 50th anniversary next year.

Rhoda Roberts AO, a Widjabul Wiabal woman from the Bundjalung Nation, is one of Australia's most respected First Nations creative leaders and visionaries, recognised for her advocacy for cultural storytelling, artistic excellence, and equity.

"It is a huge honour to be named a patron of the NAISDA Foundation, and it's actually an obligation. I work in the arts and cultural space and I believe it is our space where robust



NAISDA Foundation patron David Gonski AC, dancer Neihanna Hippi, patron Rhoda Roberts AO and dancer Clare Beale.

conversation, truth-telling through performance has a visibility in this country, and we don't want to

lose it, said Roberts.

"NAISDA has a space as one of our leading training grounds,

sitting alongside some of Australia's finest institutions, but it is ours, and we have a Black

lens on it – and that's really important.

"We have to provide the right environment to have a future that is not of deficit, but is of fulfilment, hope, and showing the world we are the oldest culture in the world."

David Gonski AC is celebrated nationally for his leadership across education, philanthropy, and business.


"NAISDA not only provides world-class training in dance and the performing arts, but also empowers young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to connect with culture and express their stories through movement and creativity, said Gonski.




"I see NAISDA as a place where First Nations culture can be celebrated, and where young people can be educated and inspired."

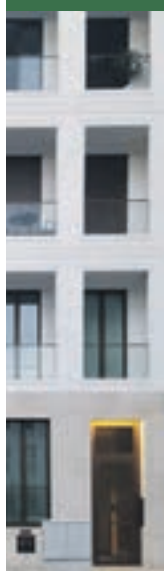





NAISDA Foundation chair, Douglas Nicol, warmly welcomed the appointments.

"Rhoda and David bring a depth of wisdom, integrity and advocacy that will help guide the Foundation and strengthen NAISDA's future, Nicol said.

"Their leadership comes as we grow into an international centre for multidisciplinary First Nations performing arts education, strong in vision, voice, and impact."




Opening up the housing market with more affordable homes

We're opening doors with more homes planned in the places you want to live, close to trains, trams and services.

Find out about reduced stamp duty on off-the-plan apartments and townhouses and the \$10,000 First Home Owner Grant for home buyers who are buying or building a new home.

Visit vic.gov.au/openingdoors





Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne

Exhibition charts 65,000 years of art



AN EXHIBITION celebrating the longevity and brilliance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art opens at the University of Melbourne's revitalised Potter Museum of Art (The Potter), during Reconciliation Week on 30 May 2025.

The exhibition, *65,000 Years: A Short History of Australian Art*, features more than 400 artworks, including important public and private loans and new commissions and will run until 23 November 2025.

The exhibition examines the rise to prominence of Indigenous art in Australia and the importance of Indigenous cultural and design traditions, knowledge and agency. Six major new artistic commissions by leading contemporary First Nations artists will also be unveiled as part of the exhibition.

Curated by Associate Provost Professor Marcia Langton AO, Ms Judith Ryan AM and Ms Shanyssa McConville in consultation with Indigenous custodians, the exhibition confronts the dark heart of Australia's art history.

Professor Langton said: "The ironic title of this exhibition refers to the belated and reluctant acceptance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art into the fine art canon by Australian curators, collectors, art critics and historians in the last quarter of the 20th Century."

"65,000 Years: A Short History of Australian Art" celebrates Indigenous art as it is increasingly recognised in galleries and collections around the world – as the greatest single revolution in

Australian art."

Under the artistic vision of Director of Art Museums Ms Charlotte Day, the revitalised museum will present exhibitions, programs and learning initiatives which explore key issues and cultural debates, inspired by the University of Melbourne's Art Collection.

The Potter has undergone extensive redevelopment by Wood Marsh Architects and features an impressive new entrance and improved spaces for the museum's leading collection-based learning programs made possible by the generous support of The Ian Potter Foundation and Lady Primrose Potter AC.

The exhibition is made possible through a donation from principal supporters Peter McMullin AM and Ruth McMullin, and the generosity and leadership of Mr Peter Jopling AM KC, Chairman of the Potter Museum of Art.

The exhibition includes work by groundbreaking artists such as William Barak, Lin Onus, Yvonne Koolmatrie, Albert Namatjira, Johnny Warangkula Tjupurrula, Emily Kam Ngwarra, Trevor Nickolls, Destiny Deacon, Yhonnie Scarce, Rover Thomas, Nonggirra Marawili, Wonggu Mununggurr, Minimini Numalkiyi Mamarika, Ricky Maynard and Julie Gough.

Professor Duncan Maskell, Vice-Chancellor at the University of Melbourne said: "Alongside the recently released *Dhoombak Goobgoowana: A History of Indigenous Australia* and the University of Melbourne, this program is an important exercise in truth-telling for the University, including histories of scientific racism, and the collecting of



Exhibition curators Shanyssa McConville, Ms Judith Ryan AM and Associate Provost Professor Marcia Langton AO.

ancestral remains.

"It will provide a vital platform for Indigenous storytelling and encourage dialogue about the importance of Indigenous culture, history and art."

Ms Day said The Potter is

uniquely positioned to realise such an exhibition at an important time in Australia's history.

"Since 1853, the university has collected works of art, cultural objects and records that form a profoundly important archive, and

for the first time these Indigenous collections will be exhibited together and interpreted by authoritative Indigenous scholars and other leading experts."

Running alongside the exhibition is a significant new educational initiative that will create resources for school and tertiary students and teachers to build a deeper understanding of Indigenous art, history and culture. These resources will continue to be available beyond the life of the exhibition.

The initiative is developed in partnership with the University of Melbourne's signature Ngarrnga Project which builds innovative curriculum resources in collaboration with Indigenous knowledge experts.

Ngarrnga is led Professor Melitta Hogarth, Associate Dean (Indigenous) in the Faculty of Education, in conjunction with Professor Marcia Langton AO, Professor Aaron Corn, Director of the Indigenous Knowledge Institute, and Professor Jim Watterston, Dean of the Faculty of Education.

Thames & Hudson also released a comprehensive publication titled *65,000 Years: A Short History of Australian Art*. Edited by Ms Ryan and Professor Langton, the book includes new writing by 25 leading thinkers across generations and disciplines.

Other partners whose generosity is enabling this significant program of work include foundational supporters Andy Zhang and Rainie Zhang and Naomi Milgrom AC, publication partner the Gordon Darling Foundation and supporters John Wardle and Judith and Leon Gorr.

Mural of the heart



A NEW mural celebrating Indigenous culture, community connection, and heart health was unveiled outside the Heart Research Institute (HRI), in Eliza Street, Newtown last week.

Bundjalung artist Deslyn (Dez) Marsh, founder of Nyumbar Education, led a team of three full-time and two part-time artists to complete the large-scale piece in just six days as part of Inner West Council's 'Perfect Match' program.

The mural celebrates Aboriginal storytelling and connection to Country. It also carries a powerful health message promoting awareness of heart health for Indigenous communities.

"Through this painting, I aim to celebrate the resilience of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, honour the rich cultural heritage that informs their healing practices, and contribute to the ongoing journey toward improved health outcomes for all," said Ms Marsh.

"The setting of the painting is based on Gadigal Country, a place that holds deep cultural and historical significance. The building



Uncle Raymond Weatherall, who performed the Smoking Ceremony and Acknowledgement of Country along with the artist Deslyn Marsh and her two sons (on the left).

depicted in the artwork symbolises a space for care, healing, and the gathering of knowledge. It reflects a fusion of modern medical advancements with traditional Indigenous wisdom, highlighting the importance of integrating both worlds in the pursuit of health and wellness.

"Throughout the painting are various bush tucker plants, which have long been used by Aboriginal communities for healing. These plants symbolise the bush medicines that continue

to play a vital role in the health and well-being of Aboriginal people, underscoring the importance of reconnecting with and revitalising these traditional practices."

Working alongside Elders from the Djurali Centre and HRI, Dez crafted the mural using ideas drawn from conversations with local figures like Associate Professor Uncle Boe Rambaldini, Acting Head of the Djurali Group at HRI.

"This mural is very important to all of us at HRI as it symbolises the strength of collaboration. We are passionate about addressing the wounds in our nation by challenging the way we understand one another," Uncle Bob said.

"We know that coming together respectfully has the power to change and heal, to address the wounds in our nation and to create a better shared future for all people who call Australia home."

"Thank you so much to our artist Dez and her family for this magnificent piece of work. It certainly brightens up our building, this street and Newtown – and not only highlights the talent of Aboriginal people but also highlights HRI's commitment to Aboriginal health and closing the gap."

WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY

HAVE YOUR SAY

PROPOSED INDIGENOUS PRIVATE ROAD NAMES

Western Sydney University is inviting Darug community members to share thoughts on Indigenous names for new private roads at our Hawkesbury campus.

These names are for the new Agri Tech Precinct - a hub for sustainable farming and research.

INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY CONSULTATION EVENT

Evening in July - date and venue in Richmond area TBC.
Dinner provided.
A gift card will be offered to thank participants.

Please RSVP by **Monday 30 June:**
a.dasler@westernsydney.edu.au

First Nations artists well represented at VIVID Sydney



VIVID Sydney kicks off this Friday 23rd May with a program full of 'must see' performances from some of our most compelling First Nations artists, not to mention the spectacular lighting display on the sails of the Sydney Opera House itself.

Everybody's favourite Blak Britney, Aria Nominated Miss Kaninna, will take over the Drama Theatre stage on Friday 30th May with her searing mix of hip-hop, neo-soul and R&B.

The 'take no prisoners' storyteller and proud Yorta Yorta, Dja Dja Wurrung, Kalkadoon and Yirendali woman first made waves in 2023, speaking truth to power with her debut single and anti-establishment anthem, *Blak Britney*.

ARIA award-winning First Nations hip-hop collective 3% will also be at the Opera House in the Utzon Room on Wednesday 28th May.

The hip-hop supergroup – whose name references the percentage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders in the Australian population – comprises the Yuin and Thungutti rapper, and host of triple j's *Blak Out*, Corey "Nooky" Webster, Noongar rapper and Baker Boy collaborator Dallas Woods, and soulful Gumbaynggirr singer-songwriter Angus Field.

On the following night Thursday 29th May the Gadigal outfit, Velvet Trip, will deliver a euphoric performance that pulses with colour, movement and boundless energy.

The musical brainchild of multi-talented Wiradjuri singer, songwriter and producer Zeppelin Hamilton, the band will celebrate the release of their forthcoming EP, *Glimmers*.

On Saturday 24th May Lutruwita/Tasmania-based artist, activist and proud Warnindhilyagwa woman, Emily Wurramara, will return to the Sydney Opera House, this time playing the Utzon Room.

Writing and singing in both English and Anindilyakwa language, Wurramara broke through with her 2018 debut *Milyakburra* and five years later followed up with *NARA* ("nothing" in Anindilyakwa language) which won the ARIA Award for Best Adult Contemporary Album and Film Clip of the Year at the J Awards.

Finally taking to the Concert Hall stage on Friday 29th May, Aotearoa's (new Zealand) Marlon Williams will present his groundbreaking fourth solo album, *Te Whare Tiwekaweke*, recorded entirely in the Māori language.

Joined by a local Kapa Haka group for its national premiere, the five-time Aotearoa Music Award winner will deliver heart-stopping vocals and an effortless blend of country, bluegrass, folk and synth-pop.

Also not to be missed is the VIVID Sea Gathering – the animated art of Walbunja and Ngarigo artist Cheryl Davidson that brings to life the story of Mirriyaal the creator who shaped the first humans, Tunku and Ngaadi that were in turn entrusted with the task of creation.

The immersive combination of animation, sound and story telling will be projected onto the rooftop of the National Maritime Museum nightly at 6pm from May 30 until June 14.

For program and booking details go to: www.vividsydney.com/



Emily Wurramara. Picture: Claudia Sangiorgi Dalimore.



Marlon Williams. Picture Ian Laidlaw



Hip Hop collective 3%. Picture Savitri Wendt



Miss Kanninna. Picture Michelle Grace Hunder.



Velvet Trip. Picture: @Macami.

Employment

EXECUTIVE • PROFESSIONAL • POSITIONS VACANT

New campus 'life-changing'



ABORIGINAL and Torres Strait Islander youths who have graduated from NRL North

Queensland House in Townsville and want to stay in the city after completing secondary school will now have a place to stay providing affordable accommodation.

A campus to house them has opened at the former Shalom student accommodation in Condon suburb.

It is an expansion of the Cowboys Community Foundation award-winning NRL Cowboys House and it will cater for a growing number of graduates in need of affordable housing.

Boarding students from many remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait communities have been living at NQ Cowboys House in Gulliver suburb and going home during school holidays.

This new facility will assist those graduates who have completed their secondary schooling and wish to continue their education and career journeys in Townsville.

NRL Cowboys House general manager Rochelle Jones said young people are finishing high school, finding jobs or tertiary study options but are then unable to find an affordable place to live.

"Since opening, more than 80 young people from remote communities have completed secondary education with us in Townsville, but finding affordable accommodation is the key barrier to them continuing their employment or education journeys," she said.

"Our graduates, many of whom are under 18, are still geographically separated from the support of their families and communities, so they're at risk of feeling isolated. The graduate campus allows them to stay connected with the House family as they grow into adults; it's the missing piece of the puzzle for their futures."

NRL Cowboys House is a unique, culturally-safe boarding facility removing distance as a barrier to equitable education for Indigenous students from remote communities.



Rahu Mara, Larnie Mara, Zaleah Mosby-Nona, Frederick Mick and Bobby Naawi.

It opened its boys campus in 2017 in Gulliver, followed by the girls campus in 2019 and now, the new graduate campus, which utilises the existing former Shalom student accommodation in Condon.

The semi-supported campus includes 20 accommodation rooms for graduate tenants to utilise for between 12-18 months.

It's envisaged by the end of their stay each graduate will emerge with a solid rental record, their provisional driver's licence, a steady career or education pathway and be fully prepared for their next stage in life.

Frederick Mick is one of the inaugural graduate house tenants. He graduated from high school last year and has earned an opportunity as an apprentice chef while working in the NRL Cowboys House kitchen.

"I'm very confident that without coming to Cowboys House I would never have had this opportunity. My love of cooking comes from my love of fishing; we would go down the creek or river and catch fish and then cook them on the fire. I spent a lot of time in the kitchen at the House helping and I thought, this could be something I could do. I was a snotty-nosed, ratbag kid. I didn't take things too seriously. But in the last couple of years I started to think more about the people like my mum, Rochelle, Jon, Derek and everyone here who's been helping me get to this point... I thought I gotta get my stuff together. My first night in graduate house I thought, wow this is going to be tricky! Especially with money, I have to budget and put money away for rent, food and transport and leave

all the fun stuff for after all that," Frederick said.

NRL Cowboys House is managed by the Cowboys Community Foundation, the community arm of the North Queensland Toyota Cowboys. Cowboys community foundation CEO Fiona Pelling said opening the graduate campus represented a significant expansion for the charity in its 10th year.

"The launch of our graduate campus marks a major milestone for the foundation, made possible through the generosity of our community, the hard work of our volunteers, and the commitment of our government and corporate partners. We're in the middle of a rental crisis, and for young people just starting out, finding a safe and affordable place to live is near impossible. Being able to offer our graduates a secure and

supported home environment as they take their next steps in life is genuinely life-changing," Fiona said.

Fiona said that for many of the graduates, returning home after completing year 12 isn't an option as some communities don't have the jobs, training options, or housing needed to keep moving forward.

"This campus gives them a stable base in Townsville, where those opportunities exist, while staying connected to their families, culture and the House community that continues to support them.

"We've been able to secure and furnish this property thanks to the generosity of our community. Every donation or volunteer hour helps create a future for a young person taking their next big step," she 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

*Koori Mail – Our ABC audit means our readership is guaranteed.
No other newspaper aimed at the Indigenous market can offer this!*

Advertising disclaimer: Budsoar Pty Ltd, publisher of the Koori Mail, reserves the right to alter, omit or change advertisements, and while every care is exercised, it is not responsible for errors or non-insertions. No adjustments will be made for errors unless attention is drawn to them within the first week of

publication. Advertisers agree that all advertisements published by Budsoar Pty Ltd may also appear on a relevant web site operated by Budsoar Pty Ltd.
Privacy Policy: Budsoar Pty Ltd collects your personal information to assist us in providing the goods or services you have requested, to process your

competition entries, and to improve our products and services. We may be in touch to let you know about goods, services or promotions which may be of interest to you. We may also share your information with other persons or entities who assist us in providing our services, running competitions or with other companies

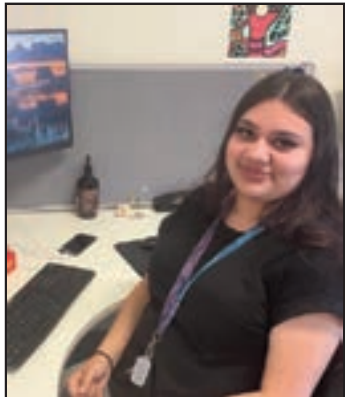
who provide prizes for competitions or reader offers. If you would prefer that we do not do this, please write to us at: admin@koorimail.com or phone (02) 66 222 666, or fax (02) 66 222 600. Mail can be sent addressed to General Manager, Budsoar Pty Ltd, PO Box 117, Lismore NSW 2480.

Community Services Traineeship Gippsland PHN Bairnsdale

Are you an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person and interested in undertaking a Community Services Traineeship? An exciting opportunity exists for a traineeship at Gippsland PHN. This traineeship will work within the Gippsland PHN Program Delivery Team in Bairnsdale.

THE TRAINEESHIP WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH:

- The ability to work full time and earn money while studying a Cert IV in Community Services.
- A nationally recognised qualification on completion of training.
- A mix of on job (in the workplace) and off job (in the classroom or online at work premises) learnings.
- Real life experience in assisting the community.
- Providing support to Health Professionals.
- Learning Contract and Project Management.



APPLY TODAY IF YOU:

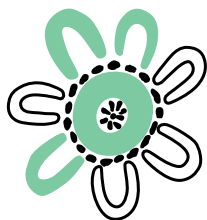
- Are Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander.
- Are committed to achieving a satisfactory completion of Cert IV in Community Services.
- Are reliable and responsible, with the ability to work as part of a team.
- Are willing to undertake and pass a police check.
- Have a desire to assist the Gippsland community.
- Have basic computer skills.

To apply: e-mail your cover letter and current resume to:
recruitment@gphn.org.au

- Applications must include a cover letter and current resume with two referees.
- For assistance and support in applying, contact: Emma Mason
03 5175 5420 or recruitment@gphn.org.au

Applications close Wednesday 4 June 2025.

Exciting opportunities Indigenous Family Liaison Officers



We are seeking highly capable Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander candidates who are enthusiastic, driven and motivated to assist in achieving the Courts' objectives and perform the key functions of an Indigenous Family Liaison Officer (IFLO).

IFLOs provide in-Court support to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples faced with family breakdown and/or who are accessing various services provided by the Courts. This an exciting opportunity to aid the Courts in ensuring improved safety outcomes and access to justice for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander litigants and families.

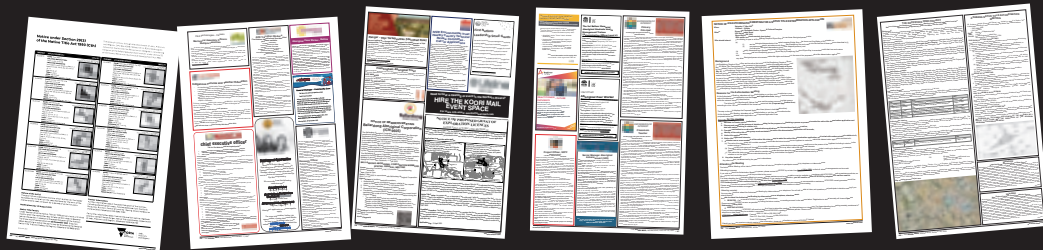


FEDERAL CIRCUIT
AND FAMILY COURT
OF AUSTRALIA
DIVISION 1 | DIVISION 2

For more detailed information on the advertised vacancy and what we have to offer, please refer to the Candidate Information Pack at
www.fcfcoa.gov.au/careers

Applications close 12 June 2025

For all your advertising needs



email: advertising@koorimail.com

The skills you already have, can help you make a positive impact as a Prison Officer.

Discover a rewarding and secure career as a Prison Officer. Apply now at and receive an \$8,000 sign on bonus*.



Corrections
Victoria

Hiring now

*Conditions apply.



Authorised by the Victorian Government,
1 Treasury Place, Melbourne





Human Resources Officer

Full Time (36.75 hours per week) Affirmative measures

The Wreck Bay Aboriginal Community Council (the Council) commenced operations in March 1987 and is currently in its 38th year of operation. The Council provides services to community members in relation to housing, social welfare, education, training and health needs. The Council also conducts other business enterprises for the economic/social benefit of the Community.

A position currently exists within WBACC Administration Services for a Human Resources Officer. The HR Officer will be employed for a period of 2 years; with the potential for further employment beyond that period. Therefore, we invite applications from suitably qualified candidates for the position of Human Resources Officer.

The ideal candidate will possess:

- Good computer literacy skills in Word and Excel
- Good communication skills & ability to relate to staff & clients;
- Attention to detail and initiative to organise & ensure completion of duties
- Enthusiastic, keen and have "can do" attitude
- Time management skills and a proactive approach & the ability to accept responsibility;
- Ability to demonstrate WBACC Values – Professional, Accountable, Reliable, Organised and Committed.

Some Duties include:

- Provide support for the WHS and HR Manager at WBACC
- Build strong relationships with internal and external stakeholders
- Assist with all staff training and development
- Assist with development and maintenance of WHS Policies and Procedures
- Assist with recruitment and onboarding of staff
- General office duties

It is essential that you have: or willing to obtain

- A current driver's license
- Current First Aid
- Current National Police Check (AFP)
- Current Working with Vulnerable Peoples Check
- Willingness to undertake a Certificate IV in Human Resources

The successful candidate will be a self-motivated and self-starting team-player, with a considerable amount of a "can do" attitude; and a proven track record of customer service capabilities; coupled with the essential quality of being a people person.

The position's salary and conditions are as per the WBACC's current "Modern Award".

If you feel that the above describes you, please forward your application, addressing the above with your resume in a closed envelope marked "Confidential" and "Position: Human Resources Officer" for the attention of:

Warren Rankin

WHS and Human Resources Manager

Wreck Bay Aboriginal Community Council

5 Bunaan Close, Wreck Bay Village, JERVIS BAY TERRITORY 2540

or email: hr@wbacc.gov.au

Applications will be received up until 12.00pm Friday 6 June 2025.

Please note: Applications lodged after the closing time and date will not be considered.

For more information, please contact Warren Rankin on (02) 4442 1029 during business hours.



Administration Officer

Full Time (36.75 hours per week)

The Wreck Bay Aboriginal Community Council (the Council) commenced operations in March 1987 and is currently in its 38th year of operation. The Council provides services to community members in relation to housing, social welfare, education, training and health needs. The Council also conducts other business enterprises for the economic/social benefit of the Community.

The Council currently has an exciting opportunity in our Administration Team. We are recruiting and welcoming applications from energetic, highly motivated persons to join our team as an Administration Officer.

The Council currently has an exciting opportunity in our Administration Team. We are recruiting and welcoming applications from energetic, highly motivated persons to join our team as an Administration Officer.

Position Details:

- **Affirmative Measures** – only Aboriginal People may apply
- **Full-time employment** – 36.75 hours per week
- AGA Level 5
- Two-year Contract term
- As a not-for-profit Charitable organisation, salary packaging is available, and you may be eligible for up to \$15,900 of your annual salary tax-free
- Provide payroll and administrative support
- Provide high level of organisational skills including time management and prioritisation. with the ability to coordinate and monitor timeframes ensuring deadlines are met
- Provide assistance at WBACC community events
- Adhere to all WBACC policies and procedures.

Qualifications, skills & experience:

- Senior First Aid Certificate or willingness to obtain
- Minimum Class C Drivers Licence
- Minimum Certificate IV Business (Administration), or equivalent
- Working with Vulnerable People Check (WWVP)
- National Police Check
- Administration experience
- High level of experience with Microsoft Office 365 and other associated programs
- Payroll experience
- Demonstrated experience in a comparable role with relevant qualifications in business administration or similar
- Demonstrated high level of ethical and professional behaviour including collaboration and confidentiality.


Please send Resumes with two current work referees and Cover letter addressing the essential criteria to hr@wbacc.gov.au or call Warren Rankin on 02 4442 1029 for more information.

Applications will be received up until 12:00pm Friday 6th June 2025.

BELONG TO A
TEAM MAKING A
REAL DIFFERENCE

GET PAID TRAINING, AN ATTRACTIVE
SALARY AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE
IN YOUR COMMUNITY.

OUR WORK MEANS **MORE.**

 Search for **Police Recruits**

Artwork by Rachel Treacy - This artwork represents all Aboriginal people throughout the state and symbolises the NSW Police Force and the Aboriginal Community's continuous efforts to work together in unity.

**YOU
SHOULD
BE A COP**



Community Alcohol Tobacco and Other Drugs Health Practitioner

Location: Roma QLD 4455 (Australia)
Remuneration: \$128,169 - \$137,918 p.a.

Your opportunity

The Senior Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs clinician is responsible for the provision of high-quality specialist community-based assessment, treatment, intervention, and education to individuals who have alcohol and other drug issues that are impacting on their lives and the lives of those around them. In this role you will provide outreach services to Roma and surrounding rural areas within the South West Hospital and Health Service in keeping with national and state standards and requirements. Work collaboratively and provide support and guidance as required, to internal and external stakeholders in the SWHHS.

The very nature of what we do and who we are is the real opportunity. Providing health care in the bush is full of challenges, however, it remains the most rewarding of human experiences.

Roma is the largest town in the Maranoa Region servicing a catchment population of almost 14,000 and offers an array of city-like conveniences with friendly country hospitality. Roma's newly built hospital hosts an extensive list of services with state of the art facilities. A great place for families in a region traditionally rich with oil and gas and farming industries, Roma boasts an abundance of sports, recreation and schooling options. With annual events such as Easter in the Country and the Roma Races, Roma is fast becoming renowned for its enthusiasm in bringing world class Festivals and Events to the local area, showcasing their community spirit; the same community feel that makes Roma a career move you will wish you had made earlier.

What we can do for you

Ultimately, we provide you a platform to leapfrog your career with more opportunities to experience a wider scope of practice with less competition due to location and population. Nowhere else will you experience the vast diversity of career advancement other than in rural and remote Queensland.

- Temporary accommodation may be available by negotiation!
- The opportunity to change people's lives and really make a difference!
- Join a large and reputable organisation where the opportunities are endless!

Be a part of something bigger

South West Hospital and Health Service are part of Queensland Health and partner with many influential and leading organisations to boost partnerships and deliver world-class health care and services. We service an area of more than 310,000 square kilometres, are bordered by three states and cover 21% of Queensland. We provide services to a population of 26,000 via 26 healthcare facilities, consisting of Hospitals, Multipurpose Health Services, Community Clinics, Aged Care Facilities and General Practice Services.

Take a look at what Roma has to offer! – www.romaqueensland.com.au

For more information on South West Hospital and Health Service - <https://www.southwest.health.qld.gov.au/>

Enquiries: Aurora Bermudez – 07 4624 2977

Job Ad Reference: SW634960

Application Details: <https://smartjobs.qld.gov.au/jobs/QLD-SW634960>

Closing Date: 01 June 2025

Aboriginal Cultural Support Awareness Advisor

Western Melbourne Area

\$124,888 - \$136,747 per annum (plus superannuation)

Fixed Term until 30 June 2026, Full Time

The Aboriginal Cultural Awareness Advisor provides advice to and builds awareness of Child Protection practitioners working with Aboriginal children and engages with Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations and community services organisations to improve outcomes through progression of self-determination reforms for Aboriginal children, families, and communities. While the role does not develop cultural plans, it provides important cultural expertise and guidance which supports child protection practitioners with the cultural planning process, and cultural plan compliance.

This crucial role enables Aboriginal children to remain connected to community, build resilience and support them remaining with family. The role will also focus on area improvement and implementation processes, aligning outcomes to relevant divisional policies and processes.

Special Measures:

This is a Designated role - Only Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people are eligible to apply.

Contact for further information:Nathan Sherlock,
nathan.sherlock@dffh.vic.gov.au or 0448 993 185

Reference number: DFFH/COPL/00666786

Applications close: 29 May 2025

For more information about this opportunity, please go to www.careers.vic.gov.au and download a position description to view departmental information, the selection criteria, our pre employment screening requirements and our Diversity and Inclusion commitments.

download now
KOORI MAIL NOW AVAILABLE



Available via Apple Newsstand, iTunes, Google Play for Android market or www.pocketmags.com

Latest issue & Back Issues just \$1.49 each.
 Subscribe for six months or one year at a reduced rate.
 Download to your iPad, iPhone, Android device, Mac, PC or Kindle Fire.

A digital subscription to **KOORI MAIL** is the perfect way to treat yourself



Ranger Coordinator – Full time, 12 months contract

We are currently seeking a Ranger Coordinator to develop and deliver the Eyre Peninsula (Nauo-Wirangu) Rangers Program.

South Australian Native Title Services Ltd has received funding from the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA) to establish the Eyre Peninsula (Nauo-Wirangu) Rangers Program with the Wirangu Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC, Nauo Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC and Wirangu and Nauo Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC.

This role will be based in the Port Lincoln region (SA).

The Ranger Coordinator will:

- Be responsible for supporting the establishment and operations of a Nauo-Wirangu Ranger team to work across the Native Title determination areas to protect and improve Country.
- Lead and manage the Rangers to help look after Country (land, water and sea), heritage, culture and people working under the guidance of the Nauo-Wirangu Advisory Committee and SANTS.
- Engage and collaborate with regional partners to identify works, facilitate land access to build the capability of the Ranger Team and strengthen partnerships.

Casual Rangers

Women are strongly encouraged to apply with the establishment of a Women's Ranger team a priority of the funding.

This role will be based in the Port Lincoln region (SA).

As a Casual Ranger you will

- be responsible for delivering the on-ground works and operations of a Nauo-Wirangu Ranger Program across the Native Title determination areas to protect and improve Country.
- help look after Country (land, water and sea), heritage, culture and people under the guidance of the Nauo-Wirangu Advisory Committee and Ranger Coordinator (SANTS)
- work as a team to look after threatened species and biodiversity, address impacts from weeds, feral animals and human visitation and land uses, apply cultural knowledge and two-way science, reintroduce fire through cultural burns, care for water ways and look after sea Country.

For further information on both roles please ring Berni Lawson at SANTS on 0437309753

For a copy of position description for both roles please email MariaA@nativetitlesa.org.

Applications close at 5:00pm on Friday 6 June 2025. Please include a cover letter and a copy of your current CV highlighting your experience.

All applications to be emailed to Maria Almeida at MariaA@nativetitlesa.org

BE YOUR OWN HEALTH HERO

GET YOUR VACCINATIONS UP-TO-DATE THIS WINTER!

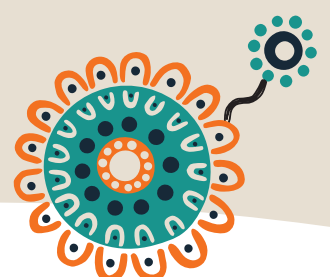
TALK TO YOUR GP OR PHARMACIST

NBMPHN.COM.AU/HEALTHHERO



Youpla Support Program

Free financial counselling in Cairns and Yarrabah



Were you affected by the ACBF or Youpla going broke?

As part of the Australian Government's Youpla Support Program, eligible former Youpla members can access free financial counselling from Mob Strong Debt Help.

Mob Strong will be visiting Cairns and Yarrabah in June to provide financial counselling to former Youpla members.

You can find out more on the Mob Strong Facebook page.



Australian Government

Youpla Support Program

0672NS_5597



NSW Environmental Trust Healthy Country Technical Review Committee - Call for Applications

The NSW Environmental Trust are looking for people willing to share their expertise and knowledge of Country and cultural practices to become members of the Healthy Country Technical Review Committee.

The purpose of this Committee is to advise the NSW Environmental Trust on major projects that prioritise healthy Country and recognise and value Aboriginal peoples, their traditional knowledge and practices and connection to Country, and to provide ongoing guidance to projects throughout their lifecycle.

The NSW Environmental Trust provide grants to the community, government, non-government organisations and industry to deliver projects that will help to restore, protect and enhance the NSW environment.

Your time and knowledge is valued and this is a paid position.

Applications now open.

Applications close 5pm Wednesday, 4 June 2025.

Contact the Trust

For further information about the committee or how to apply please visit www.environment.nsw.gov.au/healthy-country-trc or contact Emily from the Trust on (02) 8229 2895 or email info@environmentaltrust.nsw.gov.au.

NOTICE INITIATING NEGOTIATIONS WITH NATIVE TITLE PARTIES MINING ACT 1971 (SA) – SECTION 63M

TAKE NOTICE that:

Havilah Resources Limited ACN 077 435 520 of 107 Rundle Street, Kent Town SA 5067 (Havilah) is the registered holder of South Australian Exploration Licence (EL) number 7059 being the land described as follows:

EL7059

LAKE CHARLES AREA – Approximately 120 km NNE of Olary, which incorporates the following areas:
Commencing at a point being the intersection of latitude 31°10'S and longitude 140°30'E, then east to longitude 140°39'E, south to latitude 31°20'S, west to longitude 140°32'E, north to latitude 31°15'S, west to longitude 140°20'E, north to latitude 31°12'S, east to longitude 140°30'E, and north to the point of commencement.
AREA: 323 km2 approximately.

All the within latitudes and longitudes are geodetic and expressed in terms of the Australian Geodetic Datum as defined on p. 4984 of Commonwealth Gazette number 84 dated October 6, 1966 (AGD66) (the Land).

Havilah propose to carry out mining operations on the relevant Land. The general nature of the proposed mining operations that are to be carried out on the Land is as follows:

General nature of proposed mining operations.

Exploratory operations to determine the geological structure of the land and presence of economic mineralisation and/or water and without limiting the foregoing, such operations may include any of the following: Geophysical surveys including airborne and ground surveys of magnetics, gravity, electrical and seismic methods. Geochemical sampling including radon surveys, soil, rock chip and drainage. Shallow trenching and various drilling methods including auger, rotary mud, reverse circulation, aircore and diamond drilling. Havilah seeks to negotiate a native title mining agreement in respect of that part of the Land not already the subject of agreement(s) and the proposed mining operations with native title parties (if any) as provided for by Part 9B of the Mining Act 1971.

The proposed operations are authorised by the following tenements under the Mining Act 1971: Exploration Licence number 7059.

In this notice a reference to an exploration licence includes that tenement and any extensions, renewals, transfers, assignments, re-grants, or other dealings with that tenement. A reference to Havilah includes its successors and assigns. If, four months after this notice is given as required by the Mining Act 1971, there are no persons registered under the law of the State or Commonwealth as the holders of, or claimants to, native title in the Land, the relevant mining operator may apply ex parte to the Environment, Resources and Development Court for a summary determination authorising entry to the relevant Land for the purpose of carrying out mining operations on that Land, and the conduct of mining operations on that Land.

Any person who holds or may hold native title in the Land is invited to contact Havilah in respect of Land relating to the Havilah ELs for the purpose of:

- negotiating an agreement in respect of the proposed mining operations on the relevant Land; or
- requesting further information about this notice.

Havilah can be contacted at:
PO Box 3 Fullarton SA 5063 or by email or telephone.
Email: chris.giles@havilah-resources.com.au.
Telephone: 0428 610 557. Contact: Chris Giles.



Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (NSW) – Expression of Interest for membership

Do you want to make a contribution to Aboriginal cultural heritage management in NSW?

Do you have experience in working with other Aboriginal people to address significant cultural heritage management issues?

Aboriginal community members from across NSW are encouraged to express their interest in joining the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee (ACHAC).

This is an opportunity to contribute your cultural knowledge, lived experience, and leadership to support and strengthen how Aboriginal cultural heritage is respected, protected, and managed across the state.

ACHAC plays a vital role in advising the Minister for Heritage and the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water on matters relating to the identification, assessment and care of Aboriginal cultural heritage in NSW.

Expressions of interest are welcomed from Aboriginal persons right across the state to ensure broad cultural representation on the Committee, with up to seven (7) appointments being made to fill both current and future vacancies.

Nominations must be from, either:

- Nominees of Aboriginal Elders groups; or
- Native title holders within the meaning of the Native Title Act 1993 of the Commonwealth or registered native title claimants; or
- Aboriginal owners listed on the register under the Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983.

Your nomination must demonstrate:

- your involvement in cultural heritage matters in your local community and
- your understanding of cultural heritage management issues.

As a Committee Member you will be expected to:

- actively contribute to the work of the Committee
- provide effective and sound corporate governance
- provide leadership, vision and strategic direction
- provide innovative / new ways of thinking and
- promote and enhance the profile and integrity of ACHAC.

The Committee meets every two months in Parramatta, with an option for teleconferencing. Some out of session and/or off-site meetings may also be held.

Committee members are remunerated in accordance with NSW Government guidelines. Travel and accommodation costs to attend meetings are covered by the Department. Further information can be found in the nomination kit.

Nomination submissions

Please contact Pipeline Talent for a nomination form.

We ask that you submit the following to complete your initial nomination:

- completed, signed nomination form and where necessary, written evidence to support the criteria for which you are nominating
- your resume

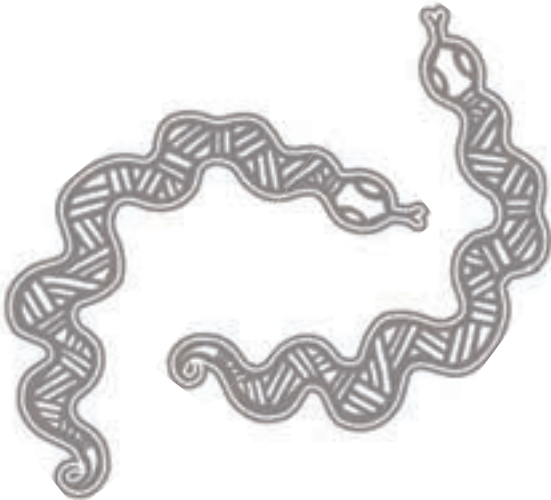
through the following website: https://www.pipelinetalent.com.au/candidate-portal/browse-all-opportunities/aboriginal-cultural-heritage-advisory-committee-member_471/

Your written consent to the nomination is required for your nomination to be accepted.

Enquiries

Name: Tiana Callaghan
Phone: 02 8001 6603 | 0476 538 307
Email: jobs@pipelinetalent.com.au | tiana@pipelinetalent.com.au
Website: <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/about-us/who-we-are/advisory-committees/aboriginal-cultural-heritage-advisory-committee>

Applications close: 11:59 pm Tuesday, 17 June 2025.



COMMUNITY DROP-IN SESSIONS and WEBINARs - ENVIRONMENT PLANS for PETROLEUM ACTIVITIES OFFSHORE PETERBOROUGH VICTORIA

Amplitude Energy* plans to drill a single gas development well and conduct gas field development work near our existing subsea infrastructure and within our existing offshore Otway Basin licence areas, offshore Peterborough, Victoria. These activities are part of our East Coast Supply Project (ECSP).

The first EP is called ECSP: Annie-2 Development Drilling EP and is for the drilling of the Annie-2 development well. The second EP is called ECSP: Wells Connection EP and is for the connecting of wells to our existing subsea pipelines. All activities under these two EPs will be carried out in Commonwealth waters, over 9kms offshore from the coast.

For more information about our proposed projects, please see our consultation page via the QR code, or at <https://amplitudeenergy.com.au/consultation>.

Drop-in sessions and webinars	Dates and times
Drop-in sessions No bookings required	10:00am to 12:00pm 1:00pm to 3:30pm 5:00pm to 7:00pm
Portland – Quest Portland 66 Julia St, Portland 305	Wednesday 4 June 2025
Warrnambool - Surf Life Saving Club 76 Pertobe Rd, Warrnambool VIC 3280	Thursday 5 June 2025
Peterborough Golf Club 20 Schomberg Rd, Peterborough VIC 3270	Friday 6 June 2025
Online webinars: please register via stakeholder@cooperenergy.com.au	
Register by 4:00pm EST Friday 23 May 2025	Tuesday 27 May 2025 5:00pm EST
Register by 4:00pm EST Monday 26 May 2025	Thursday 29 May 2025 5:00pm EST
Register by 4:00pm EST Friday 6 June 2025	Monday 9 June 2025 5:00pm EST Tuesday 10 June 2025 5:00pm EST

We encourage the attendance of Traditional Owners who may wish to be consulted on potential impacts on cultural values and sensitivities. Potential impacts and risks include temporary disturbance from subsea noise, seabed disturbance and the unlikely event of an oil spill. If you are a Traditional Owner that may be impacted by these proposed activities, please contact us via stakeholder@cooperenergy.com.au if you wish to arrange a special time in a suitable environment.

*Amplitude Energy is the name of the parent company of Cooper Energy (CH) Pty Ltd.

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.

BHP Administration Precinct, Mayfield North

Written submissions on this listing are invited from any interested person by 8 July 2025. Enquiries to Meggan Walker on (02) 9873 8500.

The Heritage Council is interested in receiving information in writing, by email, telephone or in person from the Aboriginal community or Aboriginal organisations on the potential Aboriginal significance of this place.

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/bhp-precinct

or direct your submission to:
Heritage Council of NSW
Locked Bag 5020
Parramatta NSW 2124



Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment – Invitation to Register Interest – HN1460-A

Heritage Now is undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for a proposed residential subdivision and development at 2 & 2A Bullecourt Avenue, Milperra in Canterbury-Bankstown LGA. Contact details for the proponent are: Mirvac c/- Mel Sheehy, Assistant Project Manager, Beveridge Williams & Co Pty Ltd, sheehym@bevwill.com.au. Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and places in the area are invited to register an interest in the community consultation process. The purpose of the consultation is to assist in the preparation of an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (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.

In accordance with the *Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010*, please send your registration to Dr Holly Winter (Heritage Now, 51 Reuss Street, Leichhardt NSW 2040, hello@heritagenow.com.au) by 4 June 2025.

Your details will be provided to Heritage NSW and the relevant Local Aboriginal Land Council, unless you specify that you do not want your details released.



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
16/583	OWEN, Tristan David	728152	178.85HA	32.5km SW'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 35' S: Long: 120° 50' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
20/938	NORTHERN DRILLING PTY LTD	732100	19.52HA	49.2km NE'ly of Cue	Lat: 27° 10' S: Long: 118° 17' E	CUE SHIRE

Nature of the act: Grant of amalgamation applications which authorises the applicant to explore for minerals.

Notification day: 21 May 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 **21 August 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. **21 September 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_26301

Coffs Harbour Jetty Foreshore



Artist's impression

Have your say on the future of the Coffs Harbour Jetty Foreshore

The NSW Government welcomes your feedback on the planning proposal for the Coffs Harbour Jetty Foreshore, which is now on public exhibition.

Revitalisation of the Coffs Harbour Jetty Foreshore Precinct provides the opportunity to increase usable public open space, expand tourism and hospitality offerings, support a thriving regional economy and provide diverse housing – all to benefit the Coffs community.



Have your say by 16 June 2025.
Scan the QR code to find out more.
nsw.gov.au/coffs-jetty-revitalisation



Notice Under Section 29 of the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth), Mining Lease Application 628 (Act 1992)

This notice is given in accordance with the requirements of Section 29 of the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*.

Description of the nature of the act

The Minister administering the *Mining Act 1992* intends to grant a mining lease under section 63(1)(a) of the *Mining Act 1992* (NSW) on land subject to native title.

Should a lease be granted, the lease holder may apply to renew or transfer the lease prior to it expiring (including partial renewals or partial transfers).

Note: If the lease is granted, the renewal, re grant or re-making (including partial renewals or partial transfers) or extension of the term of the lease may be valid pursuant to section 24MD(1) of the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)* without further notification, provided the requirements in section 26D(1) are satisfied.

Holder's details

Greencoast Environmental Rehabilitation Pty Ltd (ACN 125 784 189) is the applicant for Mining Lease Application 628 which, if granted would authorise the mining for chromite, rare earths, ilmenite, monazite, rutile and zircon for an initial term of up to 21 years.

Description of area that may be affected

The entire area of Mining Lease Application 628 that covers an area of about 14.85 hectares situated approximately 10 kilometres north northeast of the town of Nelson Bay, in the State of NSW as shown on the diagram below.

Name and postal address of person by whom the act would be done

The Minister administering the *Mining Act 1992*, PO Box 344, Hunter Region Mail Centre, NSW 2310.

How further information about the act 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 5 June 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.



First Peoples –
State Relations



Victorian Aboriginal Remembrance Service

31 May 2025, 11:00am

Second World War
Forecourt, Shrine
of Remembrance,
Birdwood Avenue,
Melbourne,
VIC 3001



DOING
THE
MOST
GOOD



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
Mining Lease	15/1921	MACPHERSONS REWARD PTY LTD	28.59HA	8.8km S'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 31° 1' S: Long: 121° 11' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Mining Lease	15/1922	FOCUS MINERALS LTD	89.30HA	23.3km SW'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 31° 3' S: Long: 120° 57' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Mining Lease	25/387	BLACK CAT (KAL EAST) PTY LTD	168.86HA	29.7km E'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 42' S: Long: 121° 46' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Mining Lease	26/874	NORTHERN STAR (KLV) PTY LTD NORTHERN STAR (SARACEN KALGOORLIE) PTY LTD	238.70HA	14.4km E'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 46' S: Long: 121° 37' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Mining Lease	29/448	HAWTHORN RESOURCES LIMITED LEGACY IRON ORE LTD HANCOCK MAGNETITE HOLDINGS PTY LTD	17632.11HA	98.6km W'ly of Leonora	Lat: 28° 59' S: Long: 120° 19' E	MENZIES SHIRE

Nature of the act: Grant of mining leases, which authorises the applicant to mine for minerals for a term of 21 years from notification of grant and a right of renewal for 21 years.

Notification day: 21 May 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 **21 August 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. The mining tenements may be granted if, by the end of the period of 4 months after the notification day (i.e. **21 September 2025**), there is no native title party under section 30 of the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)* in relation to the area of the mining tenements.

For further information about the act (including extracts of plans showing the boundaries of the applications), contact the Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004, or telephone (08) 9222 3518.

DMIRS 26302



NOTICE TO GRANT MINING TENEMENTS

NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) SECTION 29

The State of Western Australia HEREBY GIVES NOTICE that the Minister for Mines and Petroleum, C/- Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004 may grant the following tenement applications under the *Mining Act 1978*:

Tenement Type	No.	Applicant	Area*	Locality	Centroid	Shire
Exploration Licence	08/3785	A.C.N. 629 923 753 PTY LTD	20BL	36.9km SE'ly of Onslow	Lat: 21° 48' S: Long: 115° 25' E	ASHBURTON SHIRE
Exploration Licence	15/2044	FORRESTANIA RESOURCES LIMITED	9BL	36.1km W'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 30° 57' S: Long: 120° 47' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	15/2101	XIAO, Zhiqiang	1BL	12.5km N'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 30° 50' S: Long: 121° 8' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	29/1289	VIKING MINES LIMITED	16BL	31.4km NW'ly of Menzies	Lat: 29° 28' S: Long: 120° 48' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	30/588	BOX, Brodie Hamilton	42BL	134.9km W'ly of Menzies	Lat: 29° 19' S: Long: 119° 42' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Exploration Licence	51/2275	YERRIDA CO PTY LTD	51BL	61km SE'ly of Peak Hill	Lat: 26° 6' S: Long: 119° 1' E	MEEKATHARRA SHIRE
Exploration Licence	57/1460	BULGA MINERALS PTY LTD	70BL	45.8km SE'ly of Sandstone	Lat: 28° 12' S: Long: 119° 41' E	SANDSTONE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	57/1463	GUM CREEK GOLD MINES PTY LTD	43BL	66.5km N'ly of Sandstone	Lat: 27° 24' S: Long: 119° 29' E	SANDSTONE SHIRE
Exploration Licence	69/4281	EDE NATURAL RESOURCES AUSTRALIA PTY LTD	63BL	201.3km NE'ly of Balladonia	Lat: 31° 22' S: Long: 125° 34' E	DUNDAS SHIRE, KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Exploration Licence	77/3181	POLARIS METALS PTY LTD	296.70751BL	120.1km N'ly of Southern Cross	Lat: 30° 9' S: Long: 119° 7' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Exploration Licence	77/3182	POLARIS METALS PTY LTD	1,187.37287BL	122.7km NE'ly of Mukinbudin	Lat: 30° 6' S: Long: 119° 5' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Exploration Licence	77/3183	POLARIS METALS PTY LTD	2,376.43457BL	129.1km NE'ly of Mukinbudin	Lat: 30° 2' S: Long: 119° 5' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Exploration Licence	77/3184	POLARIS METALS PTY LTD	5,947.34302BL	143km NE'ly of Mukinbudin	Lat: 29° 56' S: Long: 119° 10' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Exploration Licence	77/3185	POLARIS METALS PTY LTD	2,079.37943BL	129.7km N'ly of Southern Cross	Lat: 30° 3' S: Long: 119° 17' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Exploration Licence	77/3190	POLARIS METALS PTY LTD	296.45454BL	106km N'ly of Southern Cross	Lat: 30° 16' S: Long: 119° 25' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Exploration Licence	77/3191	POLARIS METALS PTY LTD	1,185.67562BL	104.6km N'ly of Southern Cross	Lat: 30° 17' S: Long: 119° 28' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Exploration Licence	77/3271	FLEET STREET HOLDINGS PTY LTD	21BL	29.8km NE'ly of Southern Cross	Lat: 31° 2' S: Long: 119° 33' E	YILGARN SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	15/6952	NORTHERN STAR (SOUTH KALGOORLIE) PTY LTD	198.04HA	18.2km E'ly of Coolgardie	Lat: 30° 53' S: Long: 121° 20' E	COOLGARDIE SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	24/5841	BORROMEI, Rino	110.45HA	8.3km N'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 22' S: Long: 121° 19' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	24/5845	FLEMING, Leo Glenn	9.79HA	4.3km SE'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 27' S: Long: 121° 21' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	24/5847	NORTON GOLD FIELDS PTY LTD	5.06HA	7.8km NE'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 24' S: Long: 121° 23' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	24/5848	NORTON GOLD FIELDS PTY LTD	26.22HA	13.3km SE'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 27' S: Long: 121° 9' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	24/5850	GOLDTIMERS PROSPECTING PTY LTD	105.23HA	9.1km S'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 26' S: Long: 121° 5' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	24/5851	RAMSAY, Paul Brian	9.82HA	17.2km N'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 17' S: Long: 121° 16' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	24/5852	RAMSAY, Paul Brian	9.89HA	17km N'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 17' S: Long: 121° 16' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	24/5854	RAMSAY, Paul Brian	9.95HA	20.2km NE'ly of Ora Banda	Lat: 30° 15' S: Long: 121° 13' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	24/5855	RAMSAY, Paul Brian	4.52HA	8.4km NW'ly of Broad Arrow	Lat: 30° 23' S: Long: 121° 15' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	25/2870	COSTANZO, Patrick Natale	121.19HA	36.7km E'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 42' S: Long: 121° 50' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	25/2871	COSTANZO, Patrick Natale	104.48HA	36.9km E'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 44' S: Long: 121° 51' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	26/4830	SMART, Benjamin Wayne	74.00HA	29.4km NE'ly of Kambalda	Lat: 30° 59' S: Long: 121° 51' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	26/4831	SCATTINI, Darren Shane	86.54HA	13km E'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 45' S: Long: 121° 36' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	26/4832	SCATTINI, Darren Shane	31.16HA	13km E'ly of Kalgoorlie	Lat: 30° 45' S: Long: 121° 36' E	KALGOORLIE-BOULDER CITY
Prospecting Licence	30/1170	ADMIRAL GOLD PTY LTD	15.81HA	53.3km W'ly of Menzies	Lat: 29° 48' S: Long: 120° 30' E	MENZIES SHIRE
Prospecting Licence	30/1171	GIANNI, Leon Peter	4.85HA	46.5km W'ly of Menzies	Lat: 29° 38' S: Long: 120° 33' E	MENZIES SHIRE

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: 21 May 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 **21 August 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. **21 September 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

DMIRS_26300

download now
KOORI MAIL
NOW AVAILABLE

A digital subscription to
KOORI MAIL is the perfect way
to treat yourself



www.koorimail.com

Available via Apple Newsstand, iTunes,
Google Play for Android market or www.pocketmags.com

Latest issue & Back Issues just \$1.49 each.
Subscribe for six months or one year at a reduced rate.
Download to your iPad, iPhone, Android device, Mac, PC or Kindle Fire.

Sir Doug Nicholls Round



ADELAIDE

The guernsey depicts the story of past player, Graham Johncock's journey from childhood to playing in the AFL and his return home again. The design was created by Ceduna-based artist, Aunty Christine Tschuna.



BRISBANE

The guernsey was designed by Jordan Ah Chee (brother of Callum Ah Chee) in collaboration with the Ah Chee family to tell Callum's journey of family, football, family and focus on the connecting rivers as his path to Queensland and the Brisbane Lions.



CARLTON

Artists: Luke & Siena Tieri of Bayadherra. They are descendants of the James Family, their cultural origins are embedded in the Yorta Yorta Nation, Shepparton Victoria. Luke and Siena's grandfather Glenn James OAM is a respected Elder within community and is recognised as the first Indigenous man to umpire Australian rules football in the AFL. 'Bayadherra' in Yorta Yorta language means 'turtle'; Luke and Siena's spiritual animal totem reflective of their Aboriginal identity and heritage.



COLLINGWOOD

Designed by artist Lisa Thorpe from multiple Clans and Nations across Victoria. The design symbolises the unity of the Boonwurrung Baluk (people) to Biik (Country), much like the Magpie Army to Collingwood. It features a magpie's view of 'Y'alla-Birr-Ang' (Collingwood) at pre-colonisation.



ESSENDON

As part of The Long Walk School Programs and its connections with the community, the design symbolises the unity of the people, animals and the land in accepting each other and celebrating their differences. This guernsey was designed by two year 8 students Lucas Waddleton, and Lawson Richards (non-Indigenous) who came together to collaborate on ideas and artistic choices.



FREMANTLE

Designed by one of Walyalup's most exciting small forwards Jeff Farmer – alongside his father Jeff Farmer Snr, mother Iris and in collaboration with Roger Hayden. The design pays tribute to Farmer's footballing journey and the history of Indigenous people in the Great Southern of Western Australia.



GEELONG

Designed by Meeza Humphries, with contributions from siblings Lawson, Stephanie and Joshua. 'Saltwater Stories', depicts a typical day in the Kimberleys. The animals symbolising the value of culture, not only to the people, but also the water life.



GOLD COAST

Designed by Christine Slabb and Kyle Slabb. The guernsey is inspired by Garrara, the language name of a long lagoon that ran south to north along what is today known as the Gold Coast. Represented by the feather motifs are Bilin-Bilin (rainbow lorikeet), Dun-Dun (swamp pheasant) and Mibin (eagle). Ancestors of kinship groups are represented by the human-like figures. The circular symbols represent the sacred and cultural camps that local Aboriginal people inhabit and maintain.



GWS

Designed by proud Gomeri man Kayleb Waters, 'Maaluga Ngarrylanha' – Sitting as One – tells the story of unity and the leadership the Giants take in reconciliation and moving forward. Featuring an artistic kangaroo/bandaar, the sacred animal symbolises the strength and patience we need as a nation to move forward as one.

2025 guernsey launch!



HAWTHORN

Hawthorn's guernsey celebrates 100 years of the club, designed by Jamie Bennell. The design is centred around the Hawk, which symbolises power and strength with an eye for hunting down prey and protecting its nest. The nest is surrounded by the club's wider community, volunteers, members and fans who make the Hawks whole.



MELBOURNE

Artist Kevin Kropinyeri (father of Melbourne player Kysaiah Pickett) is from the Ngarrindjeri Nation of the lower River Murray, Lakes and Coorong region in South Australia. His guernsey design features traditional "defence" artwork inspired by weaving and the Ngarrindjeri translation on the guernsey translates to: 'All hearts beat true for the red and the blue', celebrating unity and shared passion through a proud cultural lens.



NORTH MELBOURNE

Inspired by senior Wurundjeri Elder Aunty Joy Murphy Wandin AO and brought to life by Wemba Wemba, Gunditjmara, Ngadjonji and Taungurung artist Emma Bamblett, the design titled 'walert morrok goattak', which means possum skin cloak in Woi Wurrung language, honours the club's existence on Wurundjeri Country for 100 years and Aunty Joy's connection to the club for over 10 years.



PORT ADELAIDE

The Yartapuulti Football Club (Port Adelaide) guernsey is designed by AFL legend Gavin Wanganeen. The design reflects his cultural connection to the Milky Way, representing all the people encompassing the AFL and AFLW programs, the fans, and all the staff that make up the club.



RICHMOND

Richmond's Dreamtime guernsey has been designed by Tasmanian, Rhyen Mansell and his family. The guernsey tells our story and the story of our Country – Lumaratanana down to Larapuna. We are Pakana people of north-eastern Lutruwita (Tasmania). Our totem is the minungkana (yellow tail black cockatoo).



ST KILDA

The artwork tells the story of designer Nasiah Wanganeen-Milera's upbringing and football journey in South Australia, and his yawa (journey) to Euro-Yroke. The design's three central elements feature large gathering symbols representing the defender's two cultural groups – the Narungga and Kokatha peoples. The third, positioned at the heart of the guernsey, symbolises Moorabbin, with surrounding motifs signifying the club's current First Nations players.



WESTERN BULLDOGS

The guernsey celebrates the club's reconciliation journey, honouring First Nations players and their teammates. It prominently features a meeting place symbol, signifying the club as a gathering point. It imitates a map layout, moving from Tasmania (bottom red), Victoria (bottom white), South Western Australia (mid blue), North Western Australia (upper red), to Central Australia (upper white). Each section represents the Country of the First Nations players and the significant people who have supported them throughout each of their journeys.



SYDNEY

The artist, Jordan Ardler, is a proud Bidiagal woman from the Aboriginal community of La Perouse. Jordan created the artwork 'Wuri Wuri', translating from Dharawal meaning "Sunshine", the artwork reflects the Sydney Swans community, and is an acknowledgement of the Gadigal and Bidiagal lands on which Sydney Swans HQ stands.



WEST COAST

Designed by artists Kevin Wilson (Wongutha) and Taryn Woods (Maduwongga, Noongar). This artwork is a celebration and tribute to the strength of the West Coast Eagles First Nations players. Created in collaboration with current players, the artwork weaves together the past, present, and future of the club with their personal stories. It was created to honour the team and its players by visually interpreting their stories and uniting them into one piece.

25 First Nations icons in '25

Shaun Burgoyne

With more than two decades as a correspondent with the *Koori Mail*, PETER ARGENT is looking back on the sporting careers of Indigenous stars across the wide world of sport across the 2025 calendar year.

The AFL's longest serving Indigenous footballer, Shaun 'Silk' Burgoyne racked up 407 games across two clubs, in a distinguished AFL playing career that lasted a phenomenal 21 seasons.

Burgoyne, from Kokatha and Awarai heritage, was born in Darwin, Northern Territory, moving with his family to Port Lincoln when he was young and played at the famous Indigenous football nursery in Port Lincoln, Mallee Park.

Balanced, smooth moving and innately skilled, he is the fifth player in the VFL/AFL history to get to the 400-game milestone, and the only VFL/AFL player so far to have reached the landmark playing for two different clubs.

A true big-game player, Burgoyne was at his best when it counted the most.

He played in 35 AFL finals across his career, currently third all-time behind another Hawk, Michael Tuck (39) and Geelong's Joel Selwood (40).

Along with Cyril Rioli he holds the record for First Nations footballer as a four-time AFL premiership player.

His first was back in 2004, at his foundation AFL club, Port Adelaide, in its breakthrough 2004 flag, alongside his older brother Peter. The pair were among a quartet of Indigenous AFL greats in the Powers' premiership winning team, including Gavin Wanganeen and fellow Mallee Park footballer from Port Lincoln, Byron Pickett.

After the anguish of being involved in the 2012 Grand Final Hawks defeat after being favourites, Burgoyne was a member of the most successful era of the Hawthorn Football Club, playing in three successive flags from 2013 – defeating Fremantle in the first, Sydney in 2014 – and West Coast Eagles in 2015.

Shaun and Peter Burgoyne are among just a handful of siblings that have played upwards of 200 AFL games, with Peter finishing on 240 games at Port from 1997–2009.



Shaun Burgoyne celebrates a goal during the Sir Doug Nicholls round. Picture Peter Argent

Originally drafted to the Power back in the 2000 AFL draft with pick number 12, after a year in the state-league, Shaun Burgoyne made his AFL debut against St Kilda in round three of the 2002 campaign.

He moved across to Hawthorn, after 157 games in the black, white and teal and at the time being vice-captain of Port Adelaide, for the 2010 campaign.

He played his 400th game coincidentally against Port Adelaide, in round 16 (July 3) of the 2021 season.

He retired at the completion of that year.

Team first across his career, and versatile as well, interestingly Burgoyne never won best and fairest honours, although he was an All-Australian in 2006.

He played in four Indigenous All-Stars games across his career, captaining the 2015 team and winning the Polly Farmer medal in that game.

From a multi-generational football family, three eras of the Burgoyne clan have played SANFL league football.

His father, Peter senior played a handful of league games for the Magpies in the

1970s, before returning to the bush and becoming a star on the Eyre Peninsula.

Both Peter and Shaun played in the traditional black and prison bars of Port Adelaide.

Peter's three lads, Jase, who is excelling for the Power AFL side, along with Rome and Trent have all played SANFL league football at Alberton.

Ky, the oldest of Shaun's boys, who is currently playing Under 18s with West Adelaide, dipped his toe in at SANFL league level with Port Adelaide in 2024.

Burgoyne has become an

important representative for the Indigenous Australian sporting community. He was an inaugural member of the Indigenous AFL Players Advisory Board when it was established in 2011 and was appointed Chair of the Board in 2016.

He is a part of a huge football family as Shaun is married to Amy (née Phillips), who is the daughter of Port Adelaide legend (and Collingwood footballer) Greg Phillips and the sister of WNBA and AFLW superstar Erin Phillips. Together they have four children – Nixie, Leni, Ky and Percy.

Krstel shines

By PETER ARGENT



PLAYING interstate football for her home state for the first time, Halls Creek export Krstel

Petrevski was one of the star performers for the WAFL women's team in their second annual clash with the SANFLW at Adelaide Oval on Saturday, May 3.

Looking the better outfit across the majority of the contest the WAFLW team just failed to hold on for victory against the Croweaters.

After leading at both the half time and three-quarter time breaks, the Western Australian girls went down in a close affair by eight points – 6.5 (41) to 4.9 (33) – despite having more scoring shots.

Petrevski, now 24 and playing an inside midfielder, was high amongst the Sandgropers' best players, winning 23 disposals (11 kicks and 12 handballs), along with being strong defensively, having nine tackles. In an impressive all-round game, she also had an equal-match high seven tackles.

"We gained a lot of respect from that team performance," WAFLW coach Jack Schwarze explained.

"Although it was very frustrating and flat in the rooms post-game.

"Krstel's ability with her hands in traffic is special.

"Her stoppage craft is dynamic and elite.

"She was in our best couple of players in her first state game.

"What was originally called the WAWFL became the WAFLW back in 2019.

"This is the first year all nine WAFL clubs have women's teams in the competition with the Perth Demons starting this season."



Krstel Petrevski takes a kick. Pictures: Peter Argent



Krstel Petrevski.

From the Kimberley, after starting her local football in the VFL and spending time at Claremont, Petrevski won the best and fairest award in her opening season with Subiaco last year. Petrevski has been racking up possessions at will in the WAFLW women's competition this season,

including 34 and 31 touch performances against East and South Fremantle.

"First time wearing the black swan WA state guernsey was special," Petrevski told the *Koori Mail*.

"It was a wholesome experience and was heartbreaking to lose all in one.

"For a lot of the game we played pretty good footy and I was proud of the brand of footy the girls produced.

"It was about making the most of the moments, which SA did at critical time.

"My dream is to have another crack at AFLW footy, but currently the goal is to win a flag with Subiaco.

"I'm a proud Kija and Jaru women who loves my culture and the land. From my creative

side, I love my art, as it's special to tell stories through art.

"I also have a wonderful job as a First Nations coordinator at the West Coast Eagles."

Previously Petrevski has been on both the Melbourne and West Coast AFLW lists.

She made her debut in a semi-final for the Demons in 2020 and played 10 games across the two clubs between 2020 and 2022 – season seven.

Also noted for her creative skills, in 2021 Petrevski designed the Melbourne AFLW Indigenous guernsey worn against Collingwood in Round five of the 2021 AFLW season.

She was also commissioned to design the Melbourne Storm Indigenous jersey worn in Round 12 against Brisbane Broncos in the 2021 NRL season.

It's time to give the women a proper go

Women's AFL is the fastest growing sport in Australia and you would expect is being supported across the country as much as possible. So why are pathways still being broken with no answer but – it's always been like this!?

James Jacobi from the *Eyre Peninsula Advocate* stated in his article, that AFL policy legislates that outside of South Australia

females aged 14 or above are not allowed to play in a league, that is not allowed to exclusively play a competition designated for females.

However, in SA there does exist a SANFL exemption where females aged 14 can apply for a once-off exemption to play under 16's football.

Apparently the reason this is in place is for safety and insurance purposes.

It just goes to show, how caught up we can get in our own bubbles; in Victoria the story of our current AFLW players is sold, they were the players, who were told they could never play footy past the age of 14 and they could no longer play with the boys. We are sold this story like it is a thing of the past.

We are sold the story of AFLW players out there in junior leagues, doing what past AFLW players couldn't and how beautiful it is to see them shining and playing football at any age now.

Sadly, it turns out it is only if you have a large group of women and non-binary people wanting to play AFLW, which enables you to create a team and/or league that is designated to females that you can continue to play football past the age of 14-15.

The Western Eyre Football League's hands are tied. The policy comes from AFL and SANFL and they can not allow the girls to play in their teams. They were told by the AFL there was nothing they could do about it too.

Sharing the news with these players has been handled poorly too, Tumby Bay vice-captain Lani Cocks was told on the final siren of a game this season that she was no longer able to continue playing with the team she had played with since she was seven. She was named best on ground in that game. Others are still finding out at games around the country and they are shattered.

Western Eyre players Hope Elliot, Kailee Colbung-Ware, Kirralee Johns and Kianne Colbung-Ware were not permitted to play in their Western Eyre teams, two have represented SA and all four played for Norwood, they are clearly talented players. They are heart broken as you can imagine.

Once again the pathways for our young players are cut. This makes complete sense why rural and remote communities continue to be left out of drafts, talent not even getting a look in. We can surely do better by them, it's time to revisit that policy.



Shelley Ware

Sam hits 150 games

By PETER ARGENT



IN the round-eight match in the rural Victorian town of Ballarat, heart and soul Power footballer Sam Powell-Pepper notched up his landmark 150th AFL match.

He has endured plenty both on and off the field to live his dream as an AFL footballer.

Powell-Pepper reached the milestone with greater appreciation than most, especially after round seven, 2024, when he injured his ACL and went through the rigours of a full reconstruction.

"(It's been) one year since I did my knee," Powell-Pepper said in a recent interview at Port Adelaide.

"Now that I think about it, that year went quick ... but it also was a grind as well, a slow grind.

"I'm happy where I am now ... so let's keep going.

"All the cobwebs are out now and I am



Sam Powell-Pepper greets fans.

starting to play some decent footy (again)."

Powell-Pepper played his 150th AFL game eight years after making his debut against Sydney at the SCG back on March 25, 2017.

He is also a husband and a father now, partner of Brya and doting dad to Frankie and Billie.

Regarded as the barometer of Port

Adelaide's form on the football field, Powell-Pepper's strong attack on the ball and his physical presence are his trademarks.

He has the ability to impact for his team on the scoreboard, to kick goals especially when his team needs a lift.

Powell-Pepper was born in Perth, having First Nations heritage through his mother Maureen's side of the family. He is a Balladong and Whadjuk Noongar man.

After playing WAFL football with East Perth, while still an Under 18, Powell-Pepper was drafted by the Port Adelaide Football Club as their second selection and number 18 overall in the 2016 national draft.

He was an outstanding junior, playing with Western Australian in the national underage championships and was one of the outstanding athletes at the draft combine.

Powell-Pepper also had a number of off-field battles to overcome in his youth.

Back in the 2019 Sir Doug Nicholls round, Powell-Pepper designed the Indigenous guernsey that the club proudly wore against Hawthorn.

The Bears are back

The red and black of the famous North Sydney Bears, one of the NRL's foundation clubs will return to the rugby league competition in 2027 playing out of Western Australia and known as the Perth Bears.

The old North Sydney Bears finished as an NRL force back in 1999. The following year they merged with arch-rivals Manly Sea-Eagles to form the Northern Eagles. That unstable joint venture only lasted until the end of the 2002 season and after that Manly returned to the NRL as a stand alone club while North Sydney only remained in lower grades.

Many of those great Bears players from the past would be very happy and excited about them returning and that those red and black colours will be back on the field week to week. Famous names like Greg Florimo, Mark Graham, Gary Larson and Billy Moore would be stoked to see them return to action. The Bears is also the club of the NRL's most prolific try-scorer and record holder, the late great, Ken Irvine with 212 tries. He's currently being chased by Indigenous South Sydney star, Alex Johnston, who's on 196 currently.

There has always been a huge push to have the Bears resurrected back into the NRL and for a few



KRIS FLANDERS

seasons it was thought that they could return on the Central Coast of NSW. But after negotiations with the Western Australian Government an agreement was reached and earlier this month the Bears were reinstated back into the NRL.

Last year I wrote a column about the proposed expansion of the game and who the possible 18th team might be and in that column I penned my thoughts that I'd love to see the Bears return to the elite action. I also wrote in that column that the NRL should really consider having a club on the west coast of Australia. Turns out now that the Bears will be coming back and they'll play out of Perth.

The Western Reds were one of three new sides introduced back in 1995 and their home ground was the old WACA ground. For a new club playing deep in the heart of AFL territory, they built up quite a good following in the west. I honestly think if the league at the time had stuck with the Reds, they would have been a top team by now.

However, the Reds along with other new clubs were axed when the game got back together after the Super League war in 1997. I went to a game at the WACA in 1996 and the Reds had great local support. There are a lot of ex-pats from NSW living in WA who grew up on rugby league and there's a local competition run by the WARL and ARL in the west.

The NRL has held many successful matches in Perth over the years and most recently there was a double-header held at the brilliant Optus Stadium with Cronulla playing Manly while South Sydney tackled North Queensland. WA has also hosted State of Origin games in 2019 and 2022. On the 18th of June, NSW will play Queensland in Game Two of this year's Origin series there and again in 2028.

The NRL is serious about making Perth a success in rugby

league. The Bears will have that support from NSW and the North Sydney group that pushed for their reinstatement to the league. At the announcement of the Bears return to the NRL, there was also talk that a match would be taken back to their spiritual home at North Sydney Oval.

How good would that be? An NRL match with the Bears playing in their famous red and black strip. It's one of the most picturesque grounds in the country with a beautiful old grandstand, grassy hills and that famous old figtree behind the in-goal area. Could you imagine the crowd in 2027 when that happens? The NRL would be mad not to make that return match against their cross-town arch rivals and former joint partners Manly.

Now that Bears are back there will be much talk about who some of the first player signings will be and can they jag some big name marquee players to boost that return? The other big question will be who will coach the new side in 2027?

There will be sceptics and those who say the NRL has made the wrong call. But I genuinely think that the old Western Reds were growing and if given the chance instead of being axed would have been a strong club today.

Don't forget all those people who said Melbourne Storm wouldn't work in Victoria. The Storm are now multiple premiership winners and are part of the sporting landscape in Melbourne. The same could be said about how Sydney Swans would never be successful in NSW but they're a mainstay in the harbour city and Sydney also has a successful and strong GWS Giants team in old rugby league heartland. These ventures can be successful if given the right support and time.

Meanwhile, the supporters of Canterbury, St George-Illawarra, Newcastle and North Queensland will be screaming Viva Las Vegas!

The NRL has announced those four clubs as the teams to continue the code's tradition of opening the NRL season in Las Vegas, Nevada at Allegiant Stadium. In 2026 the Bulldogs will play the Dragons while the Knights will tackle the Cowboys. The English Super League clash will be played between Hull KR and Leeds.

That means international fans and local Americans will see the likes of Josh Curran for the Bulldogs, Tyrell Sloan for the Dragons, Bradman Best for the Knights and Reuben Cotter for the Cowboys among other talented Indigenous NRL stars.

Olivia is aiming to top 2024

By **KRIS FLANDERS**



THE Roosters will be crowing loudly again if star forward, Olivia Kernick, can reproduce her scintillating 2024 form when the NRLW season kicks off again in July.

Kernick had a year to remember from playing Indigenous All Stars, to representing NSW at State of Origin level to being awarded the Dally M Medal as the game's best player along with a premiership win for the Roosters with two tries.

Kernick recalls 2024 with great fondness. "Winning the Dally M really didn't hit me straight away with what the award actually meant, the more I reflect on it, I'm just super proud of it and what I achieved last year on the field. Makes all the sacrifices and hard work worth it. I'm so grateful to be in the position I am," Kernick said.

"In that Grand Final we just had a game plan and executed it perfectly in the first half to lead 24 nil, but the Sharks clawed their way back in. We had to dig deep and so glad that we were able to come away with the title. We've been a very tight club the last few years and we were building to something special last season. When we won in 2021, it was huge but it was my debut year, so I don't think I knew how much hard work and effort is required, so perhaps didn't appreciate it as much. So last year was so special for us and I know I appreciated it more."

2025 has already been a top year for the talented second-rower/lock. A win with the Indigenous All Stars against the Maori and helping the Blues to wrap up the State of Origin series within two games.

Kernick was simply brilliant for the Blues in Game Two as she scored two tries, was brutal in defence, too good in attack and claimed the Player of the Match honours as NSW defeated Queensland 26-6.

The next challenge is making sure that the Roosters can go back-to-back as NRLW premiers this season. It's a mountain that Kernick and her team are ready to climb.



Olivia Kernick of the Blues scores a try during the Women's State of Origin game two match between the NSW Blues Women and the Queensland Maroons Women at Allianz Stadium in Sydney, Thursday May 15, 2025. (AAP)

"We are here to defend our premiership, we are keen to get back together as a unit and train hard. We know that other teams will be gunning for us, that's what happens when you win the comp. I feel that playing with the Roosters we've always had a target on our backs anyway, the pressure won't be too different, but I'm keen for it. It's also going to be super exciting with the expansion with two new clubs in the Warriors and Canterbury, I think both clubs will be strong. It's another good year ahead for the NRLW," Kernick declared.

The 2024 Dally M Second-Rower of the Year embarks on her 5th NRLW season at the Roosters. With her big game experience along with her leadership skills, Kernick is an integral part of the famous Tri-colours club.

Blessed with incredible size and speed, Kernick also has the uncanny ability to slip an incredible offload in defensive traffic which makes her an unstoppable force.

"We do a fair bit of offloading drills at training but honestly I think it's cause I'm so tall and that can make it hard to wrap the ball up, if I can get an arm free then I'll try to get a pass away. It's good skill to have in my game," Kernick said. "I love being amongst the leadership group at the club, I was very fortunate to be vice-captain last year which was a big honour for me. It means a lot to know that Strangey (John Strange – Roosters Coach) thinks highly of me to be a leader and have that big voice within the team and role that I want to work on."

In February this year, Kernick had the privilege of again representing the Indigenous All Stars. Like Dane Gagai, Kernick has heritage from both cultures flowing through her veins.

A proud Wiradjuri woman from her father's side, Kernick also has Maori connections from her mother.

"Being born and raised here in Australia,

I've really grown up with my Indigenous heritage. I want to spend some more time learning more about the Maori side as I've missed that. I think that's why I love the All Stars so much, it's an important time for me and my family as well. Such a big family who've always supported me and always have a lot of love around me and no matter what jersey I'm wearing, they're all behind me," Kernick said.

"It's not just a game of footy for us, it's the experience of that whole week leading up to it, it allows me to become more connected to my Indigenous and Maori sides. I'm lucky enough to have played for both teams. Every time I play I get more confidence to go and learn more about myself, help my Mob and help family. The players always say we wish we had more time in this All Stars get together. I always feel very culturally safe within those camps," Kernick said.

Kernick also returned to Australian colours earlier this year when the Jillaroos thrashed the English in Las Vegas, Nevada, as part of the NRL's season opener.

She says it was a great feeling to get back in the green and gold after controversially being left out of the national team at the end of 2024, despite being one of the game's best forwards, a Dally M Medal winner and a premiership winner.

"It definitely stung to miss out on an Australia jumper for sure. A tough pill to swallow, but the silver lining is that a bit of resilience never hurts. The bright side was that time off gave me the opportunity to go back to New Zealand after such a long time and see family and play footy in a Maori tournament there," Kernick reflected.

"I was grateful to be back in around the girls and it's always an honour to be in that Jillaroos jersey, I never take it for granted. Plus I loved being coached by Jess Skinner again, does such an amazing job and always great to see a strong Indigenous woman in an elite role and achieving her goals too. She's paving the way for young black girls to aspire to be in that space and in coaching positions."

Blues on track to take out Origin series



Tamika Upton of the Maroons is tackled by Kezie Apps of the Blues during game two of the Women's State of Origin series between the New South Wales Blues and Queensland Maroons at Allianz Stadium on May 15. (Getty Images)

By KRIS FLANDERS



DOMINANT.

That's the best way to describe NSW as they wrapped up the Women's State of Origin series against Queensland in front of a vocal Sydney crowd 26-6. A boisterous Blues crowd of 16,026 cheered home their heroes. The Blues outclassed the Maroons in back-to-back matches after a similar performance in Game One.

Despite the Maroons scoring first through star fullback, Tamika Upton, it was the only time that the visitors really looked like scoring as a Blue wall in defence was built that turned away Queensland throughout the contest.

It was a very heavy track as pouring rain left the ground with wet surfaces across the field, however, it didn't stop NSW producing some slick football and passing game that finished with some wonderful tries normally seen in drier conditions. The Blues scored 5 tries to the Maroons' solo try.

Reigning Dally M medallist and Indigenous All Star, Olivia Kernick, loves playing in elite games in Sydney, the scene of her two-try effort for the Roosters' win in the 2024 Grand Final. She reproduced that effort by scoring another double for the Blues in what's becoming a typical brilliant performance on the biggest stages. Kernick scored tries in the 29th and 61st minutes of play.

The Blues lock played the full

70 minutes and made the most tackles for NSW with 35 while she ran all night with 242 metres made, the highest for both teams on the night, which also included 10 tackle busts. Kernick also had a try assist early when she put fellow forward, Simaima Taufua, into a hole for NSW's first try.

"I'm so stoked and so proud of the girls out there. We worked so hard and yeah we definitely deserved it," Kernick said at fulltime.

Flashy winger and Indigenous All Star, Jaime Chapman, scored a try that again showed off her incredible speed and footwork as she bamboozled Queensland fullback Tamika Upton, on her way to the tryline. 'Chappo' made 81m from 8 runs.

She later left the field in the 55th minute succumbing to severe cramps but the damage was already done on the scoreboard.

For the Maroons, the Indigenous contingent was lead by lock Keilee Joseph who played 52 minutes and ran for 54m from 8 runs. Joseph was at her tackling machine best again with 39 hits made, the third highest for Queensland.

Winger, Jasmine Peters, who missed the entire second half of the opening match through concussion, responded by playing the full game in Game Two. She made 87m from her 11 runs, the second highest for her state, while making 5 tackles.

Tamika Upton left the contest after 49 minutes after injuring her

hip while trying to stop NSW's Jaime Chapman for her try. Before then, Upton made 63m from 8 carries.

At fulltime, NSW playmaker and halfback Jesse Southwell, who had a magnificent game in her own right, was full of praise for Olivia Kernick.

"Amazing. You can see why she won the Dally M last year. She's absolutely incredible. I love playing with her, she's just so talented, her ball skills are second to none. She's like another half out there," Southwell said.

While in the press conference, successful NSW captain and Roosters teammate Isabelle Kelly backed up those sentiments regarding Kernick's gold class performance.

"She really understands footy and she's really smart, she loves to learn. She asks a lot of questions and she's well respected within our group. I think when Liv talks, everyone really listens, she's a really great leader within our Blues and obviously at the Roosters too. I had a feeling tonight that she was really going to shine and I thought she led our forward pack really well. But she opens up space for everyone to be honest, especially when she runs. I was really proud of her," Kelly declared.

Game Three of the series will be played in Newcastle on the 29th of May with NSW now on the verge of becoming the first state to win a series 3-0 while Queensland will be desperate to stop a whitewash from their rivals.

Shante makes rugby league tour to England and France



Shante Roberts.



A Bundjalung/Yaegl woman has been selected to represent the Junior Girls Rugby League team to tour England/France in October.

Shante Roberts plays for Marist Brothers Junior Rugby League Club and has represented Lismore on local and regional levels. She was selected from playing in the North Coast team through a school competition and is very committed to her sports.

Her proud father, Clifford, said Shante had a passion for sport. "This is a huge achievement and a great opportunity for Shante to showcase her skills and knowledge on an international stage alongside her teammates," Clifford said.

"She is really enthusiastic and excited to play for Australia and has the drive and commitment to put the hard work in to get to where she needs to be."

To assist with the costs associated with training, overseas travel and player levy, the family are seeking support, grants and sponsorship, any amount will be much appreciated.

The *Koori Mail* has donated \$1,000 to help Shante on her way to England.

If you are interested in supporting Shante please do not hesitate to contact Clifford on 0434 327 779 or Zairah Quigg 0423 289 724 or by email at ctheriff@y7mail.com

Georgia has best of both worlds

By JACKSON CLARK



FROM the basketball court to the footy field, Georgia Baldwin is chasing a new dream.

The former Indigenous college basketballer has earned a spot in Box Hill Hawks' VFLW program and is aiming even higher, with hopes of one day breaking into the AFLW.

Baldwin – who played basketball at North Dakota and Eastern Kentucky in the United States – had never played organised football before the 2025 season.

Now, the 182cm utility is aligned with Boronia in the Eastern Football League Women's Premier Division, where she played a key role in the side's 80-point win over Whitehorse Pioneers in the opening round.

She told the *Koori Mail* that her switch from basketball to football was influenced by a mix of personal and family reasons.

"Both of my younger siblings have grown up playing football, so I've gone and watched them play for years and just loved the excitement of the game," Baldwin said.

"Once I decided to give up basketball, I found myself missing being a part of a team and being in a sporting environment.



Georgia Baldwin.

"One of my best friends played at the club where both Jack and Tillie (siblings) play, so I decided to go down for pre-season and it just went on from there."

Taking up a new sport has presented a steep learning curve for the 22-year-old, but her athleticism and strong work ethic are sure to hold her in good stead.

Baldwin has fully embraced the challenge of transitioning from basketball to Australian football.

"I think there have been lots of challenges, but that has been one of the things that I've loved,"

Baldwin told the *Koori Mail*.

"Learning a whole new game and being thrown into a high-level competition with girls that have played for years has pushed me mentally and physically, but I've found it really rewarding.

"I think one of the biggest challenges I've faced is being patient with myself and understanding that football is very new to me and I won't be perfect at everything all at once."

Baldwin will build experience while playing locally for Boronia and hopes to eventually break into Box Hill's team, where she will be a valuable asset in defence and through the ruck.

As she finds her feet, Baldwin is keeping her focus on growth and enjoying the ride.

"Being really new to the sport, I think my main focus for this upcoming season is just developing my knowledge and skills, as well as making healthy connections with my coaches and teammates.

"I obviously want to be selected in as many games as possible, have as much impact on the game as I can, and just have fun on the field.

"I am working hard on my kicking technique – it has come so far since I first touched a ball last year, so I'm really starting to be happy with it."



Casual speeding is the biggest cause of trauma on NSW roads



CASUAL SPEEDING. EVERY **K**COUNTS



Marathon effort from motivated Mob



Hayley Pymont surging past Big Ben.

● From Back Page

Pymont is an IMP graduate in the class of 2022. The London Marathon attracted over 56,000 entrants and is one of the 'Big 7' world marathons and Pymont was glad to have ticked that off the list, adding it to New York and Berlin as other big majors she's accomplished.

"Super proud of how my run went. It was quite warm on the day although this didn't effect me too much. I also had a few niggles along the way, although I was able to push through these minor issues and finish strong with a new personal best of 4:00.29, taking 12mins off my last time."

The London Marathon course took the runners past some of the country's most notable landmarks.

Pymont said the course was challenging, given the sheer number of runners entered but also something to behold as the kilometres ticked over.

"It was beautiful seeing the streets of London and the landmarks were phenomenal. It's one thing seeing them on a walk around the city although the feeling is completely different when you're running a World Major Marathon. To see the London Bridge sent a shiver down my spine. The pure joy and happiness was beyond elevated," Pymont explained.

"Then coming up to the London Eye and Big Ben in the final 2km I was overwhelmed with pride. The final 300m's of the marathon, coming past Buckingham Palace and down the final straight was something else. Such a special marathon."

The next 'Big 7' marathon for Pymont is on home soil with the Sydney Marathon in August as well as local half-marathons to prepare for and complete.

Pymont, never thought she'd be running 10 kilometres let alone the 42km of a gruelling marathon. The 30-year-old believes running has shifted the way she thinks and her outlook on life.

"Before being a part of IMP in 2022, running a marathon was

something I ever only had on my bucket list. I never imagined myself ever running one nor travelling the world to run. Now here I am having run four marathons, travelled half way across the world to participate in two of those and a 50km run to raise money for charity Talk2mebro," Pymont said.

"Some days, it still feels like a dream. I honestly have to say, I am beyond appreciative for what I have experienced since my IMP year. Running is my go to, not just for the physical aspect, but for my mental wellbeing. It has genuinely saved my life."

Peter Miller-Koncz is a Wirangu/Kokatha/Mirning/Kaurna and Ngarrindjeri man from Koonibba in South Australia.

The runner has overcome some tough hurdles to be where he is today. A badly broken leg, in which he snapped the fibula and tibia meant he was physically unable to do many things for nearly two years. But he bounced back.

Up until London, Miller-Koncz hadn't run in a full marathon, he admits that his training preparation probably wasn't the best leading into the 42km journey. But he was hungry to get that first marathon done and nothing was going to stop him.

"It was quite challenging to recover from that injury and surgeries, I'm also a father of five and that keeps you busy, plus I was always active with sports. The injury kept me out of work for a while too and to get out and run again properly and train was a big challenge. It taught me to never take your health for granted," Miller-Koncz recalled.

The first time marathon runner says there were times that the going got tough and that's when it was either going to make or break him in London. Winning the battle of the mind over the pain was made easier as Miller-Koncz thought about his family for motivation to push through those barriers and reach the finish line. It was a sweet moment for him.

"Incredible. Epic. Definitely an eye

opener for me. The cheering and support in the crowd was a bit overwhelming for me, I wasn't expecting that. I tried to soak all that in. It is really tough and the amount of people I saw go down around me was crazy for me. I just wanted to finish it," Miller-Koncz said.

"My family was my purpose and motivation. I have a wife and kids and my people and the community around me. They've made me stronger than I thought I was. In the end it was pretty surreal to get the job done, I thought to myself did I actually just complete my first one? I never stopped running, I'm proud of that."

Miller-Koncz was part of the IMP in 2020, the first year of COVID, which completely threw the program into disarray. There were no full marathons that year or a finish in New York.

"My time with the program was during COVID, so it was a pretty difficult time and we didn't get to do many camps or marathons, we were very lucky to get the 30kms done in Alice Springs. There was a lot of adversity around that time and not many people could get out of the house. There were lockdowns, luckily for me being in South Australia I was still able to get out and train," Miller-Koncz recalled.

When quizzed about why the father of five continues to run, Miller-Koncz, doesn't need much time to think of an answer. He does it for his family and his mob. He wants to inspire them to lead a healthier life, something which hasn't always been the case in his family with a history of heart disease and diabetes.

"In my family on both sides there is that hereditary things and I live with high blood pressure and am on medication for it at the moment. You know I'm 34-years-old so it's a big thing for me to show the next generation and my young ones to look after themselves. Lead that healthy lifestyle whether it be running or walking or riding a bike, boxing or whatever. Just get out there and get moving," Miller-Koncz said.

Terrific touch

By ALF WILSON



BIG crowds watched the popular Battle of the Islands Touch Championships over the Labour Day weekend at Thursday Island's Ken Brown Oval.

It is one of the premier sporting events on the Torres Strait calendar.

Eleven men's and five women's teams battled it out at the iconic ground known as the "rock" and players displayed wonderful skills.

Players were from many TS islands, including Boigu from near Papua New Guinea. Families, friends and community members attended the event, which included a March Against Domestic Violence to mark the beginning of Domestic Violence Prevention and Awareness Month in Queensland.

Jokers took out both the men and women's divisions.

In the women's main game, Jokers played against Storms and at half time

the score was deadlocked at 3-all.

In the second half Jokers skipped away to win 8-5 and earn the champions trophy.

Nerves may have been the reason for Joker's slow start against the Chiefs in the men's main game.

At half time, the Chiefs had a big lead of 6-2.

But in the second half, Jokers changed their game plan to score more points and win the grand final 8-7.

Full results: Women's Grand Final Jokers 8 d Storms 5, Semi Finals: Jokers 7 d Kimiora 1, Storms 4 d Strait Sistas 1, Men Grand Final: Jokers 8 d Chiefs 7, Semi Finals: Jokers 7 d Balas 5, Chiefs 8 d Bayside Stallions 5, Quarter Finals: Jokers 9 d Mui Kuzi 5, Chiefs 9 d Kazi Kurrs 4, Balas 8 d Boigu 6, Bayside Stallions 6 d Storms 4, Individual Awards - Rookie Women: Kyeesha Aniba (Storms), Rookie Men: Tim Mari (Marido), MVP Women: Abby King (Jokers), MVP Men: Beau Hodges (Storms), Player of the Carnival Women: Sarah-May Nona (Jokers), Player of the Carnival Men: Beau Hodges (Storms).



The Jokers women, above, and the men, below, were triumphant.





Peter Miller-Koncz, TJ Cora, Nadine Hunt and Hayley Pymont after competing the London Marathon.

Marathon Mob



Hayley Pymont can't help smiling as she runs.

By KRIS FLANDERS



KEEP on running. That's been the theme with every runner who's come through the Indigenous

Marathon Project program that Australian marathon legend, Rob de Castella, started. Since 2010, 156 graduates have graduated improving their health, inspiring their communities and gone on to complete the New York Marathon and other running events in Australia and across the world.

Most recently former IMP runners Hayley Pymont, Peter Miller-Koncz, Nadine Hunt and TJ Cora completed the London Marathon.

"I personally am so inspired by Nadine, Peter and TJ. The way they show up for themselves and their communities pushes me to be better and do better.

"I hope by our communities being able to see fellow Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander peoples out there running an international marathon that it inspires them to get moving in any capacity possible and to dream big," Pymont said.

● Continued page 63



Peter Miller-Koncz proudly carries the Aboriginal flag.